

ST. MATTHEWS NEWS

City of St. Matthews

Autumn 1998

City Hall

3940 Grandview Avenue

P.O. Box 7097

St. Matthews, KY 40257-0097

Phone: 895-9444

Police emergency: 911

Routine police: 893-9000

Mayor:

Arthur K. Draut

Council Members:

Bernard Bowling Jr.

Harry Hargadon Jr.

Mary Jo Nay

Steve Resch

Martha Schade

Richard Tonini

Gary Vincent

Tony Weiter

City Hall office hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

City Council meetings:

The council meets in open session at City Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m.

St. Matthews residents fall victim to home-repair rip-off artists

Some St. Matthews residents have been victims of clever home-repair rip-offs this summer.

Here's how the scam works:

A pleasant, well-spoken stranger appears at a homeowners' door, offering to take on a major home-repair project at what sounds like a bargain

The homeowner forks over a check, and the thief — pausing only long enough to cash the check — makes his getaway.

Here's a word to the wise:

- Check the credentials of any person or company you intend to hire to make repairs to your home.

If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is.

price. (In the St. Matthews cases, the con artists were peddling roof repairs, furnace repairs and driveway resealings.)

After the deal is struck, "Mr. Fix-It" asks for a sizable portion of the money up-front, ostensibly to be used to buy materials.

- Never make a payment up-front. Don't pay a cent until the work is completed to your satisfaction.

- When a door-to-door solicitor is in your neighborhood, inform the police. (A city license is required.)

- And remember — If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is!



Carrie Morrison, The Voice

"Betsy," the St. Matthews Fire District's lovingly restored 1931 pumper, will shine during a fire chiefs' convention. (Story, page 3.)

Inside:

*Library has events for toddlers, travelers.
Ace Waste spells out grass/brush policies.
Fire station is losing its eyesore status.*

Looking for adventure? Check out the library

The St. Matthews/Eline Memorial Library's autumn calendar includes programs on topics ranging from murder to mutual funds.

Upcoming events for adults:

The Book Discussion Group will meet at 11 a.m. on Sept. 17 for give-and-take on "Personal History," by Katharine Graham of the family that owns *The Washington Post*.

On Oct. 15, also at 11 a.m., the subject will be "Patchwork Planet," by naturalist Ann Tyler.

In November—Mystery Month at the library—five 11 a.m. meetings are scheduled.

On Nov. 2, noted British author Michael Lewin will deliver a lecture titled "Murder, He Wrote."

Sessions on Nov. 3, 10, 17 and 24 will be devoted to a "Mystery Clinic: Writers, Detectors & True Crime Experts" (speakers to be announced.)

Thomas D. Fischer, a certified financial planner, and Wayne Metcalf, a registered representative, both of Donahue Securities, will present two investment programs, both at 7 p.m.

The topics:

On Sept. 15, "Comparing Roth IRAs & Traditional 401Ks & 403Bs"; and on Sept. 24, "Portfolio Management for Low-Risk Investors".

The series will continue in October with presentations by Rick Shafferman of the Edward Jones Group: On Oct.



Children's librarian Beth Nahinsky had her audience's rapt attention during a recent Toddler StoryTime at the library.

6, "Foundations and Loan Investments"; on Oct. 13, "Personal Investments"; on Oct. 20, "Mutual Funds"; and on Oct. 27, "Tax Deferments."

Sylvia and Ken Combs of Friend-

Family StoryTime (for children ages 4-8), Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Toddler StoryTimes (18 months-3 years), Fridays, 10 a.m.; Preschool Storytimes (3-5), Fridays, 11 a.m.

November's events are something of a mystery

ship Force will be featured in travel programs on Sept. 22 (South Africa) and Sept. 29 (England, Scotland and Wales), also at 7 p.m.

Programs for children:

Regular story times are year-round:

Upcoming special events for kids:

On Thursday Sept. 24, at 7 p.m., the Louisville Police K-9 Unit will come and read stories with the help of their four-footed friends.

And on Wednesday Oct. 21, at 4 p.m., kids ages 7-12 can get ready for Halloween by taking part in a Cone Witch table-decoration craft activity (sign-up required).

On Oct. 29, at 7 p.m., the library will present a special Halloween Family StoryTime for children ages 4-8: "Stories in the Dark" (with a night light).

If you have questions about any of the programs, call the library at 574-1772 and ask for Susan Irving, head librarian, or Beth Nahinsky, children's librarian.

If you'd like to join Friends of the St. Matthews/Eline Library, a group that aids the branch by nourishing the root, come in and ask any member of the staff about membership.

Here's the skinny on property taxes

The owner of a property is legally responsible for seeing that the tax bill is paid. However, if a mortgage company's name appears next to the words "Mortgage Company" at the top right side of the bill, you may assume that your mortgage company will be using your escrow account to pay the tax. Call your mortgage company, just to be sure.

Because homeowners and mortgage companies sometimes change, mortgage holders are required to ask for tax bills each year. If a company fails to make such a request, the bill goes to the homeowner. If you got a bill

that should have gone to your mortgage company, call the company and forward the bill.

When a property changes hands, the seller normally pays a pro-rated amount to the buyer to cover the taxes for the part of the year he or she owned the property.

If your 65th birthday falls anytime during the tax year and you have owned and lived on the property since Jan. 1, you qualify for the Homestead Exemption, a \$24,400 deduction from your tax assessment. Call City Hall at 895-9444 for an application or for more information.



Halloween parade will be city's 50th; Brown Park to be trick-or-treat site

This year's Halloween Parade will be the city's 50th.

Organizers hope it will be the biggest and best ever.

This year, for the first time, the city also will sponsor a Trick-or-Treat and Family Picnic at Brown Park from noon until 3 p.m.

There also will be "train rides" for the kiddies.

City officials hope neighborhoods, families and businesses will pitch in to fill the Halloween booths in the park and provide treats for trick-or-treaters.

If you'd like to sponsor a booth, call 897-1432 and ask for Kathi Stearman.

City trivia: St. Matthews' first City Hall was the Kennison Avenue home of James H. Noland, the city's first mayor. When St. Matthews was incorporated, in 1950, it consisted of only three square blocks.

Fire station is getting a facelift

The St. Matthews fire station at 240 Sears Avenue is getting a long-overdue facelift.

Water-seepage problems in recent years have damaged the structure and caused its paint to peel — to the point where the building had become an eyesore.

After studying the situation for two years, the board of directors of the St. Matthews Fire District decided that the best solution was to put a brick veneer on the building.

Workmen put up the first of 85,000 bricks in July. The end result of the project will be an attractive, durable exterior that will last for years.

In other fire department news:

Restoration work is nearly complete on the fire district's 1931-model

Seagrave Pumper known affectionately as "Betsy."

Most of the work on Betsy has been done in-house by firefighters. Jim's Body Shop & Upholstery has contributed paint and body work, and St. Matthews Auto Glass & Upholstery has restored the pumper's upholstery.

The classic truck will be displayed during an antique fire apparatus show that will be part of the International Fire Chiefs Association convention to be held in Louisville this month.

A second thermal-imaging camera has been placed into service. The first one, received a year ago, has seen service at several fires and resulted in improved firefighter safety. The camera enables firefighters to see through smoke.



Bricklayer Danny Schall of Berger Inc. helped put a handsome new veneer on the St. Matthews fire station on Sears Avenue.

Ace Waste & Recycling clarifies grass & brush policies

St. Matthews' new waste-disposal contractor, Ace Waste & Recycling, has asked the city to advise residents of the following:

Leaves and grass clippings will be picked up on regularly scheduled days if placed at the street in 30-gallon yard-waste paper or clear biodegradable (cornstarch-based) bags or containers marked "YARD WASTE ONLY."

There is no alley pickup.

Yard waste containers must not contain any trash or garbage, or they will not be picked up. Nor are they supposed to contain what county regulations call "bulk woody waste" — tree limbs, branches, trunks, etc., accumulated by tree-trimming services and other commercial operations.

"Yard waste" refers to leaves and

grass clippings only.

Limbs or brush tied in bundles no longer than four feet and weighing no more than 50 pounds will be picked up during the yard-waste collection season (April through December).

Also: Recycling bins will be emptied on regular days if placed at the street (no alley pickup). Please separate newsprint to one side of the bin.

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City Hall
3940 Grandview Avenue
St. Matthews, KY 40207

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If you tape or staple a sign to a pole or tree, please go back when the event is over and take it down.

Don't set cans and bags of garbage out any earlier than the night before your pickup.

Park all cars and other vehicles — including those offered for sale — in driveways, not in easements or on rights-of-way.

If you have a dog that barks incessantly at night or early in the morning, take steps to silence him for the sake of your sleepless neighbors.

Be sure you place cones or pyramids meant to discourage off-street parking on your own property and not on the city's right-of-way. No one may put anything on city property without obtaining a permit.

If you notice a sidewalk in need of repair, call City Hall at 895-9444.

Remember the leash law; it applies to all dogs, no matter how well-behaved.



City Services

Anyone interested in having the Works Department plant trees in front of his or her home along a city right-of-way can make the request by calling City Hall.

Going out of town? Attending a funeral? Call the Police Department at 893-9000 and arrange to have patrol officers make frequent checks of your property while you're away.

What to recycle: Newspapers (no magazines or glossy paper); glass bottles and jars (no window glass, light bulbs, dishware, etc.); tin cans; aluminum cans (no aluminum foil, pie tins, etc.); plastic bottles and jugs (with lids removed).

If you'd like street lights installed on your block, write a note to City Hall, including your name, address and phone number. The lights' exact placement will be determined by a Louisville Gas & Electric Co. engineer.