Waggener High School

Places You Will Remember
In More Detail
M to R, 1st. Edition

This is one of many sections that contain information, photos, newspaper articles, internet items, etc. of the St. Matthews area and especially of Waggener High School. Many of the items came from Al Ring's personal collections but many people have helped and I have tried to give credit where I can.

The purpose of this "collection" was to create the history of Waggener and the students and teachers who were there during my time. Being retired I now have time to do many of the things I have always wanted, this project is just one of them. The collection is continuing today, so if you should have old or new information on the St. Matthews area from 1950 to 1962 or Waggener High, please contact Al Ring.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles and photos. Credit to the source of the photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. *The Courier-Journal, The Louisville Times* or one of the *Voice* publications. Books that we have used for some information include, *Randy, Cactus, Uncle, Ed and the Golden age of Louisville Television, Waggener High School Alumni Directory 1996, Waggener Traditional High School Alumni Directory 2007, Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park, St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass by Samuel W. Thomas, St. Matthews, 25 Years a City Two Centuries a Community, St. Matthews 1960-1995, Waggener Lair's 1958 to 1962, The Holy Warrior, Muhammad Ali.*

Explanation of the following pages, (Please Read)

This section consists of may places and things that those that spent time in the St. Matthews area during the 1950s and 1960s will recognize and may have spent considerable time at them. I have tried to include a photograph of the place as well as a brief history of it.

Section A—E:

American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180
Anchorage
Ashbury-Berman
Bacons Department Store
Bauer's-La Paloma-Azalea
Beech Bend Raceway Park
Belle of Louisville
Bernheim Forest—Arboretum
Big Springs Country Club
Bowman Field
Byck's
Camp Piomingo (YMCA)
Captains Quarters
Carl Casper Custom Car Shows
Cedar Creek Drag Strip/Bullitt Dragway
Central State Hospital
Cherokee Park
Churchill Downs
Claudia Sanders Dinner House
Colonial Design
Cox's Lake
Crescent Hill
Crescent Hill Pool & Park
Crescent Reservoir
Dutch's Tavern
East Drive-In

Section F—L:

Fairgrounds Motor Speedway
Fort Knox
Fountain Park
Fontaine Ferry Park
Frisch's Big Boy
Fun Fair
General Electric Appliance Park
Gerstle's Place
Haller's Pet Shop
Harrods Creek
Howard Johnson's
Hytken's
Interurban & Trains
Jewish Community Center
Keeneland
Kentucky Military Institute
Kentucky Model Shop
Kentucky State Fairgrounds
KingFish Restaurant
King-Putt Miniature Golf
Kt's Restaurant—Old Kentucky Tavern
Lake Louisvilla
Landohr Bowling Alley
Levy Brothers
Locust Grove
Louisville Boat Club
Louisville Country Club
Louisville Water Tower
Lyndon

Section M—R:

Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)
Mammoth Cave
Mario's Pizza
Masonic Widows and Orphans Home
Middletown
My Old Kentucky Home
Nally Barber Shop
Nanz & Kraft Florists
Old Stone Inn
One Hundredth Division
Otter Creek Park
Parkway Field
Pearson Funeral Home
Plantation Swim Club
Plehn's Bakery
Pookman Drugs
Prospect
Ranch House
Ratterman Funeral Home
River Road Country Club

Section S—Z:

St. Matthews Armory
St. Matthews Eagles
St. Matthews Feed & Seed
St. Matthews Fire Department
(Everything you ever wanted to know about the department can be found at http://ringbrothershistory.com/alsprojects/stmfd.htm
Cut and paste, let the site fully open and old fire siren will sound.
St. Matthews Hardware
St. Matthews Potato Festival
St. Matthews Woman's Club
Sears
Seneca Park
Shelbyville Road Plaza
Showers
Sportsdrome
Standiford Field—Louisville International
Ten Pen Lanes
The Hat Box
The Turntable
Thornbury's Toys
Vogue Theater
Watterson Expressway
White Castle
World War Two Monument
Zachary Taylor National Cemetery

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy of http://mall-hall-of-fame.blogspot.com/2007/01/mall-shelbyville-road-us-60-and.html

The first shopping mall in the Commonwealth of Kentucky was located 6 miles east of downtown Louisville, in the suburb of St. Matthews. Known simply as THE MALL, the fully-enclosed shopping center was built by Maryland-based Community Research and Development, a subsidiary of the James Rouse Company.

The shopping center opened in March 1962 and was anchored by Louisville-based Kaufman-Straus. There was also an A & P supermarket, Taylor Drug and North Carolina-based P. H. Rose variety store.

The circa-1962 shopping center was situated around 2 court areas. The first -fronting on the Kaufman-Straus- featured an oversized chess set. The second -at the P. H. Rose- served as a children's play area.

THE MALL was the only enclosed shopping center in the "Kentuckiana" metropolis until GREENTREE MALL opened in nearby Clarksville, Indiana in 1968. The following year, an addition to THE MALL was completed, which included a new 2-level J.C. Penney. However, newer malls in the area began to drain business and tenants away.

In 1970, OXMOOR CENTER was built less than a 1 mile east. This was followed by BASHFORD MANOR MALL, located 4 miles to the southwest, which opened in 1973.

Soon, THE MALL was in decline. Kaufman-Straus closed, with Stewart's, another Louisville-based department store, moving in. This lasted a few years, and was proceeded by an Indianapolis-based L. S. Ayres in 1985.

In the mid-1980s, a major renovation and expansion of the center began, which included the installation of a food court in the old Rose's variety store spot. A new wing, including a Limited apparel store, was built on the north front of the mall structure. Moreover, the recently-vacated L. S. Ayres was expanded and leased to Louisville-based Bacon's in 1989.

The newly-remodeled shopping center was now officially known as MALL ST. MATTHEWS. An upturn in business prompted Rouse Company to begin another expansion in 1992. This included the construction of a new southwest wing and third department store. This 230,000 square foot building was occupied by Little Rock-based Dillard's in 1995.

The fifth expansion of MALL ST. MATTHEWS added a 120,000 square foot Lord and Taylor and multi-level parking garage. This project was completed in 1998. The shopping center now encompassed 1,094,000 leaseable square feet and 140 stores and services.

At this time, Bacon's department stores were absorbed into the Dillard's chain, with the old Bacon's store reopening as a Dillard's Men's location.

With the dawn of the new century came more changes. A deal, whereby Seattle-based Nordstrom was to open a new store at MALL ST. MATTHEWS, fell through in early 2001. Lord and Taylor pulled out of the mall in February 2003.

The mid-'00s brought even more developments. Rouse Company, the builder and owner of the complex, was purchased by Chicago-based General Growth Properties in 2004.

3 years later, Dillard's Men's moved into the old Lord and Taylor, leaving the previous location (in what had been the Kaufman-Straus/Ayres/Bacon's) vacant. It is expected that the building will be razed, possibly to be replaced by an open-air "lifestyle component".

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy of St. Matthews, The Crossroads of Beargrass by Samuel W. Thomas:

Aerial view of the Mall. After its opening in the spring of 1962. Edge of Oxmoor Farm is in background. Bill Davis Collection, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

Below 1967 view

Courtesy http://www.labelscar.com/kentucky/mall-st-matthews

Mall St. Matthews began its rollercoaster life in 1962 as simply "The Mall", and opened featuring anchor stores A&P, Kaufman-Straus, Rose's, and JCPenney. Throughout the 1970s and early 1980s the mall remained popular, yet required updates in response to competition from other Louisville-area centers. This involved first changing the name from The Mall to Mall St. Matthews, and later updating with a food court and many expansions. The Kaufman-Straus store closed and was replaced by Stewart Dry Goods and later L. S. Ayres, and later Louisville-based Bacons which moved from a free-standing store down the street. This occurred in the late 1980s, and sparked a resurgence of interest in the mall over other Louisville-area malls. Retailers once again clamored to be in Mall St. Matthews, and again Rouse, the mall's owner, expanded the mall in 1995 with a new wing and the addition of Dillards, and later in 1997 with the addition of Lord and Taylor. The late 90s saw the peak of popularity for Mall St. Matthews, at least in terms of anchor diversity.

In 1998, Bacon's was merged into Dillards, and Dillards used the extra store to split its offerings at the mall into two giant anchor stores. Such practice has been popular at many malls nationwide as anchor stores consolidate, with the split offering men's, children's, and home departments in one store and the entire other store devoted to women's in many cases. In 2000, Nordstrom expressed interest in moving to the mall but the deal was dead in less than a year when no agreement could be reached with Rouse. Then, in 2004, Lord and Taylor left the mall amid corporate parent woes and the consolidation of many of their locations within core markets. Until 2007 part of that store was occupied by regional junior anchor Dawahares, but that closed also.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 19, 1961:

Work to begin March on Shopping center, Four additional firms sign leases; will open early '62

Construction will get underway in March on The Mall Shopping Center, a 50-store development long-planned on Shelbyville Road at Watterson expressway.

Realtor Walter Wagner, Jr., leasing agent for the Baltimore, MD, developers of the new shopping center, this week confirmed that construction will begin on this region's largest shopping center on or about March 1, depending on the weather and other factors. It is to be opened by spring of 1962, said Wagner.

Last summer when the Center had halted construction plans pending construction of cloverleaf's on and off Watterson Expressway at Shelbyville Road, the firm had leases for 173,780 square feet of floor space. When completed it will have more than 300,000 square feet.

Wagner said, however, in the meantime, at least four other firms have singed leases with the center. While the amount of additional floor space was not immediately available, he said the new stores include an A & P food market, Mill End Shop, a drapery store; Maud Miller Candies and Town & Country Liquors.

A & P officials this week said their floor plans for the new store were complete but not immediately available on short notice. It reportedly will be one of the firm's largest stores in the Louisville area. The firm already has a store in the heart of St. Matthews, which A & P officials said will continue to operate when the shopping center store its opened.

Wagner and some officials of the developing firm are expected here late Tuesday to work further on plans for the center.

An access road to the center site from Browns Lane to the south has been graded but is yet to be paved, Wagner said.

That was accomplished about six months ago along with a $2,800,000 loan from John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company. Wagner said Louisville Asphalt Company is under contract to pave the access road and the State Highway Department is under contract for the Center's portion of work widening Shelbyville Road and fitting the center into the Watterson expressway, Shelbyville Road interchange.

Other firms also under lease for stores in the Center include: Kaufman-Straus, 80,000 square feet; Fletcher's 3,750; Rodes-Hapier Company, 9540; International Shoe Company, 3,000; Blue Boar Cafeteria, 10,440; Taylor Drug Company, 7,500; Rose's 44,000; Baker Shoes, 5,500; Swiss Cleaners & Dyers, 900; Bell Bros. Shoes, 3,750; First National Bank, 3,600; and Walsh Shoe Repair, 750.

The Center will be designed by Baltimore, architects Rogers, Taliaferro and Lamb. Wagner gave this description of the architecture.

"The plan is to create a regional shopping district located with a view of maximum accessibility from major roads and on a plot of sufficient size to allow for future expansion."

"The Louisville center is conceived as a complete regional shopping center under one roof. Malls and courts will be enclosed and skylighted so that not only the stores but the shopping sidewalks will be air conditioned and temperature-controlled. This insures the maximum degree of comfort and convenience, no matter what the weather conditions outside."

"The center is planned in the traditional town square, done in contemporary style and colors."

"The center will be completely integrated with its surroundings. Set well back from the roads, the park-like buffer strip and landscaping will keep it in harmony with the neighborhood, in lieu of entrance doors and typical show windows, many stores front construction will consist of various combinations of fixed glass and sliding glass panels with narrow-style framing or metal grills, to be closed only after tenant's store hours. Thus many store-entrance areas facing the mall and courts will become selling areas as well as display areas."

"In the courts there will be a side-walk café, which will have the atmosphere of the outdoor continental café plus weather protection."

Other features planned for the enclosed mall and courts are 30-to-40-foot-high bird cages filled with colorful tropical birds, and a fountain and pool with a staircase suspended over it leading to Kaufman-Straus's second floor, hanging sculptured lighting fixtures, and gently waving flags and banners. Rare tropical and semitropical plants such as orchids, date palms, pineapple plants, and all types of lilies will be planted in the mall and court areas. There will be rest benches throughout the shopping areas, and strategically placed lockers for checking coats and heavy parcels."

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 6, 1961:

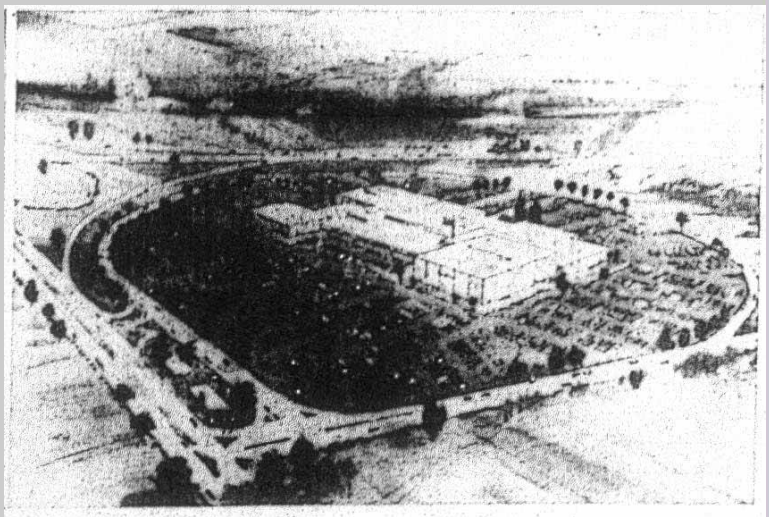
Mall to break ground today

Eight officials to wield spades signaling start on $10 million center

Eight golden spades will turn the initial shovelfuls of earth at 11 a.m. today in ground-breaking ceremonies for the first enclosed mall shopping center to be built in Kentucky. At that time the Mall will begin construction on the 67 acre tract at the interchange of Watterson Expressway and Shelbyville Road.

Over 50 State and County officials, tenants and guests will join community Research and Development, Inc., owners and developers of the center, at the ceremony which will herald the beginning of construction of the ten million dollar shopping center project. The first stage of construction is to be completed by next spring.

Next two paragraphs list many of the officials at the ground-breaking and are unreadable.



Artist's drawing of the proposed Mall and parking lot on Shelbyville Road west of Watterson Expressway. It is to be finished by next spring.

"We are off and running, and next spring we look forward to welcoming many new friends and customers to see the fruits of our combined labor. We are dedicated to bringing to Louisville the finest in retail facilities and service in a structure that will be uniquely beautiful and a fine addition to this rapidly growing and progressive community."

This paragraph lists many of the guests at the ground-breaking and are unreadable.

Following the ceremony the officials and attending guests will have lunch and the Pendennis Club.

Some 50 to 55 stores, totaling 300,000 square feet of floor space, will consist of the first stage of construction. Also there will be 2,500 parking spaces surrounding the center, with entrance and exits on two streets—Shelbyville Road and to Browns Lane. The entrance to Browns Lane is already graded and graveled but is yet to be paved.

Ultimately, the Mall will consist of about 60 to 70 stores, with 500,000 square feet of floor space, and 4,000 parking spaces.

According to developers, the parking lot will be well-lighted and once a car is on the lot, it may drive about the Mall without once having to go on a public street.

The design of the Mall will be contemporary, cluster-type regional center with all stores, walks, and courts under one roof, entirely closed and air conditioned.

The structure will be reinforced concrete with columns, beams and girders supporting the entire enclosure. One end of the center, housing Kaufman's of Kentucky, will contain two stories. Skylights will filter sunlight into each garden court. Walks and flooring will be paving brick, colored concrete and special stone aggregate. All exterior walls will be faced with brick or various colors, clerestory structure will place continuous windows over the entire mall and court areas.

The developers say they aim to create an outdoor atmosphere with trees, flowers, and birds throughout the entire year. In the garden courts there will be a pool, from which will be only a few steps to the stores and shops.

If the stores were to be placed side by side on a normal shopping though fare, they would stretch approximately a half mile, the developers say.

The Mall will contain: 1. Year round air conditioning. Every foot of the center, including all shops, stores, arcades and public areas will be air conditioned.

2. Mall and court gardens. There will be extensive gardens located throughout the walkways and courts. These gardens, some of which will reach 20 by 20 feet in size, will contain all types of rare tropical flowers, plants, and trees in leaf. Fountains and pools will be within the gardens; one of which will contain a 40 foot high birdcage, housing colorful tropical birds such as toucans, parrots and various types of finches.

With controlled temperatures in the Mall and the addition of a time clock operated mist system in the gardens, plants, trees and flowers not usually grown outside a botanical garden will be abundant throughout the court, and walkways. Trees reaching 20 to 30 feet in height are planned along with seasonal changes of flowers to add color and variety.

The two end courts in the Mall will contain the largest garden. One of the most unusual being the pool and fountain garden underneath the suspended staircase leading to Kaufman's second floor and balcony.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 6, 1961:

Mall to break ground today

Eight officials to wield spades signaling start on $10 million center

3. Community service facilities: Two rooms, one a large community hall, and the other a smaller meeting room, will b included in the mall and will be available to local groups and organizations for meetings, dances and other functions. A kitchen adjoining the community hall will also be available for use.

Architects for the Mall will be Rogers, Taliaferro and Lamb, Biltmore, MD; planning consultants, Kenneth Welch Associates, Grand Rapids, Michigan; landscape architect; Lewis Clarke, Raleigh, NC and traffic consultant, Wibur Smith Associates, Seattle, Washington.

The developers said the financing of the Mall will be through teacher's Annuity & Assurance Associates, First National bank of Boston and First National Lincoln Bank of Louisville.

After a survey of the area, the developers said that the Louisville trade area is growing at a rapid rate, noting the there has been a "spectacular" increase in the density of population within a short, 15-minutes radius of the Mall site. In 1940, 29 percent of Jefferson County population lived within the 15 minute area, the developers said, and added, by 1961 this population had increased to 42 percent of the county total within this radius. The developers noted that 110,000 people lived in this area in 1940 and in 1961 the population had grown to 246,000. The family income they said, averages over $7,000.

Tenants of the Mall and their assigned floor space in square feet, as of June 27, are:

A&P, 15,000; Baker Shoes, 6,475; Bell Brothers Shoes, 3,750; Benton's Tweed Shop (women's sportswear), 2,375; Blue Boar Cafeteria, 10,500; Bond Stores, 14,100, Card Mart, 800; Edward Shoes, 1,450; Emery's Baby & Junior Shop, 3,150; First National Lincoln Bank of Louisville, 3,600; Flagg Brothers Shoes, 1,920; Fleischer's 3,750; Kaufman's, 80,000; Lee Spayd Barber Shop, 700; Lowe Brothers Paints, 1,820; Mall 242 (women's and children's apparel, 4,410; Maud Muller Candy Co., 765; Mill End Shops of Louisville, 1,900; Phillips Shoes, 3,125; Rodes-Napier, 9,340; Roses 5-10-25c Store, 43,200; Smithers Delicatessen, 7,717; Swiss Cleaners & Dyers, 930; Texaco 1,500; T. P. Taylor Drugs, 7,500; Town & Country Liquor, 1,225; and Walsh Shoe Repair, 750.

Construction continues to progress on the Mall Shopping Center, Shelbyville Road and Watterson Expressway. Completion is next spring. Kaufman's Department Store will occupy the two story building at far right.

December 28, 1961

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*, May 8, 1969:

Artist's concept of new Penney store

THIS IS AN ARTIST'S concept of how the new Penney store now under construction at The Mall will look when completed. The new store is scheduled to open later this year with a 189,564 square foot main building and a free-standing 10,566 square foot automobile diagnostic service center containing 14 drive-through bays. This two-level Penney store and several others will almost double the size of the original Mall located on Shelbyville Road.

Courtesy Google Maps:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mammoth Cave

Courtesy http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammoth_Cave_National_Park:

Mammoth Cave National Park is a U.S. National Park in central Kentucky, encompassing portions of Mammoth Cave, the longest cave system known in the world. The official name of the system is the Mammoth Cave System for the ridge under which the cave has formed. The park was established as a national park on July 1, 1941. It became a Worl Heritage Site on October 27 , 1981, and an international Biosphere Reserve on September 26, 1990

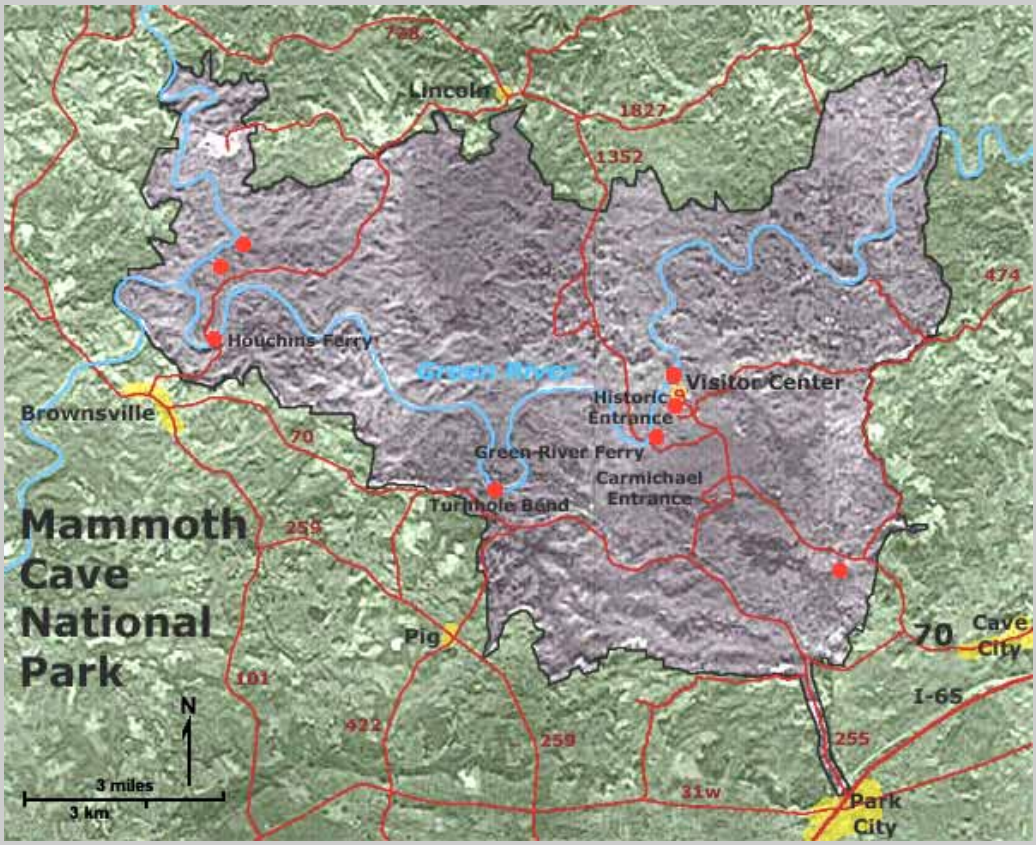
The park's 52,830 acres (214 km) are located primarily in Edmonson County, Kentucky, with small areas extending eastward into Hart County and Barren County. It is centered around the Green River, with a tributary, the Nolin River, feeding into the Green just inside the park. The Green River is dammed near the western boundary of the park, so that the river only flows freely for a small section in the eastern part of the park.

Courtesy http://www.terragalleria.com/parks/np.mammoth-cave.all.html:

Courtesy http://www.pbase.com/merriwolf/34th_camp_mammoth_cave:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mammoth Cave

Courtesy http://3dparks.wr.usgs.gov/mammoth2/index.html:



Courtesy http://www.pbase.com/merriwolf/34th_camp_mammoth_cave:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mario's

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:

Mario's Pizzeria opens as dreams come true

A dream became a reality this week for three men, Frank DeVita, Kenneth Lamb, and Sam Berwald, co-owners of the new Mario's Pizzeria, 3705 Lexington Road.

For years, the three men have talked and dreamed about "Mario's", named after Frank DeVita's uncle, Mario, for whom Frank worked as a boy and who taught him how to set up and run an Italian restaurant.

The rising popularity of pizza and other Italian foods gave them the encouragement to fulfill their dreams and their aching to make and serve fine Italian dinners like Veal Scalloppini and Chicken Cacciatore, the tasty Minestrone, the popular pizza pie.

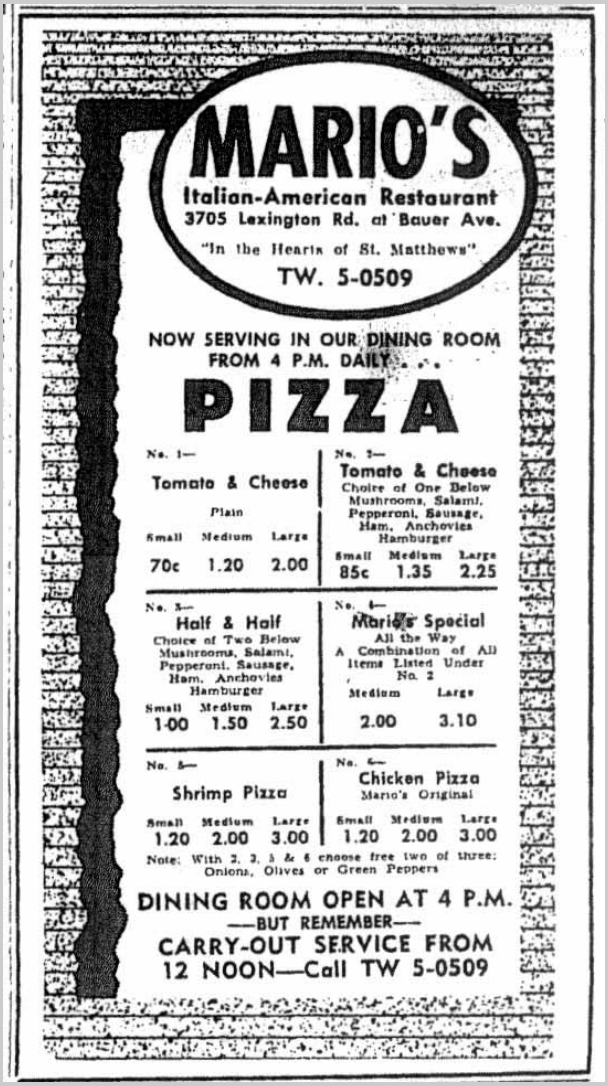
Not only fine Italian food, but the Italian atmosphere would be present, and it is, with murals on the walls of the Coliseum, the leaning tower of Pisa, the gondolier of Venice, the Italian fishermen.

The first Italian restaurant in the St. Matthews area holds its grand opening this weekend, featuring restaurant dining and carry-out meals. Buona Fortuna!

October 31, 1957

A mink stole will be given away by Mario's Italian Restaurant, 3705 Lexington Road, in celebration of its first anniversary at midnight Oct. 18. You can sign up for it at the restaurant free. A television set will be second prize. Orchids will be given the ladies this Friday and Saturday.

September 25, 1958



MARIO'S
Italian-American Restaurant
3705 Lexington Rd. at Bauer Ave.
"In the Hearts of St. Matthews"
TW. 5-0509

NOW SERVING IN OUR DINING ROOM FROM 4 P.M. DAILY . . .

PIZZA

No. 1— Tomato & Cheese — Plain
Small 70c | Medium 1.20 | Large 2.00

No. 2— Tomato & Cheese — Choice of One Below: Mushrooms, Salami, Pepperoni, Sausage, Ham, Anchovies, Hamburger
Small 85c | Medium 1.35 | Large 2.25

No. 3— Half & Half — Choice of Two Below: Mushrooms, Salami, Pepperoni, Sausage, Ham, Anchovies, Hamburger
Small 1.00 | Medium 1.50 | Large 2.50

No. 4— Mario's Special — All the Way — A Combination of All Items Listed Under No. 2
Medium 2.00 | Large 3.10

No. 5— Shrimp Pizza
Small 1.20 | Medium 2.00 | Large 3.00

No. 6— Chicken Pizza — Mario's Original
Small 1.20 | Medium 2.00 | Large 3.00

Note: With 2, 3, 5 & 6 choose free two of three: Onions, Olives or Green Peppers

DINING ROOM OPEN AT 4 P.M.
—BUT REMEMBER—
CARRY-OUT SERVICE FROM 12 NOON—Call TW 5-0509

July 9, 1959

Take Home Food By The TUB-FULL

SPAGHETTI TUB
SMALL – 80
1 LB. – $1.30
2 LB. – $2.50
6 LB – $7.20

FRIED CHICKEN TUB
1 LB. – $1.45
2 LB. – $2.75
6 LB – $7.45

BAKED LA SAGNA TUB $1.85
Ravioli with 2 Meat Balls $1.55

Enjoy Food that Really Tastes Good-In An Atmosphere of Good Taste

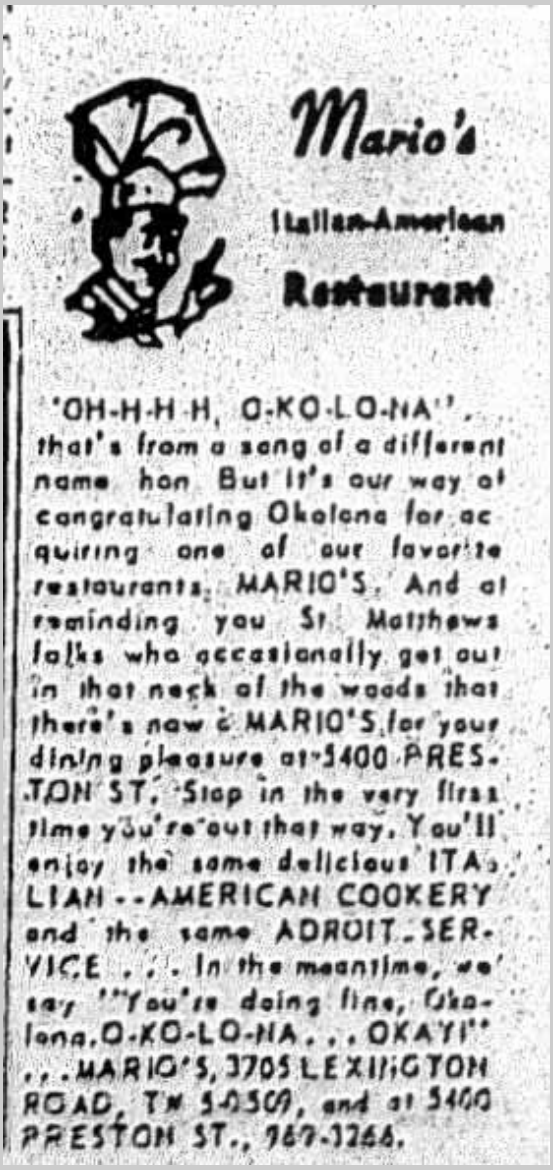
MARIO'S
"FAMOUS FOR PIZZAS"
5400 Preston Hgwy.
Okolona 969-3266

CALL AHEAD FOR CARRY-OUTS
3705 LEXINGTON RD.
ST. MATTHEWS
"Free Parking in the Rear"
TW 5-0509

January 4, 1962

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Mario's

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:



Mario's

Italian-American

Restaurant

"OH-H-H-H, O-KO-LO-NA"... that's from a song of a different name hon But it's our way of congratulating Okolona for acquiring one of our favorite restaurants, MARIO'S. And of reminding you St Matthews folks who occasionally get out in that neck of the woods that there's now a MARIO'S for your dining pleasure at 5400 PRESTON ST. Stop in the very first time you're out that way. You'll enjoy the same delicious ITALIAN--AMERICAN COOKERY and the same ADROIT SERVICE . . . In the meantime, we'll say "You're doing fine, Okolona. O-KO-LO-NA . . . OKAY!" . . . MARIO'S, 3705 LEXINGTON ROAD, TW 5-0509, and at 5400 PRESTON ST., 969-3266.

January 18, 1962

MARIO'S WINNER!

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE

The Opening of MARIO'S NO. 4

AT HIKES POINT 3020 HUNTSINGER LN

We're Growing by Serving EXCELLENT FOOD

MARIO'S

"FAMOUS FOR PIZZAS"

3705 LEXINGTON ROAD ST. MATTHEWS

3020 HUNTSINGER LANE 452-2638

Free Parking In The Rear

Enjoy food that really tastes good in an atmosphere of Good Taste

CALL AHEAD FOR CARRY-OUTS

TW 5-0509

May 2, 1963

MARIO

Is On The Grow

There Must Be A Reason Why So Many People Patronize Mario's

There Is A Reason!

It's The CONSISTENT GOOD TASTE OF OUR FINE

Italian & American Foods

We Are Proud To Announce

The Opening

Of MARIO'S 5th RESTAURANT

At 5229 Dixie Hgwy. Alamo Plaza Court

Phone 447-1421

MARIO'S

"FAMOUS FOR PIZZAS"

Stop By Mario's Soon Get More Fun Out of Dining

Our 5 Locations

3705 LEXINGTON ROAD, ST. MATTHEWS, KY.	895-0509
5400 PRESTON HWY., OKOLONA, KY.	969-3266
3020 HUNTSINGER LANE, HIKES POINT	452-2638
8019 SOUTH PRESTON, OUTER LOOP	969-3248
5229 DIXIE HIGHWAY (Alamo Plaza Court)	447-1421

November 14, 1963

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, May 23, 1968:

PAYS NO TAXES, HAS NO POLICE FORCE

Unique 'city' steps quietly into second century of service

By Joseph Oglesby
Editor

A community with Gothic-style apartment complexes, its own U.S. Post Office, a cafeteria and gym, a print shop, and a 115-acre vegetable and cattle farm lies just a few blocks from St. Matthews.

The community has a population of 250 with an age range from 4 to 108 years.

It pays no taxes, has no police force, and conducts its business quietly in a setting of elm and oak trees and Kentucky bluegrass.

A motorist can zip right past it without taking a second look.

This unusual community is the Masonic Widows and Orphans Home at 3701 Frankfort Ave., which this year is entering its second century of service.

The home, the first of its kind in the world, was founded by Louisville Masons in January of 1867.

The first home was located at First and Bloom Streets, the present location of Manual High School.

In 1927, the facility was moved to the Frankfort Avenue site where there was plenty of space for expansion.

The community is the residence of widows and children of deceased Masons exclusively. The adult population totals 210 and the child population 40.

Oldest resident

Mrs. Sudie Reno, the oldest resident, has been there since 1915. A native of Princeton, she is 108 years old.

According to Superintendent Stephen S. Wilson, the home gains its support from three sources: Membership dues, an endowment fund and a general fund which includes donations, pensions and social security payments.

Since he took charge of the home in 1953, the infirmary has been expanded from 18 to 138 beds.

Additions to the infirmary -- there have been three -- have enabled the home to keep and treat its patients with advanced senility.

Wilson said expansion of the geriatrics program allowed the home to keep patients who otherwise would have been sent to state hospitals.

Until 1954 the home operated its own school. An education center and gym are still part of the institution, but child residents now attend public schools.

Wilson said his job is not unlike that of running a small city.

"The patients refer to our community as their 'little city beautiful' " he said. "They have care and privileges here that would be hard to match in private nursing homes."

He said major benefits of his job are "seeing children develop into highly useful men and women and at the same time helping those who are sick -- the older patients."

The 176-acre "campus" contains four apartment complexes for widows -- the units are called cottages -- two residential halls for girls and two housing centers for boys.

Besides the infirmary and cottages, the development has its own power plant, a print shop that employs 25, a 2,000-seat gymnasium, an 800-seat meeting hall, a dining hall in which 45,000 meals a year are served, a chapel, a laundry and a garage.

About 115 acres of the development are in the farming operation.

Some 40 acres produce most of the vegetables eaten at the institution. The plantings include corn, tomatoes, potatoes, squash, radishes, onions, and cantaloupes.

The farm also supplies the community with beef. The cattle herd averages about 60 head.

In 1966, a modern beef cattle barn was added to the facilities. Riding horses are housed in stables on the tract, also, for the use of younger residents.

Supervising the farm operation is Harry A. Larkins.

The institution employs about 100 persons, including janitors, maintenance men, matrons, house mothers, farm workers and nurses.

As a non-profit institution, the home pays no taxes. And it has no police force.

Officers of the home are G.A. Heuser, chairman of the board; David D. Schneider, president; John E. Tilford, vice president; DeMoville P. Jones, treasurer, and J.C. McClanahan, secretary.

Grand lodge officers who serve as ex-

Continued to page B13

Unique 'city' near here

Continued from page 1

office members of the board are James B. Patrick, grand master; John W. Chandler, deputy grand master; Carroll M. Curtis, grand senior warden; George R. Effinger, grand junior warden, and S. Albert Phillips, grand treasurer.

Next Sunday, the institution will observe "Grand Master's Day." The beginning of the home's second century will be celebrated as part of the program. Religious services will be held in the morning and a luncheon at noon.

In the afternoon, Kosair Shrine Temple members will supply entertainment.

The temple's Oriental and Brass Bands, drill team, chanters, clowns and funsters will perform.

The event will be open to the public.

Shady retreat This brick residence at the Masonic Widows and Orphans Home on Frankfort Avenue houses widows. The institution has nine other residential units.

Go away! Apparently annoyed at having his picture taken during feeding time the cow at center casts an angry look at the photographer. The cows are part of the 60-head feeder herd on the 115-acre farm at the Masonic Home.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, June 27, 1968:

St. John's Day League

MASONIC PICNIC

JUNE 27 - 28 - 29

RAIN OR SHINE

FREE FIREWORKS - FRI. EVE 28th

MASONIC HOME GROUNDS

3701 FRANKFORT AVENUE

FISH SUPPER

FRI. 28th

1.25

4 PM 'TIL ?

CHICKEN DINNERS

1.25

SAT. 29th

4 PM 'TIL ?

9

GIANT RIDES

BOOTHS ★★★ GAMES

FREE GIFTS EVERY HOUR (NO PURCHASE NECESSARY)

PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, April 9, 1970:

It should be noted that Waggener High had many students from "Masonic Home."

It's Home To Widows, Orphans Of Masons, Big farm in the middle of a city

For most city folk, the idea of sharing their high-rent district with cows is sheer fantasy.

Not so in St. Matthews, where a herd of 60 grazes upon the land as though this area were still a potato farm worth $40 an acre.

They're the livestock of the Masonic Widows and Orphans Home and Infirmary, a non-profit residence and 176— acre farm off Frankfort Avenue near downtown St. Matthews. It's an oasis of space in a land-thirsty area.

Here, Kentucky's 100,000 Masons (members of a world-wide fraternal organization boasting a membership of about 4 1/2 million in the United States alone) take care of the widows and orphans of deceased Mason's from through-out the Commonwealth.

A lovely shaded retreat: It's a lovely elm-and oak-shaded retreat from the everyday bustle of the suburbs where, in many homes, the household word has become "generation gap." Yet, at the Masonic Home where the age gap is gargantuan - (the oldest resident is almost 102 and the youngest is but 4) - the generations are genial. The widows - - many of whom have no families left— revel in the attention of the children, each of whom has his "own favorite widow," according to the home's superintendent, Stephen Wilson.

This tax-free community consists of 26 buildings of various types and sizes which are built, for the most part, on a 50 acre "campus." The remainder of the acreage is used to provide most of the food needed for the nearly 1,000 meals served daily to the home's 250 residents and staff of about 100. These employees include doctors, nurses, aides, matrons, housemothers, Janitors, maintenance men and farm workers.

A colorful history: The Masonic Home has a colorful history spanning 103 years. It boasts of being the first Masonic Home of its kind in the world, though there are now 75 similar institutions scattered throughout the United States and Canada.

The idea for the home was spawned in the minds of a small group of Louisville physicians and members, of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Free and Accepted Masons, who saw a need to care for the destitute dependents of Masons left widowed and orphaned by the Civil War.

An unusual situation existed among Kentucky's Masons at that time when, being residents of a Civil War border state, many fought against each other during the day and met in counsel at night. After the war was over, the Masonic leaders saw a need to reunite all factions of the organization by bringing them together in work on a joint project. The founding of the home in St. Matthews provided this situation, since this institution was them — and is now -- supported by every Masonic Lodge in Kentucky. (There are 470 such lodges in the state, each eligible to send residents to the home so long as they are widows or children of Masons in good standing at the time of their death.)

The Masons obtained a charter of incorporation for the home from the Kentucky Legislature on Jan. 15, 1867, and built, the original institution on a 5 1/2-acre plot in downtown Louisville where du Pont Manuel High School now stands. The home was moved. to its present location in 1927 when it was that by having a farm, the orphaned boys could help produce food for the community.

Originally, "The Little City Beautiful" (a nickname given the home years ago) was established to care for 600 orphans and 50 widows. Over the years however, there has been a substantial decrease in its child population due in a large part to the Federal Social Security benefits which now allow most young, widowed mothers to support their children at home. For this reason Masonic Home now cares for more widows than children. There are 210 widows (whose average age is 84 and only 30 to 40 children living at the home.

The housing situation: This decrease in population has made for an excess of living space because it takes three times more area to house a Widow than a child, according to Superintendent Wilson. Each widow has a private room in one of four buildings, while children are housed in dormitories.

This residential complex nestled spaciously between the close-knit neighborhoods of Louisville's suburbia, is virtually a city within itself. It operates its own power plant, has a 2,000-seat gymnasium, an 800- seat meeting hall, dining hall, chapel, laundry and garage. It has a print shop which employs 25 and publishes more than 100,000 copies the Masonic Home Journal semi-monthly, along with books, pamphlets, circulars, papers and fraternal and commercial publications of many kinds. The community is supported by membership dues from Kentucky - Masons, an endowment fund, donations, pensions and security payments, according to Wilson.

Education is stressed at the home where, until 1954, the Masons opera their own school. Now children attend neighboring Chenoweth Elementary and Waggoner High Schools and are urged to attend college on a Masonic Home program which will pay for the first two years of college for the orphans and will lend them the money to continue colleges for the next two years. At present five students are attending college on this program which has encouraged many of the former residents to go on to become doctors, lawyers, bankers, journalists .... and some, millionaires.

The greatest satisfaction in a job such as this is in helping the very young shape their lives, and in seeing that the very old end theirs inn happiness, Superintendent Wilson said.

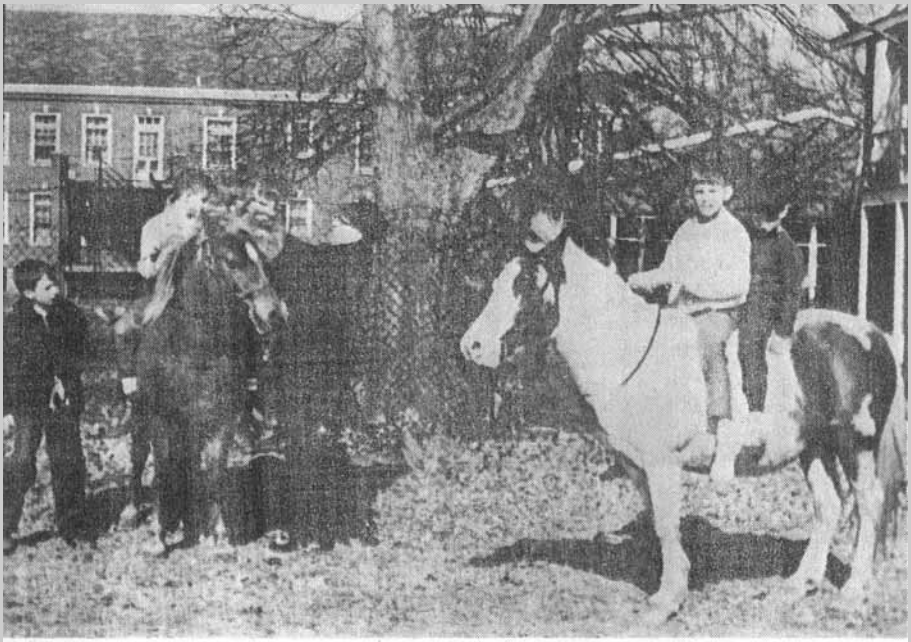
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, April 9, 1970:

It's Home To Widows, Orphans Of Masons, Big farm in the middle of a city

Voice Photo by James M. Yuhr

MR. WILSON fastens a strap for a young skater.



Voice Photo by James M. Yuhr

YOUNGSTERS at the Masonic home get help from Superintendent Stephen Wilson as they get ready to go for a pony ride on the spacious grounds.

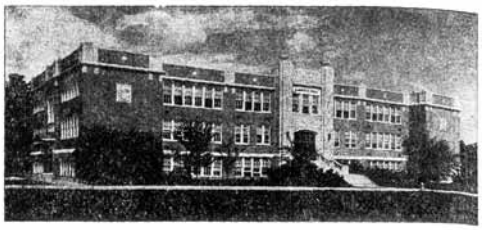
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy Jefferson County School Archives:

MASONIC HOME
SCHOOL of KENTUCKY

MASONIC HOME, KY.

LAURA JOHNSON
Principal



October 19, 1954

Dear Miss Lewis:

Please excuse all Masonic Home children at 11:30 today in order that they walk home in time for our noonday meal at twelve sharp. We appreciate very much the fact that you will excuse them a half day in order that we give the program for the Masons of the state.

We would be very happy to have you come to the program and would like to extend an invitation to any one on your faculty to come, if they would be able to do so. It will be in the Masonic Home Gym beginning at 3:15.

I thank you.

Sincerely yours,
Laura Johnson
Laura Johnson

Grand Lodge Program

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1954

Masonic Gym **3:15 P. M.**

I. WELCOME.....Stephen S. Wilson, 4-410, Superintendent of the Masonic Home

II. INVOCATION.....The Rev. A. Paul Reece, 862, Grand Chaplain

"HATS OFF, THE FLAG IS PASSING BY"...Betty Carolyn Moore, 933

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.....Ernest Allcock, 737, Flag Bearer
Marion Coffey, 819, Pledge Leader

IV. STAR SPANGLED BANNER.....Audience
(Mrs. Elizabeth Merton, Director)

V. DRAMATIC ART NUMBERS.....Mrs. Ann Akers, Director

A. An Insurance Skit.....Lenore Gish, 884, Secretary
Hudson Clay, 672, The Agent
Jo Ann Athington, 858, Client

B. Pantomine: "Hernando's Hideaway".....Jack Shelton, 739
Roland Wade, 61
Margaret Hawkins, 286
Hudson Clay, 672
Marcella Dickison, 89
Jim Bob Fugate, 654
Phyllis Jones, 381
Calvin Bowling, 311
Jo Ann Athington, 858

C. Reading: "The Bumpkins Visit the County Seat"
Minnie Wade, 61
Fannie McKnight, 144

D. Dialogue: "The Man Arrives".....Sue Gish, 884
Rhoda Campbell, 905
James Bowling, 311

E. Reading: "Under the Buggy Seat".....Paul Dean Simpson, 431

F. A Skit: "A Busy Banker".....Allene Wade, 61, Commentator
The Banker.....Jordan Clay, 672
His Helpers.....Robert Eversole, 465
George Shackelford, 718
Calvin Bowling, 311

A Woman.....Lenore Gish, 884
The Figure in Checks.....Frances Sue Shepherd, 832
Curtains.....Rodin Jackson, 845
Joe Bowling, 311
Sun.....Emma Lou Dickison, 89
Earth.....Earl Campbell, 905
Clouds.....Judy McKnight, 144
Patty Joy Jarvis, 145
Allene Shackelford, 718
Hours.....Serena Sue Blanton, 666
Anna Lee Campbell, 905
T. H. Jarvis, 145
Clock.....Pete" Harper, 649
No. 9.....C. C. Coffey, 819
No. 2.....Donald Jones, 381
Time.....Fanny McKnight, 144
J. W. McKnight, 144
Shadows.....Lyle Metcalf, 127
Martin Nowak, 258
Randy Shackelford, 718
Grover Blanton, 666
Darkness.....Sharon Dickison, 89

G. Reading: "The Bumblebee".....James Dewey Clay, 672

H. Dialogue: "Clues".....Marcella Dickison, 89
Calvin Bowling, 311

VI. Musical Numbers:

A. The Chorus.....Mrs. Elizabeth Merton, Director
"It's a Grand Night for Singing".....Hammerstein & Rodgers
"Ezekiel Saw De Wheel".....Negro Spiritual arr. by Noble Cain
Eastern High and Waggener Jr. High Students
Accompanist, Clint Fugate, 654

B. The Orchestra.....Mr. Arnold Seligman, Director
"March of the Crusades".....Tradition
"Excerpts from Marche Slave".....P. I. Tschaikowsky
Two Famous Waltzes:
"Blue Danube".....J. Strauss
"The Skaters".....E. Waldtenfel

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy Jefferson County School Archives:

PERSONNEL

First Violins:		Celli:	
Ruby Shepherd	832	Marcella Dickison	89
Josephine Barker	708	Jo Ann Athington	858
Viola:		Flutes:	
Lenore Gish	884	Gerald Jackson	845
Clarinets:		Kay Jarvis	145
Hudson Clay	672	Trumpets:	
Jordan Clay	672	Harold Ramage	812
Second Violins:		Eugene Blanton	666
Rhoda Campbell	905	Piano:	
Lavonne Jarvis	145	Bettie Lou Crowe	73
		Organist:	
		Clint Fugate	654

VII. The Finale: Students who attend Eastern High School, Waggener Junior High and Chenoweth Elementary.

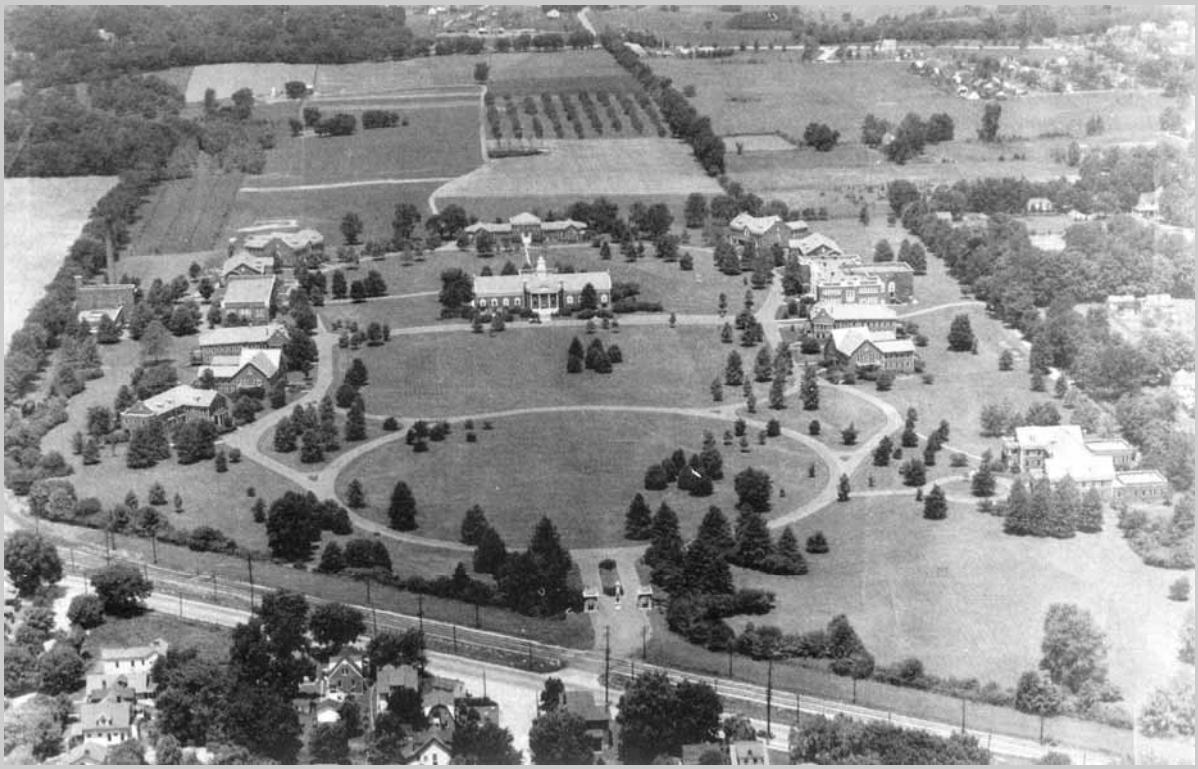
VIII. PRESENTATION OF THE CHILDREN OF THE HOME TO DELEGATES OF THE GRAND LODGE.....Bro. G. A. Heuser, 281, President of Masonic Home Board

IX. BOUQUET PRESENTED TO BRO. C. FRYE HALEY, 586, MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY, F. & A. M.....Roberta and Easter Nowak, 258

X. BENEDICTION.....Rev. A. Paul Reece, 862, Grand Chaplain

Others who were helpful in making this program successful:

Matron of the Home.....Mrs. Floreine Wilson
Guidance-Counselor.....Miss Laura Johnson
Recreational Director of the Home.....Mr. Bill Hogg
Farm Supervisor.....Mr. Harvey A. Larkins



Courtesy *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, by Samuel W. Thomas, 1999: Aerial view of campus as competed. SG88.32, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy http://www.masonichomesky.com/index.cgi?id=40

Ground Breaking Ceremony for Present Home—August 7, 1925

1997 Six of the cottages that housed widows and orphans are renovated into senior apartments. The old dining hall is renovated and renamed The Olmsted, becoming a Louisville landmark for events and weddings.

There were four in the Waggener class of 1961 from the Masonic Home: Martin Nowak, Judy Gish, Emma Lou Dickison and Betty Carolyn Moore. Emma Lou passed away in December. There were eight in the class of 1960: James Bowling, Grover Blanton, Bailey Blanton, Paul Simpson, James Dewey Clay, Mini Wade, Janet Jones and Paul Shackelford. Carolyn (Moore) Schuler

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

Courtesy

Royce Jackson, right, a Waggner Junior High seventh grader, won the $50 drawing of the St. Matthews Business Association Saturday. Kentucky Model Shop proprietor Hunter Look presented him with the check. J. W. McKnight, left, drew Royce's name out of the basket.

Masonic Home Boy Wins $50 Prize Money

Ten minutes before the second weekly drawing Saturday for $50 in the St. Matthews Business Association's Easter giveaway, 12-year-old Royce Jackson of Masonic Home dropped his registration in the big basket at the Kentucky Model Shop.

• • •

Proprietor Hunter Look turned the wheel, and then had another Masonic Home boy, J. W. McKnight, turned his head and pull out one of the registrations.

• • •

Mr. Look stared at the slip of paper. "What's your name?" he asked.

"Royce," said the boy.

"Royce what?"

"Royce Jackson."

Mr. Look smiled. "You've just won 50 dollars."

• • •

The startled boy's face turned white. He looked frantically at all the smiling faces around him. Then he dug his face into the coat of a man nearby and started crying.

After he calmed down, his eager eyes began running over the mountain of toys in the store, as though he was wondering if Mr. Look would let him have the whole store in exchange for the check for $50.

Mrs. Look smiled: "Just seeing him so happy was worth every penny the giveaway is costing."

• • •

The $50 dollar drawing will be held this Saturday at 3 p.m. at King's Men's and Boys' Wear at 3 p.m. Altogether, the local merchants are giving away $1,400, with the grand prize of $1,000 to be given March 31.

***The Voice Of St. Matthews*, March 1, 1956**

Courtesy of Masonic Homes of Kentucky:

MASONIC WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' HOME / WAGGENER HIGH SCHOOL

1955 Students attended school off campus. 7th, 8th and 9th Grade students went to Waggener Junior High. A 36 passenger bus took students to school. Eight boys and girls were in the Waggener band and several were in the orchestra.

1960 Thirty varsity games of nearby high schools were played in Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home gym. Waggener High Schools first graduation was held at Freedom Hall. Eight MWOH students graduated. (During the decade of the 1960's 40 MWOH students graduated from Waggener HS.)

1963 25 varsity high school games were held in MWOH gym.

1965 Seven MWOH students graduated from Waggener.

1967 Waggener High School held its graduation in the MWOH auditorium.

Courtesy of Masonic Homes of Kentucky:

Masonic Seniors of 1956, believe these seniors graduated from Eastern High school.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Masonic Widows & Orphans Home

April 25, 1963,
The Voice-Jeffersonian

Masonic childern give performance at league dinner

A performance by the children of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, 3701 Frankfort Ave., was a highlight of the first annual dinner of the St. John's Day League, held at the home last Saturday night.

Mrs. Ann Akers, dramatic art instructor and Mrs. Laura Johnson, education director, supervised. T. H. Jarvis and Sandra Crim sang "Do You Remember?" Readings were made by Patricia Grim, Steve Bowling and Elneta Williams.

A crowd of 523 attended. The league sponsors the annual picnic on the grounds of the home. The proceeds go towards the maintenance of the local institution and the old Masons' home at Shelbyville.

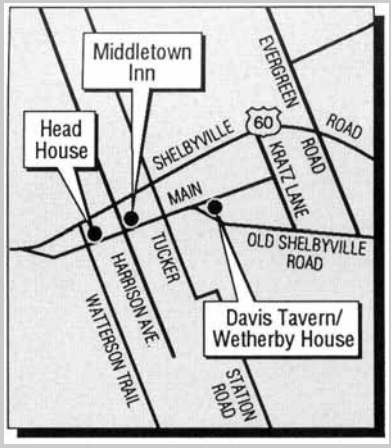
Courtesy Google Maps:

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Middletown

As a prime stagecoach stop, the community saw much of its activity center on thriving inns

By Kay Stewart



Firefighters christened a new truck with a bottle of 7-Up as part of the dedication of a new fire station in Middletown in 1944. ⟶

U. S. 60 in Middletown was home to businesses like Grossman's Department store and Middletown Apothecary in 1957

IN 1797, landowner Philip Buckner successfully petitioned Jefferson County Court for permission to establish a town on 500 acres of rolling hills along the Sinking Fork of Beargrass Creek.

The court named it Middletown, apparently because it was midway between Louisville and Shelbyville, and Buckner's land was divided and sold to the highest bidders.

Middletown quickly became a popular stagecoach stop on a dusty road surrounded by farmland.

More than 190 years later, Middletown is a booming suburb with the Gene Snyder Freeway cutting across U. S. 60, one of the county's busiest commercial strips.

But just blocks from the traffic jams are unhurried scenes from Middletown's early days.

Main Street and Old Shelbyville Road, just south of U. S. 60, are lined with log, brick and stone homes built by some of Middletown's earliest settlers — pioneers who rode the Ohio River in flat-boats, a Revolutionary War captain, a lawyer whose home became a stagecoach stop and an inn that attracted famous guests.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Middletown

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Middletown
As a prime stagecoach stop, the community saw much of its activity center on thriving inns
By Kay Stewart

About a mile north of U. S. 60, hidden in the woods near Avoca and Aiken roads, is a small stone springhouse where a pioneer family was attacked 200 years ago by Indians. The springhouse, now roofless with crumbling walls, may been the oldest structure in Jefferson County, according to the county Office of Historic Preservation and Archives.

Richard Chenoweth, a founder Louisville who rode the Ohio River in 1778 with George Rogers Clark, built the springhouse on his homestead, where Indians attacked on a summer evening in 1789.

Chenoweth and his wife, Margaret, survived their wounds, but three of their children died. Margaret Chenoweth, who was scalped, remained bald and kept her head covered with a cap, according to historical accounts.

Since 1966, Boy and Girl Scouts have visited the springhouse twice a year on a hike called "The Chenoweth Massacre Trail."

The fear of Indian attacks had subsided when the county court officially established Middletown.

Two busy spots in the burgeoning own were The Middletown Inn, now a residence and small business at 11705 Main St., and the Davis Tavern, a building that now houses apartments and offices at 11180 Old Shelbyville Road.

William White, a lawyer who presided at Jefferson County Court when the town was established and appointed its first trustees, may have built the Davis Tavern building originally as his home before 1800, according to county records. In 1841, the home was sold to Su-\san B. Davis and became known as the Davis Tavern, a stagecoach stop, hotel and slave-trading post.

The hotel was known for the quality of its cheese, made in the basement. Its famous guests included Henry Clay, John C. Breckinridge and the Marquis de Lafayette, according to a 1922 Louisville Herald story.

The story was reprinted in 1946 in "Middletown's Days and Deeds," a history of the town by Edith Wood, 88, a former school teacher who was born and raised in Middletown and now lives in a retirement community on U. S. 60.

The Middletown Inn was built with logs, also around 1800. An addition was built of brick in 1804, with a stairway of 15 steps to commemorate Kentucky as the 15th state of the Union.

The inn, which is now covered with stucco, operated until about 1920. But its tavern, where early town trustees were probably elected, was forced to close about 1890 as a result of an anti-drinking crusade by a minister and a doctor, according to Wood's book.

By 1813, the Head, Hobbs and Lawrence General Store was operating on Main Street. Benjamin Head, one of its founders, was a Revolutionary War captain who built a magnificent stone home at 11601 Main St. near the site of the store. The home, now owned by Charles and Charlotte Matthews, is immaculately restored.

Head rode horseback to Philadelphia and Baltimore to buy the store's stock, according to Wood's book. A ledger from the l820s kept by Basil Hobbs, the store's book keeper, listed some prominent early settlers — the Bullitts, Geigers Popes and Hites — as customers They could buy coffee for 25 cents a pound and whiskey for 23 cents gallon.

In the early days, the town also had a cigar factory, comb factory cabinet shop, tailor and blacksmith.

Middletown wasn't the scene of any Civil War battles, but soldiers from both sides passed through and two skirmishes in the nearby hills were preludes to the Battle of Perryville.

As the war raged, in October 1864 Dr. Luther Paris Wetherby wrote to his uncle in New York that highway robberies and lootings were common around Middletown and he was keeping "five guns loaded with buck shot" in case his home near the center of town was attacked.

Wetherby, whose letter was reprinted in Wood's book, was a New York native who arrived at the Davis Tavern about 1860 and fell in love with Hattie Brown, the inn keeper's daughter, said Lawrence Wetherby, his grandson and a former Kentucky governor.

Wetherby said his grandfather who was honorably discharged in 1862 as a surgeon for the Union Army, married Brown, bought the tavern and turned it into his residence and office.

In the early 1900s, Middletown was a farming community with about 250 residents who rode in horse-

DID YOU KNOW:

The hills around Middletown in the 1780s were the scene of several Indian attacks. In 1786, Abraham Lincoln, the grandfather of the 16th president, was killed on his land along Long Run Creek about seven miles east of Middletown. Lincoln and his three young sons were returning home after a day of planting when he was attacked. Tom Lincoln was only 10 when he saw his father die, and years later he told the story to his own children, including Abraham.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Middletown

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Middletown
As a prime stagecoach stop, the community saw much of its activity center on thriving inns
By Kay Stewart

Preparations were under way for the Middletown Woman's Club festival in 1941. Proceeds were used for the group's community center and soldier-recreation projects that year

People enjoyed watermelon in the yard of one of the Wetherby houses in this undated photograph

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Middletown

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Middletown
As a prime stagecoach stop, the community saw much of its activity center on thriving inns
By Kay Stewart

drawn buggies on dirt roads said Wetherby, 81, who was born and raised in Middletown and now lives in Frankfort.

On occasion, oil was squirted on Main Street to keep the dust down but that created another mess Wetherby said he sometimes got "bawled out" for tracking oil into his home.

As a boy, Wetherby went o house calls with his father, Dr. Samuel David Wetherby, in a horse-drawn carriage. The family had a stable behind its house on Main Street and got water from backyard well. The home was torn down about 1970.

Wetherby attended school in building where grades 1-4 were taught in one room, grades 5-8 in another.

He and other youngsters worked on farms in their spare time. Wetherby remembered milking cows at a farm situated where the city Douglass Hills is now. His mother bottled the milk, and he carried it around town in a basket, charging 10 cents a quart.

For fun, Halloween was a "big time," Wetherby said. Pranks included hoisting a car to the top the town's bank building on Main street and greasing the tracks of he interurban line with soap so the train had trouble stopping.

The interurban's arrival in 1910 allowed Middletown to grow into a commuter community, but Wetherby said the town remained small and rural until about 20 years ago, when development began rapidly spreading east from Louisville.

A major town controversy erupted in the early 1930s when the state decided to build U. S. 60 around Middletown to the north, instead of through the town along Main Street and what is now Old Shelbyville Road.

A newspaper article reprinted in Wood's book said residents were divided on what path the road should take and a "near riot" broke out at public meeting on the issue.

In an interview, Wood said residents feared that the town would die if the highway bypassed Main street. But today the loop in U.S. 60 around Middletown is credited with saving the old buildings on Main street and Old Shelbyville Road from the bulldozer.

The main business district, however, shifted one block north to U.S. 60, where cabins and cottages opened in the 1930s. "Colonial Cot-tages," featuring private baths, charged guests $3 to $5 a night, and "Jones's Camp" was a collection of cabins that became apartments during the housing shortage after World War II. Both sites have been demolished.

In 1937, the Ohio River flood that devastated Louisville united Middletown in many ways.

Residents took in hundreds of refugees, providing blankets, clothes and meals, which were served at a schoolhouse.

As an outgrowth of flood relief, residents organized two clubs that remain active — the Middletown Woman's Club and the Middletown Civic Club. The latter's first projects included securing city water for Middletown and organizing a volunteer fire department.

After years of failing to elect trustees and assess taxes, Middletown was told by the Kentucky Court of Appeals in 1962 that it had lost its charter as a city. The town incorporated 10 years ago as a fourth-class city and today has more than 5,000 residents.

Just as they had in the 1930s over a new road's route, residents were bitterly split over whether to incorporate.

Today, the town remains split over development issues, with some people favoring more commercial growth while others want it stopped.

Commission meetings, which can last hours, sometimes feature vitriolic debate with comments yelled out by some business owners and residents who regularly attend.

One resident who has opposed more commercial growth in residential areas is City Commissioner Terry Wetherby, a cousin of the former governor. While Lawrence Wetherby was governor, his brother, George S. Wetherby, took office as Jefferson County Judge but died in 1954 less than four months later.

The former governor — the only Kentucky governor from Jefferson County — said he was able to win his statewide race in 1951 because he was from a small, farming town—not the big city of Louisville.

But with the development that's occurred, Middletown isn't rural anymore, Wetherby said.

"I'm sad to see it," he said. "It does away with the old-time coun-try town."

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: My Old Kentucky Home

Courtesy http://parks.ky.gov/findparks/recparks/mo/gallery/:

Courtesy http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=4770

Federal Hill, by Michael Stroud, June 1991

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: My Old Kentucky Home

Courtesy http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=4770:

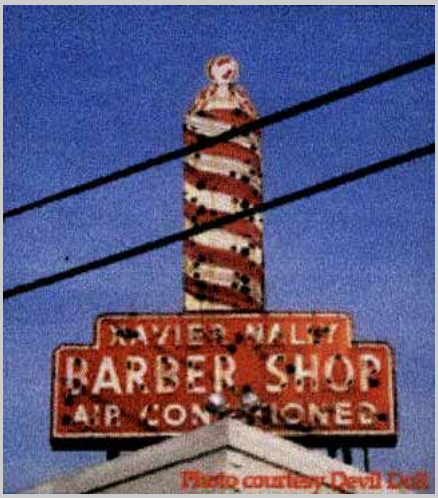
Federal Hill, a former plantation owned by the Rowan family and now more commonly called “My Old Kentucky Home,” is in the sleepy little community of Bardstown, Kentucky. A visit to Federal Hill in 1852 is said to have inspired Stephen Foster to write the song, *My Old Kentucky Home*, the official State song for Kentucky.

The owner of the home, John Rowan, was a state judge in Kentucky, served seven terms in the legislature and was elected to the United States Senate. He was also Kentucky's Secretary of State and the Chief Justice for the Court of Appeals. Throughout the early 1800’s, the Rowans hosted a number of dignitaries in addition to Stephen Foster, including Henry Clay, James K. Polk, and James Monroe.

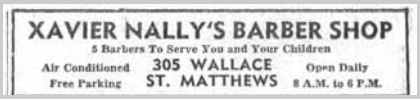
The Georgian-style home was built by Judge John Rowan in 1818 and has since accumulated a long history of tragedy. One of the most notable tragedies happened in 1833 when an epidemic of cholera killed eight family members and eight slaves within a 24 hour period. Another tragedy occurred when John Rowan Jr., son of Judge Rowan, was killed. After having spent the previous night sitting up with his sick child, John Jr. was sitting on the window sill of his second-story bedroom . He dozed off, lost his balance and fell out the window, hitting a tree on the way down, killing him. After this, his wife never slept in that bedroom again, moving to the bedroom next door.

Courtesyhttp://www.stephenfoster.com/musical.htm:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nally Barber Shop



Courtesy of Devil Doll, Xavier Nalley Barber Shop in Louisville, KY http://www.roadsidepeek.com/roadusa/southeast/sesign/seothersign/



Courtesy of Chris Hall, *The Courier-Journal*, Kenny Whelan cleaned off his chair at the Xavier Nally Barber Shop in St. Matthews, where he has cut hair for 50 years

Courtesy of Chris Hall, *The Courier-Journal*, Like some other businesses, customers take a number when they arrive at the barber shop

Courtesy of Chris Hall, *The Courier-Journal*, Whelan, center, waited for this next customer as barber Melissa Grider, left, cut Chris Robertson's hair and Brian Elpers, right, got a hair cut from Denise Arington

Courtesy, The Courier-Journal, 3/19/ 2008,
by Martha Elson:

Kenneth Whelan has cut hair in St. Matthews for 50 years
Barber celebrates 50 years at same St. Matthews-area shop

For 50 years, barber Kenneth Whelan has been known for his steady hand -- and for keeping up a steady stream of conversation -- at Xavier Nally Barber Shop off Lexington Road.

Whelan, 69, was snipping and clipping and joking as usual last week in the crowded shop at 305 Wallace Ave. in the St. Matthews business district, where friends, colleagues, customers and family members gathered to celebrate his 50th anniversary.

"After all these years, I'm used to anything," said Whelan, who lives in Middletown, as he gave Tony Downs of Crescent Hill a haircut.

"He does a great job," said Tony, a St. Xavier High School student. "Fifty years is a long time."

Kerry Karcher, a fellow barber and master of ceremonies for the event, described the shop as reminiscent of the "Leave It To Beaver" era. A sign over the entrance still says: "Air Conditioned."

Whelan is one of seven barbers at the shop, "and there's always a line for him," Karcher said.

Whelan has seen haircuts go from $1.25 to $13, weathered the long hair styles of the Beatles era in the 1960s -- "Back then, they wouldn't get any haircuts," he said -- and still has at least 20 customers (some fourth generation) each of the two days a week he works now, he said.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nally Barber Shop

Courtesy *The Courier-Journal*, 3/19/ 2008, by Martha Elson:

Kenneth Whelan has cut hair in St. Matthews for 50 years
Barber celebrates 50 years at same St. Matthews-area shop

Craig Bade of Mockingbird Valley was waiting for a haircut last week and said it should be the same price as it was 50 years ago, in honor of the anniversary.

"Ken remembers everybody," Bade said. "He's always got a smile on his face. He's always been the same."

"He loves to talk," said Whelan's wife, Barbara. "That's what you have to do to be a barber." They had three children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The shop moved to Wallace Avenue in 1950 from Shelbyville Road near St. Matthews Hardware. In 1963, the former owner sold the shop to Whelan's brother, Bill, who died in the 1990s.

"Good night!" longtime customer Sam Tyler of Anchorage exclaimed, reflecting on the fact that Kenneth Whalen has been there from 1958 to 2008. "You weren't just polishing shoes" back then?

Tyler said he has been appreciative of Whelan and his brother ever since Bill Whelan came out to Anchorage in the 1950s to give haircuts to his two brothers, who had polio.

Max Weinstein, another longtime customer who lives in the Glenview Condominiums, said Kenny Whelan came to his home to cut his hair when he was recuperating from a knee replacement.

The Rev. Bob Osborne, who used to be at Our Lady of Lourdes in St. Matthews and is a longtime customer, came in from St. Patrick Catholic Church in eastern Jefferson County to give a blessing.

"He never gives you a bad haircut," Osborne said of Whelan, but "whatever happens, it will grow out in three weeks."

St. Matthews Mayor Bernie Bowling presented Whelan with a key to the city, a gold lapel pin in the shape of a key. Even though the shop is actually a few feet outside the city of St. Matthews, "I know you've taken care of a lot of St. Matthews people," he said.

Bowling said he used to come to the shop as a youngster, when burr haircuts were in.

A sheet cake was inscribed with "Thank You Kenny. Job Well Done." Whelan also received a watch and a black cloth to drape over customers, embroidered with his and the shop's names and "50 years."

Whelan said he still plans to keep working: "Long as I feel good and the good Lord willing."

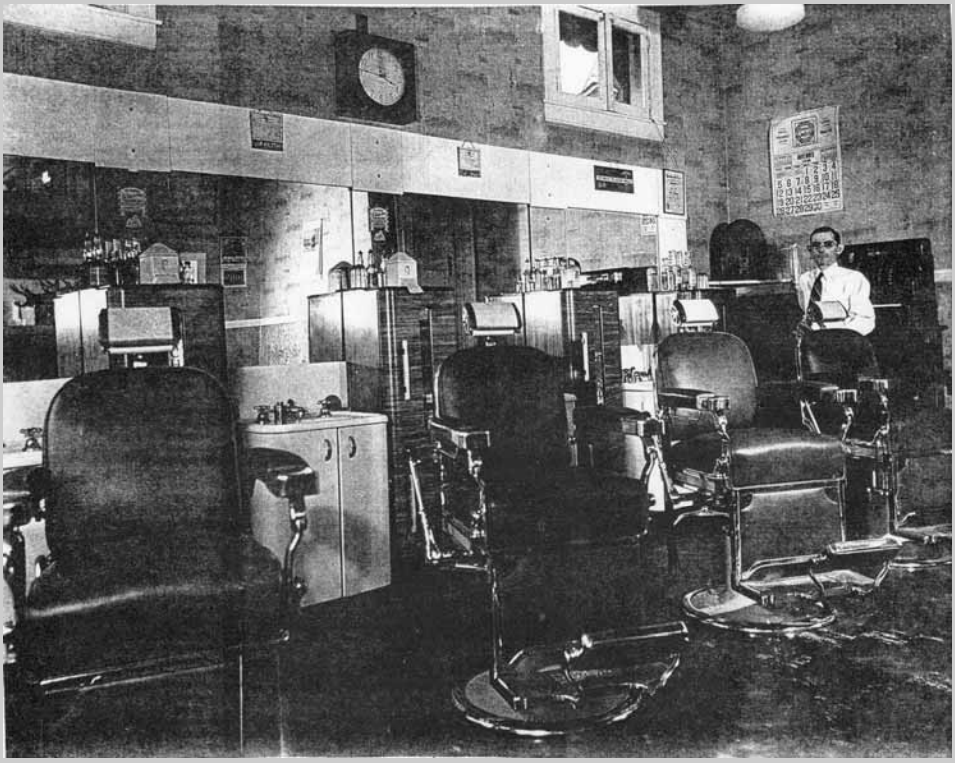
Reporter Martha Elson can be reached at (502) 582-7061.

COVER PHOTO: Tony Downs got a haircut from Kenny Whelan.

Courtesyhttp://www.waggenerhighalum.org/downto16.jpg

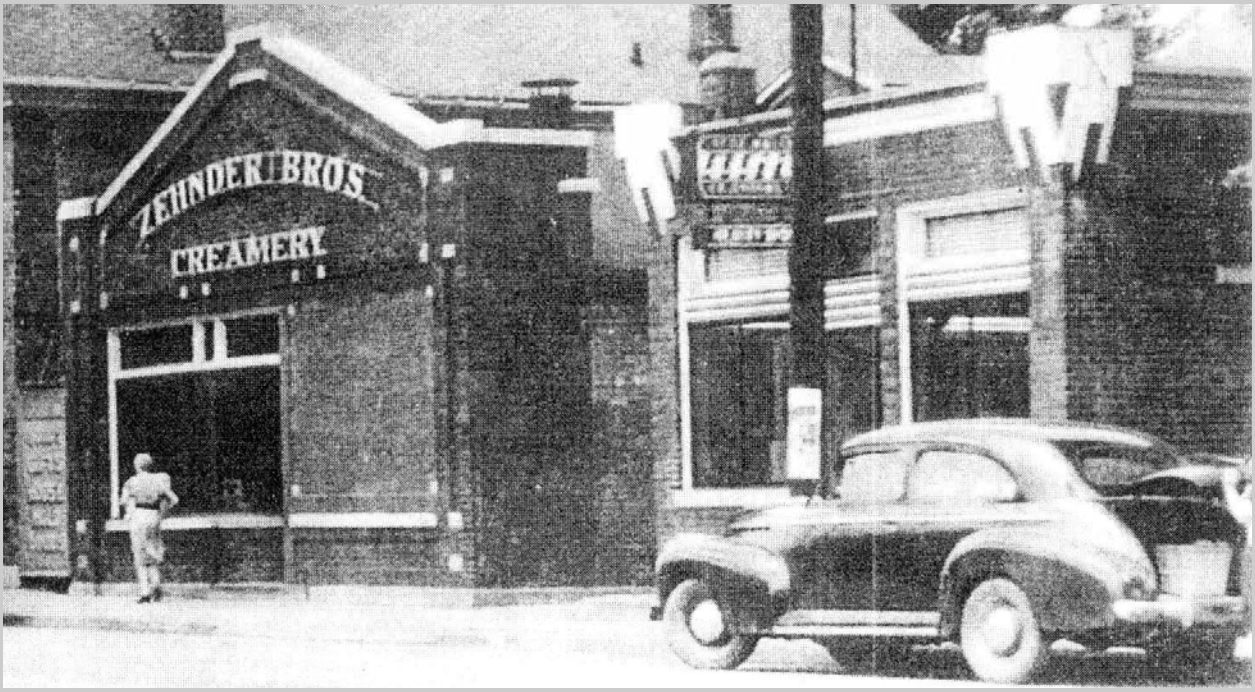
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nally Barber Shop

Courtesy *The Courier-Journal*, 3/19/ 2008, by Martha Elson:



Courtesy Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, 1994.17, #.002, 1953.

Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:



Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy http://www.nanzandkraft.com/pages/aboutus.asp:

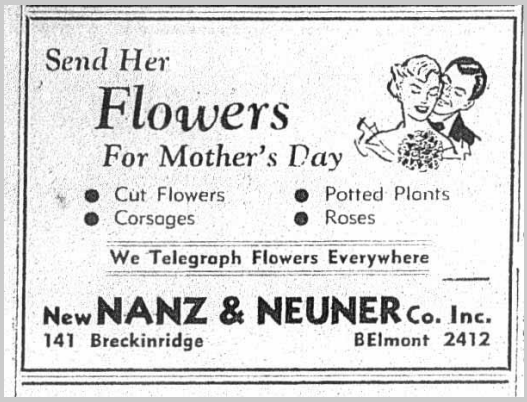
Nanz and Neuner Inc., was founded in 1850 in Louisville, Kentucky, after Henry Nanz left his native Germany where he had been a horticulturist. In the year 1850, he opened a florist and greenhouse in the city. Henry Nanz and Henry C. Neuner formed a partnership in 1872 and by 1880 had established thirty acres of flower gardens and sixty greenhouses in St. Matthews, a suburb of Louisville. Henry Nanz Jr. took over the florist in 1895 from his father. His sister, Sally Ward Nanz, married Henry A Kraft Jr., who became a partner in the florist and his grandson, Edward A. Kraft Jr., eventually became the owner.

In 1958, the company name was changed to Nanz & Kraft Florist, Inc. After Edward A. Kraft Jr's death in 1967, his son Edward Ramsey Kraft became the owner and continued the tradition. On November 22, 1976, a fire completely destroyed the thirty-year-old building. Nanz & Kraft continued to operate from a temporary location at Rassmussen's on Hubbard's Lane while the new 20,000 square foot store was being built. The current store opened its doors in November, 1977.

Today, Nanz & Kraft Florists, Inc. is one of the largest full service florists in Louisville and the surrounding areas. In 1988 E. Ramsey Kraft welcomed two of his sons, Edward R. Kraft and Michael A. Kraft into the business. In 1994 David L. Kraft, joined his father and brothers in the business. We continue to grow in size because we do the finest work on each and every floral product that leaves our store.

We now have four locations, Breckinridge Lane (our main store), Hurstbourne Lane, Brownsboro Road, and Dixie Highway or "Southwest". Our trucks are equipped with two-way radios and we deliver city-wide three times daily. Nanz & Kraft has the lowest delivery fee in Louisville that ranges from $3.00 to $13.95. We offer a full range of services; cut flower arrangements, fruit baskets, wedding planning, plants, silks, plant maintenance and design, and a wide assortment of giftware in our gift shop.

Henry A. Kraft SR. & Henry Nanz

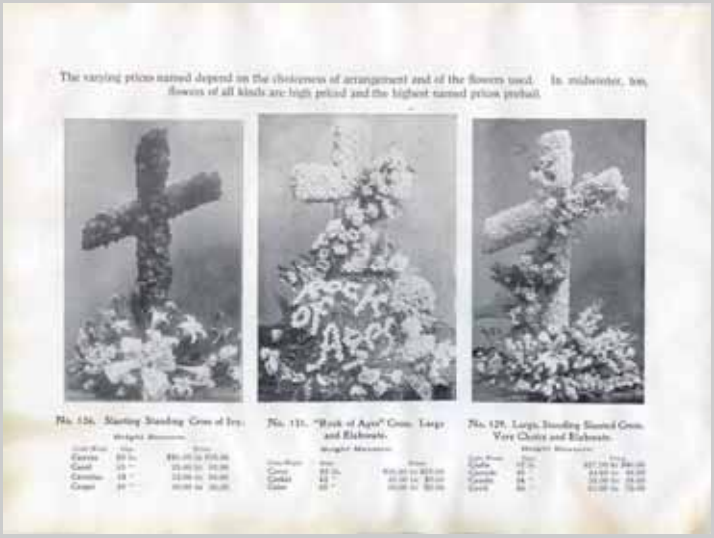


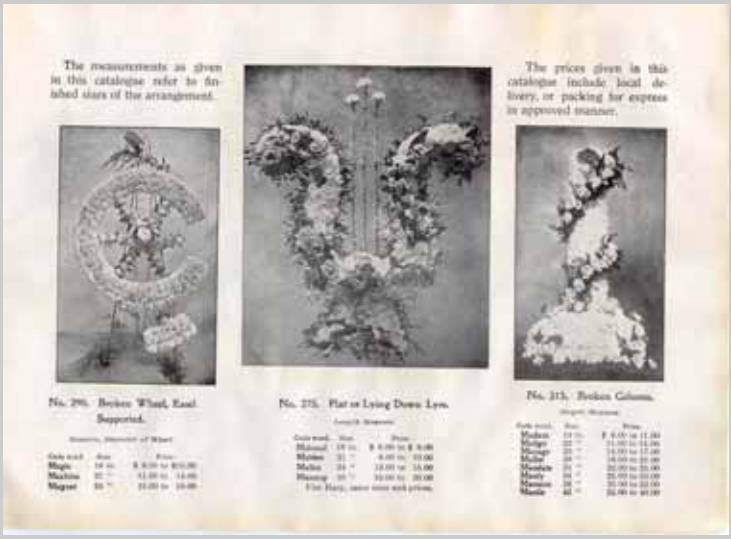
The Voice Of St. Matthews, May 15, 1952

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy David Kraft, business historian:

1890 Catalog Covers





1901 Funeral Catalog

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy Al Ring collection of St. Matthews Fire Department History:

November 21, 1976: Blaze heavily damages florist shop and office, by Ken Loomis, *The Courier-Journal*: A three-alarm fire, fanned by strong winds, roared through the Nanz & Kraft Florists building at 141 Breckinridge Lane in Louisville yesterday morning, destroying or heavily damaging the florist shop and five business offices in the rambling, two-story structure.

E. Ramsey Kraft, the operator of the florist shop and part owner of the building, estimated the damage at $300,000 to $500,000. Kraft, his son and an employee were driven from the building by smoke only minutes after the fire was detected about 9:30 a.m.

Within a half-hour after the first alarm was sounded at 9:39 a.m., nearly 100 firemen and 16 pieces of equipment from two fire departments were battling the blaze, which was brought under control at 10:39 a.m.

Lt. Col. Bert Sils, an assistant chief, said 60 men and 13 pieces of equipment from the Louisville Fire Department responded.

Although the building is in the City of Louisville, it is only one block from the heart of St. Matthews, and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department also responded with three trucks and 39 men, according to Fire Chief John Monohan.

One fire fighter was injured. Louisville Capt. Joseph Vessels fell through a second-story balcony railing at the front of the building. He was taken to Suburban Hospital, where he was treated for a back injury and released.

Kraft, his 12-year-old son Eddie and Marcia Zeh, a floor designer, were working in the building when the fire started.

Mrs. Zeh said she first noticed smoke right after an electric coffee-maker had been plugged in near the front of the shop. She said that, when she looked toward the coffee-maker, she saw ceiling high flames in a display of dried pampas grass nearby and called to Kraft, who was in the greenhouse for help.

Kraft said he carried a fire extinguisher from the greenhouse section, just behind the store area, into the front room and tried to put out the blaze “but the smoke forced us out within 30 seconds.”

While Mrs. Zeh and Eddie Kraft ran to a nearby building to call firemen, Kraft stopped St. Matthews Mayor Bernard Bowling, who was passing in his car, and Bowling also radioed an alarm.

By the time the first units responded, said Sils, the fire was spreading rapidly toward the back of the building, which is at the northeast corner of Willis Avenue and Breckinridge Lane.

A special call for an extra truck was sent at 9:44 am., a second alarm at 9:47 am, and the final alarm at 9:51 am.

More than a dozen cars from the Louisville, Jefferson County and St. Matthews Police Departments converged on the fire to reroute traffic around the area.

By the time the blaze was brought under control, the florist shop and adjoining gift shop on Breckinridge Lane had been gutted, and there was heavy damage to offices of the Millett Hardwood Co. and Langdon & Associates, a freight broker, upstairs.

Less severely damaged were the second-floor office of Coast to Coast Lumber Co. and the ground floor offices of Ben Thornbury Realtor and Louisville Right to Life all in the rear of the building on the Willis Avenue side.

Thornbury said the damage to his office had been limited to water and smoke damage. However, Margie Montgomery, executive director of Right to Life of Louisville, said the fire had destroyed “irreplaceable films and files” and some movie equipment.

Kraft said it was fortunate the fire had, started on a Sunday morning when no one was in the other offices. There were no customers in the florist shop and adjoining gift shop, said Kraft, but he had scheduled a pre-Christmas open house for the afternoon and expected several hundred people then.

Kraft said the rambling, concrete-block structure was built in sections, with the first section constructed in the mid 1930’s. The family business has been at or near the present location since it was founded in 1850, he said.

Kraft said he expected the whole structure would have to be rebuilt over the next several months.

In the meantime, he said, he would transfer his business operations to a former tree nursery at Hubbards Lane and Westport Road.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy Al Ring collection of St. Matthews Fire Department History:

MORE THAN 100 Louisville and St. Matthews firefighters battled a smoky, wind-whipped Sunday morning blaze that gutted the Nanz & Kraft florist, a gift shop and other offices at the corner of Breckinridge Lane and Willis Avenue. (by Robbin Garr III)

Chief John M. Monohan Jr. & Captain Russ Rakestraw.

Typical "meeting of the minds" between Chief and Officer on the right!!!! Captain Al Ring center.

The Voice Of St. Matthews
March 26, 1964

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy David Kraft, business historian, November 21, 1976, Nanz & Kraft Florists :

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy David Kraft, business historian, November 21, 1976, Nanz & Kraft Florists :

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Nanz & Kraft Florists

Courtesy *The Voice-Tribune:* July 17, 2008, by Matthew Ralph.

150 years in bloom, Nanz and Kraft family owned for five generations.

Michael, David and Eddie Kraft in the garden of their main store in St. Matthews. MATT RALPH | contributing photographer

As youngsters, Eddie, Michael and David Kraft used to run around their family's floral shop squirting each other with water pistols disguised as flowers.

Today, they are carrying on a family business started five generations ago in 1850 as partners of St. Matthews-based Nanz & Kraft Florists.

Though they have branched out with stores on Hurstbourne Lane, Brownsboro Road and Dixie Highway, the Kraft brothers now occupy offices in the Breckenridge Road location where they had their first jobs as kids helping with flower deliveries, sweeping floors and well, wreaking the kind of havoc boys know best.

"I can't tell you all of it," Eddie Kraft said of the mischief he and his brothers caused as kids.

It was enough to make their father, Edward Ramsey Kraft, admittedly a little nervous when he took his boys under his wing and showed them the ropes. Ramsey Kraft, who retired a year and a half ago, said he couldn't be more proud of the way his sons have carried on his customer-first mentality.

All three brothers said they learned the importance of customer service from their dad, who learned it from his father. Playing off the customer is always right mantra, Eddie recently had some buttons for his employees to wear that say "Yes we can."

The word no isn't part of the Nanz & Kraft vernacular, explained Eddie, who handles advertising and oversees the branch stores, greenhouse and gift shop.

Through various moves – the original business was started downtown near where Spalding University is now – and industry changes, customer service has been the thing the Kraft family has prided itself in. The Krafts trace back to the German immigrant who founded the business by marriage. Harry Kraft Jr., the Kraft brothers great-great grandfather, married the daughter of Henry Nanz's son and became a business partner.

The rest has been a century-and-a-half of family history. The Kraft name was incorporated into the business's moniker in 1958.

"You do feel the pressure," Eddie Kraft said. "You don't want to be the one to drop the ball. You want to see it go to the next generation."

Grandpa Kraft is already scouting out that next generation, which ranges in age from 2-and-a-half to 12. He said he recently had a heart-to-heart with all six grandchildren and told them he'd like to see someone carry on the flame.

David Kraft, the youngest of the three brothers at 38, said working in the family business means he gets to see his family more than he would otherwise.

"It's great," said David, who oversees the company's extensive Internet operation. "I get to see my family every day."

On the flip-side, it also means working through differences and scheduling time to be together as a family without talking business.

"Sometimes we have to force ourselves to have meetings," Eddie Kraft said.

Michael Kraft, who handles purchasing and oversees the design center, said having three owners, each focusing on a specific area, streamlines business. Each brother brings a different level of expertise and skill set to the table, Michael noted.

That they all share the same last name that customers have come to know and trust for generations is an added bonus, Michael Kraft said.

"You get to see people who have asked for my grandfather and asked for my father now ask for us," he said.

You could say Michael and his brothers have come a long way without going very far.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Old Stone Inn

Courtesy http://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/stories/1997/08/18/story3.html?t=printable:

Business First—Old Stone Inn back with new owners August 15, 1997. by Eric Benmour

This article has been edited because there have been several owners since this was printed and I don't even know if the restaurant is open today. All phone calls met with disconnected phone numbers

The building opened around 1800, and has served as a private residence, tavern, stagecoach stop and, for most of the last 75 years, as a restaurant.

The Old Stone Inn has been a restaurant for most of 73 years. Virginia Snider and Elizabeth Plues bought the former stagecoach stop in 1924 and changed it to the Old Stone Inn restaurant. They sold it shortly after that, but bought it again in 1930 and ran it until 1969.

The restaurant changed hands at least twice more since then.

Most recently, Joyce Hutcherson and her family operated it as a restaurant, a bed-and-breakfast and gift shop, for eight years.

They closed the restaurant and bed-and-breakfast in June. Joyce Hutcherson could not be located for comment.

Allen Purnell declined to say whether the Old Stone Inn was making money under the Hutchersons.

He said he is anxious to see what Mike Stone can do and believes he'll succeed.

"He's got a lot of experience in the food industry and the restaurant business," Purnell said. "If he'll serve good food, I think people will come."

Painting by Don Cull Gallery

Courtesy, http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://cache.virtualtourist.com/1/2875608-The_Old_Stone_Inn-Kentucky.jpg&imgrefurl=http://members.virtualtourist.com/m/72fb7/50e/2/&h=130&w=182&sz=8&tbnid=2_ReVlZ-BLIJ::&tbnh=72&tbnw=101&prev=/images%3Fq%3DOld%2BStone%2BInn%2BKY%2B%2Bpicture%2B%2Bphoto&hl=en&sa=X&oi=image_result&resnum=1&ct=image&cd=1

The above photo and —The Old Stone Inn, a national historic landmark, was built in 1817 by slave labor with stones taken from a quarry on the farm site of this frontier coach stop. Its two-foot thick stone walls still bear bullet holes from the Civil War. It has served as a tavern, stagecoach stop, inn, residence, and since the 1920s, a restaurant. Accommodation is provided in rooms. Upstairs at the Old Stone Inn, they have converted a generous common area into an art gallery, featuring regional art, crafts, and artists. The restaurant serves dinner Thursday through Saturday. They serve lunch Thursday through Sunday.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Old Stone Inn

Courtesy http://www.old-stone-inn.com/history.html

History

There are few buildings in the state of Kentucky that have operated for centuries - Old Stone Inn has that distinction. Historical records date back to the early 1800's when the building's construction became complete. Final completion of the structure is believed to have happened in 1817, a year after Simpsonville, Kentucky was established as a town.

Old Stone Inn has passed through many hands in history. It has served as a stagecoach stop, tavern, residence, inn and since the 1920's, a restaurant. It is listed as a national historic landmark and has a long list of historical visitors including the famous General Lafayette of the civil war and former president Andrew Jackson.

Constructed of course limestone gathered from a nearby quarry with flat jack arches over openings, the building was advanced for its time in history. The original stone structure has foot wide door facings - the width of the cut stone - and wide plank hardwood floors. There used to be eight original fireplaces, however only four remain.

The front of the building once had a door located to the right of the main double door entrance (see black and white photo above). This second door lead directly into the former tavern which served in the 1830's. Records are unclear as to how long it remained in service. Today, the second entrance is now a window which added symmetry to Old Stone's facade.

Upon passing through another owner's hands in the 1920's, the building became known as "Ye Old Stone Inn" which served as tearoom.

The side additions were added in the 1970's to accommodate the crowds. Old Stone Inn proudly obtained historical honor in 1976 when it became listed on the National Historic Register.

Old Stone Inn's present owner is Allen and Robert Purnell whom purchased the building in 1987.

* History information gathered from "The New History of Shelby County, Kentucky".

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

From http://www.armyreserve.army.mil/USARC/DIV-IT/0100DIV-IT/Overview.htm

Overview
The 100th Division (Institutional Training) is the largest Institutional Training Division in the United States Army Reserve Command with its headquarters located in Louisville, Ky. at the Major General Benjamin J. Butler Army Reserve Center. The Division consists of six brigades, including: an Initial Entry Training Brigade with Armor and Cavalry squadrons; an IET brigade for Infantry One Station Unit Training; a Combat Support Brigade; a Combat Service Support Brigade; a Training Support Brigade; and a Basic Combat Training brigade. The division also includes the 100th Division Band, and the Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

Mission
In peacetime, the mission of the 100th Division (Institutional Training) is to:

Provide quality military training and education in Combat Support, Combat Service Support and Initial Entry Training.

The Division's Institutional Training Brigades provide Soldiers of the Army Reserve, National Guard and Active Army with Military Occupational Specialty and Professional Development courses under The Army School System to prepare them for increasing levels of responsibility and readiness.

In the event of mobilization, the Division will provide Drill Sergeants and TASS Instructors to backfill and augment Training and Doctrine Command installations and the Army Medical Department Center and School, as well as continue to provide instruction to members of the Army Reserve not affected by the mobilization.

The 100th Division has Soldiers assigned in Army Reserve centers located throughout the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Partial History
The unit was inactivated in January 1946 at Fort Patrick Henry, Virginia, and reactivated as the U.S. Army Reserve 100th Airborne Division later that fall in Louisville. The unit was redesignated as the 100th Infantry Division in 1952, and the 100th became a replacement training division in 1955.

In 1959 it was re-designated the 100th Division for Institutional Training. The mission was to teach basic, advanced individual and common training to new Soldiers. In 1961 President John F. Kennedy mobilized 1,500 Centurymen to Fort Chaffee, Ark., during the Berlin Crisis. The 100th did the country proud by training some 32,000 Soldiers after rebuilding long unused and dilapidated rifle ranges, barracks and other facilities. With the training mission accomplished, the unit was demobilized in August 1962 and returned to reserve status.

In 1977 the unit's mission changed from basic combat and advanced individual armor training to one-station unit training. The mission was to prepare for mobilization missions by conducting entry level training for enlistees in one station format in armor or armor recon. In 1978, it was selected as the first Army Reserve unit to be equipped with its own M-1 tanks, and the only training division with the mission of conducting training on the M-1 Abrams tank and the M-3 Bradley Cavalry vehicle. By 1986 the Division was considered the largest reserve unit in Kentucky, commanding 58 percent of all Army Reserve Soldiers in the state with an annual economic impact of $25 million.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

Courtesy Al Ring, May 2008:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews, The Voice-Jeffersonian:*

Captain Robert O. Collins, 4010 Alton Road, St. Matthews, congratulates Brigadier General Benjamin J. Butler on his appointment as commanding general of Kentucky's 100th Division. Captain Collins commands Headquarters Company, 100th Regiment, Louisville. General Butler commands about 3,000 citizen-soldiers in the Army Reserve division.

November 26, 1964

Eastend area members of the 100th Division (Training) who have received awards for Army Reserve Service include (front row, from left) Maj. Blaine A. Guthrie, Jr.; Maj. Joseph B. Brill and 1st/Sgt. David L. Mangum. Standing--Lt. Col. Thomas M. Waddill, Lt. Col. Ralph J. Duncan, Lt. Col. Frank D. Stone, Lt. Col. Nobel V. Borders and Capt. Cecil G. Thrasher, Jr.

April 8, 1965

CHAMPIONS: The 100th Division's rifle team, for the second straight year, has won the XX Corps championship. Major James F. Kemp, 2309 Englewood, Hikes Point, is one of the team's marksmen. Major Kemp (front right) is a member of the staff Judge Advocate Corps. Also pictured are (kneeling) SFC Samuel Todorich, (top row, left to right) 1/Lt. Richard Mazzoli, Lt. Joseph Bube and Cpl. Richard Given. The Army Reservists next compete in Ft. Meade, Md., April 17-27.

March 31, 1966

TAKING AIM: These two Army reservists from St. Matthews were among 200 members of the 100th Division spending last Sunday in annual rifle training at Fort Knox. Pfc. John W. Clark, of 4159 Westport Road, prepares to fire. His coach is Cpl. Jerry Elder of 3939 Massie. Both are members of Headquarters and Headquarters Co. of the 100th division (Training), Kentucky's largest Army reserve unit.

April 28, 1966

NOTE: I (Al Ring) was a member of the 100th Division. I remember shooting my mouth off on what a good shot I was on one of those Sunday trips, and how I could hit the target with so many hits in one minute which required several clip changes. (I do not remember the number.) I do remember they shut down the range, put me out front and let me prove it. I did, whatever I said I could do in one minute I did with time to spare, and the officers were quite surprised. What a day!!!!!!!

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews, The Voice-Jeffersonian:*

PROMOTED: Major General Benjamin Butler, Commanding General, 100th Dvision (Training) presents Charles Kaltenthaler, 12313 Meadow Lane, Middletown, Ky., with orders promoting him to Sergeant Major. The new Sergeant Major is the Chief Supply Non-Commissioned Officer for the 100th Division.

January 12, 1967

COMMISSIONED: G. Michael Dew of Worthington received a commission as Army Second Lieutenant at the 100th Division's annual summer camp at Ft. Jackson, S.C. Lt. Dew is a bank examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. in civilian life. At the summer camp Lt. Dew was a pay officer and worked with the Adjutant General's office.

August 31, 1967

100th Division will train at Fort Jackson

The 100th Division (Training), with headquarters in Louisville, will leave by chartered bus Aug. 12 for Fort Jackson, S.C., for its annual two - week period of active duty.

The entire division has not been to Fort Jackson since it was activated there in early Oct., 1942. It trained there before receiving its overseas assignment in World War II.

One regiment of the 100th Division, the 400th has been training at Fort Jackson in the past few years because of the advanced infantry schooling facilities there. The remaining four regiments of the 100th have trained at Ft. Knox.

Members of the division will train active Army recruits in basic combat training, weapons firing, first aid, drill and military courtesy. Recruits are also taught combat support specialities such as cooking, driving, mechanical work, clerical work and communications.

Once the division is set up at the South Carolina post, it will assume duties normally handled by active Army outfits.

Welcome home activities are planned for the 100th when it returns to its birthplace (Fort Jackson) this summer.

Played major role

It played a major role in combat in France and in Germany.

The 100th smashed the German defenders of Bitche, France, helped halt the German 1944 winter offensive as the only division to hold its original ground during the Battle of the Bulge; took the key German rail center of Heilbronn; and acted as one arm of pincer movement which captured 5,884 Germans near Stuttgart.

During the Berlin Crisis of 1961, the 100th was called upon to fulfill its training mission when world peace was threatened. In its year of active duty, the 100th trained more than 30,000 soldiers, many of whom are fighting, or have fought, in the Vietnam War.

As the division prepared to return home to civilian life after the crisis, President Kennedy wrote the then commanding general, Dillman A. Rash, "The response and accomplishments of the 100th Division have more than lived up to the reputation of the Division, and have been worthy of the fine tradition of the Army Reserve as a 'Citizen Soldier' emergency force."

"To you and your families," Kennedy wrote the Division, "and to the communities from which you came, may I say, as Commander-in-chief, 'Well, done!'".

July 6, 1967

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews, The Voice-Jeffersonian:*

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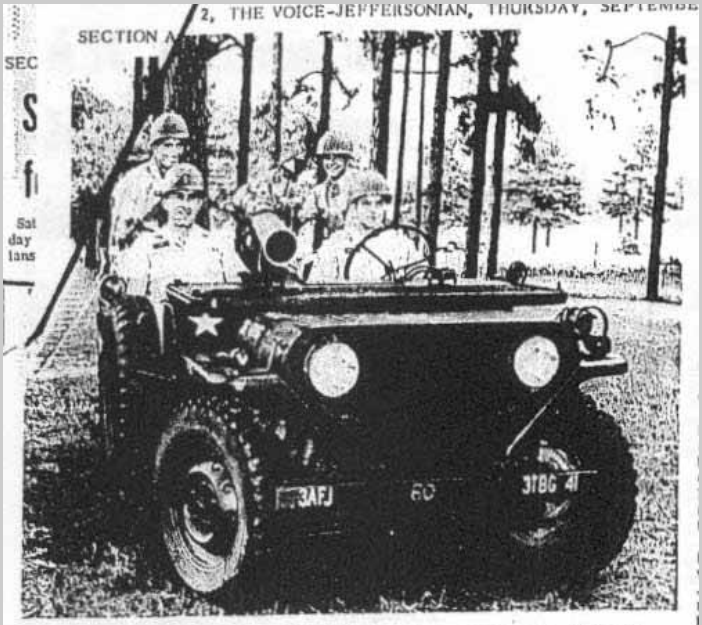


First Lieutenant Thomas L. Yandel Versailles, (passenger), First Sgt. Donald J. Martin, Georgetown, (behind), Sgt. Walter L. Bradshaw, Richmond, (driver) and Sgt. Michael R. Buehner, St. Matthews all in the Transportation Company of Kentucky's 100th Division (Training) are shown in a US Army jeep mounted with a 106 recoilless rifle. Members of the Century Division were at Fort Jackson, South Carolina between August 12-26 for their annual two weeks summer camp.

September 14,, 1967

Col. Owsley Costlow

Owlsey Costlow given command of Army Reserve

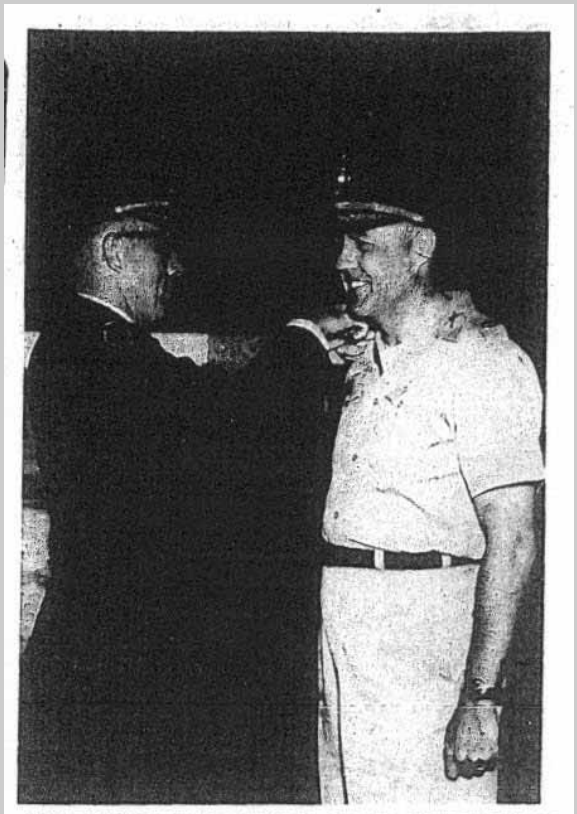
LTC Owsley C. Costlow, a native Louisvillian who is a sales coordinator with Kelley Technical Coatings, has been promoted to command of 4th Brigade (CST) in Kentucky's 100th Division (Training), US Army Reserve.

Costlow, the former Division G3, succeeds Colonel Ralph J. Duncan who has been made the new Division Chief of Staff. Both men are veterans of WW II and Colonel Duncan also served in the Korean Conflict.

Commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant of Armor from OCS in September, 1942, Costlow served in the 12th Armored Division in France and Germany as a company commander. After WW II he served at the Armored School at Ft. Knox and joined the Army Reserve in 1947. LTC Costlow is a graduate of the Advanced Armor Course and the Command and General Staff College.

While serving as Division G3, LTC Costlow fathered the newly adopted Century Division Crest which will be seen on the shoulders of many Centurymen in Kentucky.

October 10, 1960



IT'S A HAPPY DAY for Owsley C. Costlow, 408 Deerfield Lane, the beneficiary of brand new eagles signifying his promotion to Colonel in the Army Reserve, at special ceremonies Saturday, June 7, at Bowman Field. Pinning the insignia is Major General Ben J. Butler, commander of the 100th Division. Col. Costlow commands the 4th Brigade in Louisville.

June 19, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: One Hundredth Division

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews, The Voice-Jeffersonian:*

COL. FRANK D. STONE, acting chief of staff for two brigades of Kentucky's 100th Army Reserve Division (Training) confers with his acting sergeant major, Robert L. Davis, during the recent encampment at Fort Jackson, S. C. Colonel Stone, of 3218 Five Oaks Pl., is full-time staff administrative assistant at division headquarters. Davis, of 825 W. Broadway, who holds the rank of first sergeant, is a salesman for the Jefferson Distributing Co. The division's other three brigades will train at Fort Knox in August.

August 7, 1969

COMPLETE TRAINING: More than 1800 Army Reservists of the 100th Training Division came home Saturday, Aug. 23, after two weeks of annual active duty training at Fort Knox. The group included from left, SFC. Ralph D. Givan, SSG. Gilbert F. Duncan Jr., Capt. Joseph F. Bube, Lt. Eugene C. Stemmle Jr., and SSG. Melvin R. Shilts, all of Louisville.

August 28, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Otter Creek Park

Courtesy http://www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/parks/ottercreek/

Otter Creek Park is one of the treasures of the Louisville Metro Parks system. Otter Creek's 2,600 acres offer an abundance of outdoor experiences, including hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, disc golf, camping, cabin rentals, venues for corporate and social events, adventure programs, a Nature Center, and astronomical observatory and more!

The park is located approximately 25 miles southwest of downtown Louisville along the Ohio River in Meade County, Kentucky. It is accessible from Dixie Highway, just 14 miles south of the Gene Snyder Freeway.

The park was established in 1937.

History of Otter Creek Park

1934	The National Parks Service selects 3,000 acres of beautiful land in Meade County, Ky., to serve as a recreational area for residents of Louisville and neighboring towns. (Today, the park's acreage is 2,600, after land swaps with Ft. Knox.)
1937	Otter Creek Park opens to the public.
1938	The first camp at Otter Creek Park is built and leased by the YMCA to become Camp Piomingo.
1947	In recognition of the city's service during World War II, the Federal Government endows Otter Creek Park to the City of Louisville.
1965	A new girl scout camp area - Camp Twin Ridges - is constructed. The park's family campground increases in size. Picnic areas are tripled.
1967-1968	The Nature Center is dedicated. The center features exhibits and educational programs on wildlife, soil, rock formations and other aspects of the area. This new facility allows environmental education to become part of the overall focus of the park. A bridge is built over Otter Creek to open up a new recreational area and a 50-unit camping area that can be used in the winter.
1975	President Ford transfers 197 acres of surplus land from Fort Knox military reservation to the City of Louisville to be added to Otter Creek Park.
1980-1983	A conference center overlooking the Ohio River is constructed. With first class facilities and a beautiful, scenic view, the park becomes a popular and "natural" choice for large events - especially weddings.
1984	The historic Van Buren Lodge is destroyed by fire.
1985	The Van Buren Lodge is restored and expanded to accommodate 30 people.
1986	Otter Creek Park builds a disc golf course.
1995	Otter Creek Park becomes a division of Metro Parks.
2001	A new master plan is adopted for Otter Creek Park. The plan was developed by a task force chaired by former Louisville Mayor Frank Burke.
2003	A $316,000 road project, called for in the master plan, is completed. The new road alignment improves wayfinding within the park. Five new group cabins are added at Camp Tecumseh, completing a $120,000 project called for in the park's master plan.
2004	Several aging cabins in the park are damaged or destroyed by a major storm.
2006	3 new studio cabins replaced 3 family cabins that were destroyed by the July 13, 2004 wind storm, at a cost of $123 thousand.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Otter Creek Park

Courtesy *The Courier-Journal*, December 2, 2008, by Jessie Halladay:

Otter Creek Park to close as part of budget cuts

Otter Creek Park, which gets roughly 500,000 visitors a year, will close indefinitely Dec. 14 as part of Mayor Jerry Abramson's proposal to help find $20 million in budget cuts.

The Meade County park owned by Louisville loses $500,000 a year, which makes it too expensive for the city to continue operating, Abramson said yesterday.

It's a decision that trail runners, mountain bikers and fly fishermen lamented yesterday as they face losing what they describe as a natural beauty and one of the area's nicest parks.

And it means that the sixth annual Otter Creek Trail Marathon, which is expected to draw about 300 participants, could be the last time runners take to the park's trails.

"Otter Creek is probably one of the greatest treasures" that the Metro Parks Department has, said Cynthia Heady, a regular runner at the park and organizer of the marathon.

But by closing the park in Meade County, Abramson said the city can save $180,000 for the last half of this fiscal year, which ends June 30. No full-time employees are losing their jobs, but will be reassigned to other spots in the park system.

The park contains a lodge and rental cabins, but the revenue generated is not enough to offset the cost of maintaining the park.

So the city plans to shut down and winterize the cabins and close the park to public access starting Dec. 14.

Jason Cissell, a spokesman for the parks department, said there will still be access to a nearby Girl Scout camp, and access is being worked out for the YMCA camp that operates there mostly in the summer.

Metro Parks is attempting to work with people who have weddings or other events scheduled there to come up with alternative sites.

Mike Dulin, president of the Kentucky Mountain Bikers Association, said the loss of the park will greatly reduce options for cyclists. The park boasts 18 to 20 miles of trails designed for bikes and runners.

Without the park, Dulin said, area mountain biking enthusiasts will be left with just about 14 miles of trails between Waverly and Cherokee parks.

"It's a shame," he said, adding that it doesn't speak well for a city that has tried to increase cycling and other healthy lifestyle options.

"It's a major black eye in terms of the bicycle-friendly initiatives," Dulin said. "There are far better ways that the government can cut money. It seems like our priorities are far, far out of line."

In making the announcement about the park's closure, Abramson said he has asked officials at nearby Fort Knox to see if they would consider options for taking over the land.

Otter Creek is the only park that is operated by the city that is not in the city.

The federal government gave the property to the city in 1947 in recognition of Louisville's efforts during World War II. The property can only be sold, leased or assigned to another government entity and only with approval from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Phil Kirkland of Shelby County said he's disappointed to hear of the park's closing. Kirkland regularly visits the park to go fly fishing, often with members of the Derby City Fly Fishers, of which he is president.

"We see it as a wonderful local resource," Kirkland said. "The natural beauty is there to behold."

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Parkway Field

Courtesy http://library.louisville.edu/uarc/digre/parkway.html

A Brief History of Parkway Field

Parkway Field began as a professional baseball park. In the early 1920s the University decided to consolidate many of its programs on a new main campus at Third and Eastern Parkway. What became known as the Belknap Campus was purchased from the Louisville and Jefferson County Children's Home (better known as the Industrial School of Reform) in January, 1923. To help finance the purchase, the trustees at the same time agreed to sell about eight acres of the thirty-nine acre tract to the "Louisville Base Ball Company." That group needed a new home for the Louisville Colonels, whose Eclipse Park at Seventh and Kentucky had burned down the year before. The new stadium at Parkway Field opened on May 1, 1923, complete with a grandstand that was reported to accommodate 18,000 fans.

Nearly thirty-one years later, on December 31, 1953, the University bought Parkway Field from the "Louisville Baseball Club" and agreed to lease it to the club for ten years. The Colonels stayed at Parkway Field until the 1956 season, when they moved to Fairgrounds Stadium.

Several star major leaguers played at Parkway Field, including Babe Ruth in 1924, 1928 and 1932, and Jackie Robinson in 1946. On June 2, 1924, in an exhibition game that saw the Colonels beat the New York Yankees 7-6, the Babe, according to Bruce Dudley, then sports editor of the *Courier-Journal*, "socked the gosh-awfullest ball that ever has been croaked in the history of the game in Louisville." Though that seventh-inning blast went foul, "Louisville never can believe that any foul ever has gone higher or farther. For many moments it seemed that the ball would drop on the grain elevators across the road beyond the right field barrier." Then "in the ninth inning everybody stood, seemingly in a farewell salute to a national hero, and Babe Ruth, the hero, merited that mark of homage by crashing the ball over the Louisville Provision Company's sign in right center field." According to a more recent account by Mike Barry of the Louisville *Times*, the homerun ball landed in the Thomason Oil Company service station, which was on the southeast corner of Brook and Eastern Parkway.
Parkway Field also served as a home for the Cardinal Football team from 1952-1954. As a result, football great Johnny Unitas played at Parkway Field, as well.

U of L baseball was played on Parkway Field until 1996. U of L next used Derby City Field and the Old Cardinal Stadium at the Kentucky Fair and Expo Center for baseball games until April 2005 when Patterson Field opened at Third and Central. Parkway Field lives on in Patterson Stadium, however. Green bricks from Parkway Field's left field wall were used in the roof supports, and the new stadium's batter's box contains dirt from the old stadium's infield.

Adapted from Morison, William: "Reflections: Has Parkway Field Always Been Part of U of L?" *Inside U of L*, June 1, 1982; Cox, Dwayne and William Morison, *The University of Louisville* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky: c2000), pp. 67, 133-134; Johnson, Katherine Burger, "Parkway Field," unpublished manuscript, 1998.

Ballplayers with Parkway Field wall and Eastern Parkway Field in the early 1950's

Parkway in the background

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Parkway Field

Courtesy httphttp://www.give.louisville.edu/parkwayfield/

Courtesy http://www.projectballpark.org/history/nnl1/parkway.html

April 16, 1942, opening day

Home Teams: Louisville White Sox (NNL1 1931), Louisville Black Caps (NSL 1932), Louisville Buckeyes (NAL 1949), Louisville Black Colonels NAL 1954)————This park was built in 1923 by William F. Knebelkamp, and was criticized for it. Baseball wasn't too strong in Louisville at that time, but once they saw the large concrete and steel park with a large grandstand, the masses were happy. Nothing like this had been built in Louisville before. The left field wall is very tall to protect the road behind it and the large, hand operated scoreboard that used to be there.

The grandstand was torn down in 1961, but the brick walls (pictured above) still remain. This field was used by the University of Louisville until they moved into Cardinal Stadium.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Pearsons Funeral Home

Courtesy http://www.pearsonfuneralhome.com/

160 Years of L. D. Pearson & Sons

Louisville published its first city directory in 1832, listing 15,000 inhabitants. That same year, a young cabinet-maker, Lorenzo Dow Pearson, left Shelby County to seek his fortune in the boom town on the frontier of the "New West".

In 1848, the same year that Cave Hill Cemetery was dedicated, he set up shop at Second and Main, next to the original Galt House.

Occasionally, he was asked to construct wooden coffins. Demand created the need to inventory ready made coffins and provide additional services, and within a very short time, he was established as an "undertaker", or one who undertook the arrangements for burial.

Within a few years, he moved to a location between Second and Third on Jefferson. There business was conducted until 1898, when it was moved to a large brick residence on the southeast corner of Third and Chestnut.

During those years, the firm witnessed the Civil War and the growth of Louisville as one of the South's largest cities, growth which was paralleled by the firm and its profession. Edward C. Pearson, son of the founder, became a leader in promoting the education and licensing of embalmers, and he himself held the first embalmer's license issued in Kentucky. He also designed the original wood paneled hearse. When motor vehicles came into use, one of these bodies was mounted on a motor-driven chassis and became Louisville's first motor-driven hearse. Within seven years of that innovation, the horse-drawn funeral disappeared, and the stable, which had been a part of every undertaker's equipment, was replaced by the Funeral Auto Company, of which E. C. Pearson was the first President.

In 1917, the third generation of Pearsons assumed direction of the business under E. Clarence Pearson, succeeded in '38 by his brother W. Edward Pearson.

In 1924, one of Louisville's most beautiful private residences, on Third and Ormsby, became the home of the Pearson institution. That same year, Pearson's was invited into membership in the Seleted Independent Funeral Homes (formerly National Selected Morticians), the premiere association of funeral homes worldwide. Two of the Pearsons, E. C. Pearson and David F. Pearson have served as directors on the board of NSM. making them two of only five funeral directors in Kentucky to ever hold that position. Under the leadership of Clyde, E. C. and Robert A. Pearson, an additional funeral home was built at 149 Breckenridge Lane in 1951. Pearson's fifth home has been located in the heart of the City of St. Matthews since nearly the city's beginning, having incorporated in 1950. The St. Matthews home became the main office of Pearson's following the sale of their Third Street Home in 1978.

Today, the business is in the hands of the fifth generation. David F. and Robert S. Pearson succeeded their fathers in 1986. Robert S. Pearson is currently President of the firm, while David F. Pearson and Larry L. Robbins serve on the Board of Directors.

In 2001, the 50 year-old facility on Breckenridge Lane was renovated, adding a new lounge, visitation room, additional restrooms, and improved parking.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Pearsons Funeral Home

Courtesy http://www.pearsonfuneralhome.com/ April 2001 renovation

After 50 years at our present location at 149 Breckenridge Lane, Pearson's has expanded our facilities to serve you better. This is the second major addition/renovation to our Breckenridge Lane location. The first addition was in 1967 when we added the formal chapel seen below. The addition includes a second lounge (top left), new grand foyer, an additional visitation room, handicap-accessible women's parlor, handicap-accessible men's room, floral delivery room, and improved rear parking.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Pearsons Funeral Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Tribune*: Final Resting Place, At 160, Pearson's is oldest family-owned funeral home, by Hannah Jones, July 10, 2008

Ben Franklin once said, "In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes." So it stands to reason that many funeral homes have histories that stretch back to the 1800s.

In Louisville, Pearson's Funeral Home is the oldest family-owned and operated funeral home. In the last 160 years it has seen six generations of Pearsons.

It is currently operated by Robin Pearson, fifth generation. His cousin, David Pearson, also fifth generation, operated the business until his retirement in 2006.

Beginnings: Pearson's was founded by Lorenzo Dow Pearson, a cabinetmaker who moved from Shelby County to Louisville in 1832. In 1848 he opened a shop and occasionally was asked to construct wooden coffins.

Soon he realized a demand for funeral services and began to create an inventory of ready-made coffins as well as offering his services as an undertaker. The Civil War and the growth of Louisville spurred the success of the business. Lorenzo's son, E. C. Pearson, took over and made great innovations in modernizing the profession.

In 1924, two members of the third generation moved the firm to the Ferguson Mansion in Old Louisville, which currently houses the Filson Historical Society. In 1951, three members of the fourth generation opened the current home at 149 Breckenridge Lane in St. Matthews.

The funeral business was a normal part of life for Pearson children. While never involved with the business as a child, Robin Pearson recalled visiting his cousin, David, who lived on the third floor of the Old Louisville location, where the boys would play in the basement where the caskets were stored.

Ups and downs: Robin Pearson said the highlight of his career was when he and David bought the business from the fourth generation and the fifth generation held sole ownership of the company.

However, a tragic death recently touched the Pearson family itself.

In April 2006, David Pearson's son, Courtney, who had worked in the family business for more than a decade and was poised to be the sixth generation to take over operations, lost his battle with melanoma at age 39.

Not only was the family grieving the loss, but they also had to face the idea that the long line of family involvement was going to come to an end.

"The long-term vision for Pearson's is undecided for the time," David Pearson said. "The short-term is, I plan on staying for a while."

One step ahead: The Pearson family has always taken pride in the facilities it offers.

"That's all a part of the success story of our family firm," Pearson said.

Following the Civil War, E. C. Pearson, son of the founder, held the first embalmers license in Kentucky and designed the original wood-paneled hearse. When automobiles were still an innovation, Pearson's was the first funeral home in Louisville to own a motor-driven hearse.

In 1968, Pearson's was the first funeral home in the Southeast to build a formal chapel.

In the last few decades, as cremation rose as a choice, Pearson's became the first funeral home to offer a rental casket for use during the visitation.

Today, Pearson's makes it a priority to update its facilities frequently, making sure the decorations are "fresh and new" yet tasteful, Pearson said.

Pearson's goal is for people to feel comfortable and at home.

"That is why the sign says funeral home not house," he said.

All in the family: "I was never going to go into the family business," Pearson said.

After graduating college, he planned to attend dental school. Over the summer, he asked his dad if he could work for the funeral home as a temporary job.

"I found funeral service very much to my liking," Pearson said, so he decided to attend mortuary school instead of dental school.

He said his family never pressured him to take over the business because they wanted their children to find fulfilling careers.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Pearsons Funeral Home

Courtesy *The Voice-Tribune*: Final Resting Place, At 160, Pearson's is oldest family-owned funeral home, by Hannah Jones, July 10, 2008

"You can't like what you do; you have to love what you do," he said.

And Pearson has always loved working so closely with his family members.

"My dad and two uncles were the best teachers sons could ever ask for," Pearson said.

Pearson acknowledges that even though it is a family-run business, they have a staff that he works with closely and deeply appreciates.

"Even though they don't share the same last name that we do, they're family," he said.

And Pearson is grateful to be a part of the Pearson tradition.

"It has been a privilege for both David and me to serve the community into the fifth generation."

Robin Pearson, fifth generation owner and operator of Pearson's Funeral Home, with a portrait of his great-great-grandfather, Lorenzo Dow Pearson.

Courtesy http://www.pearsonfuneralhome.com/

1956

1960

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, April 9, 1970:

Top Crop: Swimmers—East End club knows the sweet smell of success

"We're not good enough yet for the Nationals, but we're on the road."

The time, 1958...the speaker, Ralph Wright, cofounder and head coach at plantation Swim Club.

Wright's plantation team had just captured the men's championship in the Kentucky State AAU swimming and diving meet. Five state and six meet records had fallen, plantation Swim a Club was only a month past its first birthday!

Dynamic, quotable Ralph Wright was in the first stages of building "one of the strongest teams in the South and Midwest." That was how this holder of swim titles in the United States, Australia, and Hawaii envisioned the future for Plantation.

Host to the **Nationals:** Eleven years later Plantation was host to the Nationals. The cream of the U. S. aquatic crop gathered at plantation for the National AAU Long Course Swimming and Diving Championships, Aug. 8 through 11, 1969. Of the 18 local young people attempting to qualify for the final events, 15 were Plantation's own.

When the Nationals ended, Plantation saluted its women's team for placing 7th, its 400-meter women's medley relay, placing 2nd, and two individual place winners...one a swimmer and one a diver.

Last month, Plantation carried off the Kentucky State AAIJ swimming and diving championship for the ninth time in 10 years.

Opened July 22, 1957: How did it all begin? Plantation Swim Club opened July 22, 1957, as the Louisville area's first combined subdivision and swim club. The $250,000 social and recreational center featured an Olympic-sized pool with a movable bulkhead for varied-distance meets. A minimum of 1,000 members was anticipated and a full recreation schedule--tennis, baseball, softball--was planned. About 150 youngsters participated in the first summer's swim program, an early indication of the primary interest of club management and members.

The tennis program was spearheaded by a summertime pro who launched a tourney during the first summer of full-time activity. The British Davis Cup captain, Charles Hare, was featured in a tennis clinic.

Today, plantation's four all-weather courts are lighted for year-round play. Two of the courts are covered with a special bubble by the Louisville Indoor Racquet Association to use during five winter months.

The nucleus: swimming: Swimming, however, was and is the nucleus of Club activities. The first plantation Outdoor Invitational Swimming and Diving Championship was begun in 1959,

Promoting interest in swimming was another theme of early Plantation days. In the Great Aquacade of 1958, pat McCormick, an Olympic diving champion, appeared with a professional comedy-diving team.

By 1960 Plantation listed just over 300 registered swimmers. Meet records were beginning to fall like autumn leaves. Plantation and archrival Lakeside set 22 new state records in 27' events at the Kentucky State AAU meet that year. Plantation totted up another first by capturing the MidWest Swimming championship.

Formula for success: What was the chemistry of plantation's success?

"Increased competition, better talent harder training— that's the answer, Coach Wright said in August, 1960. Competition was increasing, abetted by national affluence and the widespread emergence of age-group swimming. Youngsters of "six—and-under" age-group could now share in training and competition. Age-group enabled swimmers of similar physical maturity to compete among themselves. Swim teams mushroomed across the U.S. and many Kentuckiana families joined this new way of life...summer's daily training, meet schedules and team travels.

Bobrows join staff: Year-round swim training under Plantation's own roof, possible with the convertible pool, intensified team activity, after 1965. Greg Bobrow, a member of the first championship free—style relay of 1958, became assistant coach in 1964. His brother, Ronald D. Bobrow, joined the staff two years later. In 1966 Bob Long was added to instruct the divers. Long is a former Small-College Diving All American, another first for Plantation, the only club in Kentucky with a professional diving coach.

In 1966 Plantation sent seven hopefuls to the girls' events in the Nationals at Bartlesville, Okla. The Nationals are recognized as a major step toward a berth on the U.S. Olympic team. Fourteen-year-old Susie Shields competed in the 100-meter butterfly and freestyle events...but her day had not yet dawned!

Ralph Wright's death: Then, late in 1966, tragedy intervened. Ralph Wright's death shocked and saddened the sports world, but the house that Ralph had built stood firm. Its foundation stones were dedicated parents, superbly conditioned swimmers, professional coaches and a tradition of winning.

Celebrating its 10th birthday in 1967, Plantation noted that its complex had grown from one to three pools, a par—three, nine-hole golf course, a dining room, and four all-weather tennis courts. It was now known as Plantation Country Club.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, April 9, 1970: **Photo courtesy Al Ring June 2008:**

Top Crop: Swimmers—East End club knows the sweet smell of success

The swimming and diving "Hall of Fame" at Plantation lists 14 High School All Americans, one AAU All American, one college All American, Region 6 Championships, MidWest Champs, and Kentucky State AAU State Champions.

The Susie Shields story: The success of Plantation perhaps ss best pinpointed in Susie Shields. Her swimming career was a steady upward climb, peaking (to use a swimming term) in her exciting finish for a bronze medal in the 1968 Olympics at Mexico City.

Susie qualified for her Olympics berth with a sizzling second—place win in the 100—meter butterfly at the Los Angeles Olympic Trials. Susie's time was 104.6, seconds. On Oct. 22, Plantation and Kentuckiana fans watched breathlessly as she captured the bronze medal for third place with a time of 106.5.

The summer after the Olympics marked the high tide of Plantation's aspirations. When the Nationals began in August, 1969, it was the "culmination of four years of effort," said Greg Bobrow, head coach and aquatics director.

Nine world records set: During the Nationals, more than 4,000 fans watched nine new world records set. There were 65 women and 127 men entered from 25 states.

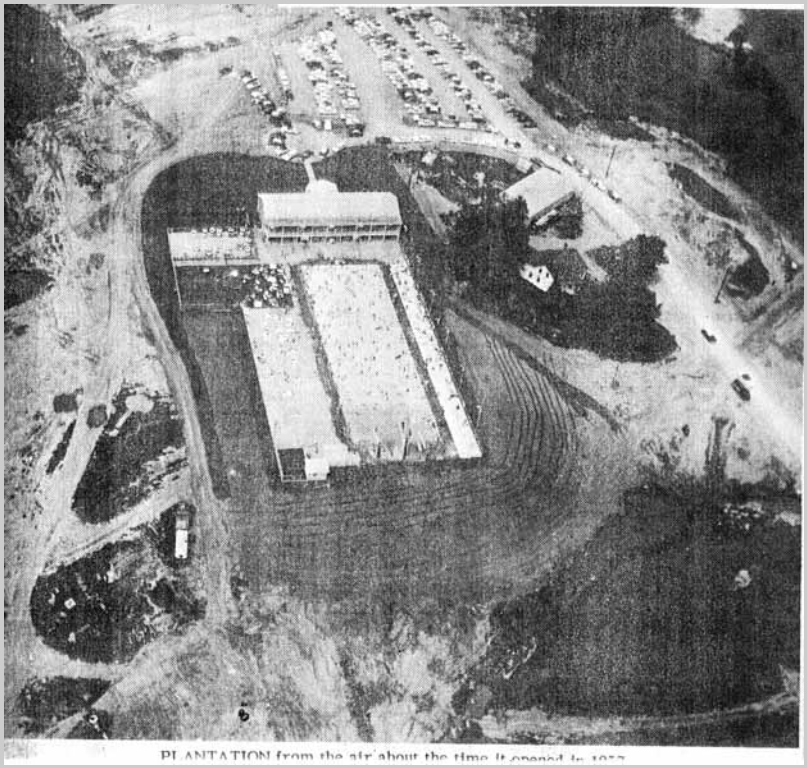
Individual achievements were the most outstanding in the history of Plantation. The women's team placed seventh (1/2 point out of sixth). A 400-meter Medley Relay team of Alice Wright, Dinah Wright Kathy Wyatt, and Susie Shields, raced to a second-place silver medal.

Alice Wright, daughter of Plantation's cofounder, earned a silver medal for her sparkling performance in the 100-meter breaststroke. Another hometown favorite, Debbie Brown, a Plantation diver, out pointed many of the nation's best to win eighth place in the tower diving.

Divers set enviable mark: Since 1966 Plantation divers have never been out pointed in Region 6 competition. On five occasions Plantation divers have made the finals in AAU National Championships. At the Region 6 Senior Indoor Champi-onships this winter, the Club divers swept three of the four diving events.

The Nationals may have been high tide as a cumulative Club activity, but the 1968—69 season was strewn with victories. Plantation won the Midwest Conference and Region 6 Championship, both for the fifth time; carried off the Breezeland Invitational , the plantation Indoor Invitational championship, and the Kentucky AAU championships; took second place in Age Group and Open at the Ohio Valley Conference.

Two girls made the Region 6 team which participated in the National Junior Olympics in San Diego, California. Robbin Wright brought home a silver medal in backstroke and Lee Bethune captured the bronze medal for 100 meter free— style.



PLANTATION from the air about the time it opened in 1957

THESE YOUNGSTERS are part of the cast of "The Wizard of Oz," a water ballet that will be presented at the Plantation pool April 10, 11 and 12. The show will start each evening at 8:30.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy http://www.hawaiiswim.org/legacy/ralphwright/wright.html

Ralph R. Wright, Sr. — Born August 29, 1921, Lodi, California

- 1936 - Established his first national record in the 100 yard breaststroke.
- 1937 - At the age of 15, was one of 14 swimmers chosen to "Swim The Golden Gate" at the dedication of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California. Special Commemorative gold medals were issued to each of the 14 swimmers.
- 1938 - National Championships - Pioneered the Butterfly Stroke using an over-the-water arm recovery and breaststroke kick.
- 1939 - All American Prep Swimmer in breaststroke.
- 1939 - American record breaker in the 100 yard breaststroke.
- 1940 and 1941 - National Junior College Record Holder and Swimming All-American, both years at Stockton Jr. College.
- Ranked third in the nation twice while at College of the Pacific.
- While at College of the Pacific, played football for the legendary Coach Amos Alonzo Stagg. Joined U.S. Marine Corps Officer Training Program while at College of the Pacific.
- 1940 - Held numerous records while attending College of the Pacific, including 100 yard breaststroke, 200 yard breaststroke and 300 I. M. relay.
- Coached the Stockton High School team while in college. There was no money for a coach and the team had to rent pool space. Mr. Wright staged "aquacades" to finance the team. He coached here for three years and won three sectional championships.
- Majored in physical education at the College of the Pacific. During this time he did numerous exhibitions to promote the sport of swimming.
- 1943 - Graduated from College of the Pacific.
- 1943 through 1946 - World War II, United States Marine Corps.
- 1946 - Hawaiian Champion and record holder in the 200 breaststroke and 300 I.M.
- 1946 - Broke the Olympic and World Record in the 200 breaststroke.
- 1946 - Swam on the U.S. National Championship 800 Free Relay Team.
- Member and President of the Hawaii Swimming Club when Coach Sakamoto's team won the National Championship by the largest score ever amassed.
- Beat the Olympic record twice in the breaststroke.
- 1946 - Pursued a Master's Degree in physical education at The University of Hawaii.
- 1947 - Successfully represented the United States in a tour of major Australian Swimming Championships; introduced the "butterfly-breaststroke" to Australia.
- 1947 - Wrote a thesis entitled "A History of the Development of Competitive Swimming in Hawaii up to 1916".
- 1947 - Moved to Louisville, Kentucky.
- 1948 - 1951 Head Coach of the Y.M.C.A. in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Coached Y.M.C.A. team to a "Southern Y Championship", turning out over 3,000 swimmers during his tenure at the Y.M.C.A. Three national records were set by his swimmers.
- 1948 through 1951 - Head Coach of the University of Louisville Swim Team. For the three years he coached at the University of Louisville, it was ranked "Best Collegiate Team in Kentucky".
- 1952 - Moved his family to Miami, Florida for three years.
- 1952 through 1955 - Served as Head Coach at the Ransom School. Coached Ransom School to a top ranking.
- 1952 through 1955 - Performed swimming and diving exhibitions at Miami hotels to promote the sport of swimming.
- Summer of 1953 - Taught swimming at Camp Cloudmount, Alabama.
- Summer of 1954 and 1955 - Head Coach at the Lakeside Swim Club in Louisville, Kentucky.
- 1956 - Became President and General Manager of the proposed Plantation Swim Club in Louisville, Kentucky - the first club of its kind east of the Mississippi.
- 1957 - Plantation Swim Club opened with a 50 meter outdoor pool and a 30 member swim team.
- 1958 through 1961 - Coached Plantation Swim Club to its first of many to follow Senior Men's State Championship. The team had grown to 125 members.
- 1961 - Swam the 110 yard breaststroke event in an exhibition at Plantation Swim Club and set a new American Record in the event at the age of 39.
- 1961 through 1962 - Served as Secretary/Treasurer of The American Swim Coaches Association.
- 1961 - Published the first monthly newsletter for ASCA - a task he began and did voluntarily for two years.
- 1961 through 1963 - American Swim Coaches Association board member.
- 1963 - Built the first convertible pool on the East Coast.

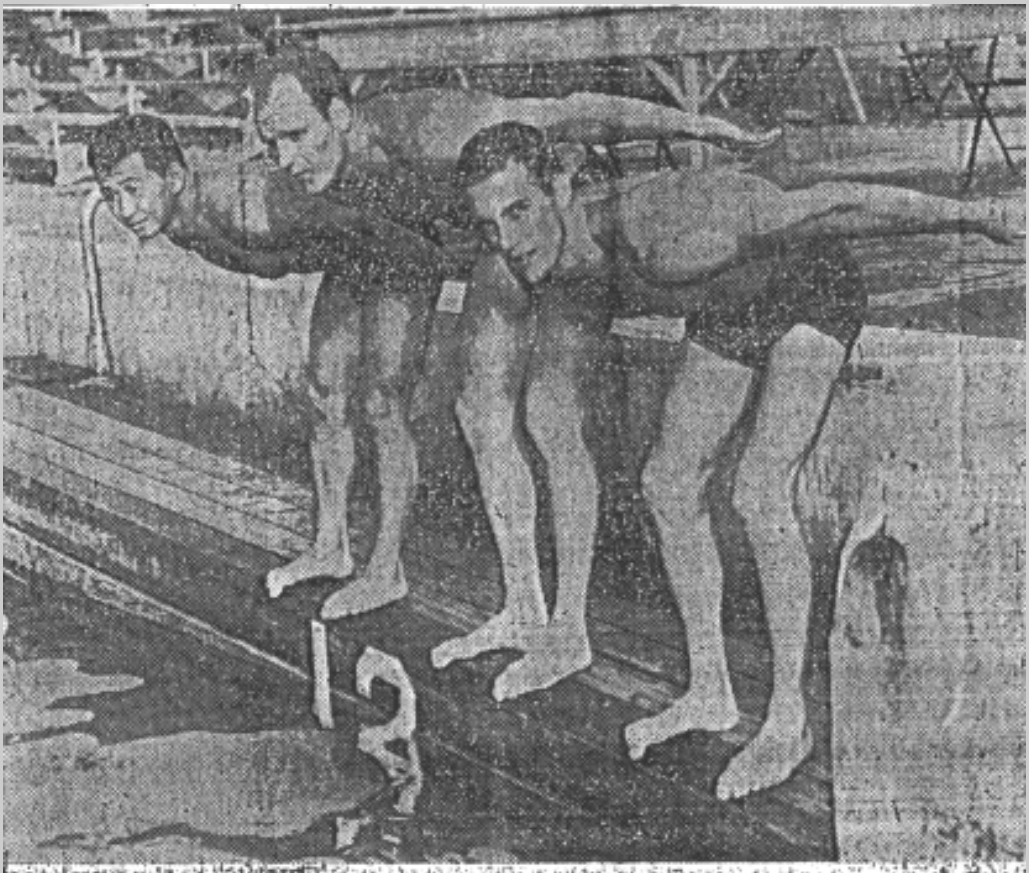
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy http://www.hawaiiswim.org/legacy/ralphwright/wright.html

Ralph R. Wright, Sr. — Born August 29, 1921, Lodi, California

- 1965 - Three Plantation swimmers represented the United States on the U.S. team which defeated the Canadian All-Star team that year.
- 1965 - Plantation swimmers set five new men's American records.
- 1965 - Plantation Swim Team had grown to over 300 swimmers. The team won championship meets in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and won the Mid-West Regional Championships.
- 1965 - 55 Plantation swimmers were given National Age Group Rankings making it one of the top teams in the country.
- 1966 - Under Coach Wright's leadership, Plantation successfully bid on the 1969 National Championships at a convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 1966 - Runner up at the Long Distance National Championship.
- 1966 - Fall of this year found Plantation swimmers on the following college teams: Indiana, Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky, Alabama, Yale, Florida State, Washington University and Villanova.
- 1966 - Plantation had]13 first place national age group rankings.
- 1966 - Plantation Swim Club had 11 qualifiers to swim at A. A. U. Nationals.
- 1966 - There were 13 individual state champions at Plantation.
- November 1, 1966 Ralph Wright tragically dies at the age of 45.
- 1966 - Ralph Wright Memorial Scholarship Fund established.
- 1969 - The Ralph Wright Memorial Swim Meets were established in Stockton, California and in Louisville, Kentucky.
- 1969 - Plantation wins Region 6 Senior Women's Championship.
- 1969 - Long Course Outdoor National Swimming and Diving Championships were held at and televised from Plantation Swim Club.

1973 - National Outdoor Long Course Swimming and Diving Championships were again held at and televised from Plantation Swim Club.



ALL AROUND SWIMMERS—One of the most gruelling races in swimming competition is the indi vidual medley, which calls for stamina as well as all-around ability. Three of the stars who'll be see in action in the 300 meter individual medley in the Keo Nakama meet at the Waikiki natatorium a pictured above. They are, left to right, Godfrey Kang of the HUSC, Jim Counsilman of Ohio Stat and Ralph Wright of the HUSC. (Advertiser photo.)

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:

$250,000 Swim Club Slated To Be Built Here

November 29, 1956

Developers Shooting For Completion By Summer

Plans for a private-enterprise, quarter-million-dollar swimming and country club here by next summer were unveiled Tuesday at the Canary Cottage.

• • •

The Club is slated to be built on a 20-acre site on Westport Road, across from Briarwood subdivision. That's about four miles from St. Matthews. It will be called the Plantation Swim Club. It will have the largest swimming pool in Jefferson County.

Jesse Bollinger and George Martin, owners of the Bollinger-Martin building firm in St. Matthews, will be the developers. They already own the land. Along with Ralph Wright they will operate the Club.

Mr. Wright, 35, of 2332 Bonnycastle, is a salesman for Bollinger-Martin. A holder of several Australian, Hawaiian and American swimming records, he has coached at Lakeside, the Metropolitan Y.M.C.A. and at the University of Louisville.

• • •

He will be president and general manager of the club.

The pool would be 210 by 85 feet with moveable bulkheads, so the length of the pool can be adjusted. That is to accommodate all championship swimming events, no matter what the length. In addition there would be an intermediate pool and a wading pool.

The development would also include a two-story clubhouse, and facilities for shuffleboard, tennis, volley ball and basketball.

There will also be a Little League Baseball diamond and a football field, in addition to picnic grounds.

An adjoining 10 acres has been given by Bollinger-Martin to the Archdiocese of Louisville for construction of a church and school, said Mr. Bollinger.

• • •

There will be seven all-weather tennis courts.

Mr. Wright said if the firm could sell 2,000 memberships within the next three months, the club would be ready by next summer.

Families wishing to join will pay an $80 initiation fee, plus $16 Federal tax. They will be issued a share of stock in the Club. The share will be transferable. It will be redeemable in five years.

Only the first 2,000 families will get a share of stock for their initiation fee. Membership will be restricted to Kentucky families.

Yearly dues are $24 for a man, $18 for his wife, $10 for the first child, $7.50 for the second, and $5 for the third. The rest of the children will be taken in free.

• • •

Mr. Wright said this would be the only pool in Jefferson County the right size for national and international swimming events other than Lakeside.

Depth of the pool will range from 3½ to 16 feet. There will be a 10-meter diving tower.

No alcoholic beverages will be sold on the premises.

The clubhouse will contain locker rooms, showers, a kitchen, a snack bar, and a 100-by-36-foot ballroom.

• • •

Members will be able to organize garden, camera, bridge and other clubs, said Mr. Wright. "We want to emulate Y.M.C.A. work on a private-enterprise basis," he said.

• • •

He said the clubhouse and the swimming pool alone would cost about $160,000. "We can build it more cheaply because we are builders ourselves," he said.

The pool can accomodate 800 people at a time "without any trouble," he said.

He said by comparison, the Crescent Hill pool is only two-thirds as big as the pool planned for the club.

As a further comparison, he said that both Louisville and Clarksville had each recently built a similar pool and clubhouse, though the pools were somewhat smaller. Louisville's cost $360,000, he said. Clarksville's cost $120,000.

• • •

Acquacades will be staged at the pool, he said, with the money going to the swim team.

The development will have its own sewage disposal plant. Zoning permits have already been obtained from the City-County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Plans for the whole development have already been completed. Blue-prints have been drawn up. The engineer is Paul Hensley.

The Bollinger-Martin firm developed, built and sold Briarwood, Thorobred Acres, and Ridgewood Estates subdivisions.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, December 6, 1956:

Swim Club President Is Champion Swimmer

The president and general manager of the proposed $250,000 Plantation Swimming Club will be 35-year-old Ralph Wright, former champion swimmer who hails from Stockton, California.

He has had such a club in mind for a long time, ever since hiss college days when he directed combination aquacades and swim meets for Stockton High School.

"We made it exciting and colorful," he said. "Before each meet, the announcer would tell the record of each contestant, and build up the suspense. He built it up to such a point that the crowd yelled as the gun went off. During the race, the announcer would tell how far off the record the swimmers were at each point, and then as they came into the final few yards of the race, the band would play. You can't imagine the color and excitement."

He plans to do the same thing here. "There'll be music, comedy, and thrills, all in one show." he said. "In Stockton, we did it for three years and raised the money to finance the high school swimming team."

The club is slated to be build on a 20-acre site on Westport Road, about four miles from St. Matthews. It would have the largest swimming pool in Jefferson County, measuring 210 by 65 feet with movable bulk-heads. There would be a two-story clubhouse, and facilities for picnics, shuffleboard, tennis, volley ball, basketball, football, and Little League Baseball.

The Club would be run on a private-enterprise basis. It would be developed by Bollinger-Martin builders, who own the land. The firm's owners, Jesse Bollinger and George Martin, would operate the club along with Mr. Wright.

They hope to have the club built by next summer.

But first they must sell memberships to 2,000 families, who each would pay an $80.00 initiation fee, plus tax. For the $80 the members also get a share of stock, redeemable in five years.

If all this can be done in three months, the Club ought to be ready to o by next summer.

"We want to have a real recreation center, complete," said Mr. Wright. "Of course, swimming will be the big thing, but there's no reason we couldn't develop tennis champions, too. We expect to have plenty of party and club activities, and I imagine the women will organize garden and bridge clubs, and have dances."

We hope to develop some record-breaking swim champions. "There are so many kids swimming now, it's tremendous if you develop a champion," he said. "Of course, it takes year-round swimming, and we won't have that. We'll substitute different physical activities during cold weather so we won't fall too far behind."

Mr. Wright is a swimming champion himself. In 1946, he won the 200-meter butterfly and the 300-meter individual medley championship in Hawaii. The next year he did the same thing, both in Hawaii and Australia.

Also in 1946 in Hawaii he broke the Olympic games record time for the 200-meter breast stroke, a record that had stood for 10 years. He was on the U.S. championship 300-meter freestyle relay team of 1948. He was president of the Hawaii Swimming Club when it won the national team championship by the largest score ever amassed. That was also in 1948.

He attended grade and high school in Stockton and majored in physical education at the College of the Pacific. He spent three years in the Marines during World War II and was a First Lieutenant. He worked 1 1/2 years on his master's in education at the University of Hawaii.

Coming to Louisville in 1948, he was swimming coach at the downtown Y.M.C.A. four years, and also coached at the University of Louisville. Then he went to Miami where he taught two year in a private boys school and was head football and swim coach. Back in Louisville he was swim coach at Lakeside two years.

Bollinger-Martin had an idea for building a small club to help sell one of their subdivision. He sold them on the idea of a big club.

He had first got the idea himself while at the College of the Pacific. He had sold stock, had plans drawn up and was generally ready to go when World War II broke out and put an end to all non-essential building. Twice he has fought to build her, but negotiations broke down.

One of the Bollinger family, Jim, was his sergeant at Quantico, VA, in Marine Corps days. He met and married Jim's sister Violet, who is also the sister of Jesse Bollinger. They have four children, Susan, 10, Ralph, Jr. 9, Alice, 6, and ?????, 3. They live at 2332 Bonnycastle.

Last year, Mr. Wright taught at Louisville Country Day School while working on the project. A zoning battle has held it up for a year. Downstream neighbors objected to dumping the sewage water form the club into a nearby creek.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plantation Swim Club**

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, December 6, 1956:

BOLLINGER-MARTIN, Inc.

INVITES YOU TO JOIN

The Exclusive

PLANTATION SWIM CLUB

IN DESIRABLE ST. MATTHEWS On WESTPORT RD. — 1 Mile Beyond Herr Lane

Louisville's FIRST Private Recreational Club
That Every Family Can Afford

FEATURING

Kentucky's Largest and Finest Filtered Pool

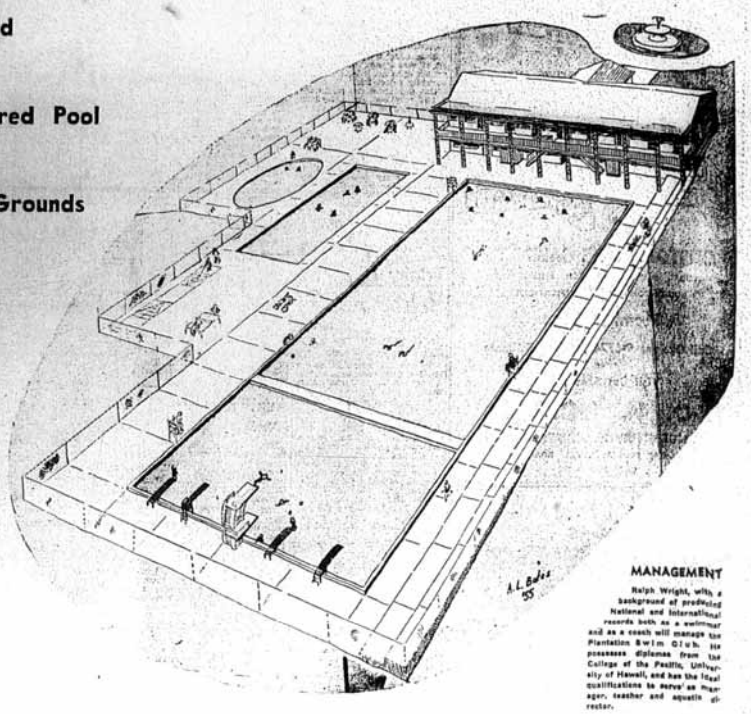
TO BE LOCATED ON

20 Acres of Beautifully Landscaped Grounds

★ 7 TENNIS COURTS

- ★ CLUB HOUSE WITH PATIO
- ★ OLYMPIC SWIM POOL
- ★ 10 METER DIVING TOWER
- ★ KIDDIES' POOLS
- ★ BASKETBALL & VOLLYBALL
- ★ FOOTBALL & SOCCER FIELD
- ★ HANDBALL COURTS
- ★ BASEBALL DIAMONDS
- ★ BADMINTON COURTS
- ★ AMPLE PARKING
- ★ PLANNED RECREATION
- ★ TOT LOT, PICNIC AREAS
- ★ SWIMMING TEAMS
- ★ AQUATIC SHOWS & BALLETS
- ★ FREE TEAM INSTRUCTION
- ★ COMPETITIVE TEAM SPORTS
- ★ DANCING
- ★ WOMEN'S CLUB ACTIVITIES
- ★ TEEN-AGE CLUB PROGRAMS
- ★ INSTRUCTION IN SWIMMING, TENNIS and other ACTIVITIES

...The Plantation Club is endorsed by leading Louisville Citizens in sports, education and recreation.



MANAGEMENT

Ralph Wright, with a background of producing National and International records both as a swimmer and as a coach will manage the Plantation Swim Club. He possesses diplomas from the College of the Pacific, University of Hawaii, and has the ideal qualifications to serve as manager, teacher and aquatic director.

ENTRANCE FEES

The first 2,000 members will be made charter members and eligible for special privileges.

FAMILY ..... $80.00 plus 16.00 Fed. tax)
INDIVIDUALS ..... (Same as above)

ANNUAL DUES

FAMILY PLAN

Father	$20.00 plus 4.00 Fed. tax
Mother	$15.00 plus 3.00 Fed. tax
First Child	$10.00
Second Child	7.50
Third Child	5.00
All Other Children	Free
Individuals	$20.00 plus 4.00 Fed. tax

MEMBERSHIPS ARE NON-ASSESSABLE

NOTE—Open only to residents of Kentucky. The right to refuse application is reserved.

"A Christmas Gift For The Family That Will Last For Years".

JOIN NOW!

—FOR INFORMATION—

Phone or Write

JU. 3-8874 — JU. 3-5518
Plantation Swim Club
131 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville 7, Ky.

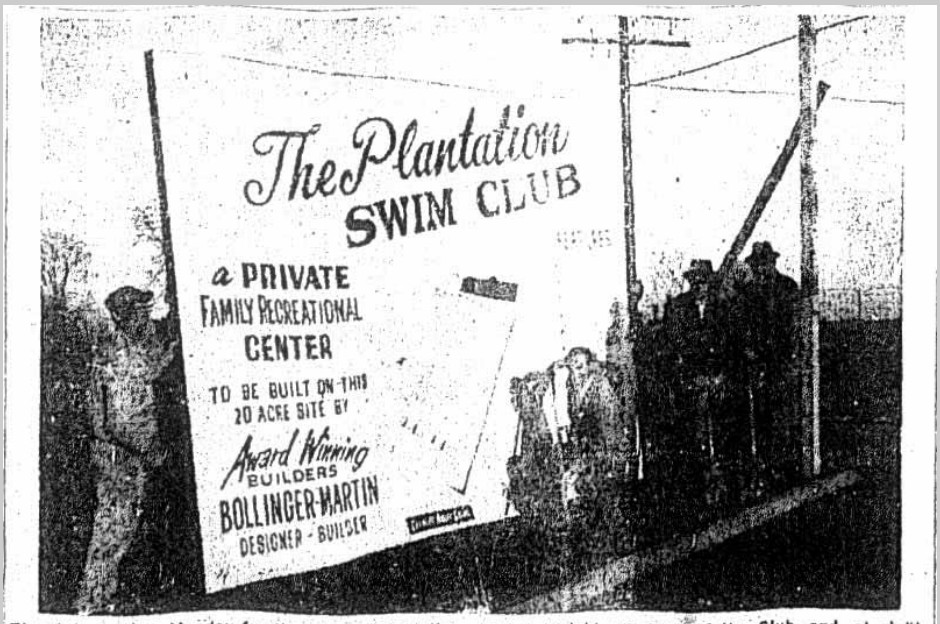
TO BE BUILT BY

BOLLINGER-MARTIN, Inc.

Award Winning Builders

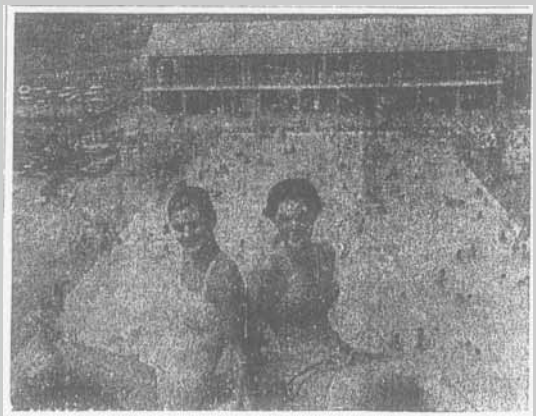
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:



The sign went up Monday for the 20-acre Plantation Swim Club on Westport Road, and the bull-dozers went to work carving out a road. Helping sign man Charlie Rueff, at left, with his work are, center, Ralph Wright, manager of the Club, and, at right, George Martin and Jess Bollinger, developers. The club will cost $250,000. The developers hope to have it ready next summer.

December 13, 1956



More than a thousand people were at the newly-opened Plantation Swim Club on Westport Road Sunday. This picture from the lower stairs Cathy Martin, left, 416 Fairlawn Road, and Mary Ann Brown, of 1295 Willow Ave. In back is the club house and at the upper left is the verandah. The club opened last week.

August 1, 1957

Editorial:

Plantation's swimming performance incredible

The performance of the Plantation swimming team last week was incredible. The Plantation Swim Club is only 13 months old, and last week, the swimming team, in its first try, not only won the Kentucky A.A.U. men's championship in swimming and diving, but also defeated Lakeside 365 to 326 on an overall team basis.

Lakeside had been the undisputed swimming champion in these parts for so long that many swimming fans had given up all hope that the Highlanders could ever be beaten.

Ralph Wright, Plantation's coach, told us last year when he was organizing the team, that he was out to beat Lakeside. We laughed and advised him to go after the smaller clubs and let the champ go for a while — say 10 years. Being wilful and stubborn, Ralph disregarded our sage advice, with the result that his men's team is now the State champ.

Well, Ralph's a good coach and he deserves a lot of credit, along with the swimmers who practiced so hard and the parents who put up with the inconvenience and helped to raise the necessary money.

We were just thinking. St. Matthews this year won the Little League State championship and the American Legion League State championship in baseball, and now a St. Matthews team has won the State swimming championship. It looks as if the East End is becoming an athletic powerhouse.

Looking over the results of their upset victory over Lakeside, Plantation Club swimmers gather around coach Ralph Wright. Left to right are Peggy Leahy, 16, Steve Peskoe, 15, and Judy Dillon, 16.

September 4, 1958

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plantation Swim Club**

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:

Plantation, River Road Clubs established

July 16, 1959

Plantation is a $250,000 swim club, located on a 20-acre site on Westport Road, four miles from St. Matthews. It boasts the largest pool in Jefferson County, 210 by 65 feet. The club also has tennis courts, a two-story clubhouse, a ten meter (33 feet) diving tower, a wading pool, shuffleboard, volley ball, and basketball courts. No alcohol is allowed.

• • •

The first 2,000 members received a share of stock in the Club. Membership fees are $24 for a man, $18 for his wife, $10 for the first child, $7.50 for the next one, $5 for the third, and the rest of the children, if any, are free. Initiation fee is $96.

• • •

The club first opened in July 1957, and held its first annual Aquacade in 1958. In September, 1958, Plantation beat Lakeside, the hitherto undisputed swim champs of the area, and won the Kentucky A.A.U. men's championship in swimming and diving. They broke five state and six meet records.

• • •

At this year's gigantic Aquacade, three world and six national marks were set, by swimmers from all over the country. Money earned from the Aquacade goes to the swimming team.

Ralph Wright is the president and general manager of the club.

• • •

River Road was organized in 1952 by John E. Pearce as a "poor man's country club". The members themselves renovated the old Standard Country Club, but dues and membership fees spiraled with every improvement, proving there is no such thing as a poor man's country club.

The club has an annual Invitational Golf Tournament every August, an annual Fourth of July Club Anniversary barbecue, and an annual carnival.

• • •

The club and golf course are situated on 44 acres of land on River Road. A fatal shooting occurred there in 1955, when the night watchman was killed. The club opened with 608 adult members, and 580 children.

• • •

The Standard Country Club was originally a purely social club, instead of a country club. It was located at Fifth Street for 36 years, before moving to 648 S. Third in 1909. In 1913, the club was again moved — to 1000 South Third. In 1924, it leased the Louisville Water Company property at River Road and Zorn Avenue, where it remained until 1952, when it sold out to River Road Country Club. Its present site is between Old Brownsboro Road and Westport. Located on 160 acres, it had a nine-hole golf course, a pool and a well-stocked fishing lake.

Giant 'bubble' slated to be erected over Plantation pool

May 19, 1960

Would permit year-round sun-baths, swimming

Plantation Swim Club will be a year-round swim club if manager Ralph Wright has his way.

• • •

Mr. Wright Tuesday announced plans to install a tremendous plastic, air-supported solarium over the club's outdoor swimming pool so families can swim and sun bathe there all year long.

"It will be the largest indoor pool in America," said the enthusiastic Mr. Wright, who in less than three years has developed a swimming team at Plantation so strong that it is challenging Lakeside for the title of Kentucky champion.

The "bubble," as Mr. Wright calls it, will be about 50 feet high, 250 feet long and 90 feet wide—large enough to cover the club's 210 by 65 foot outdoor pool, plus the sidewalks and the diving tower around the pool.

Forty-seven heaters mounted 14 to 16 feet high will radiant heat the sidewalks. To give the club a Florida-like atmosphere, Mr. Wright said he will plant palm trees around the pool.

• • •

But whether the club carries out the plan depends on the membership. About 1,000 of Plantation's 1,600 families will have to signify that they want the new $80,000 facility — and are willing to help pay for it—before it will be installed.

Here's the way it works:

Plantation's members can either buy a regular or a full membership in the Club. Regular membership entitles them to use of the club all year round and to use of the pool June 1 through Sept. 30 only.

Full members will be entitled to use the pool all year long, except for October, when it will be closed for maintenance.

• • •

A full membership will cost twice as much as a regular membership. Plantation's regular membership dues range from $30 a year for a single person to $80 for a family of five or more.

The club this week mailed literature and pledge cards to all members.

"Our members will be able to enjoy recreational swimming indoors in heated comfort while watching snow sports on the outside," Mr. Wright said.

• • •

He said he looks forward to having winter water shows, swim meets and water ballets, and to giving a full year's training to his swim team, which has broken two national records and twice won the Men's Kentucky outdoor Swimming Championships.

He said also he plans to start a health club for all ages so members can build up their bodies.

The "bubble" will be removed during the summer.

Mr. Wright said the membership's pledge cards would be used to secure financing for the "bubble." He said he hopes to hear from the entire membership by June 1.

He announced, too, that the pool will open for the summer tomorrow at 1 p.m.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plantation Swim Club**

Courtesy Pamela L. Flack Key (62):

THE *Plantation* SWIM CLUB

8609 Westport Road - Louisville 7, Ky.
TWinbrook 5-9435
RALPH WRIGHT, *President and General Manager*

STATEMENT

June 26 '60

To:- Gilbert Flack
7002 Bedford
Lou 7 Ky

For:- Family dues for 3 from
6-1-60 to 6-1-61

Amount due and payable now: $ 60.00

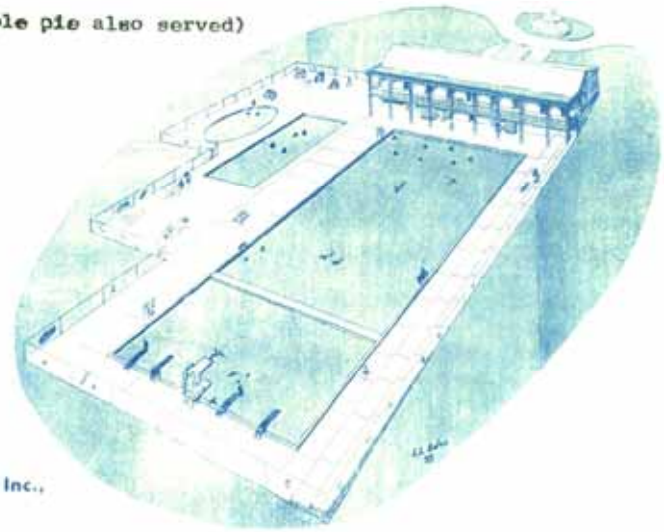
Make checks payable to: Plantation Swim Club
8609 Westport Road
Louisville 7, Ky.

Eat dinner at your club Saturday nights

STEAK or CHICKEN dinner $1.50

(sour cream apple pie also served)

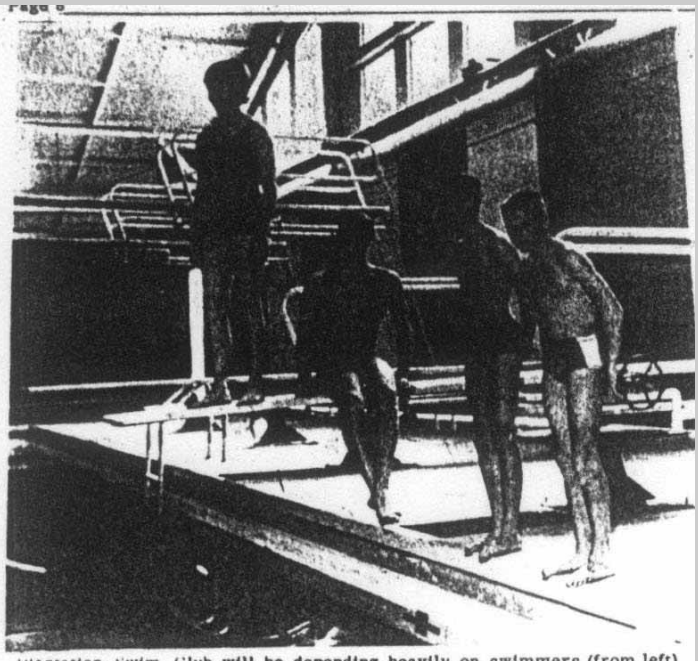
P.S. We have increased our activities this summer by hiring Betty Kaelin as a program director.



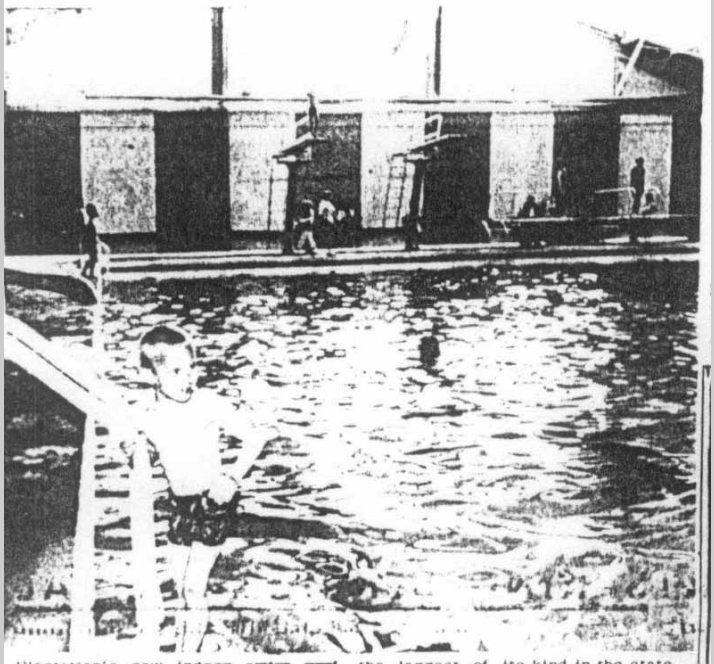
Built and Developed by Bollinger-Martin, Inc., award winning builders

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:



Plantation Swim Club will be depending heavily on swimmers (from left) Jean Henderson, Bob Hartye, Franke Hartye and Sonny Wright in a national swim meet scheduled at the club's new indoor pool April 26-27.



Plantation's new indoor swim pool, the largest of its kind in the state, all but went begging for swimmers Sunday when it opened the first time. The reason: mechanical difficulties caused delay in providing warm water. Here Jeffery Manion, 6, of 2210 Wynnewood Circle tries to gain enough courage to make a plunge. He made it.

Plantation to host National Swim meet in new pool

Plantation Swim Club will host the Plantation Open Senior Invitational swimming meet on April 27 and 28 in the new indoor pool. Featured will be the Men's National Junior 1650-yard free style and the girls National Junior 50 - yard freestyle.

Plantation will have between 60 and 70 entries. Other clubs entered so far are Lakeside and Lexington.

Jean Henderson, 16, is Plantation's top girl entry in the National Junior Girls 50-yard freestyle. She specializes in the 100 and 200 yard freestyle and holds the state outdoor record in both. She is a junior at Waggener High School.

Bob Hartye, 15, specializes in the 100, 200, and 400 freestyle. He holds the state High School record in the 200 yard freestyle. He is a sophomore at Trinity High School.

Frank Hartye, 14 and a Freshman at Trinity High School, holds the top record in the state 13-14 age group. He holds the state AAU record in 100 and 200 freestyle in this age group, and holds the state record in the 200 individual medley.

Sonny Wright, 15, a sophomore at Trinity High School, specializes in the 400 yard freestyle and the 200 yard butterfly.

The meet will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 26 with the Mens National event plus open diving. The remaining events will be on Saturday starting with the trials at 9 a.m. and the finals starting at 5:30 p.m.

April 18, 1963

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:

"Your club will be the envy of the nation"
Dick Fatterman
Former National Champion

"Exceeds ours"
Prince Ranier of Monaco

"Finest I've ever seen"
Jack Kelly of Philadelphia
Olympic Champion

"A terrific layout"
Vincent Edwards
TV's Dr. Ben Casey and
former swim star

"An asset to the state"
Gov. Combs.

Plantation Swim Club

"The Cadillac of The Swim Clubs"

Steam rooms, tennis courts, club house, beautiful grounds and states largest and finest pools . . . plus complete year round program of events.

8609 Westport Rd. 425-2535

Phone us for "FREE" look-see swim ticket

June 13, 1963

Plantation
Country Club

now offers more YEAR 'ROUND FUN to you and your family!

- Kentucky's largest outdoor pool, 65'x 210'
- Kentucky's largest indoor pool, 60'x75' (This pool is convertible, and in the summer it is reserved primarily for adults)
- Wading pools
- Beautiful Southern cocktail lounge, grill, and ballroom
- Steam rooms • Picnic grounds
- 9-hole par three golf course
- Lighted tennis courts
- Lounges with sun lamps

COMPLETE RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL PROGRAM for all ages—including teen dances, adult dances, and story telling for the little ones.

JOIN NOW!
Here's all you pay:
to April 1, 1965

Size of Family	Dues	Entrance Fee	Cash Discount	Total Cost
1	$43.75	$45.00	$5.00	$ 83.75
2	$55.44	$45.00	$5.00	$ 95.44
3	$61.25	$45.00	$5.00	$101.25
4	$67.13	$45.00	$5.00	$107.13
5	$72.94	$45.00	$5.00	$112.94

For your convenience, family memberships can be financed over 7 months.

Plantation
Country Club
"The Club of Champions"
Phone 425-3533

8609 WESTPORT ROAD

Ralph Wright, President and General Manager

All memberships must be approved by club membership committee.

August 27, 1964

ANN O UNCING!!!

Par Three GOLF

AND SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP PRICE $50

Not only are we building a beautiful rolling Par Three golf course (to be ready in late spring) but we also are having a special rate on memberships.

Join Now!

and save the $96.00 entrance fee

Yes, during November you can join & be paid up to April 1 - 1964 and enjoy

INDOOR Swimming-Steam Bathing

Tennis-Dances-Ladies Days

READ WHAT OUTSTANDING PERSONALITIES HAVE SAID ABOUT PLANTATION'S NEW CONVERTIBLE POOL & GOLF COURSE

"Plantation Swim Club's unique new pool is a credit to community and a definite asset to the State of Kentucky. My sincere congratulations to the membership".
Gov. Bert Combs

"Really nice, Ralph - a terrific layout. If I get anywhere near Louisville I'm coming there to enjoy it."
Vince Edwards TV's Ben Casey on a long distance call from Hollywood

"With your pool and now the new Par Three Golf Course, believe me, your club surpasses all other swim clubs"
Hobie Billingsley
Indiana Universities
Nationally Famous Diving Coach

"What a lovely club. We built a huge pool in Monaco, but it doesn't have the extra advantages of your club".
Prince Ranier
of Monaco

Monthly Payment Plan Available

Remember, this offer is good only during the month of November after which time the entrance fee will again be required.

Phone us now at
425-Twenty Five Thirty Five For Details

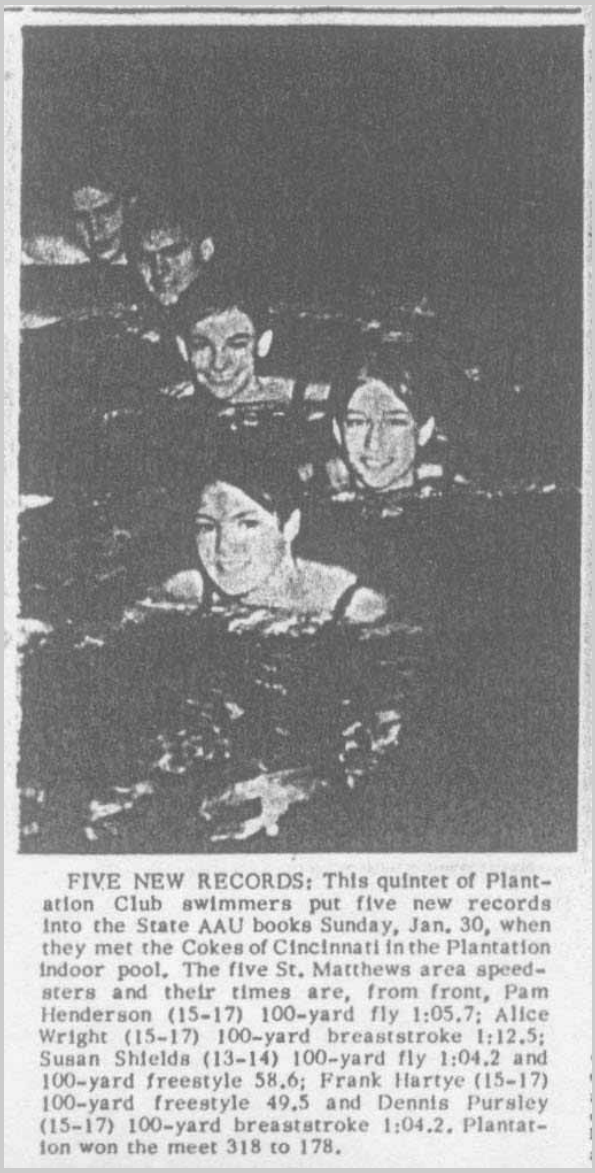
PLANTATION SWIM CLUB
8609 WESTPORT ROAD

October 31, 1963

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

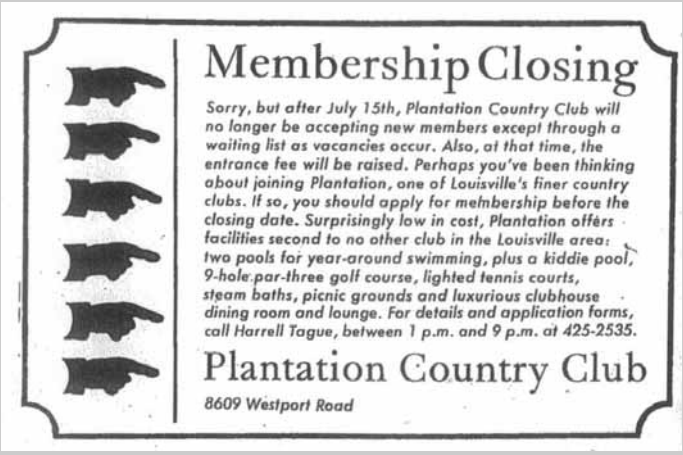
Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*:

November 5, 1964



FIVE NEW RECORDS: This quintet of Plantation Club swimmers put five new records into the State AAU books Sunday, Jan. 30, when they met the Cokes of Cincinnati in the Plantation indoor pool. The five St. Matthews area speedsters and their times are, from front, Pam Henderson (15-17) 100-yard fly 1:05.7; Alice Wright (15-17) 100-yard breaststroke 1:12.5; Susan Shields (13-14) 100-yard fly 1:04.2 and 100-yard freestyle 58.6; Frank Hartye (15-17) 100-yard freestyle 49.5 and Dennis Pursley (15-17) 100-yard breaststroke 1:04.2. Plantation won the meet 318 to 178.

February 10, 1966



July 7, 1966

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews* & The Voice-Jeffersonian:

Police say they have promising leads in Ralph Wright murder case

County detectives told The Voice-Jeffersonian Tuesday that they have uncovered some promising leads in last week's murder of Ralph R. Wright, Plantation Country Club president.

Wright's body was found Sunday on the banks of a Shelby County stream by Orva Wayne, Route 5, Shelbyville. The body had two bullet wounds in the head.

His bloodstained car was found Monday in the 1800 block of Hampden Court, which runs off Speed Avenue near the Bardstown Road.

Police did not give details on the "promising leads" in the case. But apparently the leads are connected with evidence found in an examination of the car, which was virtually dismantled by detectives.

Sent to F. B. I.

Packages of evidence have been sent to an F.B.I. laboratory for examination.

A small pool of blood was found on the floor behind the driver's seat and a pair of glasses and a ballpoint pen were in the blood. Residents of Hampden Court said the car, a 1964 station wagon, had been parked there since at least 7:45 a.m. Wednesday. Wright's wife reported him missing last Thursday.

Discovery of the body Sunday touched off an intensive investigation throughout Jefferson and Shelby Counties. Investigations are being carried on jointly by city, county, and state police. Maj. A. J. Miller is in charge of the case for the county.

A team of state police combed the site where Wright's body was found about 20 yards from a bridge on Ky. 148, a mile east of Finchville, a few yards downstream from a small dam.

No wallet, keys, or money were found on the body. Wright's jacket was sent to a laboratory to be tested for

Ralph Wright

powder burns. Dr. K.E. Ellis, Shelby County coroner, and Dr. Howard Dehaven, a pathologist from Jewish Hospital, performed an autopsy, but Ellis said it did not reveal the time of death.

Wright, a widely known swimming coach and former champion, was one of the three owners of Plantation Country Club. Only two months ago he saw a long-time dream become a reality when his club swimmers scored a sweep of championships.

Wright, had been manager of Plantation since it was built in 1957. But his first love was swimming and developing champions. He had a thirst for victory and saw little good-if any in losing. One of his proudest moments came when [illegible] manager of Louisville, while he was serving in the Marine Corps and they returned to Kentucky in 1948.

a son, Ralph, Jr., known as Sonny, was offered a swimming scholarship at the University of Alabama where he is now a sophomore.

Wright started his son off at an early age, as he did all his swimmers, teaching them the fundamentals and the desire to win.

"Not everyone can make the Olympics," he used to say, "but everyone can set high [illegible] and then work to attain them."

From California

A native of Lodi, Cal., Wright became an All-American prep swimmer in the breast-stroke in 1939 and again in 1940. While a student at Stockton Junior College, he coached a winning high school team in his spare time. He met his wife, the former Violet Bol-

When his teams swept the state honors this summer, the coaches at Lakeside were the first to praise Wright and admit that Plantation had become the power in swimming. Lakeside had dominated the sport until Wright started the new club.

[illegible] his family at 2500 Colonial Drive, a short distance from the club which he managed.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Douglas and Ralph, Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. Sue Wright Pryor and Mary and Alice Wright; a grandson; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fenton E. Wright, Stockton, Cal., and four brothers, Wilbur, Kenneth, Earl, and Stanley Wright, all of California.

November 10, 1966

Two re-indicted in Wright case

Two men were re-indicted Tuesday by the Grand Jury on charges of murder in the slaying November 1 of Ralph R. Wright, former president and general manager of Plantation Country Club.

The legality of the original indictment had been challenged.

Indicted again were August Robert Meyer, 47, of 2514 Cottonwood Drive, and Julius R. Mathis, 25, who formerly lived at 268 Derby, Buechel.

The November Grand Jury which originally indicted the two men, had been sworn in by attorney Brent Overstreet who was serving as a special judge of Criminal Court.

His right to serve was challenged by Mathis' attorney because of the method of his election, and also was questioned by the Court of Appeals.

Commonwealth Attorney Edwin A. Schoering asked for the re-indictment.

December 15, 1966

Two suspects indicted in Wright murder case

Two suspects have been indicted by a Jefferson County grand jury in the murder of Ralph Wright, Plantation Country Club manager.

August R. Meyer,, 47, was arrested Saturday and Julius R. Mathis, 25, formerly of 268 Derby in the Buechel area, was arrested by the FBI Monday night in Birmingham, Ala.

Mathis, who worked for a Hikes Point car wash, declined to discuss the case but said he would return voluntarily to Louisville.

Meyer, 2514 Cottonwood Drive, a Hikes Point paint store manager, is a volunteer marshall of the City of Plantation and lives about three blocks from the Wright home.

He was arrested after his automobile was tested [illegible] police in Frankfort. He pleaded innocent in Quarterly Court and Judge Robert Fleming set his bond at $15,000.

County police believe Wright was shot in the club's parking lot the night of November 1 and his body transported later in his own station wagon to a creek bank in Shelby County, where it was found. Wright, 44, was a former swimming star and coach of Plantation's swimming team. He was missing for five days before his body was discovered.

Mathis was arrested on a federal warrant charging him with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution and was arraigned Tuesday before a U.S. commissioner in Birmingham. Three county detectives will go there to pick him up.

Meyer and Mathis then will be arraigned before Criminal Court Judge J. Miles Pound, who will take their pleas, set bond, and fix a tentative trial date.

November 17, 1966

Owens named manager of Plantation Club

The stockholders of Plantation Country Club, 8609 Westport Road, have appointed George W. Owens, Jr. general manager of the club.

Owens, who formerly managed Plantation's dining room and lounge and served as golf pro and assistant manager, succeeds Ralph Wright whose death occurred Nov. 1.

The 27-year-old Owens is a native Louisvillian who attended St. Xavier High School and Bellarmine College. In 1960, Owens turned to professional golf as a career. He served as a club pro assistant at Winton Woods Country Club, Cincinnati; Tates Creek Country Club, Lexington, and Campbellsville Country Club. Campbellsville, Ky. He was later named manager of the Campbellsville Club.

In his new capacity, Owens will generally supervise the operation of all club facilities and activities. He lives with his wife, the former Pamela Anne Bennett of Lexington, and their three children at 9500 Tiverton Way in Bowling Hills Subdivision.

Owens is also the president-elect of the newly formed Lyndon Optimist Club, president of Plantation Athletic Club, secretary of the Bollinger-Larrick Corporation and assistant secretary of Plantation Country Club.

December 8, 1966

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

2. Plantation president slain

Ralph R. Wright, Plantation Country Club president, was found slain Sunday, November 6, on the banks of a Shelby County stream.

The body had two bullet wounds in the chest and deep head cuts.

Charged with the murder were August R. Meyer, 47, and Julius R. Mathis, 25.

County police believe Wright was shot in the club's parking lot the night of November 1 and his body transported later in his own station wagon to the creek bank, in Shelby County.

Wright, a widely known swimming coach and former champion, was one of the three owners of Plantation Country Club.

Wright had been manager of Plantation since it was built in 1957.

December 29, 1966

Jury finds Meyer, Mathis guilty in Wright slaying

Continued from page A-1

Ben Pace.

Pace said that Mathis made an oral confession to him and Detectives James Barber and Robert Stine.

Pace gave this account of Mathis' alleged statement:

Mathis worked in a car wash across Hunsinger Lane from the paint store that Meyer managed.

The two became friends during the summer of last year. Meyer took Mathis as his guest to the Plantation Country Club several times, Pace testified.

Mathis said he knew Meyer disliked Wright and "if something would happen to Wright," Meyer would become manager of the club and Mathis would become foreman, Pace testified.

The plot began as a joke, according to Pace, but the more Meyer and Mathis talked about it, the more Mathis realized that Meyer wanted to kill Wright.

On the night of the slaying, (Nov. 1, 1966,) Pace testified, Mathis met Meyer in the country club's parking lot and waited in Meyer's car for Wright to leave the club.

About 9:30 pm, Pace said, Wright came out, Meyer drove up and asked him to get in. It was raining and Wright got into the car, Pace said Mathis told him.

According to his testimony, at a pre-arranged signal, Mathis was supposed to hit Wright over the head with a chain wrapped in plastic tape and Meyer was then to shoot Wright with a 25-caliber pistol.

"Mathis said he froze up," said Pace. "Meyer then fired the gun twice, then Mathis said he blacked out and was not sure what happened after."

Mathis said, Pace testified, that they transferred Wright's body from Meyer's car to Wright's car in the parking lot of the Kentucky Military Institute on LaGrange Road. The two parted company, Pace said.

Mathis drove Wright's car until he found a small bridge, where he dumped Wright's body on a creek bank, Pace said. Mathis drove back to Louisville, parked Wright's car when he "saw a good place to leave it," and walked to his home in Buechel, Pace testified.

Similar testimony was given by Detectives Barber and Stine.

Barber also said that Meyer freely told police how he killed Wright and what he did with the murder weapon.

Defense attorneys maintained that the alleged oral confessions were not admissable as evidence. They also maintained that they had received no copies of the alleged confessions.

In his closing statement, Ousley said to the jury: "By your verdict, tell the people of this community that what we've heard the last three days will not be tolerated."

Frank E. Haddad, Meyer's attorney, made a low-key appeal to the jury.

"I feel as sorry as I can for the widow in this case, but killing this man (Meyer) is not going to bring Mr. Wright back," Haddad said.

Although a plea of insanity was not entered in the case, Haddad made an indirect plea to consider the possibility.

During the trial Judge J. Miles Pound overuled numerous attempts by defense attorneys to get the case dismissed.

May 18, 1966

Jury says 2 guilty of murder

After almost two hours of deliberation Monday night, a Jefferson County Criminal Court jury found August R. Meyer and Julius R. Mathis guilty of murdering Ralph Wright, Plantation Club president and manager.

The jury, composed of 10 men and two women, recommended death in the electric chair for Meyer, 47, and life in imprisonment in the penitentiary for Mathis, 25.

Attorneys for the two filed motions for a new trial.

If a new trail is denied, the defense, attorneys can appeal to the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

The jury reached its verdict about 10:30 pm Monday after three days of hearing testimony.

The trail had been underway four days but the first day, last Thursday, was spent selecting the jury.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Carl Ousley, who handled the prosecution, based his case on oral confessions which he claimed were made by Meyer and Mathis.

Chief witness

Ousley also relied heavily on the testimony of detectives who reportedly obtained such confessions.

Police say the shooting of Wright took place outside the country club, 8609 Westport Road, on the night of Nov. 1. His body, with two bullet wounds in the chest, and three wounds on the head, was found on a creek bank in Shelby County five days after he disappeared.

A chief witness for the prosecution was County Detective

Continued to page A-11

May 18, 1967

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plantation Swim Club**

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

Susie Shields, Alice Wright lead Plantation team to Region 6 crown

BY DAVID WITTRY

Record - breaking performances by Alice Wright and Susie Shields helped lead the Plantation women's team to a convincing victory at the Region 6 meet at Bloomington, Ind.

Swimmers from five states and 46 teams vied for the men's and women's crowns in what is one of the nation's toughest regional meets.

The girls practically walked away with the title, collecting 464 points to second place Indianapolis Riviera's 273-1/2.

The men's team found the going a little rougher, placing fourth with 227 1/2 points.

The Indiana Aquatic Club won the men's division with 542, trailed by Lake Erie Swim Club with 339 and Lake Forest of Chicago with 249.

Highlighting the meet were the victories by Wright and Shields in the 100 meter breaststroke and 100 meter butterfly respectively which earned the swimmers and expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to represent Region 6 in the Junior Olympics. The meet will be held in late August.

Miss Shields won her specialty in 1:07.9, while Alice was clocked in 1:18.8. Both bettered the existing Region 6 records and also the standing Kentucky AAU standards.

Miss Shields was the outstanding member of the women's team. In the three day meet, she placed fifth in the 100 meter freestyle, fifth in the 200 meter butterfly, and second in the 200 meter individual medley.

Alice found the going a little tougher in the 200 meter breaststroke and placed second behind the girl she had touched out for her victory in the 100.

Kathy Wyatt and Pammy Henderson were the only other women to place in the top eight finishers in the meet. Kathy, only 14, years old, finished fourth in the 1,500 swim and eighth in the 400 meter event. Pammy finished right behind Susie in the 200 butterfly in sixth place.

SUSIE SHIELDS

ALICE WRIGHT

Large margin

The large margin between the first and second place team in the women's competition came from the efforts of the diving team, under coach Bob Long.

In the one meter board, Plantation captured seven of the 16 places, while in the three meter it captured two of the top eight. In platform diving, the team did even better, taking second, fifth, seventh and eighth. Mainly responsible for the high finishes were high school All-American in diving, Barby Barrows, and Debbie Brown.

In the men's competition, Sonny Wright captured two gold medals, as he won both the 200 and 400 meter individual medley. His time of 5:07.2 in the 400 and 2:20.9 in the 200 were both meet records. Because he is a senior swimmer, though, he can not qualify for the junior olympics meet.

The only other member of the men's team to finish in the top eight was Dennie Pursley who captured fifth place in both the 100 and 200 meter breaststrokes.

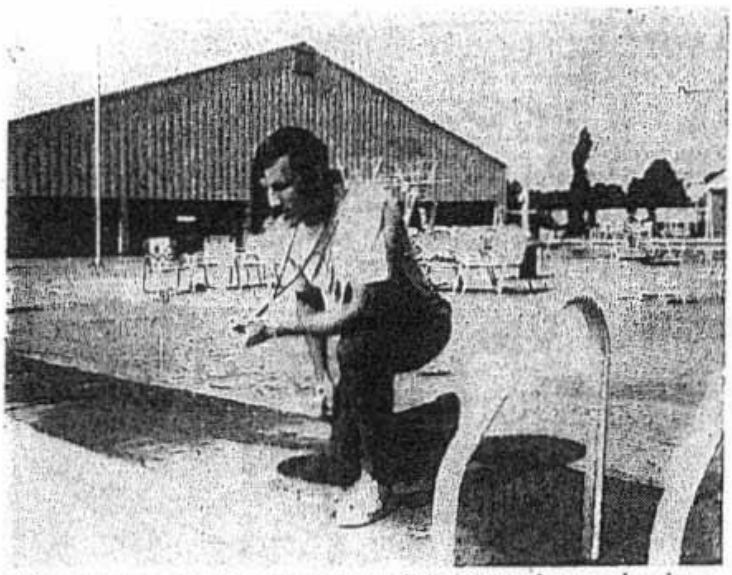
The billing of this region as one of the nation's top events can be seen especially in the 100 meter breaststroke where 11 swimmers made the national cut-off time. There are twelve regions in the United States, but only 25 or 30 swimmers are expected to make the cut-off time in each stroke.

Mike Pocock and Bob Wilson each won his heat of the consolation finals (9th to 16th place) in the 200 butterfly and the 200 backstroke respectively.

August 3, 1967

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:



BOB HARTYE, former Plantation and Trinity swimmer, has been named an assistant swim coach at Plantation Country Club. Hartye will teach at Ballard next fall.

Plantation Country Club hires two new assistant swim coaches

Plantation Country Club has two new full time assistant swimming coaches, Bob Hartye and Pam Smith.

Hartye swam for the Plantation Swim Team for 11 years and has been captain of Plantation, Trinity High School and Villanova University swim teams. Bob was a national age-group record holder, and high school state champion.

He also was valedictorian at Trinity High and received a four-year academic scholarship to Villanova University, where he recently graduated.

Next September, Hartye will teach mathematics at Ballard High and continue as an assistant at PCC.

Pam Smith, home for the summer from the University of Indiana where she is a senior, is the other new Plantation assistant.

She began competitive swimming with the Glass City Aquatic Club in Toledo at age 11. Later her family moved to Evansville, Ind., where she swam against Plantation for the Evansville YMCA team. Her father was the coach of the Evansville squad for the seven years she swam there.

She set numerous records in Indiana state high school meets and was listed among the top 10 in the breaststroke and the individual medley in a national swimming magazine.

July 10, 1969

PAM SMITH, a senior at the University of Indiana, will serve as an assistant swim coach at Plantation this summer. She swam for Evansville "Y" for seven years.

July 10, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

FLOOD OF ENTRIES

National swim stars here for big splash

By Joseph Oglesby
Editor

Plantation Country Club was virtually flooded over the weekend with entries for the 1969 National AAU Swimming and Diving Championships to be held there Aug. 8-17.

Entrants included:

* Debbie Meyer, 16, of Arden Hills, Calif.

Debbie was a triple gold medal winner in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City. She set records in the women's 200, 400 and 800 meter freestyle events. Debbie also holds five American and world records, one each in the women's 200, 400 and 800 meter freestyle, the 880 yard freestyle and the 1500 meter freestyle.

* Mark Spitz, 19, of Santa Clara, Calif. Mike is a National AAU champion and American and world record holder in the 100 and 200 meter butterfly and the 100 and 200 meter freestyle. While participating with the U. S. Olympic team in Mexico last year, he won a silver medal in the men's 100 meter butterfly and finished third to win a bronze medal in the 100 meter freestyle.

* Jan Henne, 22, of Santa Clara, Calif. She was Olympic gold medal winner in the women's 100 meter freestyle competition at Mexico City. She also earned a silver medal in the 200 meter freestyle and a bronze medal in the 200 meter individual medley.

* Ellie Daniel, 19, of Elkins Park, Pa. She is the American record holder in the women's 100 and 200 meter butterfly. Ellie was also a silver medal winner in the 100 meter butterfly in the Mexico City Olympics and earned a bronze medal in the 200 meter butterfly. She swims for the Vesper Boat Club of Philadelphia, Pa.

* Pam Kruse, 19, of Santa Clara, Calif. She won an Olympic silver medal in 1968 in the women's 800 meter freestyle.

* Linda Gustavson, 19, of Santa Clara, Calif. She won an Olympic bronze medal in the women's 100 meter freestyle and a silver medal in the 400 meter freestyle.

Outstanding divers who have been entered are:

* Jim Henry, 20, of Dallas, Texas. He won a silver medal in the men's 3-meter springboard event in the 1968 Mexico City Olympics. Jim is also the 1968 national 1 - meter springboard champion, and the 1968 NCAA 1-meter springboard champ.

* Dick Rydze, 19, of Pittsburg, Pa. A student at the University of Michigan, he is defending champion in the 10-meter platform event.

* Dennis Hartman, 20, of Denver, Col. Dennis finished sixth in the 3-meter springboard competition at the 1969 Indoor Nationals and won the Canadian 3-meter springboard championship in 1967 and again in 1969.

* Phil Boggs, 19, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. He is the 1969 Junior Olympic 1-meter springboard champion and is ranked fourth in 1969 NCAA 3-meter springboard competition.

* Jerrie Adair, 19, of Cypress, Calif. Jerrie is the defending champion in the women's 3-meter springboard event.

Plantation Country Club's entrants in the competition include:

* Susie Shields, Bronze medal winner at the 1968 Olympics. She is entered in the 100 meter women's butterfly and the 400 meter medley relay.

* Kathy Wyatt, entered in the women's 200 meter freestyle, the 100 meter and 200 meter backstroke, and the 400 and 800 meter freestyle relays.

* Linah Wright, entered in the women's 400 and 800 meter freestyle relays.

* Lee Bethune, entered in the women's 400 and 800 meter freestyle relays.

* Alice Wright, entered in the 100 meter and 200 meter women's breaststroke and the 400 meter medley relay.

* Patti Smith, entered in the women's 200 meter individual medley and the 400 and 800 meter freestyle relays.

* Denny Pursley, entered in the men's 100 meter and 200 meter breaststroke.

Mrs. Stephie Walsh Johnson, 20, entered in the butterfly events, will be accompanied by her three younger sisters, Bridget Walsh, 17, also a butterfly entrant, Tezz, 13, entered in the back-stroke events, and Huddle Walsh, 12, a breaststroke champ.

Seemingly to assure that the family is well represented in the competition, Mrs. Johnson will also have in tow her two cousins, Nina MacInnis, 15, also entered in the butterfly events, and Missy MacInnis 13, a back-stroke swimmer.

Mrs. Johnson comes from a family of eight sisters and seven brothers, 12 of whom are swimmers. The MacInnis sisters come from a family of four sisters and one brother. Four are swimmers. The Walsh sisters, along with one brother and two other sisters, and the MacInnis sisters, are all ranked nationally in age group competition and swim as a team in the medley relay. All six girls are members of the Vesper Boat Club swim team of Philadelphia, Pa.

Other family combinations entered in the national championships are:

* Mike Eckhart, 17, and brother Chad, 14, from El Paso, Texas, entered in the individual medley events.

* Ginger and Pixie Massey, 13-year-old sisters from Mill Valley, Calif., entered in the breast-stroke and back-stroke events, respectively.

* David Solomon, 20, and sister Cheryl, 15, butterfly swimmers from Pittsburg, Pa., who have been participating with the 1969 Maccabiah Swim Team in Israel this past week.

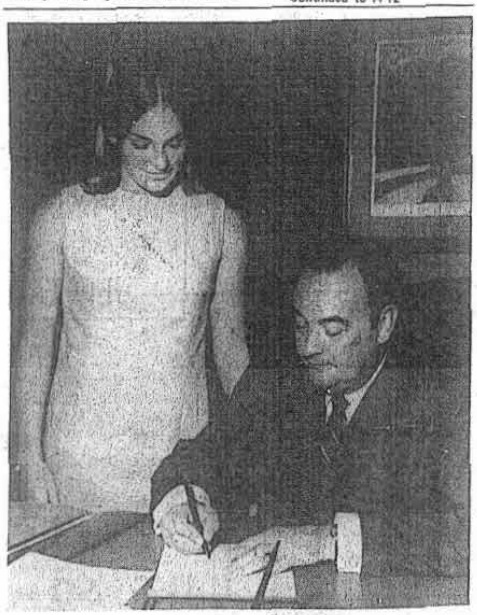
Also entered are a 16-year-old girl, and a 17-year-old boy who have strong family ties to the Louisville area.

Bobbie Collins of Indianapolis, Ind., is participating in her first national meet, but the Nationals are anything but new to her mother, Mrs. James D. Collins, the former Barbara Cook of Jeffersonville.

Mrs. Collins finished second in both the one meter and three meter springboard events during the 1940 national championships, and from 1937 through 1940, participated in eight indoor and outdoor national championships, never finishing below third.

Mrs. Collins was also a member of the

Continued to A-12



GOVERNOR LOUIE B. NUNN signs a proclamation declaring Aug. 11 - 17 as "Swimming and Diving Week" in Kentucky. The proclamation was issued in connection with the National AAU Men's and Women's Long Course Swimming and Diving Championships at Plantation Country Club. Looking on is Susie Shields, bronze medal winner at the 1968 Olympics.

August 7, 1969

CAST OF STARS: These national champs are among more than 700 entrants in the 1969 National AAU Swimming and Diving Championships at Plantation Swim Club. The events begin tomorrow. From left, Debbie Meyer, 16, triple gold medal winner at the 1968 Olympics; Mark Spitz, 19, National AAU champion and American and world record holder in the 100 and 200 meter butterfly and the 100 and 200 meter freestyle, and Ellie Daniel, 19, American record holder in the women's 100 and 200 meter butterfly and silver medal winner at the 1968 Olympics.

August 7, 1969

AAU Meet starts tomorrow

The 1969 National AAU Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships will begin Friday, Aug. 8, at Plantation Country Club with a qualification diving meet.

Divers who have not performed in the finals of a national meet will be seeking a spot in the top 12 of each event, thereby qualifying for the finals of the diving competition which will begin Wednesday, Aug. 13.

Several national and international stars, including Ll. Micki King, Olympic star, will be competing for national championships in men's and women's one-meter, three-meter, and platform events.

SCHEDULE OF DIVING EVENTS

FINALS

Wednesday, August 13
3 pm Women's 1-meter
4 pm Men's 3-meter

Thursday, Aug. 14
3 pm Women's 3-meter
4 pm Men's 1-meter

Saturday, Aug. 16
4 pm Men's platform

Sunday Aug. 17
5:30 pm Women's platform

Swimming events will begin Aug. 14 and will be completed Aug. 17.

Each morning starting at 10 preliminary heats will be swum to determine finalists. Finals in the swimming events will begin at 7 pm each evening.

On Thursday Aug. 14, both men's and women's prelims and finals will be swum in the 100-meter butterfly, 400-meter freestyle, 100-meter breaststroke, and 200-meter backstroke.

Friday, Aug. 15, the following events are scheduled: Both men's and women's 200-meter freestyle, 400 meter individual medley, and 400-meter medley relay.

Saturday, Aug. 16: Men's and women's 200-meter butterfly, 200-meter breaststroke, 100-meter backstroke, and 800-meter freestyle relay.

Sunday, Aug. 17: Men's and women's 100-meter freestyle, 200-meter individual medley, 1500-meter freestyle, and 400-meter freestyle relay.

Opening ceremonies for the meet will be at 6:30 pm Aug. 14.

When the Voice went to press, it was estimated that over 1,200 swimmers and divers would be entered in the meet which will feature many American Olympic champions.

August 7, 1969

National swim stars here for big splash

Continued from A-1

1940 Women's Olympic Diving Team, but that team was never to compete, because of World War II. Now, Bobbie hopes to take up where her mother left off, having entered the one meter and three meter springboard events.

John Plemons, from Winter Haven, Fla., is the Florida Junior Olympics record holder in the men's 100 and 200 meter breast-stroke. John's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Green lived in Louisville for 20 years, and an aunt, Mrs. German Dillon resides at 108 S. Hampton Rd.

Plantation officials have set up bleachers, with reserved sections, with a 4,000 seating capacity. Special police will be hired during the meet.

Tickets for the entire meet sell for $15.

August 7, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

Wright's dream comes true

Plantation Country Club is the house that the late Ralph Wright built -- out of a dream.

His dream was to develop one of the best swimming clubs in the country in the east-end.

Fulfillment of such a dream seemed distant when on Aug. 27, 1957 he coached the swim team in their first meet against a small Indiana country club and lost.

But in 1956, he promised, "Within three years we'll win the Kentucky AAU championship."

It took Ralph only two years to win it. In 1958, Plantation unofficially defeated Lakeside, the runner-up, 365-356. The boys whipped the crosstown team, but the girls lost. Yet, the total score, 365-356, gave PCC the unofficial over-all title.

Having the best team in the state was not enough for Ralph. For decades Indiana teams had dominated midwest swimming. In 1960, Plantation won the Mid-West Championship and has not been out of the race for the title since.

Ralph, "with the whip," as he once joked, developed swimmers who could compete respectably anywhere, although the obstacles were great.

When Ralph coached, Kentucky was the backwoods of swimming -- strickly bush league. Soon the midwest was to change its attitude and in this decade Plantation has won every midwest, region, and invitational championship around.

And it is altogether possible that Plantation and other midwest teams could rival the strong California clubs in the next decade.

Ralph Wright was a coach who knew his sport. He was a national swimming champion at the University of Hawaii and College of Pacific in California where he set many national records.

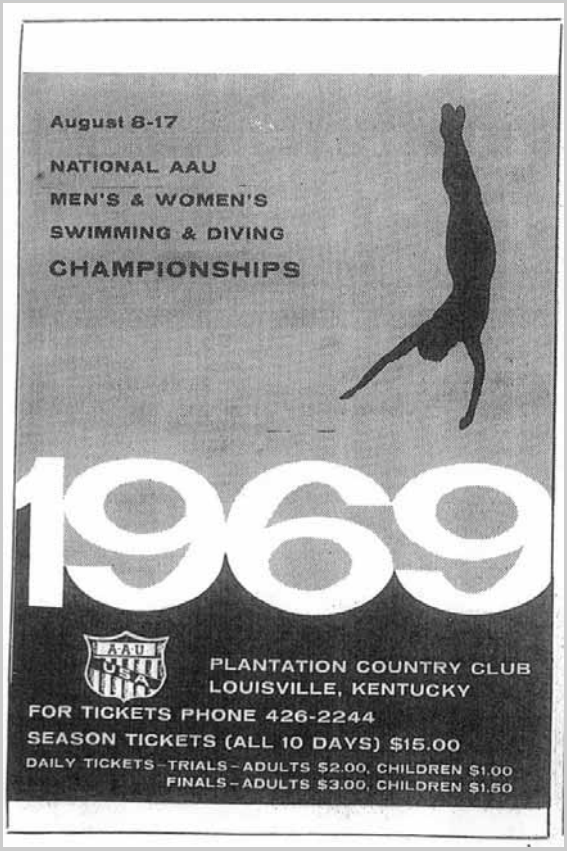
In 1948, he came to Louisville as swimming coach at the downtown YMCA. He also coached at the University of Louisville for four years, and at the Lakeside swim club in 1954-55.

In 1955, Jesse Bollinger and George Martin, developers, had the idea to woo homebuyers to a subdivision they were to construct by building a small club with a small pool.

Ralph got involved in the project and it turned out to be a $250,000 club with a large Olympic-size pool.

This week another dream of Ralph Wright's will come true: The National AAU Swimming and Diving Championships will be held at the club.

August 7, 1969



August 7, 1969

PLANTATION'S Laurie Paine performs an inward tuck dive during the preliminary qualifying National AAU diving meet at Plantation last Saturday. Laurie along with six other PCC girls' failed to qualify for the National championship in the event to be held this week.

August 14, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plantation Swim Club**

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

Swim Records Foreseen at PCC

By O'Ryan Rickard, Staff Writer

A record tidal wave should begin tonight at 7 at Plantation Country Club when the final heat in eight National AAU Championship events will be stroked.

Twenty-five Olympic finalists and a host of young challengers have been tapering for the championships and are peaked to deliver that quick stroke necessary for a gold medal or a record.

Olympic swimmers who reached the finals in an event at Mexico City and are entered in the National AAU Championships are Mike Burton, Mark Spitz, Lynn Vidali, Debbie Meyer, Doug Russell, Brian Job, Jan Henne, Linda Gustavson, Kaye Hall, Pam Kruse, Sue Pedersen, Ellie Daniel, Sharon Wichman, Ralph Hutton, John Nelson, John Kinsella, Toni Hewett, Gary Hall, Ross Wales, Larry Barbieri, Ronny Mills, Juan Bello, Mitch Ivey, Jackson Horsley and Plantation's Susie Shields.

Debbie Meyer, Mike Burton, Jan Henne, Kaye Hall, Sharon Wichman, and Kaye Hall won individual events at Mexico City. Meyer touched first in three events, the 200, 400, and 800-meter freestyle, and Burton was first in the men's 400 and 1500-meter freestyle.

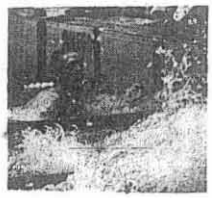
Miss Hall was first in the 100-meter backstroke, Miss Wichman in the 200-meter breaststroke, and Doug Russell slapped the wall first in the 100-meter butterfly. The United States won 21 of the possible 29 gold medals at Mexico City.

National champions

Mark Spitz is the returning national champion in the 100-meter butterfly, 200-meter freestyle and the 100-meter freestyle. He holds the world record in the 100-butterfly, 55.6.

Other returning national swimming champions are Debbie Meyer, 400 and 1,500-meter freestyle; Ellie Daniel, 100-meter butterfly; Jackson Horsley, 200-meter backstroke; Eadie Wetzel, 200-meter freestyle; Sue Pedersen, 400-meter individual medley; Gary Hall, 400-meter individual medley; Mike Burton, 1,500-meter freestyle; Ralph Hutton, 200-meter breaststroke; Juan Bello, 200 - meter individual medley; Larry Barbieri, 100-meter backstroke, and Brian Job, 100-meter breaststroke.

Finals in swimming events will be tonight through Sunday beginning at 7. Here is the way the events stack up.



DOUG RUSSELL

Men's 100-meter butterfly

The 1968 Olympic gold, silver, and bronze medalist are entered in this sprint. In Mexico City, Doug Russell, Mark Spitz, and Ross Wales (in that order) took all medals in the event for the United States.

Russell's victory was an upset. Silver medalist Spitz holds the record at 55.6 while Russell's best time of 55.9 was in the Olympics. Wales has been clocked at 57.2.

Men's 400-meter freestyle

The swimming "quarter" appears, according to times, to be a race between Mike Burton and Ralph Hutton. Hutton holds the world record, 4:06.5, but Burton won the Olympic gold medal in beating Hutton by two seconds.

Burton's best time is 4:06.6. Other Olympic freestyler's entered in the event are John Nelson who finished sixth at Mexico City and John Kinsella.

Men's 100-meter breaststroke

Brian Job has the best time in a field of 49 swimmers who will seek the medal in the event. Job's time of 1:07.0 is seven tenths better than Jose Fiolo of the Phillips 66 Club of Long Beach, Calif. Fiolo, representing Barbados, was fourth in the 1968 Olympics. Job captured a bronze medal in the 200-meter breaststroke at Mexico City.

Men's 200-meter backstroke

Mitch Ivey, Olympic silver medalist, leads the list of best times. Jackson Horsley, the defending national champion and American record holder, will offer Ivey a tough race. Horsley won a bronze medal in the event at Mexico City. Gary Hall, the other U. S. representative in the event at Mexico City, also is entered. He was fourth at Mexico City.

Men's 200-meter freestyle

Mark Spitz, John Nelson, Ralph Hutton, Juan Bello and Mike Burton, all Olympians, are slated to swim in the event. Spitz has the best time, 1:54.3, and is the defending champion in the sprint.

Nelson was the Olympic bronze medalist with a time of 1:58.1. Hutton has clocked 1:57.1 and Bello 1:57.7. Burton's time is 1:57.8. John Kinsella, who finished second in the 1500 - meter freestyle at Mexico City, is an outsider in the race with a time of 1:59.6.

Men's 400-meter individual medley

Gary Hall, the defending champion and silver medal winner in the 1968 Olympics, appears to be the favorite in the swimming decathlon. His time of 4:36.7 is five second better than any swimmer in the 62-entry field.

Hans Fassnacht has the second best time, 4:43.1. Both swim for the Phillips 66 squad from Long Beach.

Men's 300-meter butterfly

Mark Spitz leads the field of 54 entrants with a world record qualifying time of 2:05.7. Spitz finished eighth in the Olympics in the events. Other contenders in the fly are Phillip Houser with a time of 2:07.4, Ross Wales, 2:08.5, and Mike Burton, 2:06.7.

Men's 200-meter breaststroke

Defending champion Brian Job will be back to defend his 200 - breaststroke title. His qualifying time of 2:25.8 is nearly two seconds below the world standard of 2:27.4 held by a Russian. Job finished third in the 1968 Olympics. Mike Dirksen, of Oregon, has recorded a second best of 2:31.3. Job swims for the strong Santa Clara Club of California.

Men's 100-meter backs.

Larry Barbieri will be hard pressed in defending his national title in this event. Both Mitch Ivey at one-minute flat and Ronny Mills at 1:00.3 have clocked better times this year than Barbieri's 1:00.7.

Doug Russell and Jack Horsley, both Olympians, have a time of 1:01. Louisville's Bill Tingley has the seventh best time in the event, 1:01.3, and should have a chance to wind up in the finals. Ronny Mills was the only American to win a medal in the event at Mexico City -- a bronze.

Men's 100-meter freestyle

Santa Clara's Mark Spitz won an Olympic bronze medal in the event and is defending national champion. His time of 52.6 ties an American record in the fastest of all swimming events.

Spitz' time is about one and a half seconds better than any contenders in the event. A total of 15 swimmers have qualifying times ranging from 54.2 to 55.1. Among contenders is Lakeside's Steve Weston with a best time of 54.8.

Men's 200-meter individual medley

Juan Bello, of the Phillips 66 Club, is the defending champion and fourth place finisher in the Olympics in the event. Doug Russell, Gary Hall, and Ronny Mills also are entered in the IM. Bello's best time is 2:13.7.

Men's 1500-meter freestyle

Four men have posted speeds under the Olympic gold medal time of 16:38.9 by Mike Burton who is back to defend his national championship. Challenging Burton is John Kinsella who won the silver medal at Mexico City.

Kinsella's best time is 16.25.0. Hans Fassnacht has clocked a 16:32.1 and Gary Hall's time is 16:32.8.

The relays

Last year Santa Clara won the 400-meter medley relay, and the 800-meter freestyle relay. Mark Spitz manned both relays at Lincoln, Neb., in the national championships and Brian Job was a member of the 400-medley.

Santa Clara, coached by George Haines, plans to enter four relay teams in preliminaries in each event.

If Spitz is strong enough Santa Clara, along with Phillips 66, should be the strongest clubs in the relay events.

Los Angeles Athletic Club is the defending champion in the 400-meter freestyle relay.

Women's 100-meter butterfly

Ellie Daniel, the defending champion and Olympic silver medalist, is seated number one this year in the event with a time of 1:04.6. Toni Hewitt should be the number one challenger with a time of 1:05.0. Tony placed seventh in the Olympics.

Susie Shields, of Louisville's Plantation Country Club, won a bronze medal in the event at Mexico City, but has been ill and unable to reach her top form this year. Susie's Olympic time was 1:06.2, but she only has been able to stroke a 1:09 this summer.

According to Plantation coach Greg Bobrow, she has been feeling better recently. Last year, Susie was the runner-up in the nationals.

MIKE BURTON

Continued to Page A-8

Schedule of AAU events at PCC

Olympic champions THE 100-METER women's freestyle medal presentation at the 1969 Olympics in Mexico City. Winner Jan Henne, center, and Sue Pedersen, left, and Linda Gustavson all will compete for National AAU Championship titles at Plantation this week.

August 14, 1969

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*:

Record tidal wave expected at Plantation Country Club

Continued from Page A-1

Women's 400-meter freestyle

Arden Hills Swim Club of California's Debbie Meyer is entered with a world record time of 4:24.5. Debbie won the Olympic gold medal in the event last year.

Linda Gustavson, who was second in the Olympics, and fourth place Mexico City finisher Pam Kruse will be featured in the sprint. Sue Pedersen, another Olympian, is also entered in the 400 free.

Women's 100-meter breaststroke

Kim Brecht, of the Lakewood Swim Club of California, has recorded the best time in the event this year. Sharon Wichman, who finished third in the Olympics, will compete in the event. Another possible finalist is Plantation's Alice Wright.

Alice was second in the 100-breaststroke in the indoor championships at Long Beach this year. She is the daughter of the founder of Plantation Country Club, Ralph Wright. Alice has indicated that she will retire after this meet.

Women's 200-meter backstroke

Susan Atwood of Lakewood club ranks number one, according to qualifying times, in the event at 2:25.1. Kaye Hall is the only Olympic finalist in the event. She was third at Mexico City with a time of 2:24.8.

Women's 200-meter freestyle

Olympic gold medal winner Debbie Meyer holds the world record in the event of 2:06.7. She is slated to face tough opposition from Linda Gustavson and Jan Henne.

Jan Henne finished second in the Olympics in the stroke. Sadie Wetzel is the defending national champion.

Kathy Wyatt of Plantation is entered with the 30th best time of 2:16.1.

Women's 400-meter

Silver medalist in the Olympics Lynn Vidali, of the Santa Clara team, is ranked number one among 65 entrants. Her best time is 5:12.4.

Debbie Myer also is slated to enter the stroke with a best time of 5:13.1.

Women's 200-meter butterfly

Toni Hewett, defending champion, fourth in the Olympics, has recorded the best time, an American record of 2:22.0. Ellie Daniel, of the Vesper Club, Pennsylvania, will be seeking to dethrone Toni. Ellie won a bronze medal at Mexico City in the stroke.

Women's 200-meter breaststroke

The Olympic gold medal winner Sharon Wichman is entered with a time of 2:46.0. Sharon swims for the Olympia Club of Indiana. Veronica Stroup of the Suburan Club, Pennsylvania, has the second best qualifying time.

Other contenders in the stroke should be Kim Brecht, Debbie Hudson and Plantation's Alice Wright. Alice finished fifth in the 200-breaststroke at the indoor championships this spring.

Lakeside's Melinda Baker and Terry Potts also are entered.

Women's 100-meter backstroke

Kaye Hall is the Olympic gold medal winner, and World record holder in the stroke. At Plantation, she will be challenged by Susan Atwood and Libby Tullis.

Kaye's world record time is 1:06.2. Kathy Wyatt is entered with the 39th best time, 1:12.4.

Women's 100-meter freestyle

In this event, all three Olympic medalists are entered. Jan Henne, Sue Pedersen and Linda Gustavson finished in that order in the Olympics. Although Pedersen was second, she has since recorded the best qualifying time in the event, 59.0. Jan Henne's best time is 59.1 and Gustavson's is 59.6

Women's 200-meter Individual Medley

Sue Pedersen and Jan Henne also won medals in this stroke at Mexico City. Pedersen was second and Henne third. Pedersen has the best time 2:25.0, and Henne's time is 2:25.4.

Olympian Lynn Vidali also will swim the event. Her best time is 2:25.8.

Women's 1500-meter freestyle

World record holder and defending champion, Debbie Myer of Arden Hill Swim Club, is expected to finish far ahead of the field. Her world record time of 17:31.2 is 11 seconds better her nearest competitor teammate, Vicki King.

Debbie Meyer and Sue Pedersen swam on last year's national champion 800-meter freestyle relay team, Arden Hills.

And Miss Jan Henne and Miss Linda Gustavson swam on the winning teams in the 400 medley and 400 freestyle for Santa Clara.

Entries in the relay events have not been announced, but Santa Clara and Arden Hills appear to be the favorites.

The stronger swim clubs in women's competition are Arden Hills of Carmichael, Calif., coached by Sherm Chavoor, and Santa Clara, coached by George Haines.

In men's competition Santa Clara and Phillips 66 of Long Beach will probably dominate the meet.

August 14, 1969

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plantation Swim Club

Courtesy http://louisville.edu/athletics/natatorium/aboutralphwright.html

Who is Ralph R. Wright?
Louisville swimming's first head coach was Ralph Wright, who formed and coached the first Cardinal aquatic team in the 1948-49 school year. He was inducted into the University of Louisville Athletic Hall of Fame in November of 2003.

"Ralph Wright was a jewel, one of the nicest men I ever met. He worked us like a slave driver, but he was the consummate motivator and character builder. When you spent timne with him, not only did you improve as a swimmer, but you were a better person," said Bernard Dahlem, U of L swimmer from 1948-50.

Wright made a signifcant contribution as a swimmer, a coach and a pioneer in his sport. His pre-World War II accomplishments included at the age of 15 being only one of 14 swimmers to swim the perilous Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco's Bay at the dedication of the bridge in 1937.

He was an All-American prep swimmer and broke the men's American record in the 100-breast in 1939, holding National Junior College Records and being ranked No. 3 in the country while at his alma mater, the College of the Pacific.

After serving in the Marine Corps during WWII, Ralph returned to swimming under Coach Sakamoto at Hawaii University Aquatic Club. There he broke Olympic and World 200-breast records in 1946 and was a National Champion as a member of the 800-Free Relay team. In 1947, he was sent by the AAU to represent the United States in a series of Australian swimming championships where he introduced the butterfly stroke to Australia.

In 1948, he began a successful career at the Louisville YMCA which he led to a Southern YMCA Championship and set three national records.

After coaching stints at Lakeside Club and Miami's Ransom School, Ralph founded Louisville's Plantation Swim Club in 1957. Plantation grew to become one of the biggest and best teams in the eastern U.S., winning major championships such as the highly competitive Midwest Regional Championships and having 13 first place National Age Group Rankings and 55 Top Ten rankings.

He died at the age of 45 in 1966, just before one of his swimmers went on to win an Olympic medal. Susie Shields won the bronze in the 100-fly in 1968.

He was one of the founders the American Swim Coaches Association and served on its board for years. He built the first indoor/outdoor competitive pool in the Eastern United States.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy Al Ring:

Welcome to Plehn's Bakery, a St. Matthew's fixture and local favorite since 1924. Throughout the past 81 years, our reputation throughout Louisville and surrounding areas has grown throughout the region. Patrons from all over come daily to get a sampling of our many specialties and treats. We take great pride in providing the freshest breads, pastries, cakes, soups and more.

BEST OF Louisville MAGAZINE

Visit Plehn's Bakery today and you'll soon realize why we have grown to become such a favorite!

Cakes	Ice Cream	Catering	Deli
• Weddings	• Homemade	• Weddings	• Soup
• Birthday	• Brick Ice Cream	• Parties	• Salads
• Novelty	• Individual Ices	• Meetings	• Sandwiches

Plehn's Bakery • 3940 Shelbyville Road • Louisville, KY 40207
Phone: 502-896-4438 or 502-895-8223

Business Hours
Monday – Friday 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday 6:30 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday 6:30 am – 1:00 pm

PLEHN'S
EARLY 1950's

Brief history sketch by Bernie Bowling, June 2008:

1924 Kuno Plehn's moved to St. Matthews and built the building. He was located on Shelby Street before he moved.

1927 The bakery expanded to include ice cream.

Shortly after moving to St. Matthews Mayme Habich who worked for him at the Shelby Street location came to work for him in St. Matthews. She worked for Plehn's through all three generations, into early 1980s.

Bernie Bowling Sr., who helped his Uncle Kuno while in school bought the bakery in 1945.

In 1980 Dad sold the bakery to his three sons, Bernie, Ted, Pat and longtime employee and

Plehn's Bakery,
June 2008

Courtesy Al Ring

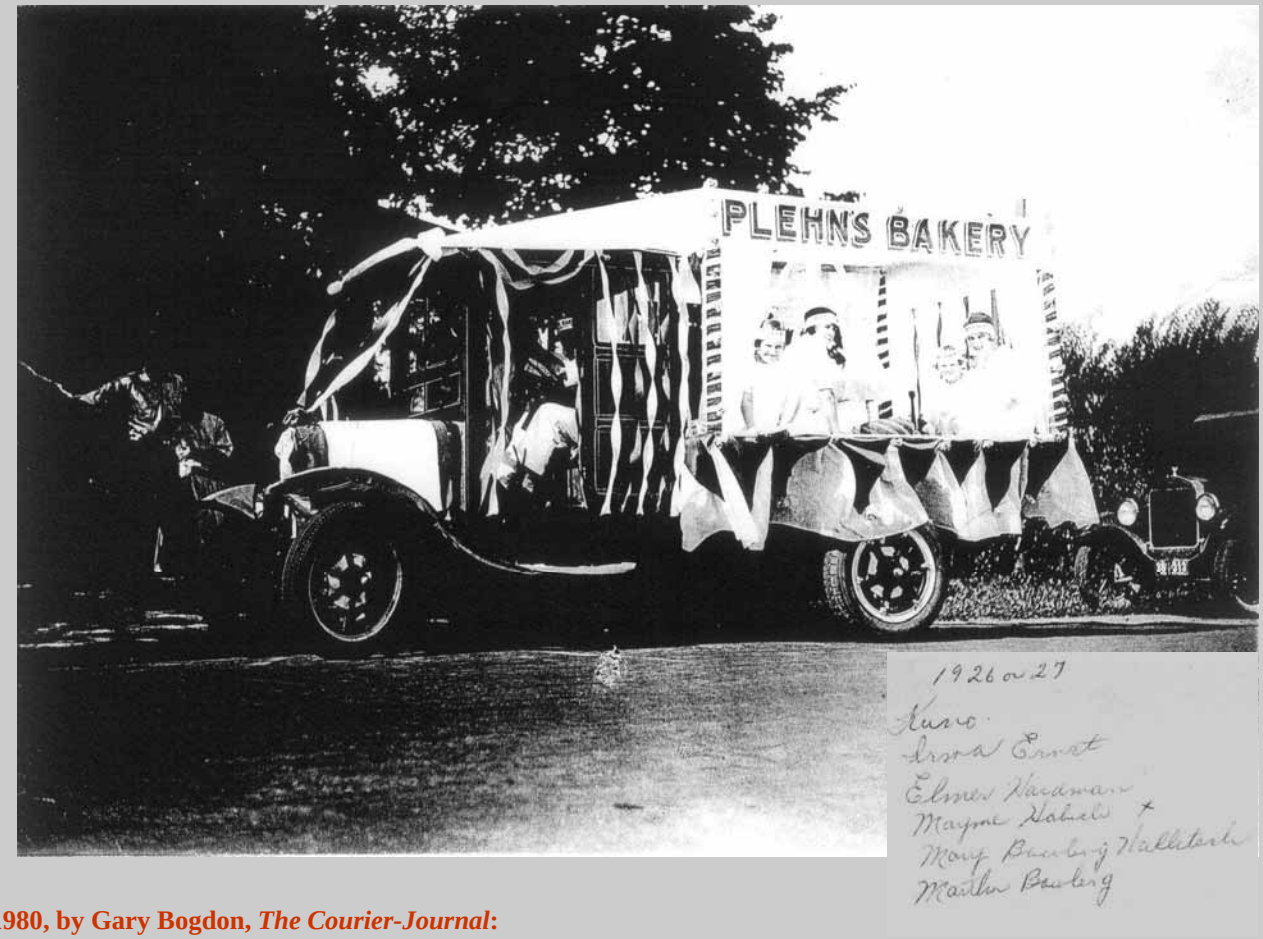
The Voice Of St. Matthews
December 22, 1960

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy Bernie Bowling: **1927**

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy Bernie Bowling: **Potato Festival Parade we think, 1926 or 1927**



1980, by Gary Bogdon, *The Courier-Journal*:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy Bernie Bowling: **1986**

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy http://louisville.bizjournals.com/louisville/stories/2005/12/26/smallb2.html?jst=cn_cn_lk
***Business First,* December 23, 2005 article:**

During holidays, Plehn's relishes role as 'a little corner bakery'

Business First of Louisville - by John R. Karman III Business First Staff Writer

This Christmas Eve, Bernie Bowling Jr. plans to make 200 dozen danishes, 3,000 dozen dinner rolls and buns, more than 100 cream pies and more cookies than he can count.

And you thought you were in for some long hours in the kitchen this holiday season.

Of course, Bowling, one of the partners who owns Plehn's Bakery Inc. in St. Matthews, will have a good deal of help. The company, which opened at its Shelbyville Road site in 1924, adds six to eight college students to its 40-employee base during the Christmas rush and enlists the help of all available family members to cope with the sudden influx of customers.

The three days before Christmas are the busiest of the year for the bakery, which was founded by Bowling's great-uncle Kuno Plehn.

Tomorrow, Christmas Eve, the store will serve about 1,200 customers between the time it opens at 6:30 a.m. and when it closes at 3 p.m. On a normal Saturday, that number is closer to 500.

How do Bowling and his four business partners determine how many kuchens, doughnuts and quarts of homemade ice cream the bakery will need to stock to get through the holidays?

They've been meticulously tracking the sales of those items for years, which allows them to accurately estimate how much they must make.

The fact that they track their sales isn't so out of the ordinary, but the way they do it certainly is in this technological age. And it might be a bit telling about the quaint store, which has no aspirations higher than just being "a little corner bakery," as Bowling tells it.

There are no elaborate spreadsheets or computer programs in this shop. They do things the old-fashioned way, scrawling production numbers in pencil on stacks and stacks of yellow legal pads.

"None of this is computerized," Bowling said, smiling slightly at the bakery's somewhat antiquated bookkeeping methods.

"The secret to everything is just keeping track of this from year to year."

Bowling's partners in Plehn's Bakery are his brothers, Patrick Bowling and Ted Bowling, Milton Hettinger, and Hettinger's grandson, Brent Gallahue. He answered the following questions about his business.

How do you keep employees' morale up during the hectic holidays?

"We don't run (the company) with an iron fist. (The owners) are all down here working with them, and I think that helps. We're here. We're doing the same things they're doing."

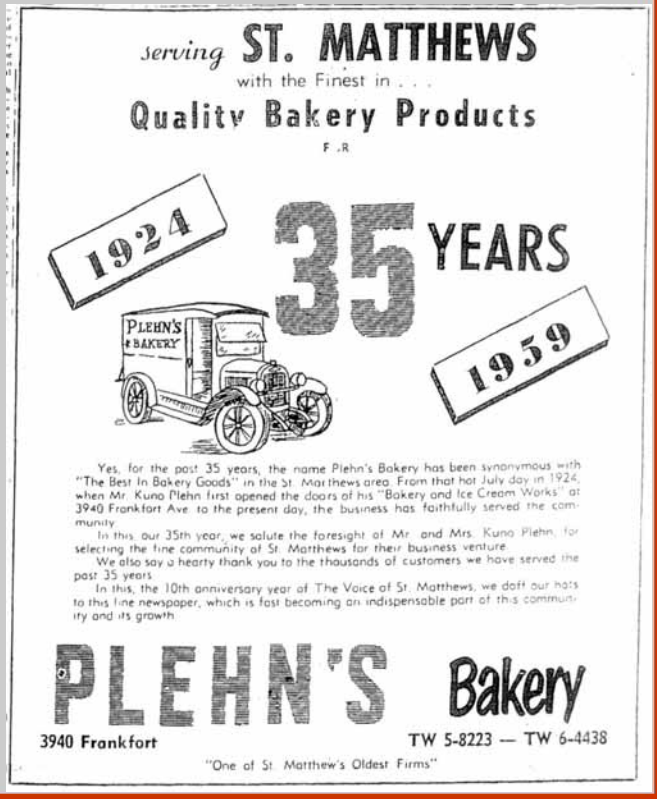
Your father, Bernard Bowling Sr., owned the company for years. How did you get involved?

"I grew up in it. All my brothers did, too. I started here in 1960. When we were old enough to get in trouble, Mom sent us to work."

What is the key to building repeat business for your company?

"We try to have a nice selection. We try to have a good assortment in the cases. If you don't have anything, they're not going to come back.

"We have a lot of repeat customers. That's part of being a neighborhood shop."



Right: *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 16, 1959.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **Plehn's Bakery**

Courtesy Al Ring from Plehn's Bakery wall:

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Plehn's Bakery

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*: April 29, 1965

Kuno Plehn, founder of St. M. bakery, dies

German-born Kuno Plehn, among the first of St. Matthews businessmen, died at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday of last week at St. Anthony Hospital. He was 82.

KUNO PLEHN

Mr. Plehn, one of the founders of the Associated Bakers Association, opened his own bakery in May, 1922 on Jefferson St., Louisville, and two years later, moved it to 3940 Frankfort Ave., where it has continued under the family name.

When Mr. Plehn retired in 1945, he sold the bakery to his nephew, Mayor Bernard Bowling, who worked in the bakery as a youth. He is still owner.

Mr. Plehn, a native of Kiel, Germany, learned cooking and baking while serving in the Germany Merchant Marine three years. He joined at age 14 and was discharged in 1912.

He came to New York, and in 1913 joined the Army and served in Panama as a cook and baker.

Discharged in 1920, he settled in Louisville and worked at the old Sapp's Bakery on Fourth Street, before opening his own business.

When he came to St. Matthews, he opened his bakery in a "potato patch." Then his brethern in the baking business shook their head in disbelief at his venture. Also in 1922 he married the former Margaret Brands who helped him in the business.

After his retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Plehn, who lived at 318 Monohan Dr., spent the winter in Florida, usually at Sarasota.

Though in retirement, Mr. Plehn was a recognized leader in baking business. Last year he attended the ARBA convention in Pittsburgh, where he also celebrated his 81st birthday. He also attended the State baker's convention last year.

Instrumental in organizing the AJRBA on a national level, he was rewarded with the organization's presidency two terms, and also headed the Kentucky Bakers Associations.

In 1934, when the ARBA held its convention in Louisville he was convention chairman, using the theme--"Bakery of Tomorrow."

Among his ideas for the ARBA carried out, were permanant headquarters in Chicago, an enlarged program, and an adequate staff to serve the retail end of the industry.

His St. Matthews establishment was put in service to aid flood victims of the 1937 flood. The Red Cross used the firm's ovens to roast meat and bake bread for the refugees and rescue workers.

Mr. Plehn was a member of Zachary Taylor Post of the American Legion, and was one of the founders of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Survivors are his widow and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral was at Ratterman's, 3711 Lexington Rd., at 9:30 a.m. last Saturday and burial was in St. Louis Cemetery.

Death prompts break-in at Plehn's home

The death of Kuno Plehn last week apparently prompted someone to break-in into his home at 318 Monohan Drive in Parkside.

While his body was at the funeral home Thursday night, someone entered the home through an unlocked basement window and ransacked the house.

A little over $100 was taken but no damage resulted otherwise.

Mayor Bernard Bowling, nephew of Mr. Plehn, noted that the theft was a case where someone knew the family would be visiting at the time at the funeral home.

He reminded residents in St. Matthews to notify police, or their neighbors, to watch their homes, in event they are to be gone from home for long periods of time. He said St. Matthews Police will check the homes periodically.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Pookman Drug Store

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 12, 1956:

St. Matthews Personalities—Ben Pookman Tells About Drug Business

BEN POOKMAN

Five years ago a sprightly little man with a working personality decided to locate his business here, for the simple reason that he liked to shop here and figured a lot of other people would too.

"I loved St. Matthews and loved to shop here," said Ben Pookman, owner and manager of Pookman's Drug Store. "We had a drug store in downtown Louisville for 26 years. But my wife shopped here, and liked it. So did I. So we came here."

That was January 1, 1951.

Even though he's been here only five years, he is considered a St. Matthews veteran. For in that five years, the size of the St. Matthews shopping area has been doubled.

"That's the biggest change that's taken place—increased population," he said. "The population has increased, business has increased, the City has grown, stores and homes are going up out Shelbyville Road, out Brownsboro road, out Breckenridge Lane. It's been amazing."

He credits the Inner Belt Highway with contributing mightily to increased business in St. Matthews. It's brought the customers to us, he said.

St. Matthews biggest problem he said, is "parking—parking." And that's true "not only here but everywhere," he said. "The City has gown so fast we couldn't visualize the scope of the problem."

He and Mrs. Pookman run the store together. "We're a team," he said. "All out employees are like one family. Except for the fountain, we've had the same help ever since we've been here." Altogether, he has 14 employees.

Like a good executive, Mr. Pookmnan, though he puts in 60 hours a week, never appears to be working. He chats with the customers, and gets so engrossed in telling them stories that before they know it, he has their orders prepared and ready for them to take out. He gives the feeling that his main interest is on the customer as a person.

"I manage to fill a few prescriptions between talking to the customers," he said.

He said two significant changes have taken place in the drug business since he started 37 years ago—the antibiotics and the gradual drift towards a general store operation.

"Drugs today—the antibiotics—work positive cures," he said. Two-weeks sicknesses have been cut down to two days."

He continued: "In the modern drug store, people expect to find everything. If they can't get it, they're disappointed. You have to have a general store to satisfy all their wants."

Born in 1898, he graduated in 1919 from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. The following year he was head druggist at Louisville City Hospital, fulfilling a life's ambition. A year later he opened his first drug store at 18th and St. Catherine. Three years later he moved to the Henry Clay Hotel and stayed there 26 years.

He is a member of the Louis Lodge 191 of Masons. He and his wife, the former Jessie Schulman of Louisville, have three children.

Mrs. Sam Goldstein of St. Regis Park. Harriett Bass of Louisville, and Norman, 20, a Navy corpsman attached to Camp Lejeune, NC.

Interested in sports in general, he belongs to standard Country Club and is a golfer—when he has the time. Recently he shot a 41.

September 27, 1956

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 12, 1956:

Pookman sells drug store in St. Matthews

Benjamin Pookman, 711 Indian Ridge Rd., recently sold his drug store at 3700 Lexington Rd. to Robert E. Lee Sandlin and Kenneth G. Corey.

Pookman had been at the Lexington Road location 17 years. He had been in the drug business since he was 12 years old, when he started working as a delivery boy. He graduated from the Louisville College of Pharmacy and was head pharmacist at General Hospital after graduation.

The Pookmans have been in St. Matthews since 1951. Their two daughters live here and their son lives in Pittsburgh. They have six grandchildren.

Pookman's plans for retirement include taking it easy, playing golf and traveling. Since there is a shortage of pharmacists, he plans to pinch - hit for area pharmacists when he is needed.

Corey and Sandlin took over the drug store Sept. 11. They plan to affiliate with the Laddie Drug chain the first of January.

Sandlin lives at 3302 Haddon Rd. He attended Lesley County High School at Hayden and graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.

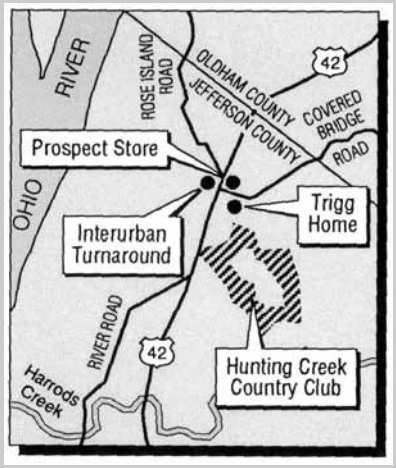
Corey lives at 309 S. Hubbard Ln., and is a native of St. Matthews. He attended Eastern and Waggener High Schools. He also graduated from the UK College of Pharmacy.

October 19, 1967

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Prospect

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Prospect
Nature seduced settlers; country store was a focal point serving men of plows and power
By Kay Stewart



The scenery has changed along U.S. 42 since this photograph was taken in 1987. The Prospect Store, left, which opened in the center of town in 1911, has closed and been moved across the highway to be renovated as apartments. The former City Hall, right, built in 1903, was torn down in 1987. A food mart, gas station and parking lot are on the site now.

PROSPECT was once known as Sand Hill.

Longtime residents say landowners didn't like that name even though it aptly described a part of the landscape.

According to a story passed down for generations, some folks decided a new name was needed to go with a U. S. Post Office built around 1900 to serve the area.

"Someone said, 'We've got a good prospect here,' and they called it Prospect," said William Cropper, 81, who was born and raised in Prospect but moved to St. Matthews two years ago.

Another version is that Prospect got its name in the late 1800s after the Louisville, Harrods Creek & Westport Railroad stopped its route there.

The railroad apparently lacked funds to continue to Westport, but the story residents like to tell is that the "prospect" was so good that railroad workers decided not to go farther.

Prospect's picturesque bottom land and river bluffs — some of the most beautiful in Jefferson County — attracted pioneers in the late 1700s who stopped at Harrods Creek on flatboats.

But the semblance of a town apparently didn't emerge until after the railroad came through in the mid-1800s. In the early 1900s, the interurban train brought more growth to the area.

Still, Prospect remained a rural outpost with a mix of residents — blacks descended from slaves, wealthy landowners who commut-ed 12 miles west to downtown Lou-isville to work, and poor whites who worked on the farms.

Today there's still a mix of residents, but Prospect has changed dramatically in the 25 years since the opening of Hunting Creek, the granddaddy of Jefferson County's expensive suburban subdivisions, with its own country club and golf course.

The town itself didn't incorporate until 1974 and today has about 3,800 residents, most of whom live in high-priced subdivisions off U. S. 42.

"It's just an urban situation now," said Joe Snowden, whose family for 52 years operated The Prospect Store on U. S. 42 just north of Covered Bridge Road.

"Originally it was mainly farmers," Snowden said. "Most everybody was a farmer of some sort, and today it's sort of a community for executives of General Electric and companies of that nature." The Prospect Store, which opened about 1911, was considered the quintessential country store and center of town.

Snowden retired in 1981, but the store continued to operate until a Five Star Food Mart and gas station expanded to the site.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Prospect

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Prospect
Nature seduced settlers; country store was a focal point serving men of plows and power
By Kay Stewart

In the 1930s, the store sold over-alls to farmers and steaks to gentleman farmers. Three loaves of bread cost a quarter, Snowden said.

Shoes, nails, flyswatters and cornmeal were stocked. If Snowden didn't have what a customer wanted, he would order it.

Henry Wallace, who grew up on nearby Rose Island Road, said the store's best commodity was gossip.

"It was the gathering place, a news center," Wallace said.

Wallace, who owns 600 acres on the north side of U. S. 42 near Prospect, couldn't stand the thought of the store being demolished for the expanding food mart and gas station next door, which Newcomb Oil built in 1987 after demolishing the former Prospect City Hall that had stood since 1903.

So earlier this year, he bought the frame building for a dollar and moved it almost directly across the street to his property. Workers are remodeling the store, and Wallace hopes to rent space in it for three apartments.

The store, a garage, post office, bank and pool hall lined the small stretch of highway at one time, Wallace said. All that is left now is the frame post office, which houses The Refinishing Store.

Old-timers, Wallace said, still think of the strip as "the center of town," even though that area is just east of incorporated Prospect.

Just north of the strip in a vacant field, the interurban train, which served Prospect from about 1910 to 1934, made its turn-around to head back to Louisville.

When the interurban quit its hourly stops each day, the steam train came to Prospect at midnight on the same tracks.

The train brought farm supplies and other goods to Prospect and returned to Louisville with farm produce, Wallace said.

Wallace remembered that his grandfather's furniture from Philadelphia arrived on the midnight train about 60 years ago and was hauled to his house the next morn-ing in a wagon pulled by a team of horses.

South of the interurban stop, at U. S. 42 and Covered Bridge Road, is a Prospect landmark — the ornate brick farmhouse that James Trigg built in the mid-1800s.

Trigg, a successful farmer and president of the Narrow Gauge Railroad, which once served the Prospect area, owned land that is now part of the Hunting Creek subdivision.

The home he built was the center of high society during the 25 years it was owned by Mark Ethridge, a former publisher of *The Courier-Journal*, and his wife, Willie Snow Ethridge, an author whose 15 published books included three about life in Prospect.

On Derby Day in 1956, the Ethridges' guest, author John Steinbeck, wrote "Ode to the Kentucky Derby" in the home on a typewriter borrowed from his hosts. The next day, the composition appeared in *The Courier-Journal*.

In the 1940s, the Ethridges entertained big-band musician Benny Goodman at a square dance and dinner party following his performance with The Louisville Orchestra.

The home, now owned by Joseph M. and Sandra Day, was open to the public earlier this year as the 1989 Bellarmine Women's Council Show House.

On the south side of U. S. 42, at the end of a one-mile, tree-lined drive between River and Rose Island roads, is a stunning white frame home whose former owners include James Garvin Brown, the founder of the Brown-Forman distilleries, and William F. Knebelcamp, president of the Louisville Baseball Co., which owned the old Louisville Colonels baseball team.

The home, now owned by auto dealer Joe Cross, was once the centerpiece of a farm called Sutherland. Much of the farm land, however, is now being staked off for a pricey subdivision called Sutherland Farms.

STM, the developer, has agreed not to build on one lot believed to contain an Indian burial mound dating from 100 B.C.-200 A.D.

While there has never been a professional excavation of the site, it is probably a prehistoric cemetery, according to information at the Louisville-Jefferson County Planning Commission.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Prospect

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Prospect
Nature seduced settlers; country store was a focal point serving men of plows and power
By Kay Stewart

Near the Sutherland Farms site, the curve in River Road used to be called Cropper's Curve after Wil-liam Cropper's ances-tors, who owned much of the bottom land in the area.

Cropper remembers riding the interurban to Ballard School, which is now The Chance School, a pri-vate institution, at 4200 Lime Kiln Lane.

And he clearly recalls his first car ride. He was walking to catch the interurban when a chauffeur driving a Brown-Forman executive asked him where he was headed.

When Cropper said he was going to school, the chauffeur told him to get in.

"I thought, 'Well, if I had been the King of England, I couldn't be any prouder,'" Cropper said.

That was when Prospect was still "a little 0l' country town," Cropper said.

"It's an entirely different place now."

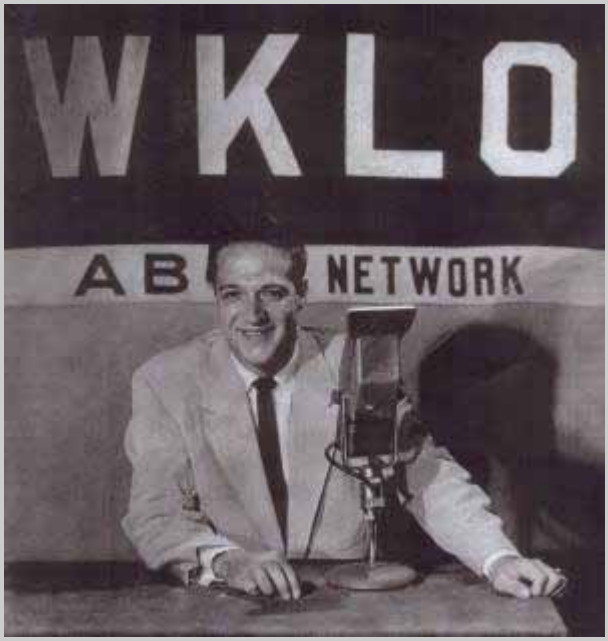
The James Trigg 12-room brick mansion, built in the mid-1800s, still stands at U.S. 42 and Covered Bridge Road in Prospect. Trigg was president of the Narrow Gauge Railroad and a farmer.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Ranch House

Courtesy http://www.1080wklo.com/paulcowley.htm:

Paul Cowley Remembers WKLO, Received April 20, 2005

Beecher and I were friendly competitors as we both were doing our shows from different Ranch House drive-in restaurants. Bob Colglazier owned several drive-ins in the greater Louisville area and they were great hangouts for kids growing up in those innocent '50s. (Example: Arnold's Drive In on "Happy Days.") Kids would park their cars for hours with their radios on, listening and drinking malts and scarfing down Ranchburgers and fries. They would send in "curb notes" via the carhops asking to hear a particular record dedicated to their boyfriend or girlfriend. WKLO even built me a private studio on the roof of the Ranch House on Shelbyville Road with their call letters and my name in neon lights on the roof of the studio.



Courtesy, http://www.louisvillehotbytes.com/ranch.shtml Robin Garr's Louisville Restaurant Reviews

RESTAURANT NAME CHANGED. Originally "Ranch House," management lost the rights to use the Bob Colglazier and Ranch House name and menu in a legal dispute.

Juke Box Highlander Point Shopping Center Floyds Knobs, Ind. (812) 923-1435

Long before there were Golden Arches in Louisville there was Bob Colglazier's Ranch House, and before there were Big Macs, kids in our town happily chowed down on Ranch Burgers, a double-deck double burger with lettuce, cheese and "special sauce" that makes the billions-and-billions-sold item look like a pallid substitute indeed.

Now let's put our hands together and give a big round of applause to Mike and Lynn Cummins, who - working with the licensed rights to Colglazier's original menu - have built a mighty accurate rendition of a Ranch House in the Highlander Point shopping center just at the top of I-64's long grade up to Floyds Knobs west of New Albany.

"Ranch House first opened its doors in 1950," the menu proclaims, "and after half a century we're still serving fresh delicious food the way it was done in the days of poodle skirts and sock hops ... the original Ranch Burger still served with our famous Ranch sauce, made from scratch ... memories of days gone by. Put a quarter in the juke box, relax, tell a friend and visit the Ranch House and get lost in the '50s."

As old-time fanciers of the original Ranch Houses (of course we were just children then), my wife and I couldn't resist a quick trip to Southern Indiana to check it out. And sure enough, although the red-brick shopping center building might be a little bland on the outside, going in the door is like stepping into a time machine.

Pale pink and blue upholstery set the tone with poodle-skirt colors on the leatherette booths and the seats of the shiny chrome chairs; in fact, there's enough chrome around to trim a squadron of '58 Chevies, from the mirror-backed soda fountain to the soda-fountain stools to the shiny Wurlitzer-style jukebox filled with '50s tunes that sits up, almost like a shrine, on an elevated black circular platform. Booth table tops are filled with '50s-era comic books and memorabilia displayed under glass. Bright neon colors and framed period pictures (Marilyn, James Dean, a turquoise-and-white '56 Chevy) turn the high walls into a gallery of the '50s.

The menu, too, seems familiar, if a little more varied than the old days (the Cumminses have added a few dishes to keep up

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Ranch House

Courtesy http://www.louisvillehotbytes.com/ranch.shtml Robin Garr's Louisville Restaurant Reviews

with the times). The old Ranch House standards are highlighted with a tiny illustration of a record. (That's a black vinyl thing that we used to play on a thing called a "record player" back in the days before CDs, kids.)

The Original Ranch Burger, served with cheese, ranch sauce and lettuce, is $2.59. I wonder how much they cost back then ... I don't think I want to know. Of course, I was probably making $5 a week in allowance back in those days, if I behaved. The Ranch Burger with bacon is $2.99, and a BLT is $2.48.

Soups and salads are available, and chili in your choice of three-way, four-way or five-way, a concept that hadn't made it down here from Cincinnati back in Colglazier's time. Sandwiches are $1.29 (for a burger or hot dog) to $3.49 (for chix breast strips); turn a sandwich into a platter with fries and slaw or potato salad for an additional $1.99. Looking for something more hearty? Assorted dinners are $6.99 (for friend chicken breast, a deep-fried fish dinner, shrimp dinner or pork loin, with your choice of yeast roll or texas toast and any two veggies from a list including green beans, cole slaw, fries, macaroni-and-cheese, baked potato, potato salad or onion rings.

Despite my wife's appalled glare, I couldn't resist going with my favorite Ranch House dinner from days gone by, when I didn't have to worry about counting calories: A Ranch Burger, Ranch fries and a good old chocolate milkshake.

The Ranch Burger was just as I remembered, a big white hamburger bun cut in three slices, with a separate cheeseburger on each layer, each topped with shredded iceberg lettuce and a discreet amount of ranch sauce, which appears to be a simple spread of mayo and pickle relish, something like tartar sauce.

The ranch fries were fine, too, no wimpy shoestrings but thick, broad slabs of tender potato, dangerously hot and golden from the frier and grease-free. The milkshake was thick and creamy in the old-fashioned way, none of this newfangled groutlike stuff that you can't suck through a straw without collapsing a lung. It was served, as it should be, in a tall conical glass with a dab of whipped cream on top.

My wife went with *her* girlhood favorite, a patty melt ($2.49), which is basically a thin hamburger topped with bright-yellow mild American cheese, grilled onions and a tomato slice and grilled in butter like a grilled-cheese sandwich. She said it tasted just like they used to. Onion rings ($1.49) were excellent, too: Homemade with a thin but crunchy breading, thick rounds of fresh, flavorful onion deep-fried crisp but not greasy.

A hearty lunch for two came to just $12.12 (plus a $2 tip), and my wife grabbed a thick slice of homemade devil's food cake with cream-cheese icing to take home for $2.40. It was *excellent*. **$**

Photo courtesy of *St. Matthews, The Crossroads of Beargrass*, by Samuel W. Thomas, 1999. Caption-Bob Colglazier's Ranch House, 1953 , Now site of McDonald's. Frozen Food Locker, popular in the 1940s, was located jut to the east. 77-53U, Jefferson County Historic Preservation And Archives.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Ranch House

Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:

Looking east on Shelbyville Road, August, 1954—-East Drive In & Ranch House, Icons of our youth, July, 1954

The Voice Of St. Matthews, October 23, 1952

RANCH HOUSE DRIVE-IN

WE TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYBODY. But no one tells us how to vote nor to change our recipes. People say they like our recipies the way they are, because they're just a little better than extra special! Tasty. Done to a turn. And turned out beautifully for either a quick snack or afull meal. It just takes a phone call to TA. 9246 to get service. Just tell us what you want (we'll make suggestions, if you like) and tell us what time to have it ready. Then drive in at that time and pick it up or eat it here. Our HIGH BOY sandwich is really something. So is our CATFISH SANDWICH, and our Brownsville SHRIMP. Just call us . . . **TA. 9246 . . . RANCH HOUSE DRIVE-IN, Shelbyville Road at LaGrange Road.**

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Ratterman Funeral Home

Courtesy http://www.ratterman.com/history.shtml

History of Ratterman Family Funeral Homes

In the 1850's the Ratterman family emigrated from Germany.

Several of the Ratterman brothers settled in Cincinnati, while others continued down the Ohio River to Louisville. Two brothers, George and Herman, settled near 8th and Green Streets. They established, in 1864, an undertaking business at 11th and Market streets, named G. & H. Ratterman; Carpenters and Makers of Fine Coffins.

In 1902, John B. Ratterman, son of George took over the business at the age of 24. He married Lillian Ackerman in 1904 and together they had 12 children consisting of ten boys and two girls. They moved into the Ackerman home at 2114 West Market Street in 1914. Here the family moved to the upper floors and turned the first floor into the first real "Home for funerals" in the city of Louisville. Having funerals in a specific "home for funerals" was a new concept for those times since most funerals were held at the home of the deceased. The shift happened mainly due to changing social norms, although up until World War II, some families still preferred the deceased to be returned to the home for visitation, wake and funeral.

Eventually John B. Ratterman paired up his sons to open other funeral home locations in Louisville. Lexington Road was the first in 1939. It was operated by John Jr. and Carl Ratterman. In 1947 Joe and Cletus Ratterman opened the Fourth Street location, and in 1977, they expanded to the Southside Drive location. In 1963 Emmett and Oscar Ratterman opened a funeral home on Bardstown Road, and then, in 1974 expanded to Cane Run Road.

The fourth generation of Rattermans' now owns and operates these six Louisville locations. They, along with the fifth generation, care for families with the same dedication and commitment that that has been our hallmark for over 140 years.

Ours is a tradition of service.

The appearance of Ratterman Brothers Funeral Home, 3711 Lexington Road, after renovations and an addition to the front. Added were two new parlors, a casket display room, lounge and addition to a chapel.

December 13, 1962, *The Voice Of St. Matthews*

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: River Road Country Club

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews,* July 3, 1952:

River Road Country Club—An Experience In Democracy

If you can want to call your life your own, don't organize a country club.

In case yu question the value of this advice, ask John Ed Pearce, a man who had organized one.

Pearce, an editorial staff writer for *The Courier-Journal*, has devoted every moment of his spare time toward that oal for the past few weeks, with a July 4 opening date in mind.

For the benefit of those who have not followed this pioneer's efforts or been on the receiving end of his lashing whip, the River Road Country Club is a new club located at Zorn avenue and River Road. It is owned by the Louisville Water Company and is the former site of the Standard Country Club, now moved to new quarters on the old Brownsboro Road.

Pearce heads a three—man board of directors including John Carrieo, Courier sports writer, and Alan Schneider, attorney, who were resourceful enough to convince the Water Company of their desirability as prospective tenants.

They proposed to create a club priced for the moderate income group, j.c. people who could not afford membership in the average club. Once their plan was accepted, Pearce called a meeting of prospective members and set forth the conditions of membership. Work teams were organized and all would-be members called upon to devote their free days and nights to setting the building and grounds in running order.

In this way Pearce was able to save a sizeable sum of money needed for other uses, and form ed a democratic club to which the members take special pride in belonging.

Every day for the last several weeks, they could be seen swarming over the golf course, about the club house, landscaping, painting, rebuilding, working on the tennis courts, cleaning the swimming pool, building a new roof, refinishing furniture, and all the many, many jobs necessary in general remodeling.

All job details were organized in committees with responsible persons heading each. Others worked when and where needed which means one might make a trip to the hardware store, scrape a chair and help rake debris, all in a morning's work.

July 4 is the grand opening date, but it is doubtful that there will be more of the 300 membership represented than have been every weekend leading up to that date.

Guests will be admitted after the opening week and meals will be served six out of seven days. Club manager is Freeman Haywood, former golf pro at Owl creek Country Club.

Thursday, August 26, 1954 —The VOICE OF ST. MATTHEWS and The VOICE OF THE HIGHLANDS— Page Three

Members of the River Road Country Club pictured here are, on diving board, Susie Wakefield, left, Suzanne Dudley, Carol Terr, Bunny Brown, Judy Bryant, Joan Driscoll, Pat Pollack, and Betty Bartlett; seated, Steve DeGaris, left, Rusty Carth, Steve Porter, Bill Ackerman, Bobby Sexton, and Doug Morton; and, kneeling, Tommy Smith, left, Forrest Johnson, coach, and Mills Logan and Dan Neuhauer, assistant coaches.

August 26, 1954

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: River Road Country Club

Courtesy Louisville Metro Government:

Mayor Seeks Input on River Road Property

Monday May 16, 2005

Mayor Jerry Abramson today announced that the public will help decide the long-term use of the former River Road Country Club property.

Beginning June 1, citizens will have access to the 63-acre property – which operated for more than 50 years as a private country club – to consider potential recreational uses. Metro Parks and the Louisville Water Company will collect written public input for the next six weeks and will host a public-planning forum on July 14.

"We are committed to ensuring this greenspace is there for our residents and the benefit of our community, and will consider all ideas for the best public use of this property," Abramson said. "The recreation corridor along River Road is a significant part of our effort to make Louisville a City of Parks."

Currently, there are 461 acres of public parkland along River Road between downtown and Indian Hills Trail.

The River Road Country Club property will remain closed until June while Metro Parks and Water Company crews prepare it for public access. Metro Parks is cutting the grass to lengths comparable to a public park. The clubhouse, tennis courts and swimming pool are in disrepair and will remain closed until the property's long-term use is determined.

Louisville Metro owns 36 acres of the property, while the Water Company owns 27 acres. Metro Parks Director Mike Heitz said the city and the Water Company are working cooperatively to improve upkeep of the property, which had been untouched since flooding in January. Because citizens have been invited to visit the property, golf will not be permitted – although the former golf course greens will be maintained.

"We're maintaining the greens in case golf is part of the ultimate use for the land," Heitz said, adding it is less expensive to maintain greens over time rather than reconditioning an overgrown green.

Those wishing to submit comments about how the property should be used can send email to parks@loukymetro.org, or write to P.O. Box 37280, Louisville KY 40233-7280. Information about the public-input process for the River Road property is available online at www.metro-parks.org.

The public also is invited to participate in a planning forum on July 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the Louisville Water Tower at River Rd. and Zorn Ave. Parks officials will be in attendance with maps and other material outlining the parks system's current amenities.

New 166-Acre Park to Host Sports, Other Events Along River Road Corridor

Tuesday May 29, 2007

Louisville Champions Park to honor area sports greats

Mayor Jerry Abramson was joined today by local athletes as he detailed plans for Louisville Champions Park, a 166-acre linear park that will be the centerpiece of an expanding 400-acre sports and recreation corridor along River Road.

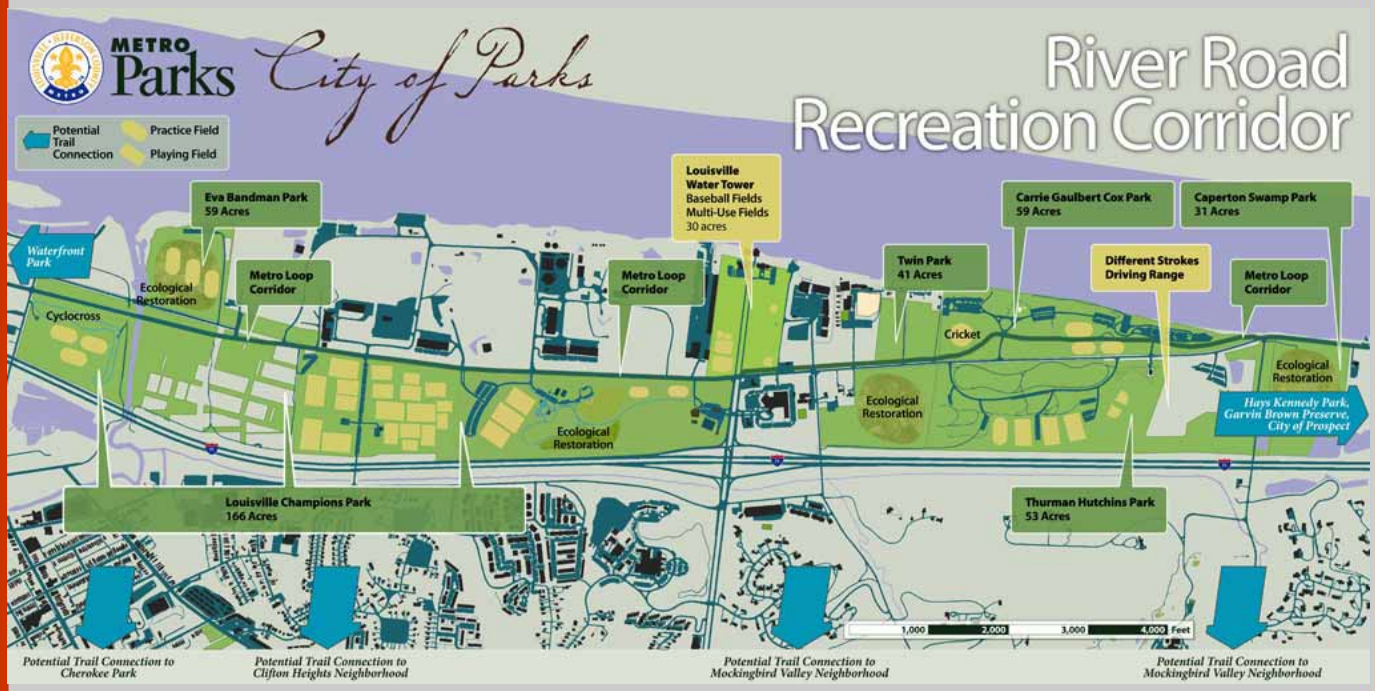
Abramson said the complex would become "a hub for local athletic activities as well as an economic-development tool" to attract to Louisville national and regional sports tournaments and events. With the mayor's upcoming budget, and funds already allocated through the current budget, $6 million will be invested in the next year to begin development along the corridor.

"Starting at downtown's Waterfront Park and heading east on River Road to Indian Hills Trail, we have more green space than Cherokee Park," Abramson said. "We are capitalizing on this by looking at these assets as one unique corridor."

When complete in three to five years, the new park will include 22 game-quality multi-purpose sports fields and other park amenities such as basketball courts, playground and spray park, a pond and wetlands, and walking/running paths that include connections to the City of Parks 100-mile loop trail. The mayor said the park could include features to pay tribute Louisville's many sports icons.

To create the new park, the city will utilize existing public property adjacent to the 63 acres made available when the private River Road Country Club closed after entering bankruptcy and defaulting on its lease payments to Metro Government, which owns the property.

The new Louisville Champions Park will stretch along the south side of River Road from Zorn Ave. to Frankfort Ave., including the former country club property, the 55-acre Louisville Soccer Park at Edith Ave., 27 acres across River Road from Eva Bandman Park, and 21 acres at the site of the former landfill at Frankfort Ave. and River Road.

Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: **River Road Country Club**

Courtesy http://www.louisvilleky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/64D21F22-4B86-4EBA-9DE6-B2170CD68126/0/RiverRoadCorridorMaplg.jpg