

St. Matthews News

Fall/Winter 1994/95

City of St. Matthews



City Hall

3940 Grandview Avenue
P.O. Box 7097
St. Matthews, KY
40257-0097
Phone: 895-9444

Police emergency: 911
Routine police: 893-9000

Arthur K. Draut, **Mayor**

Council Members:

Bernard Bowling, Jr.
Harry Hargadon, Jr.
Mary Jo Nay
William O'Connell
Steve Resch
Martha Schade
Richard Tonini
Tony Weiter

City Hall office hours:
M-F, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.,

Council Meetings

The City Council meets in open session at City Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 P.M.



POLICE DEPARTMENT ADDS 4 OFFICERS

Four new officers have been hired for the St. Matthews Police Department, raising the number of sworn, full-time city officers to 27.

The new men are:

Christian Redman, an Army veteran employed by the Shively Police Department for three years.

James Carter Jr., a St. Matthews native and Waggener High School graduate with a B.S. degree in police administration from Eastern Kentucky University. He started his career with the ECU campus police and served seven years as a sergeant with the Mt. Washington (Ky.) Police Department.

William "Dennis" McDonald, a graduate of Male High School who is

an eight-year veteran of the Anchorage Police Department and is active in the DARE in-school, anti-drug program. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children.

Jeff Hancock, a Trinity High School graduate with a B.S. degree in police administration from the University of Louisville who was employed by the West Buechel Police Department for three years. He and his wife, Lisa, have one child.

Also: The St. Matthews Police Department has applied for state accreditation, and would be only the second fourth-class city in the Commonwealth to have a fully accredited police agency.



YARD-WASTE UPDATE

- Yard waste must be separated from household trash.
- Yard waste (grass clippings and leaves only) must be set out at the curb in recycled-paper bags (available at Kroger, Winn-Dixie, Target).
- Tree limbs and plants go with household trash, for the time being.
- St. Matthews' has been around for the final time to pick up leaves at the curb.

- Remember: Changes in the waste-disposal system were mandated by the Jefferson County 109 Board, who ruled that grass and leaves may no longer be taken to landfills, but must be composted.



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FIRE DISTRICT RESPONDS TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

The St. Matthews Fire Protection District has been responding to fire/rescue/EMS calls at a record-setting pace. Already this year it has responded to nearly 1,100 requests for assistance -- compared with about 750 for all of 1993. (Fortunately, only a few calls were of a very serious nature.)

The district has added steadily to the services it provides to the community. In 1993, for example, it began responding to some medical calls. A St. Matthews Fire Protection District engine company may be dispatched by Jefferson County EMS in cases in which people are reported to be unconscious. Because of the district's 24-hour-a-day staffing, it can often reach the scene and begin emergency treatment before an ambulance arrives. This year's number of medical calls is more than double the total for 1993, and the district is responding to additional types of medical calls.

All of the career firefighters, and many volunteers, now are trained and certified as Emergency Medical

Technicians. This training allows the use of automatic defibrillators on people in cardiac arrest; the machine supplies an electrical shock to restore and regulate the heartbeat.

So don't be surprised if you call for an ambulance and see a fire engine pull up to your door!
And



remember: In an emergency, the number to call is 911. Don't waste time looking up the phone number and calling the fire station directly; the firefighters could be out of the station and unable to take the call. The quickest and surest way to get help is to dial 911.

With the holidays fast approaching, let's look at some ways you can help assure that it will be a safe one:

- Did you remember to check your smoke detector when you set your clock back?

- Have your furnace checked for proper operation. A dirty or defective furnace can pump deadly carbon monoxide (CO) gas into your home. Inexpensive CO monitors are available at many local retail stores.

- Have your fireplace cleaned once a year by a qualified chimney sweep. He can remove dangerous buildups of creosote, inspect the flue and bricks and mortar to make sure they are clean and safe.

- The holidays are also a good time to practice exit drills with your family. Have a plan that gives you two ways out of each room in the house in the event of a fire, and designate a meeting place outside.

- While decorating, check your lights for worn or frayed cords and replace them with new ones if necessary.

- If you have a live Christmas tree, remember to give it plenty of water. A dried-out tree can go up in flames in a matter of seconds.

Recycle Your White Goods

Starting in January, Laidlaw Waste Systems will start picking up your White Goods at no charge and recycling them. The recycling will also include the draining and recycling of freon from refrigerators. In the past there was a \$10.00 charge for picking up and disposing of white goods and the freon had to be removed at the owners' expense.

On the second Wednesday of every month place your white goods (washers, dryers, stoves and refrigerators) out at the curb. Laidlaw will pick up the white goods and take them to a recycling center.



CITY TEST PROGRAM FINDS DANGEROUS LEVELS OF RADON

A radon-testing program sponsored by the St. Matthews City Council has found that many city homes have indoor levels of the radioactive gas that are above the "action level" set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

More than 140 homes from the 40207 ZIP Code have been tested so far. Fifty percent had radon-exposure levels above the EPA's recommended limit of 4 picocuries per liter of air; seven had levels above 20 pc/l; and the highest level recorded was 99 pc/l. As radon levels increase above the "action level," the threat of lung cancer also increases; the EPA estimates that radon causes 16,000 cases of lung cancer each year in the United States.

We urge you to:

- Test your home for radon.
- If necessary, take action to

reduce exposure to the gas. (For information on how this can be done, call the state Radon Coordinator in Frankfort: 502-564-3700.)

Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless and odorless radioactive gas that can enter your home through cracks in the foundation.

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After the EPA identified Jefferson County as a high-radon area, the St. Matthews City Council responded by sponsoring

radon-awareness programs and by making low-cost test kits available at City Hall. For more information, or to order a test kit, call 895-9444.

LIBRARY BOOKED SOLID

Customers of the St. Matthews/Eline branch of the Louisville Free Public Library, at 3940 Grandview Avenue, have been checking out more than 1,000 books a day, and library employees have also been kept busy with school visits and community programs. In recent weeks, youngsters from Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Trinity and St. Matthews elementary schools have visited. The recent Mystery Clinic — featuring a lecture on homicide by St. Matthews Police Chief Norm Mayer — was a big success.

An oil portrait of St. Matthews Mayor Art Draut has been presented to the library, and will be featured in the center hallway along with new display cases provided by the local Friends of the Library group.

A book-discussion group for adults continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.; for information on specific titles, call the branch at 574-1771.

In late January and February, the

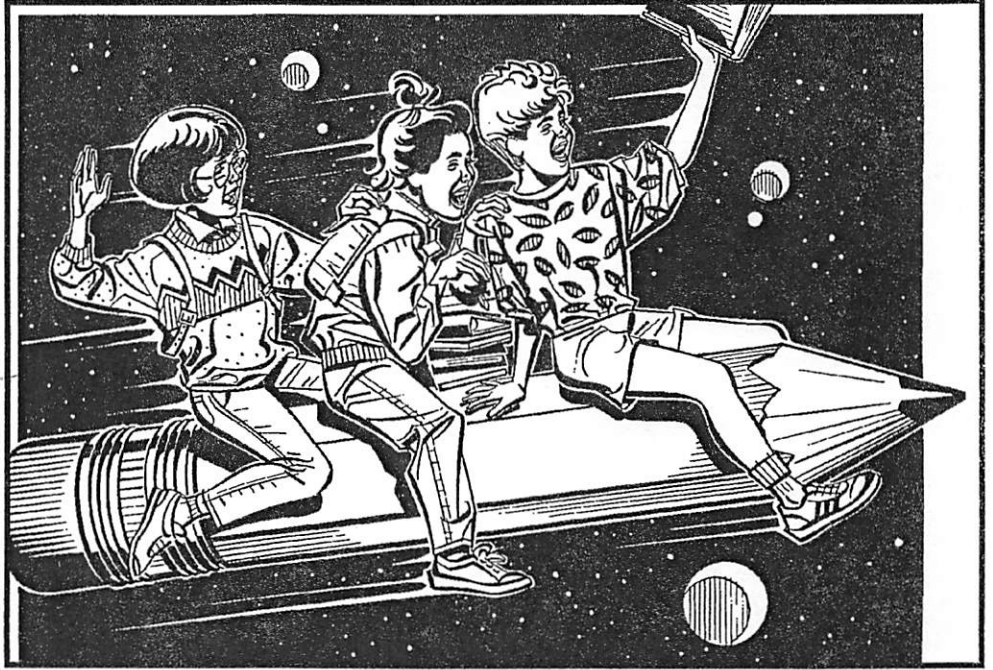
library will sponsor a daytime program series on travel. And for the kiddies, preschool and family story hours will resume in March.

The library will be closed on Dec. 9 for Staff Development Day, and will also be closed on Christmas

Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Please check the paper for hours on New Year's Eve.

Library hours:

Mon., Tues., Thurs, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wed., Fri., Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



LG&E OFFERS BROAD RANGE OF SERVICES

The Louisville Gas & Electric Co. offers a number of services that St. Matthews residents may find helpful:

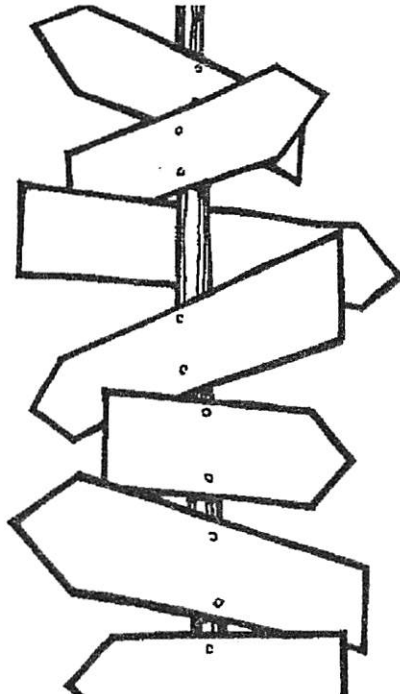
Energy Survey: LG&E offers an on-site home-energy survey by a trained energy specialist for \$15 to eligible customers. The specialist will check the building, windows, doors, furnace, water heater, insulation, etc., and determine whether energy-saving improvements are needed. Call 627-3500 for more information.

Outdoor Lighting: Homeowners can lease outdoor lighting systems for front and back yards for as little as \$8 a month (based on a two-year lease). For more information, call 627-3200.

Speakers Bureau: LG&E employees will make presentations on safety, environmental issues, energy savings and related topics to clubs and organizations. Call 627-2507.

Trees: As part of its long-range urban-reforestation plan, LG&E gives

trees to selected neighborhoods, and donates trees for planting in city and county rights of way. The company also notifies local officials when tree



trimmers will be in their neighborhoods, and gets homeowners' written permission before removing trees. When trimming is necessary, LG&E workers cut wood into fire-place lengths and leave it for the homeowner to use. Wood chips are available (in truckload quantities) free of charge. If you have questions about tree trimming or removal, call 627-3208. To report tree storm damage, call 589-3500.

Payment Options: The Equal Monthly Payment Plan spreads yearly energy costs over 12 equal payments, making budgeting easier for some customers; the Automatic Bank Charge program authorizes your bank to pay your LG&E bill directly on the due date each month; and Third Party Notice ensures that a friend or relative is notified promptly when a shutoff notice is issued. For information on these and other options, call 589-1444.

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Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Prospect, KY
Permit #18

City of St. Matthews Programs:

Street light program

If you'd like to have street lights installed on your block, write a note to City Hall indicating the block with your name address and phone number. You can select the Acorn or Coach light style, but the exact placement will be determined by a Louisville Gas & Electric Co. engineer.

Sidewalks

The City Council encourages people whose neighborhoods have crooked, badly cracked or broken sidewalks to call City Hall and report

those locations. To have new walks installed, draft a petition and obtain the signatures of at least 51% of the residents affected, then bring the signed petition to City Hall. For information, call 895-9444



Light Up St. Matthews went off at Brown Park on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We would like to thank the St. Matthews Area Business Association (SMBA) for a job well done, it keeps getting bigger and better each year.

We send Seasons Greetings to All!

Good Neighboring Parking

St. Matthews ordinance prohibit the parking of trucks, airplanes, buses, boats or motor homes on residential property closer to the street than the front wall of a residence.

Passenger cars, small pick-ups, and vans may legally park on a paved driveway as defined in the zoning regulations of "not to exceed 20 feet in width and which leads to a garage, carport or rear yard". Other vehicles may be legally parked in driveways for up to four hours while being loaded or unloaded.

Violations are punishable by fines of \$15 to \$100 a day, and also subject an offender to civil penalties.

Trash pickup

Keep in mind that no one wants your trash scattered around the neighborhood. So don't set your cans and bags out any earlier than the night before your scheduled pickup.