

ST. MATTHEWS NEWS

City of St. Matthews

Summer 1996

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.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
except during Daylight Savings
Time, when hours are 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.

LG&E is replacing natural-gas lines to keep downward pressure on costs

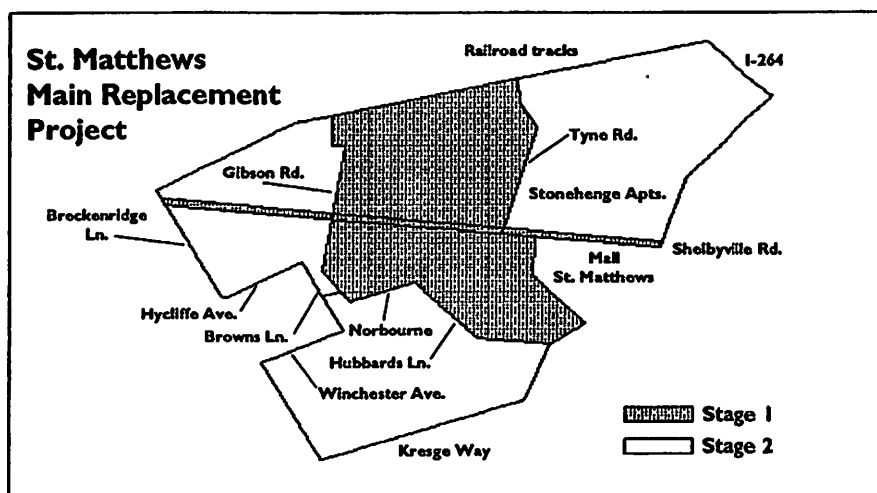
The Louisville Gas & Electric Co. will be replacing and upgrading gas-distribution lines along streets in parts of St. Matthews and neighboring cities over the next several months.

LG&E says it is converting the lines from low- to medium-pressure to improve the system's reliability and to keep customers' gas rates low.

The work is to be done in two stages. Stage 1, which began on June 17 and is scheduled to be completed by Sept. 6, will involve Shelbyville Road

bounded by Breckenridge Lane, the railroad tracks, the city of Richlawn, Browns Lane and the city of Fairmeade. (Norbourne Estates is not included in the project.)

The work will increase pressure in service lines from the street to individual homes and businesses, which could cause leaks. For that reason, LG&E is replacing the service lines at its own expense. After the work is done, LG&E says, customers will have "a virtually brand-new gas system."



from Mall St. Matthews to Breckenridge Lane; the city of Fairmeade (beginning on June 18); and the city of Richlawn from the railroad tracks to Shelbyville Road (beginning on June 24). Stage 2, from July 22 to Oct. 31, will involve the city of Beechwood Village; the city of Springlee; and parts of St. Matthews

Gas meters now inside homes and businesses will be moved to the outside, where the gas pipe enters the building, at no charge to customers.

LG&E says a service representative will contact each affected customer to discuss its plans. For more information, call the St. Matthews Customer Service Center at 627-4818.

Inside:

Fire District is looking for volunteers.

Council reduces property-tax rate again.

Brown Park plan would preserve site's character.

Water Co. sets out to maintain the mains.

Here's an incomparable opportunity to make a voluntary contribution

It's the toughest, dirtiest job you'll ever love.

You'll have a chance to help your neighbors in their times of greatest need. Your chief rewards will be a warm sense of camaraderie and a level of personal satisfaction that few people ever experience.

If this appeals to you, perhaps you should consider serving your community as a volunteer firefighter.

Many people don't realize that the St. Matthews Fire District still relies heavily on volunteers.

With requests for assistance running at an all-time high, the district needs more volunteers.

As a volunteer firefighter, you'll

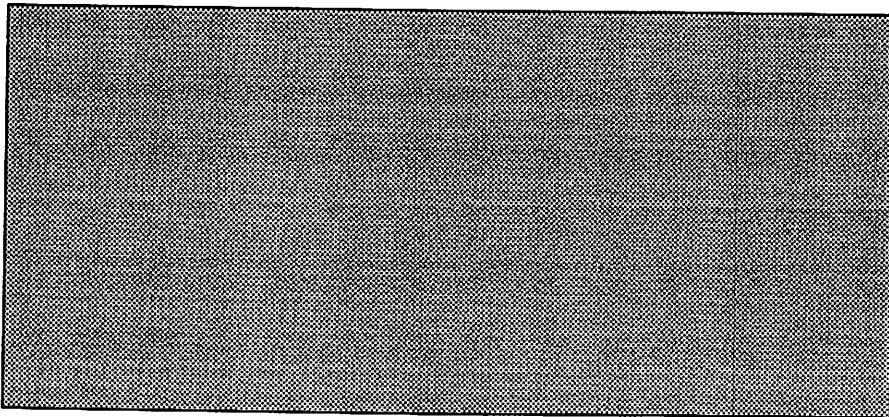
receive training in emergency medical treatment, fire suppression, emergency vehicle operations, hazardous materials management and many other aspects of emergency services.

After receiving this training, you'll be equipped to play a meaningful role in dealing with emergencies ranging from automobile accident rescues to medical emergencies to structure fires.

If you are a highly motivated person willing to devote a few hours a week to your community, then the St. Matthews Fire District needs to hear from you.

Recruit classes are forming now.

For more information, call Maj. Stuart Monohan at 893-7825.



City police nab Pat Broderick

St. Matthews Police Department news:

- The department recently was awarded a \$150,000 federal grant to hire two officers.

The first, Pat Broderick, was sworn in on Feb. 26 and assigned to the day shift as a patrol officer.

Broderick, 30, is a Trinity High School graduate who has worked for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department for more than nine years.

- Listen for St. Matthews Officer Chris Redman on "Crimebusters Notebook" at 7 a.m. every Tuesday on WWKY (790-AM).

The 10-minute program, featuring Redman and host Stu Williams, highlights a Crime of the Week and offers

crime-prevention tips.

- Sgt. Bill Fitzgerald graduated from the FBI National Academy in March.

- Finally, a few springtime words to the wise:

When you go outside to mow the lawn, putter in the garden or just commune with nature, don't forget to lock your doors. Otherwise you may be planting seeds of temptation in a burglar's mind.

Keep all your outdoor equipment securely locked up when it's not in use.

And it's a good idea to record the serial numbers and model numbers of mowers, tillers and other such tools. In the event of a theft, you'll have a much better chance of recovering your property.

City council cuts property tax, ponders \$6.5 million budget

The St. Matthews Council has reduced the city's property-tax rate to 21 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The rate had been 22 cents.

This is the fifth time the city has reduced the rate since 1990.

The 1996 Homestead Exemption, for disabled homeowners and those 65 or older, is \$23,100.

The proposed city budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 calls for the spending of about \$6,485,000 — an increase of about \$216,000 over the 1995-'96 budget.

The bulk of the money will be spent on police (\$2.15 million), public works and sanitation (\$1.24 million) and construction (\$1.17 million).

The largest proposed increase is for parks and recreation, up from about \$269,000 to more than \$804,000.

The city's biggest source of revenue (\$2.67 million) is the .75-percent occupational tax on income and commissions earned in St. Matthews.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a First Capitol Bank plan to build a 16,665-square-foot headquarters building in the Woodlawn Shopping Center on North Hubbards Lane.

- Approved a plan for a 10,500-square-foot Dohrman office building at 4165 Westport Road, next to Haller's Pet Shop. Construction will require the razing of a house now used for office space.

- Announced that St. Matthews' tree-planting program gave 267 Red Sunset maples a healthy start between Jan. 22 and March 11.

Ninety-two of the trees were planted along Bowling Boulevard.

- Announced that the St. Matthews Trolley will be in operation through late August.

Brown Park plan envisions renewal, contemplation

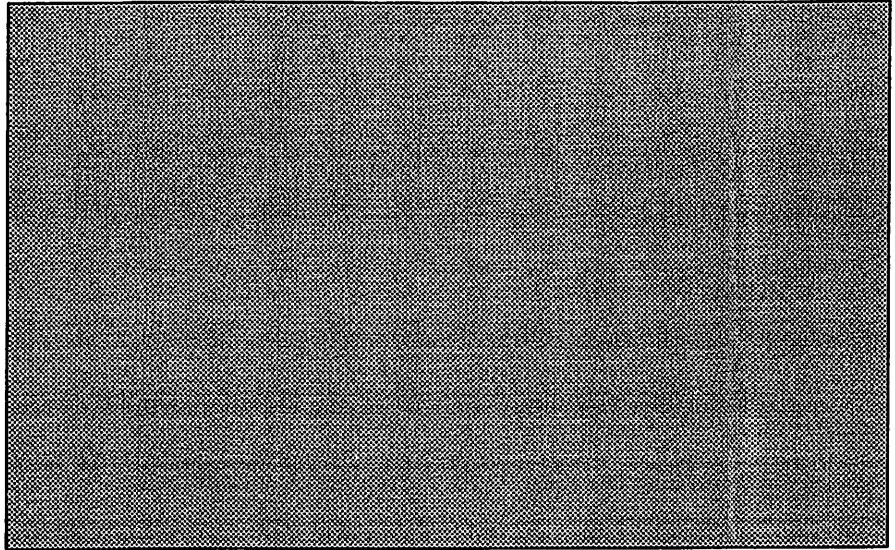
The master plan for improving St. Matthews' J. Graham Brown Park would preserve the site as a place for "contemplative recreation," while adding an amphitheater and performance stage, a playground, an extensive system of walkways, several new picnic areas and a stepping-stone crossing of Beargrass Creek.

The plan, according to its developers from the Philadelphia design firm of Wallace, Roberts and Todd, is to "create a park that respects the existing natural character" of the site, while providing an environment where St. Matthews residents "can renew, enrich and expand their physical, spiritual and intellectual well-being through peaceful, contemplative interaction with nature."

One part of the plan would "visually enhance" an area between Beargrass Creek and Browns Lane, which the planners call "one of the major entrance corridors into the city."

Interpretive signs or other historic markers would call visitors' attention to a cemetery containing the graves of some of the original owners of the land, dating to the 1700s, and to a spring used by early residents of Low Dutch Station, one of the earliest settlements in the area.

The 27.5-acre park, bounded by Browns Lane, Bowling Blvd., I-64 and Baptist Hospital East, was presented to the city in 1977 by the James Gra-



A recent photo of Hycliffe Avenue shows how trees can be used to good effect.

ham Brown Foundation. It now has a picnic area with a pavilion and a walking path along the creek. It also is the site of an annual Christmas display sponsored by the St. Matthews Area Business Association.

Among the proposed improvements:

- A small amphitheater with raised lawn seating.
- A walking bridge across the creek, and a set of stepping stones for children.
- A playground to be provided near the parking area.
- Fifteen additional parking spaces.

- Additional (handicapped-accessible) walking trails throughout the park.

- A small ornamental pond.

- A walkway for easier access to and from Baptist East.

The city hired Wallace, Roberts in September to help council members and residents reach a consensus on improving the second-largest city park (only the Community Center, at 48 acres, is bigger).

The picnic shelter now in the park will remain.

The council approved the \$750,000 plan during its Dec. 12 meeting.

Water Co. project will mainly affect St. Matthews

The Louisville Water Co. has launched a project to clean and cement-line about 4,200 linear feet of six-inch water mains in parts of St. Matthews.

The work will require the installation of plastic and/or steel temporary water lines and short rubber-hose service connections at each water-meter vault.

These temporary lines will be disinfected and the water in them will be tested to make sure it is safe.

Rubber ramps will be placed at

driveway crossings to enable traffic to cross the temporary pipes. The company says it will take steps to see that inconvenience is kept to a minimum, but admits that the above-ground piping "may present somewhat of an impediment."

The affected streets: Meridian Avenue from Shelbyville Road to Nanz Avenue; Fairfax Avenue from Shelbyville Road to Grandview Avenue; Nanz from Breckenridge Lane to Fairfax; Grandview from Breckenridge Lane to Fairfax; and Sherrin Avenue

from Shelbyville Road to Grandview.

The work, which also will include the replacement of six fire hydrants, is expected to take less than a month.

When the project is complete, the company says, it will have improved water quality and customer service and enhanced water supply for firefighting.

During construction, a company inspector will be on hand to supervise.

If you have any questions, you may call Project Manager Tim Ball at 569-3666 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

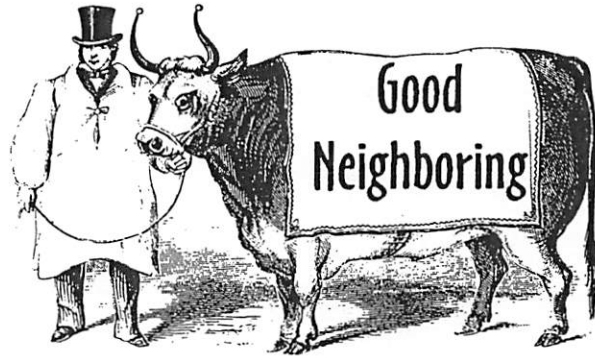
City services

Going on vacation? Call the St. Matthews Police at 893-9000 and arrange to have officers make frequent checks of your house while you're away.

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 at 895-9444.

People whose areas have crooked or broken sidewalks can easily get them repaired or replaced; just call City Hall. Those wanting brand-new sidewalks need petitions bearing the names of 51 percent of all residents affected.

If you'd like to have street lights installed on your block, just write a note to City Hall. You may choose the style of light you prefer, but the placement will be determined by an LG&E engineer.



Check your house and yard for mosquito breeding sites, such as obstructed gutters, containers of rainwater, unused swimming pools and discarded tires. Any standing water can become the birthplace of thousands of mosquitoes. The county Department of Health treats public ditches and easements. For advice and information, call 574-6650.

When you and your dog go out for a walk, take along a "pooper-scooper" and a plastic bag, and clean up after your pet. And 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 (would-be) slumbering neighbors.

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