



## St. Matthews City Clerk Susan Clark Retires

Susan Clark, St. Matthews City Clerk for 13 years, retired from her position effective August 31, 2023. Susan, who lived in St. Matthews for many years, holds degrees in political science and business management, which led her to work for the Jefferson County Clerk's office for many years.

After working for Jefferson County, Susan then began her service with St. Matthews, and found it to be very rewarding. Some of her duties included being the official record keeper for the City—taking minutes at all City meetings, being involved in the administrative aspects of the City as well as Treasurer of the City. Susan had a staff of five, and was responsible for writing all checks and ensuring the audits of the City's books went smoothly. She takes pride in the fact that all the audits were clean and everything was in order.

Susan says, "I absolutely loved the position. I have a servant's heart,



*L to R: Louis Straub, president of Independence Bank, Susan Clark, Tracy Reid and Cindy Bailey from Independence Bank, with proclamation declaring August 31, 2023, as Susan Clark Independence Day.*

and want to be of service to our community. I was in a position to help them and I did it with a great amount of joy." From assisting someone with

making a reservation at a park pavilion to dealing with a wildlife issue, Susan says, "My number one priority was handling the phone calls that came through my office."

Susan adds, "I was a liaison between the City and residents. Mayor Tonini is an incredible person. I was hired under Mayor

Bowling, and to work under strong leadership under both mayors in this day and age was a gift. Mayor Tonini has common sense, sound judgment and the attitude that we are going to do what is right."

Susan's future plans include reading, exercising which includes water aerobics and walking the hills at the Louisville Zoo. A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Susan plans to be more involved with that organization, which supports efforts such as ROTC and the Zachary Taylor National cemetery.

Mayor Tonini said, "Susan has been a wonderful help to me as mayor, and



*Will Clark, left, speaking with Mayor Tonini at the reception.*

*Continued on page 9*

# A Message From...

Help St. Matthews government keep you informed of important notices and events!

- Follow us on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/citystmatthews>
- Find what you need on our website:  
[www.stmatthewsky.gov](http://www.stmatthewsky.gov)
- Sign up for free REACH ALERT messaging, dispatched on an as-warranted basis:  
[www.reachalert.com](http://www.reachalert.com)



## Easy Being Green 12 Ways To Have an Eco-Friendly Holiday

### 1. Make Your Own Wrapping Paper (or Go Without)

If your wrapping paper is metallic, has foil or glitter decorations on it, or has a texture to it, it is not recyclable. Instead of store-bought wrapping paper, get creative and try white or brown craft paper, the comics section or cloth bags.

### 2. Buy Energy-Saving LED Holiday Lights

LED lights use 80 percent less energy than conventional holiday lights.

### 3. Use Timers for Your lights

Setting a timer so that your lights turn on at dusk and off at dawn is much more efficient than having the lights on 24/7. Using a timer will help both the environment and your bank account.

### 4. Add Organic & Local Foods to Your Holiday Feast

Support local family farmers and food producers who sustainably produce meat, vegetables and seasonal treats.

### 5. Get a Chemical-Free Tree

The most eco-friendly holiday tree option is a potted, native tree that you can plant after the holiday season.

### 6. Recycle Your Christmas Tree

The City of St. Matthews offers free curbside recycling of your tree that is free of lights and decorations. Trees are recycled into mulch and wood chips.

### 7. Recycle Your Old Cellphone/Tablet

Getting a new phone? Recycling your old phone prevents hazardous elements like mercury, cadmium and lead from ending up in our landfills.

### 8. Donate Your Time or Money to an Environmental Cause

### 9. Make Handcrafts & DIY Gifts

### 10. Give Experiential Gifts

Tickets, a trip, a membership to a local attraction, lessons all make great gifts.

### 11. Purchase Eco-Friendly & Locally Made Gifts

### 12. Stuff Stockings With Yummy, Natural Treats

Honor an old-fashioned tradition and fill your stockings with yummy treats like dried fruit, nuts, clementines, candy, and homemade holiday cookies.

Source: <https://www.smallfootprintfamily.com/eco-friendly-holiday-tips>



Recycling is collected every other week on the same day as trash on weeks highlighted in red. Holidays marked in blue will delay recycling and trash one day.

| NOVEMBER 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|               |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12            | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19            | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26            | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |

| DECEMBER 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 10            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| JANUARY 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 14           | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21           | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28           | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |



## The Alexander Hamilton Historical Society of Kentucky

The Alexander Hamilton Historical Society of Kentucky meets every third Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m.

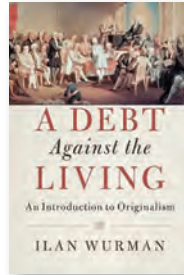
Meetings are held in the Artisan Room, in the Meadow Building of The Masonic Home, 3701 Frankfort Avenue. Please use common sense concerning precautions to stay safe from Covid-19.

Please contact [lauvepoche@att.net](mailto:lauvepoche@att.net) to request information about AHHS. As always, AHHS meetings are open to the public.

### Our schedule of upcoming speakers:

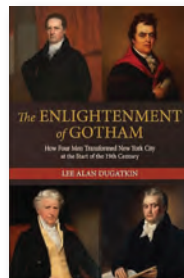
#### November 18, 2023

Prof. Aaron Hoffman: *A Debt Against the Living: An Introduction to Originalism* by Ilan Wurman



#### December 16, 2023

Dr. Lee Alan Dugatkin: *The Enlightenment of Gotham: How Four Men Transformed New York City at the Start of the 19th Century* by Lee Alan Dugatkin



Beginning in 1802, four men—DeWitt Clinton, Samuel Latham Mitchill, David Hosack, and John Pintard—designed four temples of wisdom and a garden, which together embodied art, science, literature, philosophy, and history. These men set out to make New York a “first city” in every sense of the term, to capture the ethos of the Enlightenment, and, in so doing, to enlighten the citizens of Gotham.

January 20, 2024 To be announced

#### February 17, 2024

Cralle Theatre, Wyatt Center for the Arts, Bellarmine University Gerard N. Magliocca, who is the Samuel R. Rosen Professor at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, will speak on his new book *Washington's Heir: The Life of Justice Bushrod Washington* (Oxford University Press, 2022).



## Woman's Club of St. Matthews

Meets at St. Matthews City Hall in the Nolan Room  
10:30 am to Noon, second Monday of each month.

Upcoming programs: Nov. 27, Jan. 22 and Feb. 27

The club has been organized since 1938, and any woman in the Kentuckiana area is welcome.

Check our website [www.WCSM.org](http://www.WCSM.org) for updated information.

Contact Lynn Bridwell Membership Chairman at [bridwelllynn@gmail.com](mailto:bridwelllynn@gmail.com) for more information.

## LIGHT UP St. Matthews



Light Up  
St. Matthews  
Saturday, December 2  
3:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Brown Park

- A **FREE** annual holiday event
- DJ Music, Train Ride
- Event is rain or shine
- Most activities under tents
- Letters to Santa and activities for children
- Free hot chocolate and cookies
- Location: Brown Park at the corner of Kresge Way and Browns Lane
- FREE parking at 4007 Kresge Way, Doctor's building
- The event concludes at 6 p.m. when the switch is thrown and Brown Park “Lights Up” with thousands of colorful holiday lights and displays.

The seasonal lights will stay lit nightly until after the New Year. Residents and visitors to the community are welcome to visit the park daily throughout the holiday season to enjoy the lights.

Parking: Limited handicap parking is available in the park lot and NO Parking is allowed along Browns Lane. Free parking is available in the Baptist Doctors Building lot, 4007 Kresge Way, directly across from the Baptist Health Hospital. Use the signaled crosswalk to access the park.

For more information about this event go to <https://www.stmatthewschamber.com/light-up/>

*In the case of a dangerous weather event OR due to COVID-19 restrictions some changes may occur to keep the event safe.*

## Crime Trends

St. Matthews has recently observed an increase in burglaries from garages and outbuildings. Landscaping tools and bicycles seem to be the target of these thefts. Please ensure you are closing and locking up these areas when not in use, as well as your home and vehicles. Additionally, note any serial numbers on high value items, as this could be helpful in recovering your items in the unfortunate event of a theft.

### Crime Prevention

As winter approaches, it brings with it a unique set of challenges when it comes to neighborhood safety. The longer nights and colder weather can create conditions that may make your neighborhood more vulnerable to certain types of crimes. With some proactive measures you can help prevent crime and ensure a safer winter for everyone.

#### Never Leave Your Car Running Unattended:

As mornings are getting colder, it's easy to want to warm your vehicle in the driveway or leave it running while you run a quick errand. Leaving your vehicle unattended even for a short time puts you at a higher risk for car theft. Always turn off your car, lock it, and take your keys with you when you leave, even if you'll only be gone for a minute.

#### Never Leave Children in a Running Vehicle:

Leaving children in a running vehicle, even for a short time, is not only unsafe but also against the law. It's crucial to ensure the safety of your children by never leaving them unattended in a vehicle, especially in winter when the temperature inside a car can drop rapidly.

### Outdoor Lighting:

One of the most effective ways to deter crime during the winter months is by improving outdoor lighting. Longer nights provide cover for criminals, so ensure that your neighborhood is well-lit. Consider installing motion-activated lights near entrances, walkways, and alleys. Encourage your neighbors to do the same. Well-lit streets and properties can discourage burglars and vandals. Always report any streetlights that are out immediately.

### Shopping tips:

Whenever possible, do your shopping during daylight hours. If you are out

them to a recycling center dumpster or the landfill. Leaving them outside your house with the logos, images, and text visible tells the criminals you likely have the items inside.

### Report Crime: See something, Say Something

If you're the victim of theft or burglary, immediately report the crime to law enforcement. Even if the crime seems unimportant to you, knowing that it occurred might help investigators solve other cases. Also contact law enforcement if you see suspicious activity, like strangers wandering the neighborhood, people other than your

## Don't let your trash be a burglars' shopping list



after dark, park in well lit, high traffic areas. When walking to your vehicle be aware of your surroundings and avoid distractions like your phone. Secure your purchase and any high value items in the trunk or out of sight. Thieves are less likely to break in when they don't see anything of value.

That empty TV box and the electronics you put out at the curb after you scored big on Black Friday and Cyber Monday might help burglars and thieves make their own holiday shopping lists. Take the time to break-down boxes and either dispose of them in black garbage bags or take

neighbor removing things from your neighbor's house, or unrecognized vehicles parked in or continually driving through the area. Don't make excuses for potentially criminal behavior; don't assume they're lost, just passing through, are salesmen, or are the neighbor's family.

### FREE House Watch while you are away

Visit our City website to sign up for a house watch while you are away from home.

[www.stmatthewsky.gov/house-watch/](http://www.stmatthewsky.gov/house-watch/)



## Police Updates

The St. Matthews Police Department was awarded \$88,000.00 towards the purchase of body cameras from the Department of Justice through the Small, Rural, Tribal grant program. The use of these cameras will further the mission of the department and enhance service to the community by accurately documenting events, actions, conditions, and statements made during citizen encounters, traffic stops, arrests, and other incidents in order to promote public safety.

### Web Page Community Connect <https://www.stmatthewsky.gov/police/community-services/>

The St. Matthews Police Department has upgraded its community policing services portion of the city web page. This software will allow for easier access to forms and two-way connectivity to the police department.

Our goal is to provide the community with a portal so residents can enter their own requests for Vacation

Watches, Condition Reports, At-Risk Residents, and Pet & Bike Management.

**Vacation Watch** – Allows residents to complete a form on the details of their house watch. Once added, officers will perform checks (time permitting) on your property while you are away.

**Condition Reports** – Allows residents to complete a form on the conditions in our city such as potholes in the road, streetlights which are out, or any other potential safety issues.

**Bike Management** – Residents can provide details about their bicycles, which if lost or stolen will give the police instant information on their bike.

**Pet Management** – Residents can provide details regarding their pets, which if lost or stolen will help the police in tracking their pet.



**Keyholders** – This allows residents the opportunity to enter contact information on their home or business in case of emergencies.

**At Risk Residents** – Residents can enter information on those at risk. This will provide the police with instant details as to the nature of the emergency or incident.

We hope this addition will make our connectivity to the community more efficient and help in keeping you safe.

## Good Neighboring

### Trash and Recycling

Items for garbage or recycling collection may be placed at the curb NO MORE than 24 hours in advance of collection and the containers must be removed from the curb WITHIN 24 hours of collection. Please see City Ordinance 19-05 for specific details.

### Christmas Tree Disposal

Live Christmas trees can be disposed of, along with your regular pick up of sanitation and yard waste, within the 2-week period following Christmas day. It is not necessary to cut the tree in any specific lengths. Place your tree at the edge of the road, or in the area where your usual trash and yard waste are picked up. Trees should be free of decorations such as lights, ornaments, or other trimmings. After the 2-week

period, trees must be cut into 6-ft lengths and bundled, placed in your recycling container, or taken to the Metro Louisville Recycling Center located at 595 N. Hubbards Lane.

### Recycle Wrapping Paper

All NON-foil wrapping paper can be easily recycled with your usual recycling items. Wrapping paper should be free of bows and trimmings.

**Report an out of service streetlight**  
Streetlights throughout St. Matthews are serviced by the Louisville Gas & Electric company. If you know of a streetlight that requires service, dial (502) 589-3500 to reach the outdoor



lighting department of the Louisville Gas & Electric company or to report online, click this link: <https://lge-ku.com/customer-service/outages/report-streetlight-outage>. LG&E's business hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday thru Friday. You will need to provide them with the street name and closest business or residential address to the light pole being reported for service.

# St. Matthews Team Highlights

## Kelli Morris, Police Dept.



Kelli has worked for the City since December 2022 as a part-time Crime Intel Analyst, and also has a job in the private sector as an analyst. Kelli,

who holds both bachelors and masters degrees in justice administration, has previously worked with Homeland Security, and in intelligence with the Kentucky State Police.

Some of the cases Kelli investigates are older homicide cases, looking for potential clues or leads that could be used to move forward on a case. The goal is to exhaust all leads in order to bring closure to a case.

Kelli also serves on the Louisville Metro Ethics Commission, and on the board of directors for Neighborhood House. In her spare time, Kelli enjoys the outdoors and traveling, having most recently traveled to Iceland, where she saw the Northern Lights.

## Brian Taylor, Public Works



Brian Taylor has been with the City of St. Matthews since July. He previously worked for the City of Louisville Parks and Recreation Department. His

position involved a lot of intense labor in caring for the many trees in the 136 Louisville parks as part of urban forestry management.

Brian heard about the position with St. Matthews and decided to make a change. His duties include tree and grass maintenance and smaller jobs such as maintaining easements throughout the City. He says his favorite part about the job is the satisfaction he has in making the community look nice.

Brian, who is single, lives in Louisville and has two young adult daughters, both in college. He enjoys watching his two favorite teams, the Bengals and the Lakers, and plays in wiffleball tournaments.

## Jack Ruf, Administration



Jack Ruf is a man of many titles: Planning and Zoning Officer; Sign Officer; Alcohol Beverage Control Administrator; and Code Enforcement Officer. After

retiring from Louisville's Metro Planning and Design Services, Jack was recruited by then-councilman Rick Tonini to work for St. Matthews.

Jack, who holds a masters degree in community development, says that he enjoys being able to answer residents' questions and give them guidance on what they are after, whether it is getting a liquor license, helping them learn what signage they may need, or where they can build a garage or addition to their property.

Jack enjoys spending time with his lovely wife of 48 years, his son and three grandchildren. He enjoys puzzles and music, including going to the orchestra and Woodsongs Old-Time Radio Hour.

## St. Matthews Parks

**Your local parks system: Keeping them among the best in the area!**

Warwick Park is a hidden gem located in the eastern area of St. Matthews, nestled between Columbia, Kentucky, Virginia, and Washburn avenues.

As with all our city parks, it is the intent of city leaders to make each one a welcomed designation for our residents and visitors to enjoy. In keeping with this mission, in October, the city launched Phase I of the larger project which is adding to, and enhancing, the features of this park.

Phase I is focused on the north end of the park near Columbia Ave. The proposed improvements will remove the existing basketball court to create

additional parking. The existing green space, just south of the existing parking lot, will be converted into four pickle ball courts and a regulation size basketball court. The existing port-a-pots will be eliminated and a permanent restroom will be installed. Also planned is a small plaza with seating, along with a water fountain with a dog watering station. New underground detention will be installed beneath the existing baseball diamond to reduce the amount of runoff to help with any



drainage concerns. There are several trees in the project area that are near the end of their life cycle, therefore, additional landscaping and trees are proposed. There are NO lights planned with this project so park hours, dawn till dusk, remain in effect.



## Eight Retire from Fire Department

What began in 1919 as a small volunteer fire department, St. Matthews Fire & EMS has grown into a fire district that covers 19 square miles with 4 firehouses and 99 employees. This past summer eight of those employees retired with a collective 200 years of active service. We would like to recognize these individuals for their dedicated service to our community and the Commonwealth.

### Assistant Chief David Howser

retired on May 1, 2023, with over 42 years of service. David began volunteering with the Lyndon Fire Protection District in 1980 and rose to the highest rank of Fire Chief. Chief Howser was instrumental in the merger of the St. Matthews and Lyndon Fire Protection District in 2017. In recognition of his proven leadership, he was named the Kentucky Fire Chief of the Year in 2018 by the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs.



### Major Patrick Montague

retired on June 1, 2023, with 27 years of service. Patrick began as a volunteer in 1996 with the former Edgewood Fire Protection District, moving to St. Matthews in 2001.



Patrick was promoted to Sergeant in 2006, Captain in 2014, then Major in 2018. Some of Patrick's many accomplishments include his assistance in implementing the district's new EMS service in 2016, two unit citations for actions performed on the fire ground, recipient of the Fire Chief's Award in 2016, and induction into the Fairdale High School Hall of Fame in 2017.

### Captain Matt Board

retired on August 1, 2023. Matt began as a volunteer in 1993 while also attending Eastern Kentucky University where he received a degree in Industrial Risk Management with an emphasis in Fire Science. Matt would eventually begin his fire career at St. Matthews in 2002. Promoted to Sergeant in 2007, Captain in 2022, Matt received two unit citations for actions performed on the fire ground.



### Captain Dan Doyle

began volunteering in 1984, retiring on August 1, 2023, with 39 years of service. Dan was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1989, earning the reputation of being a great apparatus engineer. He and his crew received the Firefighter of the Year Award in 1999. In 2000, Dan was promoted to Captain. Dan received two unit citations for actions performed on the fire ground.



### Sergeant Tommy Hedden

retired on August 1, 2023. After volunteering with Camp Taylor and Lyndon Fire Protection Districts, Tommy hired full-time in 2001. Tommy would be promoted to Sergeant in 2013. Over his career, Tommy received several awards for actions performed on emergency scenes and was the recipient of a Certificate of Merit by the Louisville Metro Council for recognition of his service during the Katrina disaster in 2005.



### Captain Louis Stoke

retired on August 1, 2023. Louis began volunteering in 1993 with the former Harrods Creek Fire Protection District. Louis was hired by St. Matthews in 2000 when the fire district fully staffed Station 2 on Brownsboro Road. Louis was promoted to Sergeant in 2018 and Captain in 2023. Over the course of his 23-year career with St. Matthews, Louis was the recipient of multiple unit citations.



### Captain Moe Tischendorf

retired on October 1, 2023. Moe began volunteering in 1986 with Lyndon Fire, then was hired in 1993. Moe was promoted to Captain in 2004. Moe has received many unit citations and letters of commendation for actions performed on the fire ground. However, Moe often says he is most proud of his role as a truck captain these past five years.



### Firefighter Derek Waters

retired on October 1, 2023. Derek began his fire service career in 1998 as a volunteer with the Fairdale Fire Protection District and was hired in 2000. In 2002 Derek began a career as an EMT with Metro Louisville EMS. In 2017, Derek would return to the fire service after he was hired by St. Matthews as one of the original members of its new EMS service. After helping establish that service, Derek returned as a firefighter in 2018 where he spent the past five years in honorable service.



# Hometown History

## Daniel Gilman (1804-1885)

Zachary Taylor, veteran of the War of 1812, the Black Hawk and Seminole wars, and successful Whig candidate for President of the United States in 1848, died in office on July 9, 1850 at the age of 65. After General Zachary Taylor's death at the White House, his remains were taken to his large farm near Louisville at a place called Gilman's Point for burial.

It is not precisely known when the area around the wedge of land between the Westport and Frankfort Roads was first called Gilman's Point. Earlier, in 1830, the area had been designated Sale's precinct, for Edmund P. Sale (1786-1832), who operated a tavern on Frankfort Avenue at Reservoir Park. It is noted that an 1879 Atlas of Jefferson and Oldham Counties in Kentucky showed the entire region as Gilman's precinct.

In 1856, the area known as Gilman's Point was beginning to be populated by German and Swiss immigrants, who settled in to farm the area.

In his early life, Daniel Gilman was engaged in the cattle trade to New Orleans, and enjoyed a reputation for unswerving integrity and straightforwardness. However, according to Jefferson County Court records, Daniel Gilman was first issued a license to keep a grocery in his house on the Louisville and Shelbyville Turnpike Road in 1857. Along with it came the privilege of selling liquor by the quart. It is not known precisely where this house was located. However, in 1859 he purchased from George Herr a small but strategically located piece of land bounded by Shelbyville Road and Westport Road, east of Cannon's line, which presently would be Chenoweth Lane. In the late 1860's, Daniel Gilman was granted a license to keep a tavern in Gilman's Point.

In 1859, the railroads that traveled to Louisville and Lexington formed one line. When regular service commenced after the Civil War, Gilman's was listed as a station between Fair Grounds (Crescent Avenue) and Race Course (Ashland Road). In 1879, just south of the



Present-day Gilman's Point

railroad tracks, a small framed station was erected along the Westport Road just east of Chenoweth Lane. The railroad was a significant factor in the development of the plateau east of Louisville, particularly St. Matthews where the potato and onion farmers depended on rail transportation to ship their cultivated product to markets. During the period of 1910 to 1946, St. Matthews was known as "the potato capital of the world".

Daniel Gilman, one of the old native citizens of Jefferson County, died suddenly at Woodlawn at the age of 81, in the year 1885. For 75 years he lived on the Shelbyville Turnpike, in the area known as Gilman's Point, now St. Matthews.

*[Excerpt from St. Matthews—the Crossroads of Beargrass by Samuel W. Thomas]*

Reminder: The City offers a "green up" program where the City will remove existing vehicle pull-off and restore the area to grass. Contact City Hall for more info.

**Louisville Gas & Electric**  
**502-589-1444**

Fast path options are: 1-1-1 (gas) and 1-1-2 (electric).

**Emergency**  
**Contact**  
**Numbers**

**Louisville Water Company**  
**502-583-6610**

To report emergencies like water main breaks or broken fire hydrants.



## St. Matthews Eline Library—Check It Out



### For Adults:

#### English Conversation Club

##### *We need English speakers*

Every Monday 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

English Conversation Club allows English language learners to practice English with volunteers. For more information, or to be a conversation volunteer email Kelli.Miller@lfpl.org, or call 502-547-1771.

#### Stephen King Book Discussion

Wednesdays, Nov. 8 & Dec. 13

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Come discuss novels by the King of Horror each month.

#### 2024 Home Organizing Challenge Prep Day Programs

Monday, Nov. 13; Thursday, Nov. 16;

Tuesday, Nov. 28; Thursday, Nov. 30;

Monday, Dec. 11; Thursday, Dec. 28

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Learn about cleaning and decluttering strategies, meal planning and holiday party prep, as well as tips on saving money and reducing food waste.

For more information on programs and events visit [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org)

### Adult Night Owls Book Discussion

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Nov. 21: *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich

Dec. 19: *The Orphan Collector* by Ellen

Marie Wiseman

### For Children and Families

#### Teen Poetry

Wednesday, Nov 8

3:00 – 4:00 pm

Let your creativity and imagination shine with a variety of poetry activities.

Ages 12-18



#### Family Movie Night:

##### *Super Mario Bros. Movie*

Thursday, November 30,

6:15 – 8:30 pm

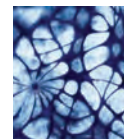
This month, your favorite Nintendo characters leap onto the screen as Mario and Luigi traverse the Mushroom Kingdom in *Super Mario Bros. Movie*. Fuzzy blankets and pajamas are encouraged. Rated PG

#### Make Your Own Cyanotype

Thursday, Dec. 21

3:00 – 4:00 pm

Ages 6-12



#### Family Movie Night: *Polar Express*

Thursday, December 21,

6:15 – 8:30 pm

Join us for Family Movie Night with a movie and a craft. This month, all those who believe are invited aboard for an exciting and magical journey to the North Pole to visit Mr. C and his elves in *Polar Express*. Fuzzy blankets and pajamas are encouraged. Rated G

### Regularly Occurring Children's Programs:

Baby Storytime – Every Wednesday from 10:15 to 10:45 am

Toddler Storytime – Every Wednesday from 11:15 to 11:45 am

Preschool Storytime – every Thursday from 10:15 to 10:45 am

Family Storytime – every Thursday from 11:15 am to 12:00 pm

Mix it Up Monday Storytime – second Monday of the month at 10:30 am

\*There will be no Storytimes on 12/27/23, 12/28/23, 1/3/24, or 1/4/24

### Library Closures:

Thursday, November 23, 2023

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Monday, December 25, 2023

Monday, January 1, 2024

Monday, January 15, 2024



## St. Matthews City Clerk Susan Clark Retires

*Continued from page 1*

an incredible value to the city. At her initiative, she pursued a Master Municipal Clerk Degree, the first STM clerk to do so. She knows the workings of the city, what happens at what time. Her organization of vital dates and deadlines always kept city government on schedule. She knew the job. Susan is a terrific person, and I personally am going to miss her."

The City hosted a retirement reception for Susan on August 31 at City Hall. Present at the reception were fellow St. Matthews employees, elected officials, along with many business associates that have worked closely with Susan over the many years as she carried out the duties of her office.

Susan's son, Will Clark, who lives in Washington D.C., arrived in town to attend the reception. Independence Bank President, Louis Straub presented Susan with a proclamation from the bank, declaring August 31, 2023, as Susan Clark Independence Day. We wish Susan all the very best in her well-deserved retirement.

# Code Words

## How Complaints are processed:

If you have called the City of St. Matthews because your neighbor's yard seems more like Daniel Boone's wilderness, you may be confident that steps are being taken to tame the offending flora. But be patient—the circumstances surrounding the cause of the offense may require some time to resolve. Complaints about residential properties needing attention typically fall into three categories: unkempt grounds, dilapidated structures, and abandoned vehicles.

**Grounds.** When a complaint is made regarding grass that is too high or rubbish that is piling up around a residence, the City of St. Matthews sometimes finds during its investigation that the residence is occupied by an elderly person or a resident who has lost his job and must make spending choices due to a shrinking budget. In these situations, the City tries to connect the residents with groups or organizations that may be in a position to assist them. In some cases,

the residence is a rental property and neither the occupants nor the landlord keep it up. Following proper legal procedure, the City first gives these residents notice to clean up or mow their grounds. Failure to comply after a reasonable amount of time will result in the issuance of a citation and a further warning to correct the situation. In extreme cases, the City may cut the grass or clean up the rubbish and file a lien against the property to recover expenditures, but proper notice must be given.

**Structures.** The City of St. Matthews passed an ordinance regarding structural maintenance several years ago. This ordinance is applicable to specific conditions that may cause a building not to be in good repair. The structure must be reasonably tight from intrusion by water; weather; critters, etc., with the exterior surfaces properly protected, and where gutters are present, they must be operable. We do not have any ordinance that addresses the condition of the interior of a structure.

**Vehicles.** Sometimes a complaint is made regarding an abandoned vehicle. While an abandoned vehicle on the public right-of-way can be towed, such a vehicle on private property is not so easily removed. Just as no one can remove something from your property without following proper legal procedures, so, too, must the City take the proper steps before it can remove an abandoned vehicle from private property. The most difficult situations to resolve are those where the owner has lost the property to a lending institution or other entity. Often the owner is nowhere to be found, and the institution does not take ownership of the property. Some institutions are more cooperative than others, but the City works diligently to see that action is taken for the good of the neighborhood.

Following proper legal steps to resolve complaints regarding grounds, structures, or abandoned vehicles does take time. There are no short cuts to justice. But, rest assured, the City is at work finding a solution to the problem.

## Outstanding St. Matthews Neighbor Award

Do you have an outstanding neighbor who deserves to be recognized?

Do they go above and beyond in how they treat others and help better our community?

Please nominate them for the newly formed Outstanding St. Matthews Neighbor Award. Email your nomination to: [info@stmatthewsky.gov](mailto:info@stmatthewsky.gov). Email must include: Name and address of the nominee, contact number if possible, and why they deserve the award.

All nominations will be reviewed by the City's Administration Committee. The monthly winner will be recognized with a yard sign showing they ARE as an Outstanding Neighbor.



## REACH Alert

### Sign up for Reach Alert—it is FREE:

If you register for REACH Alert, you will be able to receive messages from the city of emergency alerts and/or city reminders.

To register, go to [www.reachalert.com](http://www.reachalert.com) and click on the blue text, "Create an account." When prompted, please use the following information to register for our Network: Network Name: St. Matthews (city); Role: Resident or Business; Address: Enter the address in first box and the street name in the second box.

**Call 877-307-9313 today for assistance with registration.**



Since the last newsletter, the following has been accomplished:

## Completed Projects

- Ditch improvements within Camelot subdivision.
- Replaced mulch at Community Park playground.
- Removed several dead trees in our City parks to ensure that common areas remain safe.
- Cut back and removed a great deal of foliage in Dupont area and along Wacker Creek.
- Patched pot holes on many City streets.
- Storm debris removed throughout the City from multiple storms.
- Removed tree stumps from several trees in right-of-ways.

## Current Projects

- Drainage improvements on Trinity Hills ditch.
- Drainage improvements to Girard Drive.
- Stream and basin improvements at Draut Park—project to start this December.
- Exterior improvements to The Arterburn, replacing the front facade.
- Phase I of Warwick Park improvements (new parking, new basketball court, new restroom, and 4 pickleball courts).
- Phased street sign replacement project throughout the city ongoing.

## Future Projects

- Electric improvements at Brown Park.
- New additional restroom at Community Park.
- New plaque at Draut Park.
- Design of Warwick Park Phase II improvements.



## How to stay in the know this fall and winter For Leaf collection

**Do:** Go to: [www.stmatthewsky.gov](http://www.stmatthewsky.gov) for:

Leaf collection projected schedules

Watch for signs posted in your neighborhood

**Do not:** Cover catch basin drains or fill drainage ditches.

This can cause backup of the drainage system, should we receive rain during this time

## For Snow removal:

**Do:** Register for ReachAlert.com for important information during snow events.

Park off the roadway during snow events to allow snowplows to clear your road.

Shovel your walk and driveway.

Set garbage and recycling containers out at the street.

**Do not:** Park on the road, or set out garbage or recycling containers with frozen lids.



**St. MAM HAS MOVED!** Our offices, food pantry and other missions are now located inside of St. Matthews United Methodist Church, 319 Browns Lane.

We are in desperate need of food, toiletries, and cleaning supplies. After reopening to our community on August 1, 2023, we have depleted our reserves. For more information on how you can donate, please email [suzannedegregorio@stmam.com](mailto:suzannedegregorio@stmam.com). This is a great opportunity for students who need their philanthropy hours to create a drive and donate to a great cause!

The holidays are just around the corner and once again, St. MAM will be there to support our children, families, and seniors in need.

Beargrass Christian Church will be hosting our annual Thanksgiving Food Basket drive for our St. MAM families on November 19th.

The St. MAM Adopt-A-Child Gift Card Christmas program returns too. If you are interested in "adopting" a child, please email [sarahbanks@stmam.com](mailto:sarahbanks@stmam.com) for further details.

Please visit [www.stmam.com](http://www.stmam.com) or call (502) 893-0205 for more information on donation requests or if you are a family in need.

City of St. Matthews  
3940 Grandview Avenue  
P.O. Box 7097  
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## Your Elected Officials for the City of St. Matthews:

Mayor Richard J. Tonini

### *City Council*

Bernard Bowling

Cathi Clark

Frank Flynn

Nate Hernandez

Tim Holland

Sarah Landes

Mary Jo Nay

Amy Olson

City Council meetings begin at  
7 p.m. on the second and fourth  
Tuesday of each month.

City Council meeting minutes are  
online at [www.stmatthewsky.gov](http://www.stmatthewsky.gov).

## Reach Alert

To receive emergency  
and/or community  
service notifications  
through St. Matthews  
FREE Reach Alert  
system, sign up at  
[www.reachalert.com](http://www.reachalert.com)  
or call 1-877-307-9313

## Be A Good Neighbor!

- Keep your pet on a leash  
at all times when off of  
your property
- Report perceived speeding
- Report out of service street  
lights

## Government Access

City Hall Office: (502) 895-9444

Code Enforcement: (502) 899-2512

Police Department: (502) 893-9000

City Engineer: (502) 899-2518

Public Works: (502) 899-2517

Property Taxes: (502) 899-2511

Police Records: (502) 899-2537

## Emergency: 911

Reminder: All of our city parks  
are equipped with pet waste  
disposal stations. Please clean up  
after your pets.

[www.stmatthewsky.gov](http://www.stmatthewsky.gov)