

Police Department reports a host of personnel changes

Officer Donald Mahaffee has been hired as a part-time patrolman for the St. Matthews Police Department.

Mahaffee started his police career as a patrol officer with the Jefferson County Police Department. He later was assigned to the traffic enforcement and river patrol duties. He was part of the county police dive/rescue unit for 17 years. In 1989 he became a detective in the county department's narcotics unit. When the county and Louisville departments merged later in 1989 he worked in the Metro narcotics unit. He retired in March 2003, then worked in security and loss prevention for Six Flags, the amusement park operator.

Part-time officers Larry Powell and John Hackel have been promoted to full-time.

The police department has a new chaplain: the Rev. John Slider.

Slider was chaplain of the Louisville Police Department from 1986 to 1996 and a reserve deputy in the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department from 1997 to 2000. He is a retired Marine Corps lieutenant colonel and has degrees from Southern Baptist Seminary, Hanover College, Spalding University and the University of Louisville. He worked as a substitute teacher in the Jefferson County Public Schools from 2002 to 2007.

He was pastor of United Methodist



Police Chief Norman Mayer, center, introduced Lt. Steve Williams, left, and Donald Mahaffee, a new part-time patrolman, to the city council.

Church in Louisville from 1979 until his retirement earlier this year.

Sgt. Steve Williams, who has been with the St. Matthews Police Department since 1989, has been promoted to lieutenant. Williams, a Trinity High School graduate with a police administration degree from the University of Louisville, has been a sergeant since 2001.

Officer Douglas Curtis is the school resource officer (SRO) at Waggener High School, from which he graduated in 1974. He joined the St. Matthews department after a 20-year career with the Jefferson County Police Department ending in retirement in 2002. He became the SRO at Waggener in August 2008.



Curtis reported recently that he has made 63 arrests at the school since then, for crimes including assault, terroristic threatening; robbery, disorderly conduct and abuse of teachers.

In addition to his law-enforcement duties, Curtis does classroom presentations on crime and the law and advises students, teachers and staff on law enforcement, substance abuse, delinquency and related topics.

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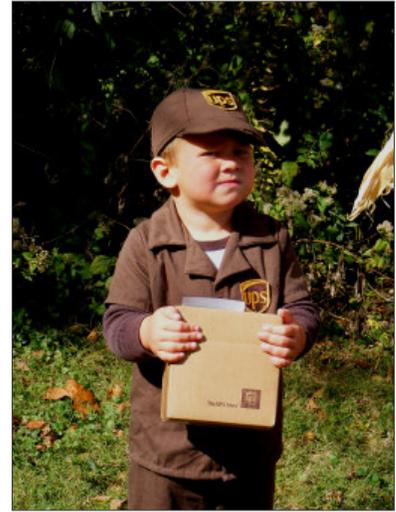


All treats, no tricks

City's Halloween costume party on tap

St. Matthews' Halloween Festival in Brown Park is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The free event typically attracts more than 1,500 children, moms, dads and grandparents; most of the children, and a good number of adults, are decked out in Halloween costumes. The festival features music, games, hayrides, a petting zoo, face-painting and trick-or-treating through the (not-very-scary) "haunted forest." St. Matthews businesses and community groups set up booths along the park paths, giving treats and surprises to the youngsters.



One youngster's costume, above, provided a bit of local color — brown — right down to the UPS box for a trick-or-treat bag.

(Photos from past festivals.)



Library activities scheduled for kids, teens, adults

The Eline Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library has scheduled the following book discussions:

At 11 a.m. on Oct. 21, *A Pearl in the Storm*, by Tori Murden McClure; at 11 on Nov. 18, *Wish You Well*, by David Baldacci; and on Dec. 16 (time not set), *Have a Little Faith: A True Story*, by Mitch Albom.

Story times: toddlers, Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.; preschool, Wednesdays at 11; babies not walking, Thursdays at 10:15; walkers, Thursdays at 11; families, 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 9.

Halloween storytime: Wear costume. Monday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m. Not-too-scary stories, songs and crafts. All ages.

Teen program: Anime @ St. Matthews, Oct. 26, 4 p.m.

Audiobook Cafe: Middle school and high school students, Tuesday, Oct. 19, 4 p.m. (Call 574-1771 to sign up.) Snacks, talk about audiobooks for teens.

The LFPL Job Shop at the Main Library downtown offers free job and career resources, computer classes and internet access. For details, visit www.lfpl.org/jobshop.

Light Up St. Matthews flips switch on Dec. 4

Mark this date on your calendar: Dec. 4, the first Saturday in December. That's when Light Up St. Matthews in Brown Park will jump-start the holiday season. The annual event will feature photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, a mailbox for letters to Santa, carriage rides, strolling carolers, hot apple cider and much more. At 6 p.m., a switch will be flipped to turn on thousands of lights in the park.

St. Matthews Avenue project is complete

The resurfacing of St. Matthews Avenue completes a major project that started in 2007 and cost approximately \$130,000. The fixes were necessary because of anticipated traffic signal phasing at Chenoweth/Breckinridge and Shelbyville roads. The right lane approaching Shelbyville Road was extended to accommodate more southbound traffic. The project also included drainage improvements and a new sidewalk on the west side.



Government access

City Hall: 895-9444

Police: 893-9000

Emergency: 911

Web: www.stmatthews.org
(Minutes of City Council meetings available online)

Call St. Matthews
24/7 Automated
Information System:
638-4STM (638-4786)
News/Services/
Administration/Police



Crime Tip Line:
498-CLUE
(498-2583)
(Caller's name,

Property-tax bills mailed; pay early, save money

St. Matthews property tax bills were mailed on Oct. 1.

If you are responsible for the tax and haven't received your bill by Oct. 10, please call city hall.

If your mailing address has changed, you are required by law to notify the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator and fill out an address-change form. You can get the form by calling the PVA office at 574-6380 and

visiting its Web site: Jeffersonpva.ky.gov.

If you are 65 years old this year, contact the PVA and St. Matthews City Hall to apply for the Homestead Exemption.

The exemption amount for 2010 is \$33,700; it applies to the home you lived in as of Jan. 1, 2010.

St. Matthews residents who pay the tax by Oct. 31 qualify for a 40 percent discount off the total tax due.

Take online safety quiz, help firefighters win

The Lyndon and St. Matthews fire protection districts, which both serve St. Matthews residents, are taking part in a Liberty Mutual Insurance program and could win a \$10,000 grant. The key to winning is citizen participation.

To help, take part in an online survey at <http://www.befiresmart.com> before Oct. 31. It consists of 10 questions about fire safety, takes two minutes, and is a great learning tool. Click in the lower right corner where it says, "Have you taken the safety pledge quiz?" then follow the prompts to Kentucky, Louisville and Lyndon or St. Matthews



Easy being green

'Tis the season of falling leaves.

If decaying leaves are raked into storm drains, ditches or creeks, they can lead to flooding. They also can deplete the oxygen in ground water, harming aquatic creatures.

Some eco-friendly ways of disposing of leaves: Run over them with a lawn mower, creating mulch and fertilizing your lawn; or add them to a compost pile to help prepare a nutrient-rich food for your garden. Don't use gas-powered leaf blowers, which contribute to air and noise pollution. Consider using a hand- or electric-powered lawn mower.

If you rake leaves out to the street, St. Matthews crews will vacuum them up for you, starting around Nov. 1.

The city plants trees in easements every January. To have a tree planted in the easement in front of your home, call City Hall at 895-9444. An arborist/city consultant decides which species will be planted.

If you plant trees on your own property, avoid planting near underground or overhead utilities and take care not to create a present or future traffic obstruction. For best results, plant shade trees on the south and west sides of your property.

City's a sucker for leaves

St. Matthews' leaf-collection program starts around the first of November. Signs will be put up to advise when crews will be in your area. Rake leaves to the street in front of your property, so city workers can vacuum them up. Each area is scheduled to be covered just once. Leaves in yard-waste-only containers are also picked up at regular trash-collection times; free "Yard Waste" stickers for your containers are available at City Hall.

St. Matthews Living
City Hall
3940 Grandview Avenue
St. Matthews, KY 40207

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Heart attack is fatal to veteran police officer John Stivers at age 43

Officer John Stivers, an 18-year veteran of the St. Matthews, Shelbyville and Indian Hills police departments, suffered a massive heart attack on Sept. 15 and later died. He was 43.

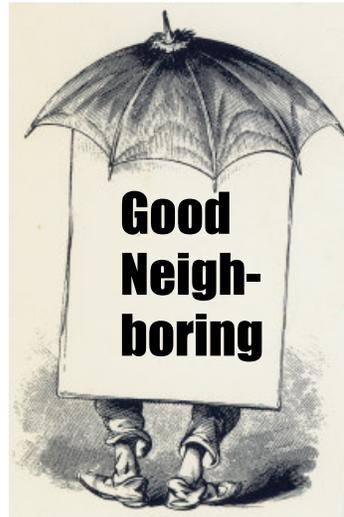
In addition to patrolman, Stivers was a firearms instructor and a member of the department's Special Response Team, a group specially trained to respond in cases of mass violence. The team is comparable to a SWAT unit.

Stivers is survived by his wife, Stacy, and daughter, Sable.



Disposing of accumulated junk is a challenge, especially for people moving to a new home or taking on the challenge of clearing out a junk-filled garage or basement.

But keep in mind that St. Matthews' garbage hauler, Rumpke Waste Removal, is only required to pick up one large item per week, at the time of your regular garbage pickup, at no additional charge. If you have additional such items -- appliances, pieces of furniture, boxes of junk -- please contact Rumpke at (502) 568-3800. They will arrange for a special junk pickup and advise of any additional charges. Meanwhile, don't amass junk and debris in front of your house and leave it for weeks. Call Rumpke and have it taken away.



Make sure the lids on your garbage cans are in place and tightly shut. This keeps out foraging, mess-making dogs, raccoons and opossums.

Remember: The leash law applies to all dogs, cats and other pets, even the best-behaved. In St. Matthews, leashes may not be more than 10 feet long. And the law says you must pick up and dispose of all of your animal's solid waste.

Don't set out cans or bags of garbage any earlier than the night before your scheduled pickup. St. Matthews provides rear-door pickup of garbage only.