

ST. MATTHEWS NEWS

City of St. Matthews

Summer 1997

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.

City fire officials planning to invest in lifesaving thermal-imaging system

Over the years, technology has changed the way we live in many important respects, but the firefighter's lot hasn't really changed very much in the past 100 years.

He still has to work on his hands and knees, feeling his way through dense, lung-searing smoke, searching for fire survivors in conditions of zero visibility.

Now, however, this age-old problem has yielded to a high-tech solution.

Remember the night-time images on television of soldiers, tanks and buildings — and target-seeking "smart bombs" — that we all watched during Operation Desert Storm?

What made those bombs so smart (and those TV pictures so revealing) was thermal-imaging technology, which enabled the American warriors to see in total darkness.

That same thermal technology is just now becoming available to the men and women who make war on fires.

With a portable device that detects infra-red energy and uses it to create visual images, today's state-of-the-art firefighter can see through thick black smoke.

The properly equipped firefighter no longer has to grope blindly for fire

victims, but is able to search a room by sight, in a matter of seconds — in situations where seconds are often the difference between life and death.

In addition to search and rescue, thermal imaging is also useful in the firefighting effort itself, because it makes hidden fires immediately visible, and often gives early warning of imminent structural collapse.

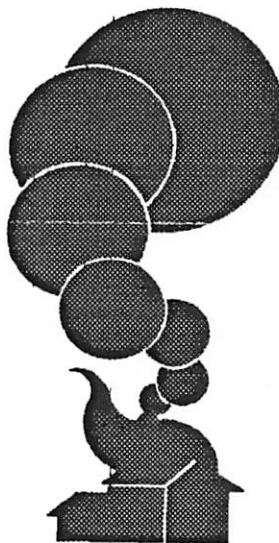
In short, the technology makes it possible for a firefighter to see, and more easily avoid becoming a victim of, all manner of hazards.

Thermal imaging can save lives — of civilians and firefighters alike. It is also expected to significantly reduce property losses to fire and water damage.

The board of directors of the city's Fire District is sold on the new devices, and would like to invest in two thermal-imaging units for St. Matthews firefighters.

There is just one problem: High technology is expensive. At the moment, these thermal-imaging devices cost about \$25,000 apiece.

The directors believe that the public-safety benefits of the new technology easily justify the expenditure. Budget permitting, they are planning to put these life-saving devices into the hands of St. Matthews firefighters by the end of this summer.



Inside:

St. Matthews to become Park City on June 8!

Brown Park rededicati

St. Matthews will celebrate a grand rededication of James Graham Brown Park on Sunday, June 8.

The ceremonies at the park, at Browns Lane and Kresge Way, will get under way at 3 p.m.

Guest speakers on hand for the event will include Lt. Gov. Steve Henry and Susan Rademacher of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy. Henry will also present a plaque commemorating the city's rededication of the 27-acre park.

A brass ensemble from the Louisville Orchestra will entertain.

The park, closed last fall for an \$800,000 renovation, unofficially reopened in April.

The facelift of St. Matthews' second-largest park (only the Community Center, at 48 acres, is bigger) was directed by the Philadelphia design firm of Wallace, Roberts and Todd.

Among the improvements:

- A small amphitheater with raised lawn seating (this area will be the site of Sunday's ceremony).

- A walking bridge across Beargrass Creek.

- A playground for young children.

- Handicapped-accessible walking trails throughout the park.

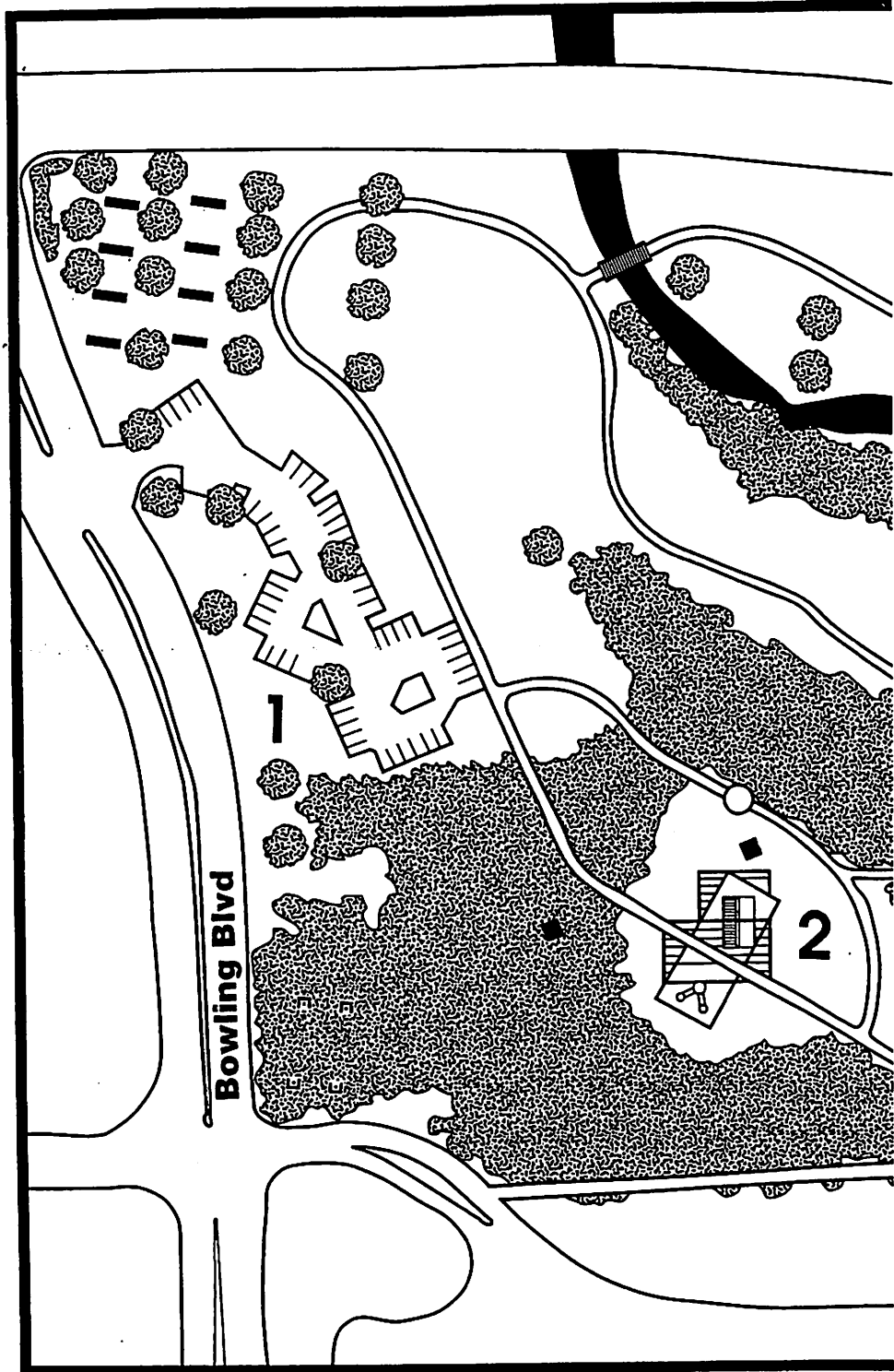
- A series of columns bearing high water marks of historic floods.

- Extensive new plantings of flowers and ornamental trees.

- Markers calling visitors' attention to a cemetery dating to the 1700s, and to a spring used by early residents of the area.

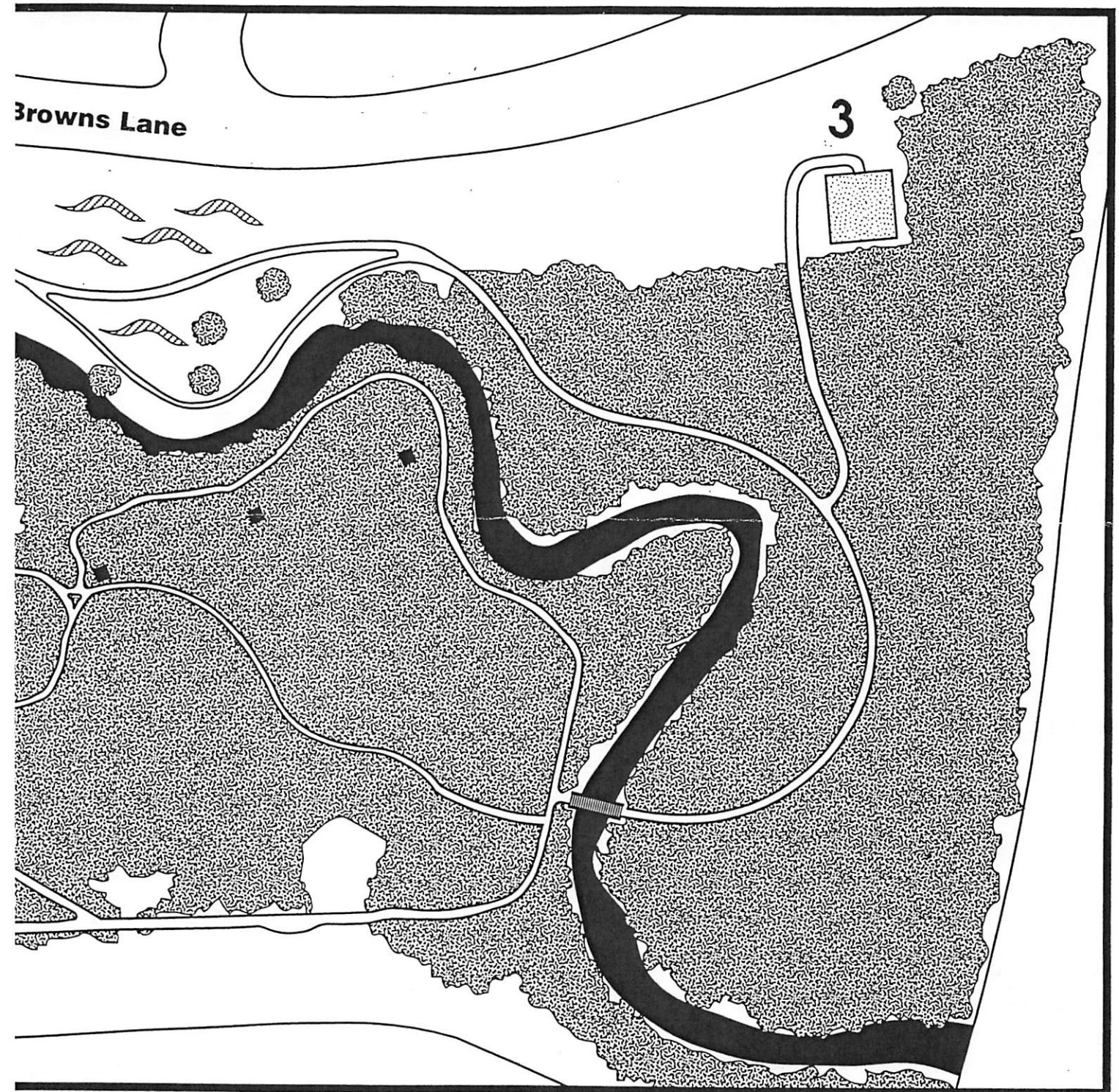
The planners said their intention was to preserve the "natural character" of the site, while providing an environment where St. Matthews residents "can renew, enrich and expand their well-being through peaceful, contemplative interaction with nature."

The park was presented to the city in 1977 by the James Graham Brown Foundation.



Among the features of the city's newly refurbished J. Graham Brown Park: an 18th-century cemetery (3); and a series of columns bearing high-water marks

on scheduled for June 8



ged parking area (1); a commons area including an amphitheater, a picnic shelter and a children's playground (2); a historic
rious historic floods (black squares). Also pictured are a network of walking trails and two bridges over Beargrass Creek.

ST. MATTHEWS NEWS
City Hall
3940 Grandview Avenue
St. Matthews, KY 40207

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit #976

Mark your calendar

The city and the St. Matthews Area Business Association will present three "Music in Brown Park" programs on Sunday evenings this summer. On June 8, the music will be provided by The Pier; on July 13, by the Derbytownt Doodlers; and on Aug. 10, by the 113th Army Band. Each concert will run from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The fifth annual "Sampling St. Matthews" exposition of area businesses and restaurants is scheduled for June 19 at 6 p.m. in Trinity High School's Alumni Hall. Admission is one can of food for Dare to Care.

Kids, straighten out your lobs and backhands at the Louisville Cardinal Tennis Camp at U of L's Bass-Rudd Tennis Center. Weekly sessions will run from June 16 to Aug. 8. The cost of participating in the 9 a.m.-5 p.m. program for a week is \$205.



Dam nuisance: Please don't put compost heaps, leaves, grass clippings or anything else in the city's drainage ditches.

Laidlaw says we still aren't getting it right. Grass and leaves must be put in special brown paper bags or in garbage cans clearly labeled yard waste; if yard waste is put out in plastic bags, it doesn't get composted. You can buy or rent a 90-gallon container for either trash or yard waste from Laidlaw. Also: Remember that limbs must be cut into four-foot lengths and bundled.

Don't park in the street when there's room in your driveway.

Remember the leash law. It applies to all dogs, no matter how well-behaved. If you have cats, keep them at home.