

# St. Matthews News

Summer/Fall 1994

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 P.M.,  
except during Daylight  
Savings Time, when hours  
are 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.  
Mon - Thur. and 8:30 A.M.  
to 12:30 P.M. on Fridays.

### Council Meetings

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

## Yard Waste?

Starting on Thursday,  
Sept. 1, all yard waste—grass  
and shrub clippings, and  
leaves—must be separated  
from household trash and put  
in containers or plastic bags  
clearly marked "YARD  
WASTE."

This organic material will  
be collected on the same day  
as your regular garbage pick-  
up, but must be set out at the  
curb.

The system is changing  
because Jefferson County  
waste disposal authorities have  
ruled that grass and leaves  
may no longer be taken to  
landfills, but must be taken to  
composting facilities instead.

Please keep in mind that  
this is a new program, and that  
it may take a little while for  
our waste disposal contractor  
to work out all the kinks.

The City Council strongly  
urges St. Matthews residents to  
use mulching mowers or back-  
yard composting to reduce the  
amount of grass waste, and to  
take advantage of the city's  
autumn leaf collection pro-  
gram. The Council also advises  
that, for convenience, it would  
be best to put yard waste in  
clear plastic bags, which  
needn't be marked.

One other reminder: Please  
don't put grass clippings or  
anything else in drainage  
easements.



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How may we help you

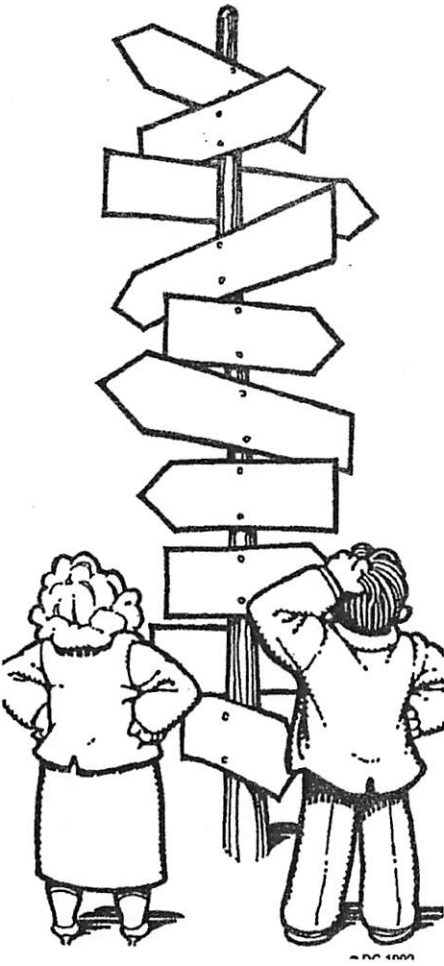
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## City - County Merger

The often talked about merger of the City of Louisville with Jefferson County and its small cities is a matter of concern to the citizens of St. Matthews.

The City Council takes a stand that we will relentlessly and vigorously defend the present form of personalized response of government to which our citizens are entitled.

In this committed effort we will strive to explore concepts which will also benefit Jefferson County and the City of Louisville.



## Council reduces property tax rate

The city's tax on real estate has been cut to 23 cents per \$100 of assessed property-valuation (an 8 percent decrease) to offset the effect of generally higher county assessments. The Homestead Exemption (\$21,800, up from \$20,300) is available to property owners who are disabled or 65 years of age or older, provided that an application is on file at City Hall. A 25 percent discount is available to property owners who pay their tax bills during the month of October.

## Dangers

### Lead poisoning

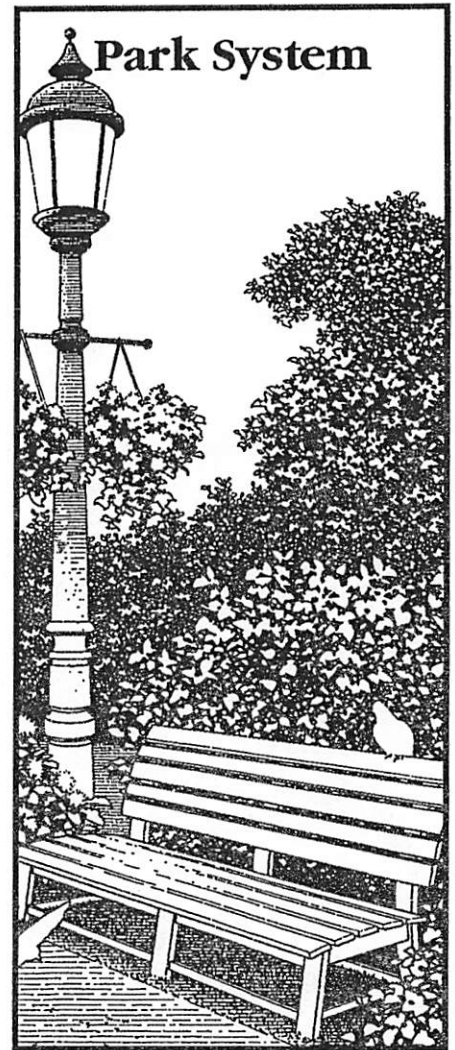
The Louisville and Jefferson County Health Department warns that, if you are renovating, remodeling or redecorating a house built before 1978, you could unknowingly poison yourself, your family or your pets with toxic lead contained in old paint.

For advice on precautions you should take, call the Health Department at 574-6644.

### Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless and odorless radioactive gas that can be a threat to health. The federal Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon causes 16,000 cases of lung cancer each year in the United States. Jefferson County has

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### Community Center: 48

acres. Recreation area, playground, tennis courts, baseball, basketball. Various organized programs during the summer. Facility available for wedding receptions, reunions, etc. For information, call 897-6371.

**Brown Park:** Picnic tables, nature walks. A new pavilion will be ready for use soon.

**Warwick Villa Park:** Tot lot, softball diamond, picnic grounds, walking track.

The pavilions at Brown Park and the Community Center can be reserved for large groups on a first-come, first-served basis by calling St. Matthews City Hall.

## LAWS:

### Street numbers

A city ordinance requires that street numbers be clearly marked on the outside of your house. This is a life-saving law meant to guarantee that emergency vehicles can find you quickly in the event of a crisis.

### Boats, buses, trucks and trailers

City ordinances prohibit the parking of trucks, buses, boats or trailers in driveways or front yards.

### Pets

Dogs and cats cannot be allowed to run loose. A city ordinance requires that they be enclosed in a fenced area or kept on a leash at all times.

### Street rights-of-way

These easements usually extend to the water meter, not the edge of the street. City ordinances specify that no one is to do any filling or excavation, plant any shrubbery, bush or tree, or build a private culvert or driveway on a city right-of-way without first obtaining a permit. It also is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to maintain the area.

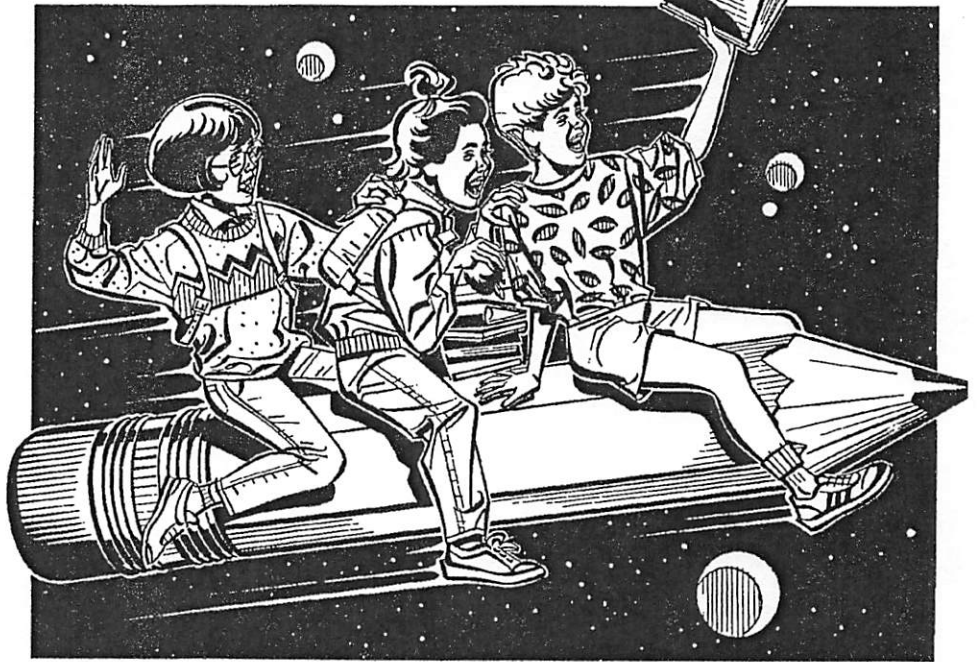
**Please Remember  
That Starting  
September 1, 1994 A  
New Way Of Collecting  
YARD WASTE Will  
Begin In St. Matthews,  
Story On Page One.**

## New Location For Our Library

The St. Matthews/Eline Memorial Library is at a new location—3940 Grandview Avenue. It's bigger and better than before. You must come and see.

It's open from 10 A.M. to 9

P.M. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; and closed on Sundays and holidays. For more information, call 574-1771.



## Dangers

*Continued from page 3*

been identified as a potential high-risk zone for radon. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to test your home for radon and to take remedial action if necessary to lower the indoor air concentration to meet federal safety standards.

To order a low cost radon test kit, contact St. Matthews City Hall at 895-9444.

The Kentucky Department for Health Services conducted a Radon Awareness Program in our city last April; more than 50 residents attended, including several who later tested their homes for radon and detected elevated levels. Another Radon Awareness Program is planned for this Fall.

## Fire

Having a working smoke detector in your home doubles your chances of surviving a fire. Keep these fire safety tips in mind:

Install a smoke detector on every floor level of your home and outside every bedroom. Test all smoke detectors once a month to be sure that they are in good working order; change the batteries at least once a year.

Have your family practice a home escape plan that includes at least two routes to safety.

For less than \$20 you can provide your family with smoke detectors. For more information, call the St. Matthews Fire District (an independent agency, not part of city government) at 893-7825.

# City of St. Matthews Programs:

## 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

## House patrol

Going out of town?  
Attending a funeral? If you call the St. Matthews Police Department at 893-9000, you

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can arrange to have patrol officers make regular, frequent checks of your house while you're away.

## 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.

## Tree planting program.

Anyone interested in having trees planted on their property right-of-way can make the request by calling City Hall at 895-9444.

## 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.



City Hall  
3940 Grandview Avenue  
St. Matthews, KY 40257-0097

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit #18