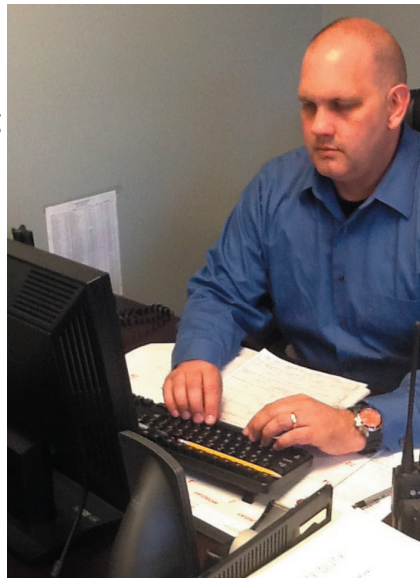


SMPD Detectives—Diligent and Successful

During the past year and a half, St. Matthews narcotics and property crimes detectives have devoted many hours in an effort to prevent, solve or thwart crimes in St. Matthews. In most cases the results have lead to solving other crimes throughout the county. In the past fifteen months, narcotics detectives were successful in accomplishing approximately 239 drug arrests or citations. In addition, detectives executed approximately 30 search warrants and 15 consented searches, some with the assistance of the SMPD Special Response Team, (SRT), known in other departments as SWAT. By utilizing the SRT, to date, there have been no injuries to officers or civilians. Numerous times, in these searches, the SMPD K-9 unit of Officer John Norton and K-9 dog Jake have been called on, thus employing an effective tool in locating illegal drugs.

As a result of the narcotics detectives' achievements, they have removed from

circulation a large amount of drugs, drug paraphernalia, and drug manufacturing equipment, all with an estimated street value of \$572,385. This included such drugs as marijuana, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine,



Above, SMPD Sgt. Charles Portman uses computer programing to track cases.

codeine, opana, oxycontin, and many others. As a bonus to these drug trafficking busts, 20 vehicles have been seized with an estimated value of \$203,500, along with \$361,736 in cash money,

and 16 firearms. Due to the department's success, Officer John Hackle has been assigned to manage the large amounts of marijuana growing equipment and other seized property. He also documents and supervises the submissions of all illegal drugs transferred to the Kentucky State Police laboratory. Officer Hackle is additionally responsible for the disposal and/or sale of seized property so that the any proceeds generated may be used by the St. Matthews police department.

The SMPD property crimes detectives have likewise been successful in closing approximately 57 cases to date In 2012. In one case, a serial burglar was apprehended, and upon questioning, acknowledged being responsible for as many as 100 burglaries throughout Jefferson and Bullitt Counties. Twenty five of these burglaries were in the St. Matthews area. In total, a

Article continued on page 3.



A Message From

The City of St. Matthews is continuing to build a collection of email addresses for city residents who would like to be periodically notified of important city information. If you would like to participate, please submit your email address to the city either by accessing the city website at www.stmatthews.org or contacting City Hall at 895-9444. Your email address will not be shared with other persons or agencies.

Staying Connected

In October 2011, included with resident tax bills, was a brochure for the Call St. Matthews information system. Call St. Matthews is just one of the many ways that residents can stay in contact with the city. It is available 24/7 and allows residents access to their city by simply dialing 638-4STM (4786) at their convenience. This system allows callers to listen to important details about city government, city services, leave



messages for city leaders or key department heads, be directly connected to sanitation, utility and other agencies.

Seasons Greetings

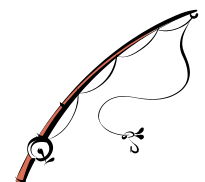
For eleven hours on one May day the Spirit of St. Matthews will be alive and shining on Frankfort Avenue, between Lexington Road and Bauer Avenue. The St. Matthews Area Chamber of Commerce, along with the Merchants Council, is presenting the St. Matthews Street Festival on May 19th from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The festival will take the place of the St. Matthews Community Festival and will bring all the pieces of what made the Community Festival so great right out into the streets. There will be a Kidz Zone sponsored by St. Matthews Baptist Church, live music playing throughout the day including

kids bands and entertainment in the Kidz Zone, a Wellness Fair, Food Court, and of course wonderful retail booths for everyone to enjoy. The St. Matthews Street Festival is an event free to all. Come out and enjoy the event with your neighbors. A 5K run and a recycling event will also be offered, for more information go to stmatthewschamber.com

Men's Cancer Event

Reel Recovery, a non-profit organization, funded by the Ky. Cancer Program, Derby City Fly-Fishing Club & Wal-Mart, is offering a free retreat for men who are experiencing or recovering from cancer. No fishing

experience necessary. The mission is to help men by sharing with them the healing powers of the sport of fly-fishing, while also providing a safe, supportive environment to explore their personal cancer experiences with others who share their stories. The retreat date is May 21st to May 23rd. For more information contact Reel Recovery at 1-800-699-4490 or www.reelrecovery.org.



SMPD Detectives—Diligent and Successful Cont'd

value of approximately \$149,518 of stolen property has also been recovered in the last fifteen months.

Among their other accomplishments this year, the SMPD detectives have assisted Louisville Metro narcotics, Jeffersontown Police, and the Jefferson County Sheriff's office in the investigation of serious assaults, including a murder investigation, which all appear to be drug related. Some of these agencies' investigations have lead them to persons of interest in St. Matthews. The St. Matthews police department detective's unit is currently working on no less than 70-100 investigations regarding drugs and/or property.

The SMPD encourages all citizens to contact the police department if they observe suspicious and/or criminal activity, by dialling 893-9000 or the Anonymous Tip Line at 498-CLUE (2583). There is

no need to give your name. Please be prepared to give descriptions of the person(s), vehicles, addresses or any other detailed information that will assist in an investigation. These tips could be the key information that contributes in solving crimes.

Don't be a victim.

Use these tips to keep you, your family, and possessions safe.

- Lock your vehicle doors when parked. Don't be a victim of a crime of opportunity. Many thieves will check car doors and enter only those that are left unlocked.
- When leaving your parked vehicles, store GPS, computers, iPads, purses, wallets, or any valuable, in the trunk or out of clear site. This will make your vehicle less inviting to thieves.
- Lock doors & windows to your home and garage. Don't leave doors unlocked while you are working in your yards or visiting with neighbors. Thieves have been known to enter

homes from the front or rear doors, while the owners were distracted.

- Light your property during the night by keeping porch lights on and installing a light near your garage. Thieves prefer the cover of darkness and are most likely to bypass your home for one with less lighting.
- Meet your neighbors who surround your home. They can be a valuable asset to protect you and your family.
- Utilize the SMPD free House Watch program when you are away from home for times such as vacations, short trips, or hospital stays.
- Report any activity that you feel is unusual. You may well prevent a crime.

Trinity Rocks—Rock!

This year the Trinity High School Shamrocks rocked their way to not only one, but two Kentucky State Championships. The first was in football, which also placed them number one in the United States in many polls. The second was in basketball, which allowed Trinity to make Kentucky history as the first school to win both championships in the same school year, under the current state athletic program established in 1959.

In January, the city presented the football team and in March the basketball team with a road sign acknowledging their achievements. These signs are displayed in front of the school on Shelbyville Road.



From Left to Right: Student Nathan Dieudonne, Councilman Mary Jo Nay, and Basketball Coach Mike Szabo.

Weather Alerts—Preparedness Begins at Home



With the arrival of Spring and Summer brings the possibility of unstable weather events. These events can develop at any moment and it is imperative that citizens be prepared.

Thanks to the National Weather Service, weather alerts are dispatched and broadcast to everyone in a timely fashion, allowing residents, in most cases, to

take personal action to protect themselves, family members and pets.

Most citizens are familiar with the warning sirens that blast throughout the county. These blasts notify of the necessity to take shelter immediately. However, once in the sheltered area, it is highly recommended that a battery operated weather

alert radio be at hand so that important weather updates and instructions can be received, should there be an electrical outage. The shelter area should additionally be equipped with a personal emergency kit, consisting of items such as a flashlight, batteries, food, and water supply to sustain for three days.

Hot off the Press



The firefighters of St. Matthews & Lyndon Fire Districts want

everyone to have a safe and fun summer, so please take a minute to make sure your gasoline or propane is stored and used properly.

Many of us must store some gasoline around our homes to operate lawnmowers, tillers, and so on. When mixed with air in the right proportions, the vapor of one cup of gasoline has the explosive power of about five pounds of dynamite, enough destructive force to destroy any house or car. Milk jugs, anti-freeze jugs, glass containers and many 'gas cans' are not suitable

for carrying or storing gasoline. The best containers for handling gasoline are UL or FM approved safety cans. Although the cost is somewhat more than the cheap cans at the hardware store, they are much safer and will outlast several of the others.

Obviously there will be times when it is necessary to carry a container of gasoline in your car or truck, but try to keep it to a minimum. Hauling gasoline can be dangerous. When you must carry gas, secure the can so that it will not slide around or tip over if you must make sudden

stops or turns. Remove the container as soon as you get where you are going.

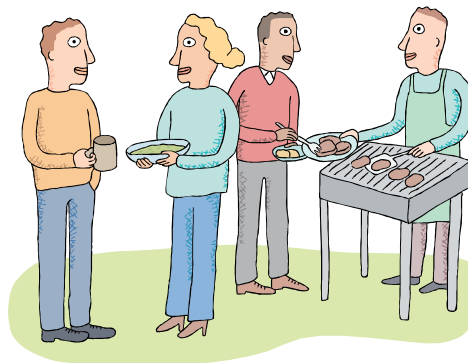
Storing gasoline and other highly flammable liquids at home is also dangerous if not done properly. The best way to store gasoline is in a well ventilated area separate from the house. The location should have no electrical equipment, open flames or other sources of ignition present. In addition, the location should be protected from the heat of the summer sun to keep evaporation to a minimum.

Let's keep our homes and neighborhoods safe.

CODE Words

Warm weather is upon us - a time for fun in the sun, frolicking outdoors, and of course hosting some amazing backyard blasts. But it's also a time when neighbors can sometimes upset each other by accidentally being too loud. When the weather gets warm a lot of residents like to open up their windows and enjoy the breeze it brings to their homes. When enjoying your fun in the sun don't forget to try and keep the noise levels down for the ben-

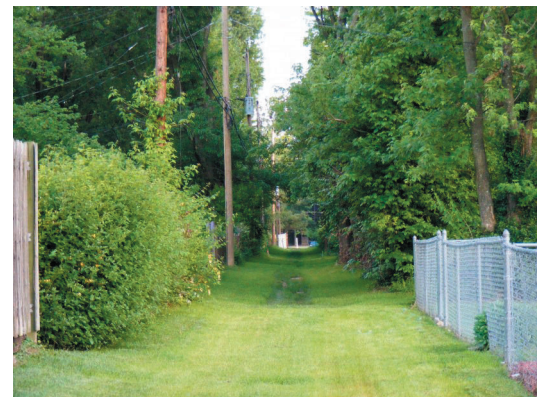
efit of all those around you. Noise complaints can be reported to the police for any noise that annoys, injures or



endangers the comfort, repose, health or safety of others. This includes loud play,

parties, music, or even vehicles that make excessive noise.

Also with the warm weather comes the little critters no one wants to think about - creepy crawlies that like to hang out in our trash, refuse, or even our yards. Because of this and the four legged critters that also like such places, all residents are reminded to keep their trash properly covered and keep their lawns properly maintained. Grass and weeds in the city cannot exceed eight inches in height on any property.



Good Neighboring

😊 If you put out paving stones, stone pyramids or other obstructions to keep people from parking on the right-of-way along your property, keep in mind that you could be held liable for any damage or accidents they may cause.

😊 Remember: The leash law applies to all dogs and other pets, even the best-behaved. In St. Matthews, leashes may not be more than 10 feet long.

😊 Don't leave your car running, especially when you're not in it. The practice wastes gas and pollutes the air; it's illegal; and it can tempt an opportunistic car thief.

😊 Don't set out cans or bags of

garbage any earlier than the night before your scheduled pick up. St. Matthews provides rear-door pick up of garbage only.

😊 If you notice any sidewalks that are in need of repair please report them to the city by using Call St. Matthews. Simply dial 638-4STM (4786), opt 2, then opt 3, and follow the on phone instructions.

😊 It's illegal to remove any item from a recycling container that has been set out for pick up. For details of this and all St. Matthews ordinances, visit the city website at www.stmatthews.org.

😊 Grass alleys and easements are the responsibility of the property owner and they are required to maintain them. Alleys should be mowed and kept clear of debris. This will prevent rodents and vermin from living in these areas. Also, the utility company must have clear access for service, when the power is interrupted. The LG&E down power line phone is 589-3500 or 1-800-331-7379 (quick buttons for auto system are 1-1).

Police Beat



The St. Matthews Police Department has recently donated three fully equipped police cars to the police department of West Liberty Kentucky after the March 2nd tornadoes.

The West Liberty police department lost a total of six vehicles due to the devastation the tornadoes caused. Their municipal building sustained so much damage that they are operating out of a trailer until other arrangements



From left to right: Trey Moster-Trinity High School, West Liberty Officer, West Liberty Chief Kelse Hensley, SMPD Chief Norm Mayer, West Liberty Mayor Jim Rupe, SMPD Danny Grant, SMPD Bob Moster and SMPD Sgt. Charles Portman.

correct frequencies and ready to be used immediately. Willis Klein Co. donated extra keys, and Enforcement Products out of Indianapolis Indiana donated two radar units and a laser measuring device.

can be made. The SMPD were not alone in the donation. Davis Electronics donated free reprogramming of the police radios so that they would all be to the

When the SMPD officers drove the cars to West Liberty, they also delivered \$300 worth of canned food donated by the St. Matthews Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market.

Easy Going Green



Rain rushes off roofs, pavement and compacted soil. This causes flooding downstream, erodes stream banks and muddies the water, which harms fish and other wildlife. You can help slow this run-off and help the soil hold the moisture plants need in summer.

- Use compost and mulch to reduce erosion and help rain soak in.
- Use open pavers, gravel or other pavement options

that let rain seep into the soil.

- Plant dense strips of native trees, shrubs and groundcovers next to streams, lakes and ditches to stabilize the soil and to slow and filter run-off.
- Direct downspouts out on to lawns, in to rain barrels or rain gardens.

Rain gardens are landscaped areas designed to collect rainwater more than a conventional patch of lawn. By reducing the

volume and velocity of storm water run-off, rain gardens help reduce soil erosion, filter fine particulates, and capture fertilizer and excess nutrients that can pollute rivers and lakes. For more information about rain gardens, or reducing water run-off, contact the local Extension office at 569-2344. To see a rain garden first hand, visit St. Matthews Community Center Park. The rain garden is located near the rear parking lot, close to the entrance of the wooded walking area.

Your Works at Work

With Spring's early arrival comes new challenges and opportunities for the St. Matthews Works Department. Our crews are busy with sprucing up all around the city from Winter's cooler, dreary days. All four of the city's main parks, along with green spaces, are getting a refreshing cut, while

landscaping beds are being perked up with fresh mulch and colorful plantings.

Our construction crews have completed an extensive drainage project on Grandview Avenue and are presently concentrating on several smaller drainage projects in various areas of the city. A larger drainage improvement is scheduled

for Kentucky Avenue and Columbia Avenue during the upcoming summer months.

The city council has just approved the next phase of sidewalk construction for Shelbyville Road, which will address the area between Fairmeade Road and Hubbards Lane. The scope of the work will include both the north and south sides of Shelbyville Road.

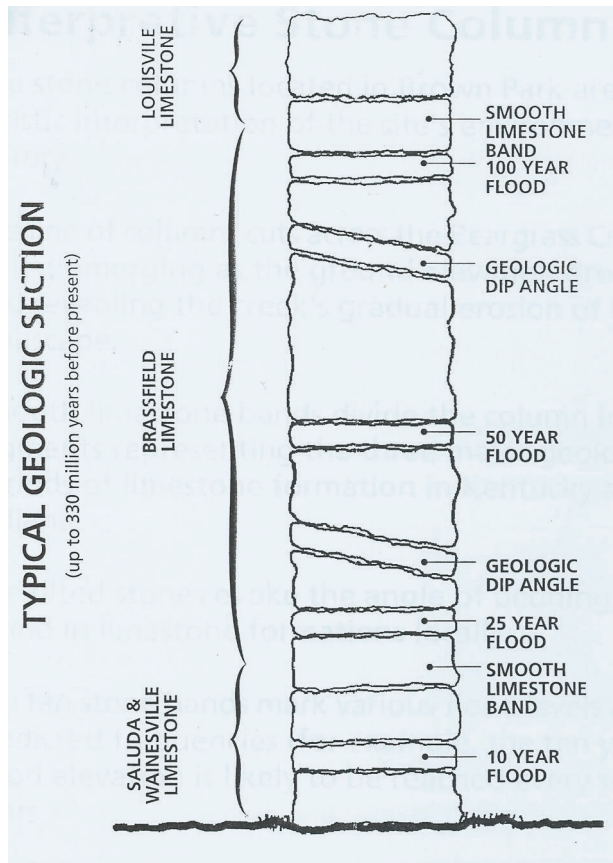
Park Place

With Brown Park being more open, after the removal of non-native plants, many residents are curious about the now clearly visible stone columns.

The stone columns in Brown Park are an artistic interpretation of the site's environmental history.

The line of columns cuts across the Beargrass Creek valley, emerging as the ground drops, revealing the creek's gradual erosion of the landscape.

Smooth limestone bands divide the columns into segments representing the three major geologic periods of limestone formation in



Kentucky and Indiana.

The tilted stones describe the angle of limestone bedding found in local formations.

The tan stone bands mark various flood levels and predicted frequencies. For example, the ten year flood level is likely to be reached approximately once every ten years.

On your next visit to Brown Park take a moment to gaze on these fascinating columns and see a visual representation of your city's geological history.

City of St. Matthews

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St. Matthews, KY 40257-0097

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**Your Elected Officials for the City of
St. Matthews:**

Mayor Bernard F. Bowling Jr.

City Council

Arthur K. Draut

Frank Flynn

Stuart Monohan

Mary Jo Nay

Martha Schade

Richard Tonni

Tony Weiter

Patrick Wissing

Council meetings begin at

**7 p.m. on the second and fourth
Tuesdays of each month.**

City council meeting minutes available
online at www.stmatthews.org.

Need to know?

Call St. Matthews

Automated Service

24/7 Informational Line

638-4STM (4786)

Administration Press 1

Services Press 2

News Press 3

Police Press 4

Government Access

City Hall Office: 895-9444

Code Enforcement: 899-2512

Police Department: 893-9000

City Engineer: 899-2518

Property Taxes: 899-2511

Police Records: 899-2537

**Anonymous Tip Line
498-CLUE (2583)**

Emergency: 911