

# Waggener High School



## Remembering St. Matthews During The 1950's 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*, *Louisville's Own (An Illustrated Encyclopedia Of Louisville Area Recorded Pop Music From 1953 to 1983)*.

## Explanation of the following pages, (Please Read)

This section is limited to remembering the St. Matthews community during the 1950's. This is mostly done from newspaper articles from various newspapers including the different *Voice* newspapers and *The Courier-Journal*, and *The Louisville Times*.

- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, April 20, 1950, Advertisement
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, June 26, 1952, Rooster Fights of Gilman's Point
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July/August, 1952, Polio
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, June 15, 1953, Nobody In 1900 Believed '53 St. Matthews Possible
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, September 23, 1953, This Is St. Matthews
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, September 29, 1954, Polio
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, Various Advertisements, 1954
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 6, 1955, St. Matthews Story In 1954 Was One of Growth With More To Come
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, 1955, Advertisements and other
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, May 5, 1955, Polio Shots
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, November 17, 1955, Steve Porter's (61) father.
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 12, 1956, St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, September 27, 1956, Phone Numbers
- The Courier-Journal*, October 20, 1956, Louisville Wins Business Area
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 3, 1957, Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 3, 1957, Other 1956 News Events
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, February 14, 1957, John Walser Makes Name For Self Here
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 18, 1957, Gary Young Wins Derby
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, August 15, 1957, St. Matthews Schools
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, August 15, 1957, A salute for our schools
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, October 31, 1957, Voiceland Map
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 2, 1958, News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, January 1, 1959, St. Matthews area restless in '58
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, April 2, 1959, History Of St. Matthews
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 16, 1959, In Ten Years...
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 16, 1959, Civic, fraternal and veterans groups enrich community life
- The Voice Of St. Matthews*, July 16, 1959, Advertisements
- The Voice-Jeffersonian*, April, 1970, Various History Articles
- Jim Herron (60) Collection: L & N St. Matthews Station
- The Voice*, July 25, 1974, 25th Anniversary Issue

## OTHERS HAVE INCORPORATED, WHY CAN'T ST. MATTHEWS? TAX RATES ARE AT LOW POINT EVERYWHERE BUT LOUISVILLE

Let's talk taxes.

Not on the LOUISVILLE LEVEL. The "experts" don't like to talk about Louisville's tax rate. It's too high. Yet, when you ask the "experts" why Louisville's tax rate is so high, they just shrug and mumble something about the "high cost of services.

Louisville's tax rate is the highest in its history. It is \$2.97 for each \$100 property valuation. And if things keep on going as they are in Louisville, the tax rate will go HIGHER than that.

Louisville's tax rate is based on a total property appraised value of approximately \$560,000,000 That will yield Louisville this year 1950 approximately \$15,000,000. At least half of that will be spent on the public school system of the City of Louisville. The other half will be spent on the City of Louisville's General Purpose, for all other municipal services—including fire, police, sanitation, and such.

Audubon Park has a 75-cent tax rate on approximately \$3,000,000 appraised property value. And 20 cents of that rate is frozen in a street-building fund. It is a beautiful city of which its citizens rightly can be proud.

Richlawn has a 50-cent tax rate on approximately \$3,000,000 appraised property value. It is growing into a beautiful residential city.

Indian Hills has a 75-cent tax rate on approximately \$2,000,000 appraised property value. It compares favorably in beauty with any other residential city in America.

Anchorage has a 40-cent tax rate on approximately \$7,000,000 appraised property value, and has reduced its tax rates twice in four years. It is nationally-famous as a residential city.

Shively has a 20-cent tax rate on a property valuation estimated to be appraised at more than \$200,000,000. In 1939, Shively's appraised property valuation was approximately only \$13,000,000. It is a bustling, up and coming city, with great possibilities like THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS.

Druid Hills has a 30-cent tax rate on approximately \$2,500,000 appraised property value. It is attractive and desirable as a residential city.

We could name more incorporated cities in Jefferson County with similar low rates on taxes. Let the "experts" name you the disadvantages of incorporating.

St. Matthews has a population estimated at 10,000 to 12,000. THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS has an appraised property value, estimated by the Louisville "experts" at \$16,000,000. IT IS CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN THAT, BUT LET THEM TELL YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT.

It will not require a high tax rate to maintain, develop and beautify St. Matthews. In fact, the law will not permit us as the sixth class CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS to charge a tax rate higher than 75 cents.

**AND WE WILL SPEND EVERY PENNY OF THAT TAX MONEY ON OURSELVES, ON OUR COMMUNITY.**

St. Matthews is a strong spiritual community with many churches. We have over ten churches in our area. With the help and support of these churches and our churchgoers, we can keep our spiritual strength and grow strong. It is our greatest protection against vice.

We want the good things for THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS. You do, too. BUT WE WANT THOSE THINGS PAID FOR OUT OF OUR OWN MONEY. WE DON'T WANT OUR TAX MONEY SPREAD ALL AROUND LOUISVILLE. We want to spend our tax money AT HOME to develop, beautify and maintain THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS has a desirable and attractive place to live and bring up our children. There is no reason that THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS cannot be as beautiful and as desirable a residential city as Oak Park, Illinois, the renowned example of better living.

Court action was filed Tuesday, April 18, by Raymond C. Stephenson, Louisville attorney and member of the Louisville Board of Education, further complicating the St. Matthews situation in attempts to block THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS. Signers of the petition of suit are: Clarence W. Hardin, 3816 Hycliffe; Frank H. Stallings, 157 Wiltshire; Charles Booth, 204 Colonial Drive; Mrs. Alice Wick, 4059 Richland; Don Chitwood, 316 Breckenridge Lane; Hugh Doyle, 400 Oread Road, and A. B. Root, 3611 Hycliffe. More efforts to try to divide and conquer us. Beware of petitions to join in this action.



**DON'T LET SCHEMING INTERESTS SMASH ST. MATTHEWS  
LET'S ACT NOW TO SAVE THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY  
Louisville Doesn't Want To Annex Us      Its Only Wants To Stall and Delay Us**

Louisville does not actually want to annex St. Matthews.

Louisville has had 25 years in which to annex us. Now why this sudden haste?

It only wants to hinder, delay and scuttle our plans to incorporate and grow.

The officials of the City of Louisville have been advised by prominent and responsible citizens of the City and the County not to touch St. Matthews. Whether we like the expression or not we are a HOT POTATO for Louisville.

Why would Louisville want to annex St. Matthews?

The answer is plain and simple. IT ONLY WANTS TO BE ABLE TO SEND US AN ANNUAL TAX BILL OF \$2.97 ON EACH \$100 PROPERTY VALUATION. The City's officials openly say we would be "too expensive" for the City to maintain as they well know we have a right to be and should be maintained.

Yes, Louisville wants to saddle St. Matthews with that \$2.97 tax rate, if and when Louisville is able and ready to annex us. BUT HOW MUCH IS LOUISVILLE WILLING TO SPEND IN ST. MATTHEWS FOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS? Ask, the "experts" that question.

There are over 4,000 automobiles in St. Matthews. Do you own an automobile that is valued at \$1,000, or more? Did you know that the \$2.97 tax rate will apply to your car as well? It will cost you \$29.70 a year to Louisville to own that \$1,000 car.

If you live in St. Matthews and work in Louisville, you already are paying that 1 percent occupational tax, If you make \$1,000 a year in Louisville, you already are paying the City of Louisville \$10.00 a year to earn that. And there is no assurance that the occupational tax will not be raised.

The truth is that the City of Louisville wants to "take" St. Matthews for a tax ride, if it can. And it doesn't want to spend anything of that high tax revenue on us. It wants to spend the money in other areas in Louisville.

Our answer to the City of Louisville on. that one is:

**GO GET THE TAXES FROM THE PLACES WHERE YOU INTEND TO SPEND IT.**

Louisville is not interested in our streets, our sewers, our traffic problem, our general municipal welfare. IT ONLY WANTS US FOR WHAT IT CAN SUCK OUT OF US IN TAX REVENUE. The City fumbled with annexation attempts on St. Matthews AND WAS BEATEN. It is fumbling again. And while Louisville is fumbling, it is trying to keep St. Matthews divided AGAINST ITS BEST INTERESTS.

One prominent Louisville official told the Louisville City officials it would be unwise and uneconomic for Louisville to attempt any more annexation. THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE IS UNABLE NOW TO RENDER PROPER AND ADEQUATE SERVICES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF ITS OWN CORPORATE MUNICIPALITY.

Could St. Matthews expect any services out of the City of Louisville? Let the "experts" answer that one.

Oh, but we can keep our sewer system—and pay for it ourselves— if Louisville annexes us. They promise us that much. BUT ARE WE SUCK-ERS? We would be paying double. We would be paying for the sewer system plus that \$2.97 tax rate. AND THAT WOULD HELP LOUISVILLE PAY FOR ITS OWN SEWER SYSTEM, WHICH IS INADEQUATE; AND AGAINST WHICH THERE STILL IS A DEBT OUTSTANDING OF \$17,000,000.

Our streets right now are abominable. It is sore to the eye and to the nerve to drive or to walk through them. But St. Matthews HAS A GOOD CASE OF GROWING PAINS. When the sewers are finished, the streets will be in better shape than they were before.

Yes, our streets and our traffic are a sad mess. But the worst is done. While we have floundered through this mess, the City of Louisville has lain quietly by waiting for a chance 'to pounce on us.

THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS, James H. Noland Chairman, Board of Trustees—advertisement

**DON'T LET IT HAPPEN HERE!**  
**An epidemic of tax and spend is sweeping the nation.**  
**It would be wonderful if this money were spent for schools, teachers' pay, and other public benefit. But it is not. It is being used to build powerful political machines to win elections and to cover salaries for politicians and their henchmen.**  
**The St. Matthews area is a rich plum. Its new homes and business stores are a temptation for tax-ambitious interests to seize.**  
**Already a defense against this seizure has been set up by suburban cities around Louisville. It is time for St. Matthews to fight, or Louisville's "iron curtain" will drop.**

**It's Time To Unite All Of Our Forces To Protect and Develop St. Matthews**

What should be done about St. Matthews?

That's the \$16,000,000-plus question the City of Louisville would like to have answered.

It means more than that to us in St. Matthews. It means that we must settle the question of whether we are to go on being kicked around. It means we must decide whether we are going to let ourselves be annexed by the City of Louisville. It means we must determine whether we are going to be independent in spirit and in municipal corporate strength—to grow as we desire and rightfully feel justified to grow.

We cannot remain status quo any longer. We must unite in spirit and in municipal corporate strength to determine our own course and future. To delay is to subject ourselves to further indignities at the hands of the "experts." **TO DELAY IS TO LOSE.**

St. Matthews must progress. It must be able to breathe whenever it wants to without asking some-body—some "expert"—if it can. We must have municipal government. It is the only positive, resolute, decent, righteous, self-respecting course for St. Matthews. And we must choose **NOW.**

Some think it would be better to be part of Louisville. Some feel St. Matthews can best serve itself, do the best job in its own interest, as an independent corporate body. Know the facts. We feel sure you will join with those who are for independent corporate status.

The only strength we have is unity. As an unincorporated area, you can be annexed by the City of Louisville without any installation of city services. Unincorporated, we have **NO BARGAINING POWER.**

Incorporated, united in municipal corporate strength, you can **BARGAIN** with the City of Louisville. **YOU CAN DEMAND THAT THE SEWER DEBT, NOW STANDING AT \$2,500,000, BE ASSUMED BY THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE—AS THE PRICE OF YOUR WILLINGNESS TO BE ANNEXED.** You can demand that your children be admitted to the city schools without paying tuition. You can demand that police and fire protection, street lights, sanitation, and other services, be given to you immediately upon annexation.

**BUT UNINCORPORATED, YOU'VE GOT NO BARGAINING POWER. REMEMBER THAT. THE "EXPERTS" KNOW IT. THEY FEAR IT.**

Do you know that if the \$2,500,000 sewer debt is assumed by the Louisville Sewer District, it will save each home owner more than \$1,400? But Louisville will not assume that debt so long as we are divided and unincorporated and yield to annexation.

Do you know that annexation by Louisville, in and of itself, does not take you into the Louisville School District?

Do you know that Louisville does not want to annex St. Matthews now, really, but only wants to keep us from incorporating so that **WE WILL HAVE NO BARGAINING POWER** and so that terms of annexation will not have to be agreed on? If and when Louisville sees fit, and is able, to annex St. Matthews.

Louisville now has a bonded debt of more than \$39,000,000. That is approximately \$500 per tax payer. There is authorization for the City of Louisville to increase that. Interest paid on that debt in 1948 was \$1,475,500. That is approximately one-third of all real property taxes collected by Louisville that year.

Do you want to start off with \$500 as your share of the tax debt of the City of Louisville? On debts owed by the City of Louisville before 1931!

United as a municipal corporation, St. Matthews can **BARGAIN** and name its own terms to Louisville, if we decide by **PROPER VOTE** that annexation is best for us. Or, we can govern ourselves.

Do you know that the first \$50,000 of tax money collected by the City of Louisville out of St. Matthews **WILL GO IMMEDIATELY TO PAY INTEREST ON LOUISVILLE'S BONDED DEBT?**

Unite now! Join hands with **THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS**, Protect your rights and the rights of your children!

**TRAFFIC WOES! WE'LL CORRECT THEM!**



What should be done about St. Matthews?

**DON'T LET THE "EXPERTS" KID YOU ON INCORPORATION  
ST. MATTHEWS IS TIRED OF BEING AN ORPHANED CHILD**

St. Matthews has a head of its own. It is tired of being the butt of ridicule, derision, indecision, and division. The so-called "experts" tell us that we don't know what we are talking about. They say if we incorporate we will need a new fire department, police department, city hall, school streets, and—yes—a jail.

Imagine that: a jail! Does Louisville have a jail? Does Audubon Park, Richlawn, Indian Hills, Druid Hills, Anchorage, or Shively have a jail? Does any other incorporated city in Jefferson County have a jail? NO! Louisville uses the Jefferson-County jail. All the other incorporated cities use the County jail.

We have a fire department. We have the **FINEST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT IN JEFFERSON COUNTY**. Our volunteer fire fighters are on duty 24 hours a day to protect our homes, our lives, and our property. They deserve your finest support. If you are not now a member of our Volunteer Fire Department by subscription, send in your application at once.

Our fire department is so **GOOD** that a part of our St. Matthews area is covered by a 24-cent fire insurance rate and a good part at a 40-cent rate. With further action as a united corporate municipality we can lower those rates.

A police station? For what? Does Audubon Park, or Richlawn, or Indian Hills, or Druid Hills, or any of the other incorporated cities outside Louisville have a police station?

A City Hall? Why, of course, we plan to have a municipal office. Nothing pretentious. Certainly nothing like the old feudal monument of the Civil War days that is a dismal sight at Sixth and Jefferson. And that was paid for only two years ago. We plan to have a simple, efficient municipal office where our citizens can go to pay their taxes and to talk over municipal problems and affairs of **THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS**. Nothing extravagant. Nothing that will take us 75 years to pay for, as it did the City of Louisville.

Mayor Charles Farnsley incorporated the City of Shively, before he became mayor. And look what's happened to Shively. It has grown into a thriving, healthy, bustling American city. In 1939, its appraised property value was \$13,000,000. Today it is over \$200,000,000.

A school? Well, who owns the school system? The people, of course. Anchorage has a school. There's one just beyond Shively. There's one right here in St. Matthews. And it will be with us always. Nobody can tear it down and move it away—just because we choose to incorporate.

Louisville's annexation efforts have kept us out of new schools. When this controversy is settled, we will get new schools.

Of course we will have taxes. It costs money to run a city. Ask the "experts" in Louisville how much it costs. They will give you a lot of mumbo-jumbo about the high cost of running a city.

That's the Louisville story. But we intend to levy taxes at a reasonable and equitable level. Not on the Louisville level. **AND THE LAW WILL NOT ALLOW THE SIXTH CLASS CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS TO LEVY A TAX RATE HIGHER THAN 75 CENTS.**

Your **CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS** trustees are serving without pay in their civic duty.

We have over 60 miles of sewers in St. Matthews. That's more sewer pipe than the City of Louisville ever laid at any one time in its history. We have 99 percent-plus of the pipe in the ground. There are only a few hundred feet more to be laid. Yet, not one inch of the sewer line has been accepted by the Sanitation District.

There is approximately \$150,000 available to finish the sewer job. And two of the biggest bonding companies in the country are behind the contractors with performance bonds. Each contractor is required to furnish a performance bond. Behind these bonds are the Maryland Casualty Company and the Massachusetts Bonding and Indemnity Company.

In recent days, new legal steps were taken by foes of **THE CITY OF ST. MATTHEWS** to attempt to beat us. This action was filed by Raymond C. Stephenson, a Louisville attorney, member of the Louisville Board of Education, City Attorney for the City of Shively, and a former law partner of Mayor Charles Farnsley.

Isn't it a bit strange how these special interests become entangled?

**WHY CAN'T WE INCORPORATE?**



## Henry Holzheimer Recalls Famous Rooster Fights Of Gilman's Point

There was a time when St. Matthews was known far and wide as a gambling center for rooster fights. So says Henry A. Holzheimer who holds offices in Eline Chevrolet under the cooling effects of an electric fan.

"Yes sir," asserts Mr. Holzheimer, "they use to travel down to New Orleans, up to Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis fighting their chickens."

Of course this was a long time ago, back when St. Matthews was not even a self-respecting wide space in the road and was known by the unassuming name of Gilman's Point. Those were the days when a Potato Festival would have been backed up by acres and acres of potatoes, all in full-bloom loveliness about this time of the year.

Rooster fights were held on Osa Lentz's farm of about 12 acres, supported by prominent men from all around, and many was the time a tall gentleman in string tie and sack cloth suit might be seen backing his favorite contender with a thousand dollars from his latest potato crop.

"People knew money was just something to be spent, back in those days," remarked Mr. Holzheimer with a superior cast of the

eye," and they took a lot of pride in those prize roosters of theirs."

That was when there were just a few leading families around, like Col. Breckinridge who owned between 1,800 and 2,000 acres in this area, Theodore Brown, the Beach family, the Arterburns, the Bauer Brothers, the Monohans, the Bullitts, the Tinsleys and Dr. Henry Chenoweth, who moved in here right after the Civil War.

St. Matthews was one of the largest potato shipping points in the country back then, fourth largest, to be exact, says Mr. Holzheimer, a large potato grower, himself, in those days.

But times changed, as they have a habit of doing, and first thing they knew Louisville was spreading out in this direction and property values became too high to raise potatoes. The real estate men began developing subdivisions and it wasn't long till the small gardner was pushed out along with the potato grower.

What happened to the rooster fights? It seems law has a way of taking over with an increase in population. Besides, those thousand dollar bills don't come quite that easy now days.

**1952 POLIO PRECAUTIONS**

**DON'T MIX WITH NEW GROUPS**

**DON'T GET CHILLED**

**WHEN POLIO IS AROUND**

**DON'T GET OVERTIRED**

**BUT DO KEEP CLEAN**

**RECOMMENDED BY THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS**

Seven-year-old Karen Biecha enacts 1952 polio precautions recommended by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. When polio is around, the National Foundation cautions parents to watch for these signs: headache, fever, sore throat, upset stomach, tenderness and stiffness of neck and back. A person showing such symptoms should be put to bed at once, away from others. Then, call your doctor and follow his advice. If polio is diagnosed, call your local chapter of the March of Dimes for advice and assistance, including needed financial help.

# Polio Toll In Area Continues Climb

Polio cases in Jefferson County continued to climb this week, with 295 cases and 20 deaths reported up to noon Wednesday, the office of Dr. C. Howe Eller, of the Louisville-Jefferson County Board of Health reported.

A check of an official spot map revealed the following distribution of the cases:

St. Matthews area	21 cases, one death
Crescent Hill area	11 cases, 1 death
Middletown area	5 cases, 1 death
Buechel area	5 cases, 1 death
Highlands area	9 cases, 1 death
Bowman Field, Strathmoor area	6 cases, 1 death

Thus, the map showed no increase of cases during the past week for the Buechel, Bowman Field, Strathmoor areas.

(Editor's note: Since it respects the right to privacy of those whom misfortune has visited, The Voice is making no attempt to give detailed coverage of infantile paralysis cases in the areas that it serves.

Because it knows, however, that its readers share its own sympathetic interest in the recovery of the polio victims, it is anxious to report the news, when it is sure that publicity will cause the family no distress. Following are notes of cases that have occurred in the Greater St. Matthews area during the present epidemic).

Rudd Parsons, 5, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Parsons, Churchill Road, is recovering at home, with treatment at St. Joseph's Infirmary. He is reported to be responding well.

Ronald Brown, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. Brown, 409 Springhill Road, returned from Kentucky Baptist Hospital Aug. 17, and is reported as doing well, although the permanent effect of his illness is still uncertain.

Sally Heustis, 2½, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jean Heustis, 158 Pennsylvania, has been treated at home for a light case, after brief admission to St. Joseph's Infirmary. No lasting effect is anticipated.

Dianne Dennis, daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Dennis, 1612 Shady Lane, is responding satisfactorily to treatment at home, an outpatient of St. Joseph's Infirmary.

Dr. Nathan Handelman, 2177 Millvale, is a patient at St. Joseph's Infirmary, where he is doing well.

E. Harned Davis, 100 N. Hite, is improving under treatment at the Veteran's Hospital. He has suffered no paralysis.

Nancy Kaye Carrithers, 3, daughter of Chief Petty Officer E. W. Carrithers, is recovering at the Kosair Crippled Children's Home.

James Eugene Yeates, 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Stout, Independence Road, Buechel, is responding well to hydrotherapy, as an outpatient of St. Joseph's Infirmary.

Sherry Willbanks, 8, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Willbanks, Evergreen Road, returned home Aug. 17, from brief admission to General Hospital. She is reported to be making satisfactory progress.

## **Nobody In 1900 Believed '53 St. Matthews Possible**

### **Druid Hills, Bellewood Were swamps, Potatoes Were 20 Cents a Barrel**

Richlawn's distinguished citizen, Fred Gnau, tells us that St. Matthews was a dusty old town 53 years ago. The only stores were Bauer's Grocery, Grelshaber's Grocery, ad blacksmith shop and a saloon.

"Potatoes were selling for 20 cents a barrel here, and rotting in the fields," he said. Most of the land north of the railroad, which runs parallel to Westport Road, was swampland clear over to Brownsboro Road, Chenoweth Lane was called Baby Lane.

Marvin Hurt, the fighter, trained in a gym over Bauer's. It was great cock-fighting country here in those days before crusading newspapers felt called upon to deprive everyday people of their fun.

Squire Shndburne, and Henry Bauer were the big men here, and they too enjoyed the cock fights.

### **Was In Politics**

And St. Matthews now? "Why nobody would have believed that it could have happened," Fred says. What was Bauer's Grocery is now the First National Bank of St. Matthews. What used to be swampland is now the cities of Druid Hills, Bellewood, Cherrywood Village, and St. Matthews. The population here is estimated to be around 20,000, and continues to grow.

But Fred has no regrets. He watched it grow and enjoyed himself. Now 67, he was, in his youth, first of all a railroader, then a telegraph operator, then a politician.

From 1926 through 1939, he served in the state Legislature, representing parts of Crescent Hill and the Highlands. During those years, he fought to keep the Municipal Bridge in the possession of Louisville rather than of the state, and he fought Prohibition, which he still thinks encouraged rather than discouraged drinking. He caused an uproar in the House in 1932; when the legislators refused to support his resolution to repeal Prohibition, he carted onto the floor of the house the hundreds of whiskey bottles the legislators had emptied during the session.

As an old Democrat, he liked Presidents Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt. When Roosevelt took office, he said, times were dangerous. Communists were everywhere and Roosevelt headed them off by providing jobs for people. He also liked Truman, who, he said, always showed loyalty to his friends and who "stopped the Communist gang."

Fred is watching the upcoming elections with great interest. Though a Democrat, he said he likes Henry Heyburn, whom he calls a good, honest man. Heyburn, a Republican, is running for reelection for the state legislature from the 34-th District, which includes St. Matthews.

For Senator in these parts, he likes Arthur Grafton of Prospect, (Fred made these remarks before the Democrats picked, Mrs. Louis Hollenbeck to run against Heyburn, and before Marge Cruse was picked to run against Grafton).

### **Still In Politics**

Fred's still in politics. He's treasurer and tax, collector for the City of Richlawn. His experience with the sixth class city has convinced him that any group willing to do a little work is capable of giving a small city better government than a large city could. Specifically, he thinks St. Matthews could govern itself better than Louisville could govern this area.

He is a member of the Mose Green Club and attends the Cathedral of the Assumption on Fifth street in Louisville. He and his wife, the former Elizabeth Baldwin; live at 201 Don Allen Road. They have one daughter, Mrs. Lee Gransmiller, who is Martha Rountree's personal secretary in New York.

Nowadays, Fred's in the insurance business—and in Richlawn government.

# THIS IS ST. MATTHEWS—



**Potato Festival** A crowd came to enjoy at the old potato festival under the charity banner of the Community Center. Photographs.



**Clubs** Mrs. Walter Lawrence chats with members of the St. Matthews Women's Club after the session.



**Lawns** Jack Smith, Miss Gibson, with a game of lawn tennis is over.



**Tennis** Mrs. M. A. Barker, Jr., left, gave her serve at the Louisville Hunt Club. Mr. Barker, her partner, is at right.



**Ice Skating** This hour has made the fun to go to the Army. There's no place to skate in St. Matthews.



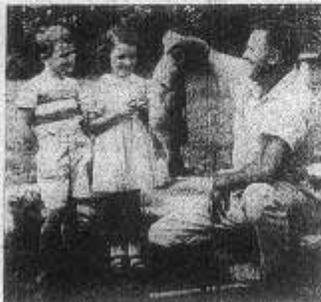
**Picnic** The Ray Powell and G. C. Fisher families have a brief dinner above at Stone Park.



**Carnival** Teenagers ride the waves of the Great H. B. Charity on a little sea-supper and picnic.



**Swimming** Mrs. Chapman and son Billy enjoyed swimming on the lake at Stone Park.



**Fishing** Howard Hunt recently enjoyed his catch in the stream, Howard, Jr. and Mary.

Though most St. Matthews people don't labor with their hands, they nevertheless work hard and long. They are mostly business and professional people, engaged in intensive competition, and one of their class of Americans upon whom rests the responsibility for keeping our society robust.

They don't work the plow or operate the machine — they furnish the brain power to keep the plow and the machine going efficiently. They art and service the goods for Greater Louisville and look after its health, its legal system, and its spiritual welfare. They are mostly prosperous doctors, lawyers, businessmen, executives, builders, realtors, journalists, and politicians. They are part of the great American middle class, whose hands are in control of the most dynamic culture the world has ever known.

It is in places like St. Matthews that the fate of the world will be decided. If their people are strong and meet their responsibilities at home and abroad with courage and intelligence, they will leave their children in possession of a society whose potential for good is incalculable. If these people are weak, if they are narrow and selfish, if they look only for material gain, if they neglect their bodies and their minds, then the great culture, born in Revolution and dedicated to the dignity of the individual, will crumble into chaos and carry with it all of Western civilization.

So the work these people do is important, and how they live is important. It is also important — and of great interest — to see how they play.

The pictures on these pages give a partial answer, and suggest something of the diversity of their recreational interests. They show that St. Matthews like other parts of middle class America is by no means a one-sport community. What these pictures cannot show is that St. Matthews, and America, play hard — and when engaged in competitive sports, they play to win.

Actually there is no real center of St. Matthews' recreational activity. The people utilize the resources of several country clubs, the two giant Louisville parks nearby, the Ohio River, and, of course, the St. Matthews Community Center Playground.

This last is the closest thing to a recreational center that St. Matthews has. Created since the war by civic-minded local people, the playground embraces 40 acres on Shelbyville Road and is financed by the annual Charity Bazaar formerly called the Potato Festival.

The Bazaar mall is a great social function, held every summer on the playground, which brings all St. Matthews together for a few days of eating, drinking, seeing exhibits, and enjoying all the riotous modern carnival can provide. Dozens of local civic groups throw up booths of all kinds to entertain the community and to make money for the playground. These same groups administer the playground's business.

Supervised by the Jefferson County Board of Recreation, the playground has room for outdoor camps and for picnics. For the children, it has swings, see-saws, sliding boards, and a sand pile. Lately, it has added a wading pool. It also has a huge, loam-like building donated as a Christmas present last year by Mr. and Mrs. William Reynolds of Anchorage. In that building, wildlife crosses will be held this winter, and a drama has already been produced by the St. Matthews Community Theatre.

It is available to the public for meetings, programs, and ping pong. It is the property of the whole community.

But the most important service the playground has provided is to furnish space for a Little League ball diamond. For years, the older boys and men had the fun of using a softball park, complete with lights, but there was no special provision made for the boys 11 to 12.

Little League changed all that. Thanks to the hard work of men like Charlie Siegel, Don Nemitz, and Hunter Lutz, it finally came to St. Matthews this summer and went over like a promoter's dream. The



**Camping** St. Matthews boys and girls prepare for a week of busy summers under the auspices of the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A.

# AND AMERICA—AT PLAY

enthusiasm was so great that original plans to have one league for four teams and 60 boys had to be scrapped in favor of two leagues embracing eight teams and 120 boys. Eight local sponsors came through handsomely, each outfitting a team at his own expense, and then local parents and business workers shoulder to shoulder to build a ball park complete with press box, dugouts, and grandstands.

Meanwhile, the older folks were taking care of themselves. One group with its own funds renovated the old Standard Club and turned it into the highly-comfortable and prosperous River Road Country Club. This year, another group built the Wildwood Club, and plans are underway for still another.

The older clubs—Big Springs, Richmond and Louisville Boat Clubs, and the Louisville Country Club—kept right on fishing, and altogether, these private organizations are taking care of the recreational needs of around a thousand families.

Most of the clubs have a private golf course, swimming pool, dining room, bar, tennis courts, and a dance hall. The boat clubs maintain docks for the varied assortment of river craft owned by their members.

The average cost to each country or boat club family is around \$900 a year, another indication of the prosperity of the average St. Matthews resident.

Those who don't belong to the private clubs make use of Sesoco and Cherokee Parks, each with a golf course, tennis courts, and picnic grounds in abundance and with a total area of more than 1,000 acres.

And of course there are the civic clubs, the largest of which, the St. Matthews Eagles, furnishes a dance hall, bar, billiard and game room, and kitchen for the 300-odd members and the Auxiliary. The Woman's Club, the Kiwanis, the Rotary, and the Lions meet regularly and usually have expert speakers or other entertainment on hand. The V.F.W., the AMVETS and the American Legion maintain club houses for their members' leisure hours.

The community's conspicuous shortcomings, nevertheless are a lack of facilities for fishing, hunting, and ice-skating. The people must go to the Country Armory for ice-skating, though Cherokee Park is excellent for sledding and possible for skiing (in and when it snows). For fishing, the nearest spots—the river and Cherokee Lake—are not nearly satisfactory and there is no place for hunting at all.

It is in the area of recreation for its children that St. Matthews has been most successful. This is not surprising, for the modern, worthwhile American community is unique in that it gives its first attention to the welfare and pleasure of its youngsters. The quiet St. Matthews streets are generally excellent for bicycling, and the broad, unfenced lawns are like one huge park for running and playing.

The local schools devote much of their class time to instructing pupils in the art of recreation. The high schools since football, basketball, baseball, tennis, golf and hockey teams to keep our future leaders sharp and strong—and the teachers (even including the principals) are not above joining with their students at play. Most of the schools have their boy and girl scout packs, and these programs are augmented by the local Y.M.C.A., which promotes and finances every kind of recreational activity for children from arts and crafts to bowling, and which is now seeking a spot in St. Matthews to build a Y.M.C.A. center.

St. Matthews plays hard and it plays much. It goes to great expense to look out for itself and for its children. And out of its playing grounds is coming part of that continuous stream of strong bodies and vigorous minds which has led the United States to unparalleled achievement and to supremacy in the world in the continuing competition among nations. Life has hardly ever been pleasanter for mankind at any time. But in the United States, and in St. Matthews, it has become as pleasant as any group of human beings has ever been able to make it.

This is St. Matthews at play.



**Bicycling** For months of 1951, Elwood and his dog, Fisher.



**Golf** Bob Robert K. Crafts tees off for a long drive at the River Road Country Club course.



**Baseball** Two teams square for the St. Matthews National League in the Little League All-Star tournament.



**Swings** Children enjoy the swings at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barber, 2825 Elwood.



**Arts and Crafts** A St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. volunteer shows her class how to make soap and create hairpins.



**Football** At Eastern High School, Edman leads a tackle.



**Fishing?** Trappers dip in the fish at Barber's annual picnic, and for fish, but for plans.



**Movies** The manager set them up for Siskin at the Yarn.



**Refreshments** A Barber's, don't say forgetful, where Harry Howell serves Ben Shady, Don Williams, Donnie Hill and Paul. In background are Mrs. J. Hill and children, Status and Leola.



**Sliding Board** Home at Cherokee Park.



**Boating** Sunday afternoon scene in the harbor of the Louisville Boat Club.



**Burlesque** Jack Dawson, Mattie, high potential, plays the bride at this East-ern High School party. The groom is a teddy.

## Cherokee Gardens Boys Sponsor Bazaar For Polio

By ENA MILLER

For a small group of 10 and 11-year olds, the benefit bazaar sponsored and held Thursday evening, from 6 until 9, August 28, was decidedly a success and was proof of how hard they worked in advance and their ability in organizing for a common purpose in such a business-like way.

Gerry Boland, son of Mr. and Mrs. U. V. Boland, 531 Garden Drive, had the original idea to do something for the current Polio Drive, and asked his pals to help him. "Buzz" Cummins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Cummins, 3020 Poppy Way, was Gerry's right-hand man. The other five who worked hard on the project were: Ray and Johnny Pfeiffer, 560 Garden Drive, John Pryor, 530 Garden Drive, "Hank" Dimmitt, 3033 Poppy Way, and Jimmy Boland, Gerry's twin brother.

The Bazaar was held in the garden of the Cummins' residence on Poppy Way, and featured "a House of Horrors" which the boys arranged in the garage. At intervals many squeals and shrieks rent the evening air from the interior of the garage, during the three-hour show. Booths lined the garden walk and offered refreshments, a penny pitch, home-made cakes (donated by the mothers), hat pitch, and, of course, a fish pond. Jimmy Boland's pony ride was a hit with the small fry of the neighborhood, who lined up for their turn of a short cruise up and down the Cummins' driveway.

Prior to the bazaar, the boys were busy all week selling a parakeet and a set of guest towels, also donated to the cause. The boys announced they took in \$25 on this one project. The other projects netted \$68.58, making a total of \$93.58 the children donated to the Polio Fund Drive.

Clifton Heights area.

## Carnival And Kool Ade Raise \$40 For Polio

Six children on Hycliffe Avenue raised \$40 for the Polio Fund last week.

It started with a door-to-door collection, progressed into a kool-ade stand, and wound up a carnival.

Nancy Sullivan, 11, and Terry Sue Gottbrath, 10, joined forces a couple of weeks ago to collect money door-to-door. They got five dollars.

This they invested in kool-ade, which they sold last Friday on the street. Four other children began helping them—Charlie Smoot, 11, Patsy Gorbandt, 11, Wesley Wilkerson, 12, and Edna Gray, 15.

They decided to turn it into a carnival, and began visiting local merchants, who have been rather hard hit in these past two weeks of polio carnivals and shows. But the stores didn't let them down.

Pookman Drugs donated a box of toys. Woolworth's threw in 15 packages of toys. Taylor Drugs came through with two toy boats. Sears donated a clock. Two lovely vases were forthcoming at Will Sales. Fairmeade Pharmacy tossed in cosmetics, and Steiden's in Fairmeade topped it off with candy.

The girls baked a cake, and decorated it as a butterfly for a prize. Passers-by got interested in the proceedings, held at 3807 Hycliffe in the front yard, and stopped their cars to take a turr at the penny pitch or fish pond or one of the other attractions. Some of them simply made a contribution and drove on.



The boys and girls of Wesboro Road gave a Polio carnival August 26 in the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hodge, 11 Wesboro Road, and cleared \$31.35 for the Polio Fund. In the front row are Glen Hodge, Butch Frerichs, and Vernon Hodge. In back are Harry Willett, Myrian Hauser, Vonnie McCoy, Linda Bonta, Barbara Willet, and Bill Taylor. Others working in the carnival were Bobby Weiss, Donna Christain, and Allan Christain.

### Ridgeway, Dellridge Children Get \$41.92

The children on Ridgeway Avenue and Dellridge Drive August 27 collected \$41.92 for the Emergency Polio Fund through contributions, a talent show and cake raffle.

The following children participated in the show: Mary Lou Scott, Martha Moore, Nancy Moore, Sheila Cheek, Mary Donna Dattilo, Virginia Boardman, Barbara Burwell, Pam Moore, Mary Frances Penick, John Boardman, Lee Dattilo, Hunter Moore, and Muir Cui.

### Woodland To Give Carnival And Party

A carnival and party for the Polio Fund will be given in the empty lot at the corner of Trinity and Natchez Roads Sunday from 4 to 8 p.m. by residents of the Woodland subdivision.

The day will open with a bicycle parade, with a prize going to the one best-decorated. There will be pony rides, tractor rides, games and all the other attractions of a carnival. Homemade cakes, pies, sandwiches and lemonade will be sold. Mothers and children are collaborating in the work.

Mrs. R. F. Wilder, 3303 Natchez, and Mrs. Van Buren Pell, 3302 Trinity, are in charge. The public is invited.

## Massie Avenue Raises Over \$400 For Polio Fund

The dinner and carnival held Saturday by the mothers and children in the 3900 block Massie Saturday, netted a cool \$389.50 for the Emergency Polio Fund.

A cake sale held by the 4000 block Massie at Bacon's last week added another \$39.50.

The dinner and carnival was held at 3930 Massie, home of the Ernest Groves'. The children raised the first \$20, then turned it over to the parents for operating funds.

Families on the block donated cakes, food and salad for the dinner.

The following stores donated prizes:

Taylor Drugs, Sears, Madeline Gift Shop, Woolworth, Will Sales, Emory's, Byek's, Gary's, Mimi's, Oakwood Sporting Goods, Hat Box, Chism Hardware, Hytken's, Frankel-Klapheke, Clifton Lumber, St. Matthews Feed Store, Kentucky Model Shop, Morgan's Men's Store, St. Matthews Hardware, Charlie Rueff Signs, Ace Jewelers, Thorobred Shop, Paint Pot, King's Men's Store, Little Folks Shop, Showers Men's and Boys', Towne House, Bittner's Record Shop, K. Brown Jeweler, Pookman's Drugs, Arctic Ice, Jan-Jan, Boland-Malonev, Louie's Tavern, Plehn's Bakery, Honey Krust Bread, and several others who specifically requested their names not be mentioned.

## Deerfield Lane Raises \$209.65 For Polio Fund

Parents and children on Deerfield Lane last week raised \$209.65 for the Polio Fund in three tries.

A carnival and show, highlighted by a one-act play written by 11-year-old Penny Smith, 415 Deerfield, netted \$107.65. A movie at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Macauley, 419 Deerfield, brought in \$57 more. The remaining \$45 was raised by a group of children selling Reynolds aluminum wrap.

Penny's play was called "The Fairy Hat Shop." Phyllis Curtis helped her direct it. It was held in Penny's back yard. Members of the cast were Taffy Davis, Marilyn Curtis, Nancy Curtis, Karer Smith, Diane Bickel, Sheila James, Sally Kaufman, Audie Willis, and Beverly Bickel.

Barbara Webb sold popcorn and drinks. Kathy Cline and Judy Foster sold popcorn. Johnny Foster auctioned cakes. Henrietta Bennett and Betty Dietrich handled pony rides. Freddy Davis and Billy Baldwin handled a penny pitch. Laurel Kaufman and Johnny Foster handled a penny pitch and sold comics.

The O'Nan Pan-Am station donated a car wash, oil change and grease job.

Children selling the aluminum wrap were Patsy Pollack, Kathy Cline, Phyllis Curtis, Beverly O'Nan, Barbara Webb, and Penny Smith.

Note: Many of these kids are Waggener Classes 1960/61.



**St. Matthews Story In 1954 Was One Of Growth With More To Come**

The St. Matthews story in 1954 was one of growth. Few accurate figures were available on just how much, but everyone agreed it was the best record in the State, and would continue to be in the coming year.

An estimated 400 homes were built, construction was started on a Y.M.C.A., a half dozen churches announced building plans, and scores of new businesses opened or were in construction.

Dr. K. P. Vinsol, executive secretary of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce, offered some statistics. St. Matthews area population, over 42,000 by the end of 1953, would rise to over 47,000 by the end of 1955, and to nearly 59,000 by the end of 1963, he said. The number of families was 11,677 at the beginning of 1954. He predicted that figure would rise to 12,184 by the end of 1955 and to 16,300 by the end of 1963.

There will be 225 retail businesses here at the end of 1955, he said, compared with 194 at the beginning of 1954, and the 1963 figure would be 280.

To service this growing population, civic groups, churches, the Board of Education and businesses went to work.

The biggest item in the building picture for 1954 was a ground-breaking ceremony held last month for the 30-store, 34 acre shopping center by Ralph Biernbaum on the south side of Shelbyville Road, between Hubbards Lane and the Inner Belt Highway.

Two banks began construction in the same neighborhood and Citizens Fidelity announced it would expand its branch at Breckenridge Lane and Frankfort Avenue and would build another branch in this area.

The Bank of Louisville began building at 4400 Shelbyville Road. In October it opened temporary quarters there, and rocked the town when it announced that the new manager would be Ray Steltenpohl, a Citizens Fidelity mainstay since 1938.

A little to the west, on the other side of Delaney Furniture, which also opened here this year, Lincoln Bank and Trust began construction in October of a branch and named John Emrich, 509 Oxford, manager.

Taylor Drugs and Steiden's opened a shopping center at the corner of U.S. 42 and Chenoweth Lane over the strenuous objections of residents in the area.

Two schools were opened, Chenoweth Elementary and Waggener Junior High, with a total enrollment of nearly 1,400, and a combined value of about \$1.5 million. The Y.M.C.A. broke ground for a \$200,000 center on Hubbards Lane.

Construction was started on a \$1 million development on the old Potato Festival grounds on the north side of Shelbyville Road, west of the drive-in theatre, by the Churchill Developers, headed by Ed Kaiser and John Stall. But the two men dissolved their association, and so far, only a service station has been built.

The end of an era in St. Matthews life, when individuals, not corporation, dominated local business life, seemed to be upon us when Anthony Eline sold his Chevrolet agency at 3914 Frankfort Avenue to the Caudill Company. Mr. Eline had sold cars in St. Matthews since 1913 and switched to Chevrolet in 1933. The Caudill Company moved to quarters on Shelbyville Road, west of Pryor's.

The churches advanced at a rapid pace. In January, St. Matthews Methodist began a \$45,000 addition and Bethel Evangelical and Reformed opened a drive for \$225,000 to expand and remodel existing facilities.

Building was started on the Beechwood Baptist Church, which will cost about \$156,000. St. Matthews Episcopal in March, after only one year in its new church at Hubbards Lane and Massie Avenue, was readying a \$165,000 fund drive for an educational building.

Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church in April let contracts amounting to \$54,407 for improvements. Two months later, Holy Spirit Catholic Church opened its new \$300,000 church for services.

That same month, June, St. Matthews Baptist let contracts for \$150,000 to enlarge its auditorium and to build a new education building, and Meadowview Presbyterian Church, Breckenridge Lane near Taylorsville Road, announced plans for building a \$60,000 education fellowship building.

St. John Lutheran started a \$22,500 building and expansion drive in September. The second Presbyterian Church in October broke ground for a \$250,000 unit in rolling Fields.

But there was failure in many areas. Displaying the same suicidal tendencies that almost wrecked the Highlands as a trading center, downtown St. Matthews could not agree on a basic problem of liquor. Despite a good showing that the people preferred Friday night openings, many stores, especially those dealing in woman's clothes continued to stay open on Thursdays.

**St. Matthews Story In 1954 Was One Of Growth With More To Come**

The most strenuous efforts on the part of the St. Matthews Committee of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce, led by Karl Straub in its first year, could not break the deadlock. Some stores stay open late Friday, others late Thursday, and others both nights.

The City of St. Matthews continued its devilmint, although hampered on every side. A city hall was opened in January, and the State Legislature declared it a fourth class city, with a population of over 6,500.

A suit filed in February to keep St. Matthews from collecting taxes resulted in utter confusion when the courts ruled against St. Matthews. A new tax ordinance was passed and this too was challenged by a suit last month. Meanwhile the City collected more than half its taxes and set about providing municipal services.

Garbage collection was started in April, and about \$5,000 worth of street repairs in July. Ronald C. Kelsay, 24, was named police chief the same month, and patrolman William Tolliver was added to the force in December. Police court opened to handle violators.

In an era when taxes continue to mount, several sixth class cities, to the public amazement reduced taxes. Bellewood took the lead in January, cutting levies from 52 cents down to 48 cents per \$100 valuation. Later the same month, Richlawn taxes were reduced from 60 cents to 40. Druid Hills in July cut taxes in half, from 20 to 10 cents.

The new City of Parkside was established and Clifford Ziegler, 321 Norbourne Boulevard, was elected Mayor.

The cities found they had traffic problems and Norbourne Estates, St. Matthews, and Beechwood Village began cracking down on speeders. Over 125 violators were ticketed and fined.

During the dry summer the Cities of Richlawn, Cherrywood, Beechwood Village, and Norbourne Estates found themselves in the evenings without enough water pressure for ordinary household needs. The Louisville Water Company promised relief in 1955.

The cities also found they had other common problems and in December, under prodding of the St. Matthews Committee of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce, 20 of the 31 in Jefferson County began an organization in an attempt to solve the problems through joint action.

But civic-wise, sport-wise, and culture-wise, it was a good year.

A new service club was organized, the Optimist, "friends of the boy" and Richard Wheeler was elected first president. The St. Matthews Community Theatre gained in size and strength, after staging its first production in December, 1953. The group staged four plays in 1954—"The Man Who Came to Dinner," "Chicken Every Sunday," "The Night of January 16th," and "Strange Bedfellows." Profits exceeded one thousand dollars, most of which was donated to the Community Center, whose building was used as a theatre.

But it was in the field of sports that St. Matthews was most successful. Eastern High School's great basketball squad came from behind to overcome a 19-point deficit and defeat the Valley Vikings 52-49 for the County title.

The Eagles in March whipped Valley again and Fern Creek for the 26th District championship, and wre barely stopped by Male, 49-45, in the Regionals, after leading for three quarters. Llew Spears, Dick Ewing, Phil Barker, and Hugh Durham made the All-Regional and All-District teams.

It was a thrilling farewell present for Coach Earl Duncan, who transferred in the fall to Waggener, where he is now dean of boys. The team's record was 16-6, and 7-0 in County play.

Eastern tennis stars Jack and Jimmy Tarr won the Kentucky High School doubles championship and Max Brown of Indian Hills won the singles. Holy Trinity ended its first year of sports, awarding letters to 15 cagers and 23 baseball players. Jeep Quire named athletic coach, and under the Jeep's direction the Shamrocks recently completed a mildly successful football season, and have started a sensational basketball year, winning their first five this season in a row.

Little League Baseball opened its second season under president Charles Siegel, with four teams in each of two leagues.

The American League race, a thriller, saw the Colonials rise from nowhere to nose out the Taylors on the last day of play. Sparked by the hitting and pitching of Mike Lawson, the Colonials overcame a four-game deficit by winning their last six in a row and their last nine out of 10, to finish with a 13-5 record. Taylors, which had led all year, finished with 12-6.

Lawson led the league with seven wins, on loss, and 85 strikeouts. He was the leading hitter with an average of .549, making 20 hits in 51 at-bats. He tied for the league lead with two homers, and led in R.B.I. with 18.

The Citizens, with an all-star lineup, made a shambles of the National League race, winning 15 and losing only three. Pryors trailed with 9-9, to capture second place.

**St. Matthews Story In 1954 Was One Of Growth With More To Come**

The Citizens' drive was powered mainly by two boys, Gerry Kazunas and Dick Peloff, Kazunas led the league with a .537 average, 31 R.B.I. five homers and seven doubles. Peloff also batted over .500 and pitched five victories against one defeat.

But it was the Americans who won the District Championship 13-5, they took on the Algonquins who defeated the St. Matthews Nationals. Sparked by Brad Arterburn's grand slam homer, they overcame the Algonquins 5-2.

Meanwhile, a Pony League was organized for boys 13 and 14, under the leadership of Ivan Imes. The Yanks, coached by Ken Dillard, after training all year, defeated the braves 5-4 on the last day of play for the title. The Yanks won 12, lost three. The braves record was 10-5.

Brave Bob Matthews led the league with a .477 average and 16 R.B.I. Lloyd Payton of the Yanks was the best pitcher, winning six while losing one.

The sports season was capped by the performance of Emmet Goranflo's 1954 Eastern football squad. After a faltering start, the coach moved Hugh Durham to halfback, and developed a sharp passing attack.

The inspired Eagles rooled over the opposition, and celebrated the opening of their new stadium,, built by school parents, by crushing Southern 14-0. The Eagles went on to compile a 7-2 record, and won the County championship for the most successful season in its history.

As 1955 opened, there were sings of conflict on the horizon. The tempo had quickened in the continuing competition between commercial and residential interests. The people of the Brownsboro Road area, balked in their first attempt to prevent commercialization of "the last attractive entrance left into Louisville," solidified into the U. S. 42—Brownsboro Road Protective Association. Their prestige and strength were greatly increased as local newspapers gave them support, and the Mayor of Louisville expressed whole-hearted sympathy with their aims.

They won a victory on December 30, successfully opposing an attempt to rezone two lots at the northeast corner ob Brownsboro Road and Chenoweth Lane. Well-organized and well-let, they present a formidable road block against any plan for the further commercialization of the highway.

# 1955 Will Be Known As St. Matthews Greatest Year Of Progress . . .

Newspaper people can probably make predictions for the year ahead with as much accuracy as the experts . . . and that headline up there is our prediction.

In making that statement, we take nothing away from the progress of 1954, 1953, or other great years . . . for much has been done, and the doing impresses a need for continued and greater progress.

The news and editorial columns of The Voice mirror community progress from week to week. But, too seldom do we take time, or have space, to point out our own small part in the progress of the community that is so much a part of us.

Over the period of a year or more, the progress of a newspaper is often hard to see. An extra page or two now and then is accepted as commonplace . . . and expected in the following issue. So, may we beg your indulgence while we modestly point out the progress The Voice has made.

1. An average of more than a half-page more per issue in 1954 than in 1953 . . . made possible by
2. More display advertising and more dollar volume in 1954 than in 1953 . . . brought about by
3. Better results from investments in advertising by a greatly increased number of St. Matthews-area advertisers . . . which could only result from
4. Constantly increasing reader interest in the newspaper from its steadily growing list of ABC-Audited paid circulation.

Frankly, we're proud and pleased as punch to be a growing part of the finest residential and suburban shopping area we know of.

**The Voice**  
of ST. MATTHEWS  
AND THE VOICE OF THE HIGHLANDS

February 2, 1955:

## Virus, Flu Pay Schools Annual Visit

St. Matthews schools are under fire from two old enemies—Flu and virus. They showed up on schedule again, right at the last week in January, when there's a great up and down movement in the temperature.

School officials expect it to blow over, as always, with no fatalities and everybody a little paler and weaker—and the doctors and drug companies a little richer.

The annual epidemic started as usual with the teenagers at Eastern, who're a little under par from not getting to bed as early as they ought to. Now, it's worked down to the younger students.

Principal Jack Dawson said Eastern was hit around Tuesday of last week. By Tuesday of this week, the casualties were at the peak, keeping about 200 students a day home out of an enrollment of 1,600. It started getting to the teachers this week. Three were out by Tuesday.

Waggener Junior High was also hit last week, and reached the peak this week. About 185 pupils out of 850 were out Tuesday, Principal John Lowe said some of them were not sick, but were kept home by parents to keep from catching anything.

Chenoweth School is under siege for the second time this term. The first was before Christmas, but was nothing compared to the present one.

By Tuesday about 100 pupils were out, according to Miss Marguerite Lewis, principal. Chenoweth's enrollment is 595.

Stivers with 635 students and Greathouse with 850 haven't been spared. At Stivers, the epidemic started Monday, and hadn't reached all through the school by Tuesday. But 17 pupils out of one third grade class were missing, and about 80 altogether, according to Mrs. Ruth Osborne, principal.

"It usually goes all through the school before it stops," she said. One teacher was out last week, and returned Monday. Another was out Tuesday, but she wasn't sick; it was her son, a student at Waggener. She stayed home to take care of him.

Greathouse was at the peak Tuesday, with over 200 missing. One first grade teacher had only 12 of 28 present, said principal Kenneth Farmer. The casualty rate on teachers is about two a day.

"Next comes chicken pox, measles, and mumps," said Mr. Farmer.



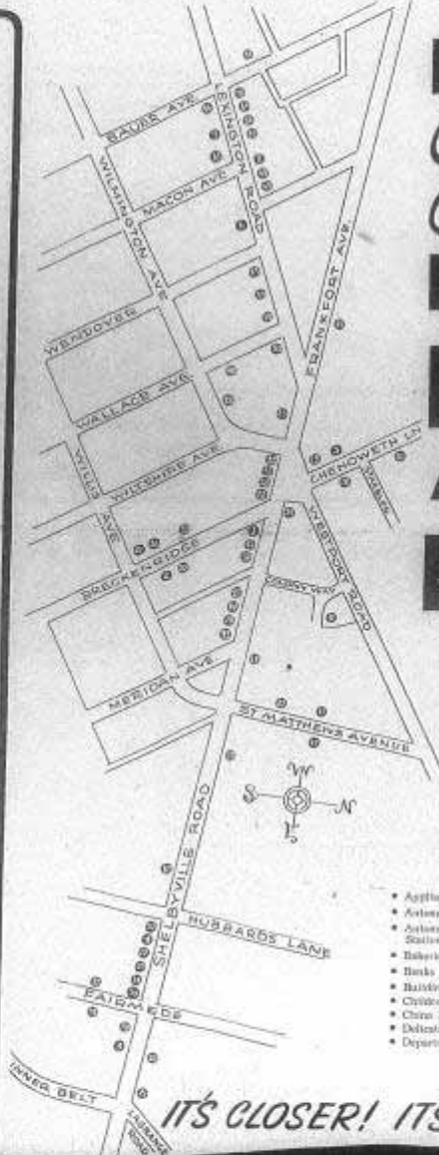
The Coca-Cola Car Wash opened for business recently, and manager George 'Chic' watches as one car on the assembly line goes through the water spray. Located on Chenoweth Lane just north of the railroad tracks, it is St. Matthews' first automatic-type, assembly-line car wash.

December 8, 1955

# ST. MATTHEWS SHOPPING CENTERS

Here's your key to all-inclusive Community Shopping in St. Matthews

- ASHLEY-BREKMAN DRUG CO. (1)
- BALKEMIN, INC. (2)
- BANK OF LOUISVILLE (3)
- BROOKS PATY & WALLPAPER (4)
- BROOKS' SAILINGS & SUITERS (5)
- MARTON SISK STORE (6)
- K. BROWN JEWELRY (7)
- HUGHESBERRY'S JEWELRY STORE (8)
- CAPITAL LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING CO. (9)
- CASTLE SHEPHERD CO. (10)
- CHESTER LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING CO. (11)
- CITIZENS SAVING BANK (12)
- BARBARA CLARKE (13)
- THE CLARKE CO. (14)
- CONFIDENCE SALES CO. (15)
- THECKTON GOODE FORD, INC. (16)
- DAVIS WALLPAPER & PUTTER PAINT (17)
- EXETER FRY AND SERVICE (18)
- DEPTON'S, INC. (19)
- JIMMY BOYLE'S SHOE SERVICE (20)
- THE ELLIOTT INSURANCE SERVICE (21)
- THE STATE BUILDING & LOAN ASSOC. (22)
- FERRISS SERVICE STICK (23)
- FIRST NATIONAL BANK (24)
- GUARDIAN FINANCIAL CORPORATION (25)
- SHEDS ATINA SERVICE (26)
- SHEDS PLANT & NURSERY STORE (27)
- KEYSTONE BRIDGE SHOP (28)
- BET C. KERRILL JEWELRY (29)
- THE KROGER CO. (30)
- LESTER LUNLEY (31)
- LEWIS' BROS. & STRIKE CO. (32)
- LEWIS' ST. MATTHEWS SAUNDRY, INC. (33)
- MARIE WIDMAN APPAREL (34)
- MARTIN'S GROCERY (35)
- J. ASHBY MILLER CIL. REALTOR (36)
- MIMI & POTS' FLORISTS & NURSERY (37)
- MURPHY'S MEN'S SHOP (38)
- GIL MULLER'S SALES & SERVICE (39)
- DAKWOOD SPORTING GOODS STORE (40)
- OFFIT & SMILE, INC. (41)
- PAINT JOB (42)
- PANTY BELICANTEN (43)
- PATLON BROS. (44)
- FLANN'S BAKERY (45)
- FOURMAN BROS. (46)
- SANTER'S CLEANERS (47)
- HAAS-ROEBUCK & CO. (48)
- SOUTHERN SHOE MARKET (49)
- PAUL R. SYDNER GOLF SERVICE (50)
- ST. MATTHEWS FEED & SEED (51)
- ST. MATTHEWS TIRE SHOP (52)
- SHOE CLEANERS & LAUNDRY (53)
- STUBBS (54)
- TERESA TEXACO SERVICE (55)
- VANNEYI APPLANCE CO., INC. (56)
- WERN'S SHOE STORE (57)
- THE WOODLAND (58)
- WOLFE'S BAKERY (59)
- WENST & YENAWINE CO. (60)



**HAVE**  
*Everything!*  
**PLUS**  
**FREE**  
**AMPLE**  
**PARKING**

**FASHIONS — FRILLS — FOOD — FUN**  
You'll find them all along the more attractive shopping centers, in the greater St. Matthews area. It's truly a representative cross section of Young America, with all of its wants and needs—even its luxuries and entertainment—offered by a host of successful Young American businesses and services, that attract and adequately fit the most discriminating customers they serve and all this with FREE, adequate parking facilities designed for YOUR convenience.

- In the Greater St. Matthews Shopping Centers You'll Find:
- Appliance Stores
  - Automobile Agencies
  - Automobile Service Stations
  - Bakeries
  - Banks
  - Building & Loan Associations
  - Children's Apparel
  - Chain & Gift Shops
  - Delicatessens
  - Department Stores
  - Drug Stores
  - Finance Companies
  - Food Markets
  - Hobby Shops
  - Insurance Agencies
  - Interior Decorators
  - Jewelers
  - Laundry & Dry Cleaning Companies
  - Men's Apparel
  - Nursery, Groceries & Seed Stores
  - Paint & Wallpaper Stores
  - Realtors
  - Restaurants
  - Shoe Stores
  - Sporting Goods
  - Trailer Sales
  - Upholstery Shops
  - Women's Apparel
  - Every Type of City Service

*IT'S CLOSER! IT'S CONVENIENT TO*  
**SHOP IN ST. MATTHEWS!**

# BANK OF LOUISVILLE

Announces the Gala Opening of its NEW

## St. Matthews Office

4400 SHELBYVILLE ROAD • "THE NEIGHORLY BANK WITH THE EXTRA BANKING HOURS"

Thanks, Neighbors for the Grand Reception You Gave Our Temporary Office! Now Our Full Facilities Are At Your Service!

Bank of Louisville came to St. Matthews with a feeling that it had something special to offer the people of this area. First—an attitude of neighborly helpfulness and an understanding of the problems of a semi-agricultural community—of the farmer, the businessman and the individual. Second—a policy of service that includes longer banking hours—seven extra hours every normal week and Saturday banking. All three offices of Bank of Louisville are open from 9:00 to 4:00, Monday through Friday, and from 9:00 to Noon on Saturday. Third—the highest interest rate on savings paid by any bank or other financial institution—2.75% on one-year certificates of deposit of \$1000 or more; and 2% on regular savings accounts. We opened our Temporary Office in St. Matthews on October 16, and we have been more than gratified in the response of the people of this community. Hundreds have told us that there was a great need here for a bank of real personal service, and the number of new accounts on our books in the few short months we have operated with limited facilities proved that they were right. Now our full facilities are at your service—a big, brand-new bank with large, modern safety vault, drive-in window, night depository and plenty of parking space!

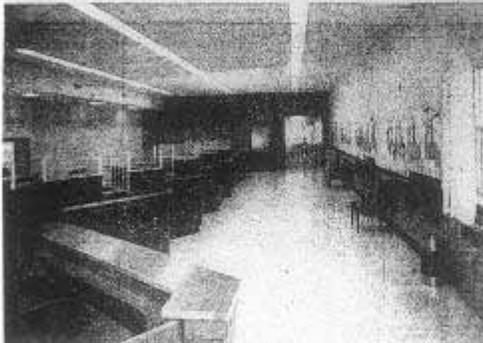
RAY F. STELTENPOHL, Vice President & Manager

Saturday, March 12—9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

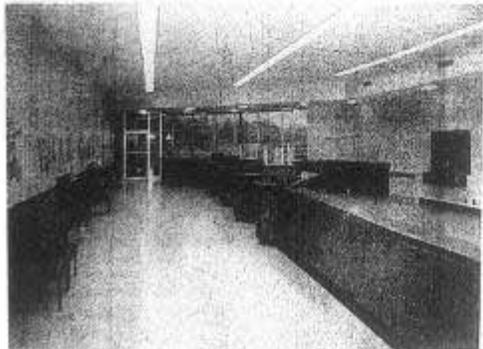


The already "open face look" of the very modern new St. Matthews office of Bank of Louisville is indicated in this photograph. (Architect was taken before the parking was completed on the drive-in and parking areas.) Note car in left at "drive-in" window. The entire building is corded by a road, so that customers may drive in at the west side and out the east side and bypass their banking business without leaving their cars. There is ample parking space in front and rear of the bank for those who prefer to walk into the banking room. The steel superstructure reveals the steel supports over the largest bank signs in the part of the country. It has electric signs with neon letters 8 feet high, which can be seen for miles along Shelbyville Road.

There is ample parking space in front and rear of the bank for those who prefer to walk into the banking room. The steel superstructure reveals the steel supports over the largest bank signs in the part of the country. It has electric signs with neon letters 8 feet high, which can be seen for miles along Shelbyville Road.



This is the view you get as you enter the lobby of the bank. To the left are the office quarters and the "talker" cages. Storage ahead in the shining steel safety vault, warm safe deposit boxes for your valuables may be rented for \$1.40 a year. Unique "saw-tooth" talker cages, arranged for greater efficiency and to facilitate traffic on "peak" days were designed by Jesse P. Strong, President of the bank, and are in use at all three offices of the institution. Note the interesting "cascade" motif in the wall panels, the colors of which must be seen to be appreciated. Doors on the right lead to waiting rooms, rest rooms, kitchen, and storage area.



Looking toward the front of the bank from the rear of the lobby, the smart modern design and efficient arrangement of the banking room is revealed. The wide opening of the picture plate windows across the entire front allows a flood of natural light. The "cascade" motif in the wall panels is "flush" lighted, eliminating possible shadows. The "cascade" motif is found air conditioning.

### FIVE BIG PRIZES IN SILVER!

FIVE PERSONS WILL WIN THEIR HEIGHT IN SILVER DOLLARS ON OPENING DAY

A unique device for measuring your height in silver dollars will be one of the attractions of the opening Saturday of the new St. Matthews office of Bank of Louisville. Every person who enters the bank between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. will be given the opportunity to get "measured in silver dollars." The measurement will be written on a ticket and all tickets will be deposited in a barrel. Tickets are absolutely free and are limited to a single ticket for each person. At 8 p.m. there will be a drawing of FIVE LUCKY NUMBERS. The five lucky persons, regardless of age or size, will each receive the number of silver dollars which are required (depending on age) to reach from the floor to the top of his head. No one connected with the Bank of Louisville in any capacity nor any member of his or her immediate family will be eligible for a prize.



Ray Steltenpohl (left), Vice President and Manager of the St. Matthews Office, and Richard H. Staal, Executive Vice President of Bank of Louisville, are trying out the new silver-measuring device. Joe Sims, Bank of Louisville employee Miss Joyce Knight is being measured in silver dollars. Participants will eligible for any of the five prizes. Incidentally, all firms are members of the St. Matthews area.

### SOUVENIRS FOR ALL VISITORS

LONGER BANKING HOURS  
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Monday thru Friday  
9:00 A.M. to Noon  
Saturdays

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

# 3,500 Local Children Get First Polio Shots

About 3,500 children in grades one through four in the St. Matthews area received first polio vaccine shots last week.

Almost 100 more were given booster shots, to use up the vaccine left over. Only about 75 pupils failed to show up for their shots, according to Mrs. Fred Latham, volunteers' recruiting chairman.

She said the first clinic last Thursday went off 'very smoothly' and most of the children were vaccinated in the first hour and one half, though some of the teams worked three hours.

Second shots will be given May 18. The first and second shots are furnished by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and are distributed by the County Board of Health.

However, the third shots, which can be taken seven months later, will be left up to the parents. May 12 will be booster shot day for children in some schools who received three shots in the field trial last year.

The greatest number, 513, were inoculated last week at Greathouse School. Only five students did not take the shots and six received boosters.

The total at other schools here:  
Ballard, 148 inoculations, 11 absentees, eight boosters; Stearns, 375, 13, and 13; Chenoweth, 20,

12, and four; Our Lady of Lourdes, 310, one, and five; Holy Spirit, 210, four and one; Holy Trinity, 225, seven, and nine; St. Margaret Mary, 198, two, and eight; Lyndon, 289, none, and five; Middletown, 390, 15 and 15; Anchorage, 87, five, and 12; Melbourne Heights, 368, eight, and five; and Eastwood 79, three, and none.

### Bellewood Elects Porter For 4th Straight Term

It was in March, 1950, that W. T. Porter was sworn in as a member of the Board of Trustees of the newly-organized City of Bellewood.

He was named Mayor shortly thereafter by his fellow trustees and he has served in that position ever since. On Tuesday of last week, he was elected to his fourth term on the Board.

March, 1950, it will be remembered, was the great month of incorporations. The Cities of St. Matthews, Springlee and Bellewood all came into being at that time.

So far as it can be checked, Mr. Porter has the longest record of continuous service of any trustee of any City in the St. Matthews area, south of Brownsboro Road.

Mayor Noland, B. W. Gratzler, Henry Leathers and Sam Rudy have served in St. Matthews since the beginning, but Bellewood was incorporated a week or two earlier.

Quincy Tyler and R. J. Hancock in Richlawn have possibly served more time, but not uninterruptedly. Mr. Hancock served a term as City engineer, and Mr. Tyler did not run for office in 1953. He was pressed back into service as Mayor in January of this year when Mayor Courtney McIntyre died in office, and three other trustees resigned because they'd been transferred by their firms or for other business reasons.

A quiet, business-like but friendly gentleman, Mr. Porter is active in several local organizations. This past summer, he was chief scorekeeper for the National League and compiled all the statistics for the players' final fielding, batting and pitching records.

His boy, 11-year-old Steve (WHS '61), played with the Ermanns in the League. Steve, incidentally, tries his hand at several sports. He swam this summer for the River Road Country Club team, and is now playing with the Beavers in the St. Matthews Football League. Mr. Porter was a director at the Country Club the past year.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter served on the Community Chest and Y.M.C.A. fund drives. "It seems we work for one good cause after another," said Mrs. Porter.

By day, Mr. Porter, 45, is vice president of sales at Porcelain Metals. He and the trustees run the City nights and weekends.

"I've enjoyed it from the standpoint of getting to know so many people," he said. "Our problems here in Bellewood are not major." Now that fire and garbage services have been established, "we sort of let things run themselves," he added.

It is his conviction that the residents "want things to go along without a lot of regulations and restrictions." He feels that the "best thing a little City can do is to provide a reasonable number of services to justify its existence."

His City of 125 homes, just north of St. Matthews and east of Chenoweth Lane, has no hope of providing elaborate municipal services, he said.

Looking at it realistically, he concludes that the main advantages of being an incorporated area in the County are that it gives him and his neighbors "a means for group action to provide certain municipal services, and an opportunity of electing what is going to happen to our little area. As a City, we have some voice in determining what is going to happen to us in the future."

His meaning is pretty clear. An unincorporated area is a sitting duck for Cities wishing to annex it. But an incorporated area can be annexed only by vote of the people.

The City's treasury is primarily a reserve road fund, and at the end of this year, should amount to about \$4,500 or \$5,000. This money is invested in a manner prescribed by law and brings in a good rate of interest.

Bellewood's tax rate started out at 48 cents, went up to 52 cents for one year to cover an "extraordinary expense," and two years ago came back down to 46 cents. Existing County assessments were used, with some adjustments for inequalities, and these assessments have not been altered.

The City government has resurfaced Brookfield, partially at its own expense, and partially by assessment of the abutting property owners. "This was done at the 100 percent request of the residents," Mr. Porter pointed out.

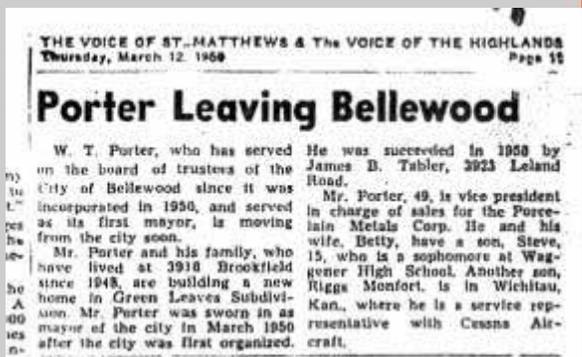
Repair work has been done on Elmwood. The City contracts for fire protection from the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, and provides garbage collection twice a week for seven months, and once a week for the other five months. Also fire plugs have been added and maintained where needed, and now every house in Bellewood is within 1,000 feet of a fire plug.

Mr. Porter was born and raised in Cincinnati. A graduate of Purdue, he has a B.S. degree in Science.

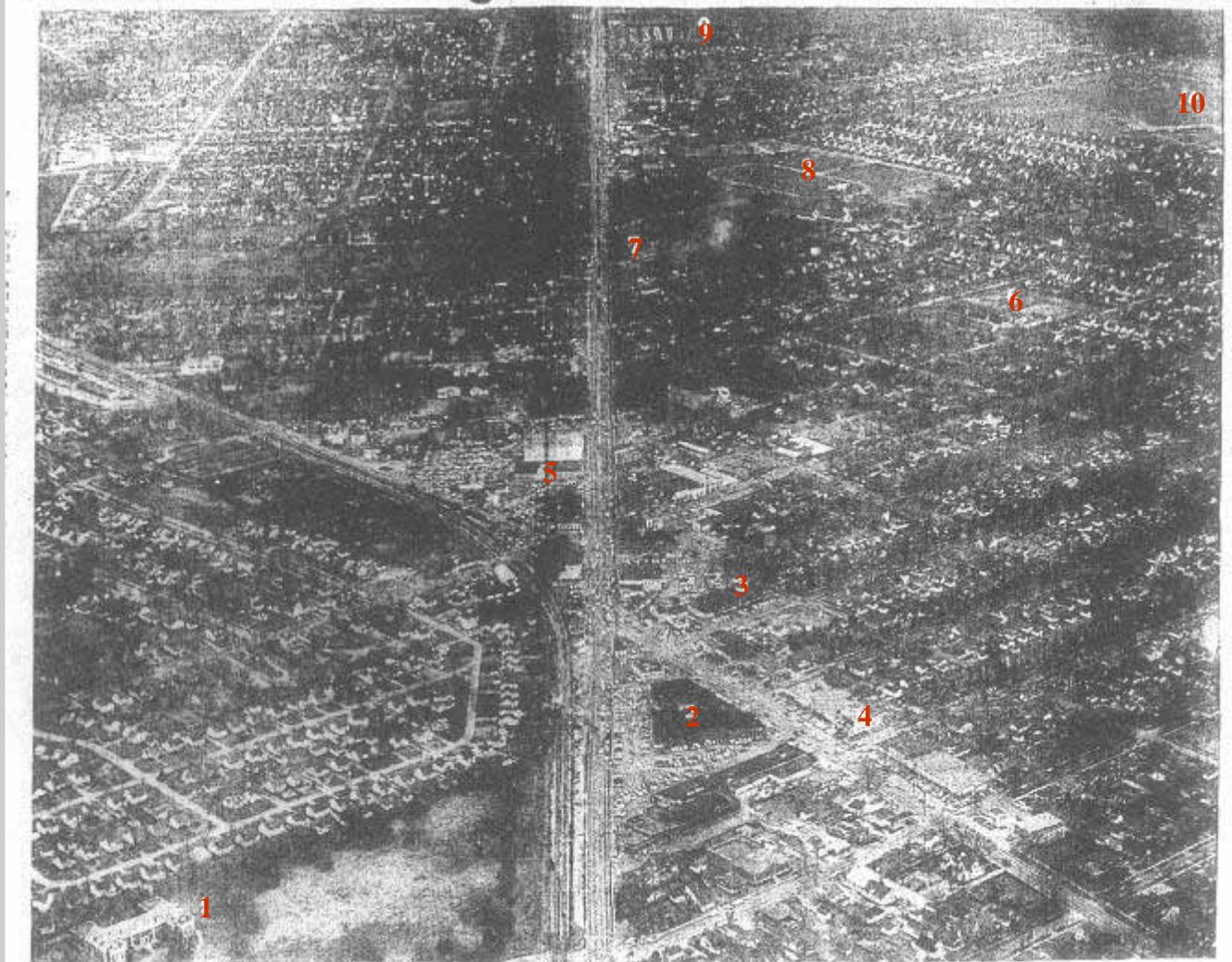
His stepson, First Lt. E. Riggs Monfort, 26, is the young man who, crippled in one leg as a child by polio, recovered and became an Air Force jet pilot. He is now stationed in Okinawa.



W. T. PORTER



**St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955  
Big City Problems Polled Up  
Area Had Great Year In Building Business, Sports**



This aerial view, taken at the end of 1955, shows the heart of St. Matthews. The road leading from top to bottom is, of course, Frankfort Avenue—Shelbyville Road. Landmarks numbered are (1) Masonic Home, (2) the Taylor Triangle, (3) Wallace Center, (4) Canary Cottage, (5) the A & P supermarket and Bacon's, (6) Greathouse School, (7) Beargrass Christian Church, (8) the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A., (9) the Shelbyville Road Plaza, and (10) Waggener School. Can you pick out your home or place of business?

\*\*\*\*\*

In 1955, St. Matthews grew out of the strictly suburban class, and moved toward something resembling a metropolitan area. It developed a traffic problem and showed signs of getting a bit short on parking space. Surrounding areas were suddenly faced with a sewer problem. And at the end, its business district found itself competing not only with Louisville, but with a giant new shopping center further out Shelbyville Road, the Shelbyville Road Plaza.

The city didn't run for cover. The businessmen initiated a promotion campaign to keep as much trade as possible in downtown St. Matthews, and they organized a Business Association, which immediately went to work seeking solutions for traffic and parking problems.

Many new businesses opened in downtown St. Matthews, new stores and offices went up, and existing buildings were expanded. The commercial areas along Shelbyville Road were developed, and at the end of the year, the St. Matthews area had about 40 new stores and two new banks.

Residential development also returned. Ed Shaver was, and still is building in Bellemeade, John Walser in Beechwood Village and Marydale. Graham Brown along Breckenridge Lane and Anthony Eline on Dutchman's Lane, to mention a few.

## St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955

Several churches were expanded, and three new ones were completed. The \$200,000 St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. was finished and dedicated, and the new St. Matthews Elementary School was opened.

Meanwhile the City of St. Matthews moved confidently into the future. Louisville's last-ditch effort to annex the business district was vetoed by a Circuit Court jury, and the George Washington Party, headed by Mayor James Noland, faced an election campaign for the first time in the history of the City, and won an overwhelming vote of confidence from the people.

There were some dark spots in the otherwise bright picture. Schools, Catholic as well as County, were crowded. St. Matthews could take pride in the fact that its people voted for the proposed 50-cent tax increase to meet new school building needs, but the rest of the County voted so heavily against it, the proposal was defeated. And no easy inexpensive solution could be agreed on by State, County, City and local businessmen.

The history of a community however, is more than a recital of business, building and political news. The year 1955 found St. Matthews and its neighboring communities developing a rich cultural and sports programs. Sixteen plays were produced here by the people of the community, most of them full-length three-act productions. A Great Books group was organized. Little League and Pony League baseball, the St. Matthews Football League, the new Y.M.C.A. building, the Eastern and Holy Trinity High school athletic programs, and the swimming and golf programs of the country clubs, along with the less well publicized efforts, reached into thousands of homes until the entire community felt their bracing effects.

*The sports program was probably closest to the hearts of most of the people, for it involved, in the main, their children. Let's begin there.*

We were all proud when the Eagles of Eastern High School, coached by Roy Adams, defeated the Fern Creek Tigers 75-62 in March, to win their second consecutive Jefferson County basketball championship. Led by Hugh Durham and Dick Ewing the Eagles registered victories over Manual (60-59), Atherton (68-54), Valley (75-49) and three wins over Fern Creek, for a 13-1 record for the regular season and 14-8 altogether.

(Durham a great trackman and football halfback as well as a basketball star, was awarded the Flying Dutchman's Corn Cob award, given annually to an outstanding sportsman.)

The 1955 Eagle grid squad, losing some close, tough ones, had a bad year on paper, winning only three, dropping four, and tying two. It was the first time in the six-year history of the school that an Eastern team, coached by Emmet Goranfln, had a losing year. There was a bright spot. Little Louis Roos, a junior playing his first year of varsity ball, captured the County scoring title, with a total of 60 points. (Charlene Scheibel of St. Matthews was crowned football queen.)

By the end of the year, the Eagle basketball team was in the midst of a new 18-game regular season, and had won three out of its first four, including a victory over mighty Lafayette, in the Louisville Invitational Tournament. Eastern whipped a strong Flaget team, before bowing to Manual.

Holy Trinity became a high school in the fall of 1955, and coached by Jeep Quire, entered its first season of varsity basketball and football. The players were all juniors and their complete lack of varsity experience showed, as they won only two out of eight football games, and two out of their first six basketball contests.

*The third season of St. Matthews Little League Baseball, under the presidency of Charles Siegel, was an almost unqualified success.*

Playing for the District championship, the St. Matthews National League All-Stars and the St. Matthews American League All-Stars knocked off all the competition, and faced each other in the finals.

The Americans in the opening round had defeated the Algonquin All-Stars 5-1, when Steve Graef blasted two home runs and a single, while his team mates, pitchers John Cardot and John Thompson, were giving up only four hits.

The Nationals, meanwhile, defeated Brandenburg 10-0 behind Tim Wright's three-hit pitching, with a nine-hit assault led by Paul Charron, Rich Stokes, Dave Leibson, and Charlie Kane.

In regular play, the Ermanns won the National League pennant for the first time, their 12-6 record good enough to edge the second-place Lions by one game, in the American League, the Models won their second pennant in three years with a 12-5 record, two games better than the second place Showers.

Rich Stokes of the Ermanns staged a sort of one-man show in the National League. He tied with George Trbble of the Lions for pitching honors (each boy won six and lost one) and led the league in strikeouts with 99. In 45 innings, Stokes allowed only eight hits and nine runs, and pitched one no-hitter and four one-hitters.

Playing third base when he was not pitching, Stokes, in his third year of Little League play, was also the National League's outstanding hitter, capturing three titles—hitting with a .449 average, runs-batted-in with 27, and home runs, with six.

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

In the American League, John Thompson of the Models topped the pitchers with a 6-1 record, and shortstop Chuck Armstrong of the Showers was the best hitter. Chuck's .452 average, six home runs and six doubles led the league.

The St. Matthews National and American League All-Stars were picked from the four Little League teams in their respective leagues.

The National All-Star coaches were Carl Porter of the Lions and Harold Hammon of the Ermonns, and the line-up included:

Kit Georgehead, Bob Dundon, Sonny Tribble, Jim Lapsley, To Dudgeon, Charlie Kane, Bryan Nemitz, Paul Charron, Mike Gambill, Bruce Martin, Tuffy Horne, Tim Wright, Rich Stokes, and Dave Liebson.

The American All-Star managers were Bill Cardot of the Models and Herb Rose of the Colonials. The line-up:

Steve Graef, John Thompson, John Cardot, Merle Kruer, Keith Thomas, Larry Loeser, Don McKay, Ray Simpson, Chuck Armstrong, Cap Hoskins, Mike Lynch, Bob Dixon, Rudy Miller, and Dave Hart.

There were 15 boys 13 and 14, on each of the eight teams, and each team played 18 regular season games.

The Pony League, for boys 13 and 14, had six teams of 16 players, and each team played 15 games. All-Star coaches were Pete Farlee and Charles Sterner, and the line-up was:

Ivan Imes, Jr., Lothian Smallwood, Charles Long, Dale Sterner, Sid Wright, Butch Faries, Buzz Miller, Lloyd Payton, Bobby Marr, Dick Peloff, Bob Norcross, Dean Elkins, Kent Thomas, Johnny Baxter, and Tookie Robertson.

It was the St. Matthews Pony League's second session, and the braves edged the Dodgers for the title.

*Lloyd Payton, Yankee third baseman and pitcher, and Ivan Imes, Dodger hurler, both of them former Little League stars, captured the hitting and pitching titles. Lloyd compiled a .390 average in what was generally agreed to be a pitchers' league, and Ivan racked up six victories without a defeat.*

The St. Matthews Pony League All-Stars gave the community something else to boast about. Led by the pitching of Bobby Marr of the Giants and the hitting of Dick Peloff and Buzz Miller, they defeated the Lexington Southern All-Stars 5-2 in the finals to win the eastern Kentucky championship. Marr gave up only four hits and struck out 13 men, while Peloff's triple with the bases loaded and Miller's homer with one aboard accounted for all the St. Matthews runs. The local boys lost in the State finals in Muhlenburg by scores of 3-0 and 5-1, but not before they had put on a spirited performance in only their second year of play.

It was the end of Pony League baseball here, but not the end of a baseball program for teenagers. The fathers of the League players, anxious to see their boys get in another year of organized play, voted in the fall to transform Pony League into a Babe Ruth League, lifting the age limit one year, to 15.

*There were other local triumphs.*

Our Lady of Lourdes finished another undefeated season, winning 11, to capture the Far Eastern League basketball title. It was their 24th straight victory in league play, but their streak was finally put to an end in March when they were edged 28-26 by St. James in the second-round of the County-wide parochial tournament.

Even the mightiest must fall, and in August, the Big Spring Golf Club swimming team lost their first contest in two years, bowing to the Louisville Boat Club, 75-52.

(Pam Mueller was chosen Big Springs most valuable swimmer.)

The Richmond Boat Club swimmers in August won the River Road Invitational meet defeating the teams of the River Road Country Club, Pastime Boat Club, and Louisville Boat Club. Richmond piled up 119 points, nearly twice as much as second place L. B. C. who scored 60.

*Other highlights:*

The St. Matthews Merchants playing their first year, got to the finals of the Louisville Amateur Baseball Federation before bowing to the Kingfish.

Ed Lowry won the River Road Country Club golf title.

The Bears won the Junior Division championship of the St. Matthews Football League with six victories and no defeats. The Trojans won the Senior Division title with six wins, no losses, and two ties.

*1955 was on of the best years in the history of st. Matthews for commercial building.*

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

Of course, the builders ran into some trouble with residents, who sought to prevent commercialization of the areas around their homes.

In January, the City of St. Matthews issued a "special uses" permit to allow construction of a telephone maintenance center on property owned by R. W. Marshall west of Hubbards Lane and north of the L & N tracks. The neighborhood was alarmed when the news got around that the phone company would station 60 trucks there. They feared for the safety of children going to nearby Stivers, School and to Waggener Junior High.

They organized the East St. Matthews Safety Council to fight the new zoning and named Frank Mimms, of 309 Westport Drive, an attorney. The Council took the case to Circuit Court and lost, and the maintenance center was built. People in the Council however, did not take their defeat lightly, and they were instrumental in later forming an opposition party in an attempt to win control of the City of St. Matthews in the November election. Mr. Mimms was picked to head the Parity. But more about that later.

In March the Citizens Fidelity Bank of St. Matthews completed construction of the first outdoor drive-in facility in Jefferson County. Henceforth, customers could do their business without leaving their cars.

That same month the Bank of Louisville opened its \$40,000 branch on the south side of Shelbyville Road, near the Delaney Furniture company. Ray Steltenpohl, an outstanding St. Matthews citizen, was manager. Significantly, this bank had a drive-in window. Obviously the banks were adjusting to suburban needs.

This was underlined in June when the Lincoln Bank and Trust Company, under the managership of John Emrich, also of St. Matthews, opened its St. Matthews branch at 4304 Shelbyville Road. The bank had parking for 60 to 80 cars, but a drive-in window was put in just the same, to meet all possible demands.

In April, old-fashioned Breckenridge Lane was being transformed. The old Marshall Planing Mill was converted into the colonial Building of 26 modern, air-conditioned offices by the Breckenridge Corporation headed by president Noah Pullen. Renovations, including parking for about 35 cars, cost about \$50,000.

Next door, architect Ed Augustus was putting up a two-story building, with his own offices to go on the second floor, and Sherwin Williams Paint company on the first. The building, 20 feet wide and 160 feet long, cost \$25,000.

And still further down the street, at the corner of Willis Avenue and Breckenridge Lane, the Porter Point Company constructed its St. Matthews branch, a one-floor, 25 by 100-foot building, costing \$21,000. It opened in July.

In May, Cherokee Laundry president Dan Chitwood announced purchases of the A. L. Hensen Auto Paint and Body Shop at 124 St. Matthews Avenue, for \$55,000. The building, he said, would be torn down, and "some type of building for business" would be put up. The Shop, in business for 43 years, had been in that address for 88 years.

The Cherokee Laundry in April had opened a branch at 132 St. Matthews Avenue, in a new two-story building which, with the ground, cost \$95,000.

On the heels of this announcement, came the news that Austin Pryor, owner of Pryor's Restaurant, had purchased a plot of ground 170 feet wide and 300 feet deep from the American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180 for \$40,000. Mr. Pryor said he intended to build a restaurant which, with equipment, would cost \$50,000 on the ground located on the south side of Shelbyville Road just east of the Shelbyville road Plaza.

*The increasing pressure for more commercial zoning was alarming to the residents along Brownsboro Road. With St. Matthews developing so quickly, they felt it was only a question of time until further commercialization of Shelbyville Road would be impractical, and the builders would turn in concert to Brownsboro Road.*

The trend had already started. A super market and a super drug store had gone up at Chenoweth Lane and Brownsboro Road, and realtor Hugh Doyle had announced in February that six or seven stores would be built on Brownsboro, west of Chenoweth, where the Variety Mill had burnt in December.

Already organized inot the Brownsboro Road—U. S. 42 Protective League, the people, through their chairman J. W. Jones, announced they were starting a war chest to protect the residential status of Brownsboro Road.

Brownsboro Road was the last attractive, non—commercial entrance left into Louisville. The League and other residents at the end of the year were fighting desperately to protect it. Highway property owners were trying just as hard to commercialize it and thereby enormously increase the market value.

In the summer, the Bacon's store in St. Matthews was busily adding an extra floor onto its \$1 million dollar store, which was only two years old. Builder and realtor Anthony Eline started work on a two-floor, 16 room office building at 3620 Lexington Road, and further announced his firm would develop for residential use 68 lots on Dutchmans Lane, near Big Springs Golf Club.

## St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955

In October, the Greater Louisville First federal Savings and Loan Association opened its sixth branch office in a new building at 4510 Shelbyville Road.

But the biggest commercial building news of the year was the grand opening of The Shelbyville Road Plaza on November 29. Under construction for nearly a year, 23 of the 27 stores were ready by grand opening day, and thousands of people poured into the new shopping center.

Eighteen County policemen were hard-pressed to maintain a smooth flow of traffic into and out of the center. At 7 p.m. the cars were lined up from the entrance of the Plaza on Shelbyville Road to Hubbards Lane, almost one mile to the west.

The Plaza businessmen elected dynamic young William McAuley, manager of the W. T. Grant store, as president of their merchants' Association.

The Plaza was developed by Ralph Bierbaum on a 34-acre site leased from R. W. Marshall for \$25,000 a year for 99 years. There was parking for 1,500 to 2,000 cars, with reserve room in the back for more.

*Downtown St. Matthews merchants, only too aware of the growing shortage of parking space around their stores, eyed the new center with some concern. In an attempt to meet the challenge presented by the Plaza and by the growing traffic problem, they organized the St. Matthew Business Association and elected Richard Wheeler of Canary Cottage chairman.*

That took place in August. Two months earlier, 60 St. Matthews businessmen launched a drive to promote shopping in St. Matthews, agreeing to run 10 full-page ads, one every three weeks, in *The Voice*. By the end of the year, about 200 businessmen had joined the Business Association.

The Plaza, of course did not paralyze other business activity. The same month it opened, the bank of Louisville broke ground for a \$40,000 building next door. Commonwealth Life Insurance and Jones Apothecary were scheduled to move in with branches. And in December, Sanders Cleaners announced it was putting up a \$50,000 addition to its St. Matthews Avenue plant and office.

The president of the Kentucky Real Estate Association, Michael O'Dea, had issued a solemn warning in April. He said in a speech before the St. Matthews Rotary Club that the St. Matthews business district would "suffer tremendously" in the next few years unless off-street parking facilities were provided. He predicted St. Matthews would continue to grow eastward along Shelbyville Road, and that Middletown, and the area between St. Matthews and Middletown, would be "the thriving area" unless St. Matthews businessmen took "special precautions."

*With new businesses, including the giant Plaza, going up along Shelbyville Road, his warning did not go unheeded.*

Several local and business groups came up with proposals to climate traffic congestion, increase safety and provide parking. Mayor Noland got these groups together into a Safety and Traffic Advisory Council, headed by John Ratteman, local funeral director.

The State Highway Department in July produced a plan to improve traffic flow through St. Matthews. The plan, among other things, called for making St. Matthews one-way north between Frankfort Avenue and Westport Road and to make Westport Road one way between St. Matthews Avenue and Chenoweth Lane.

Local businessmen pointed out somewhat acidly, that the plan would only aggravate the problem by throwing more traffic onto one of the most congested corners in St. Matthews, the one at Chenoweth Lane and Westport Road.

The Business Association's traffic committee, headed by Norman Ackerman of Sears, recommended that left turns be restored off Frankfort Avenue into Chenoweth and Breckenridge Lane, that a traffic light be installed at Lexington Road and Bauer Avenue for safety, and that the speed limit be lowered here to 35 miles per hour and enforced. These recommendations were passed on to City, County and state authorities.

So far nothing has been done, and downtown St. Matthews is still struggling with its rush-hour and Saturday traffic problem. The businessmen know their future prosperity depends on solving it, and Mr. Ackerman's committee is scheduled to make further reports and recommendations.

The last big news story of the business year was the Court of Appeals decision in December allowing Sears-Roebuck to build a store on the north side of Shelbyville Road, east of Browns Lane. Sears had announced earlier that it intended to build a \$1 million store there with parking for 1,000 cars, and the Chamber of Commerce estimated the store would attract 3,000 customers a day to the St. Matthews area.

There were three other bits of interesting business news:

The Duncan Motor Company, 126 Breckenridge Lane, in March announced that henceforth it would handle the DeSoto-Plymouth line of new cars, and was dropping its Studebaker franchise making it the first DeSoto-Plymouth agency in St. Matthews.

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

The Bank of Louisville, out for new business, announced a bank survey would be conducted in 12,000 homes in this area by 400 volunteer workers from the Eastern High Development Association. This survey earned for the Association \$2,000, which it used for development of the school's athletic facilities.

The St. Matthews Jaycees on July 28, 29, and 30 sponsored Dollar Days in St. Matthews, to attract new business here.

The Voice of St. Matthews' printing capacities were quadrupled in December with acquisition by its printer, The Clark County Press of a Guss Rotary press.

*All the expansion here in 1955 was not, or course, only in the field of business. No accurate figures are available, but one builder estimated that about 800 to 1,000 new homes were completed in the Greater St. Matthews area.*

Of great interest to the whole community was the completion of the new Y.M.C.A. Building on Norbourne Boulevard. The \$200,000 one-floor building was dedicated and finished in June, greatly increasing the "community's athletic and recreational facilities. The building encompasses 10,500 square feet of floor space, and has a gym 50 by 80 feet with six basketball goals.

Immediately, Y secretary Ross Chasteen announced a greatly enlarged program of basketball, square dancing, arts and crafts, and dozens of other activities, for adults as well as children. The building was the work of dedicated men such as building chairman Burton Stevens, "Mr. Y.M.C.A. himself," and St. Matthews Y chairman Clarence Hardin.

Only one school was built here, although there were minor additions to several others. In September the St. Matthews Elementary School opened with an enrollment of about 375 pupils. There were 21 classrooms, some of which had to be used by nearby crowded Waggener Junior High. The Sacred Heart Model School opened on Ursuline campus in September.

However, the churches continued to grow swiftly. While Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church's expansion program was set back by unexpectedly high building costs, St. John's Lutheran Church in March voted to buy a new 3.6 acres on the east side of Breckenridge Lane, south of Springlee, from Brown Hotel Farms. Pastor Sam Diehl announced the congregation, now around 400, had tripled since 1948, and further expansion at the Breckenridge and Grandview Church was impossible. The present church structure was slated to be sold.

(On one day in September the congregation of St. John's pledged \$10,000 for construction of the new church.)

In April Meadowview Presbyterian Church, held dedication ceremonies for its first unit at 2944 Breckenridge Lane costing \$66,000. The Second Presbyterian Church dedicated its new \$300,000 building and grounds in Rolling Fields the same month.

Then in May, the St. Matthews Baptist Church dedicated its \$150,000 educational building of about 75 rooms.

(Also in May Father Charles Boldrick, pastor of Holy Trinity, celebrated his Silver Jubilee. He was ordained July 30, 1930.)

The First Baptist Church of Middletown broke ground for an \$86,000 education building.

The Beechwood Baptist Church held first services in its new building at the corner of Biltmore and Cordova Roads. The basement was not quite finished when Pastor James B. Sawyer conducted the first service. The 2.5 acre site cost \$25,000 and the building and equipment come to something like \$200,000. There was a basement and two floors, 35 to 40 classrooms, and auditorium seating 510, and an educational building for 525 people. All this for a congregation less than two years old.

Then St. Matthews Episcopal Church quietly broke ground for its second unit. The church at Hubbards Lane and Massie was only two years old when construction started on the estimated \$100,000 building of 16 new classrooms, several offices, and other rooms. Under rector Wilfred Myrll, the congregation had grown to 500 members.

Then to round off the church year, plans were announced in August to organize a new Methodist Church here, in connection with the East Broadway Methodist. The new congregation named itself the Indian Hills Methodist Church, and in October bought a seven-acre tract on Brownsboro Road, opposite Blankenbaker Lane.

Yes it was a good year for the churches.

It was not so good for the schools.

In May, County school Superintendent Richard VanHoose made a quiet little speech before the St. Matthews Kiwan's Club. He said the school in the fast-growing County would very soon be over-crowded, and to avoid this, the property tax rate would have to go up to \$1.72 per \$100 for 1955-56, to \$1.93 for the next year, and to \$2.05 for the year following. The rate was \$1.50, plus a special 50-cent building tax.

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

In September, St. Matthews got a taste of what he meant. Eastern High's enrollment was about 1,670 a 225 increase over the previous year. Greathouse was down to 600 from 850 because of a shift of part of its population to the new St. Matthews Elementary, but Waggener Junior High, only in its second year, had 1,000 pupils jammed in a school built to accommodate only 850. Principal John Lowe announced that 125 of them would have to be taught part time at nearby St. Matthews elementary.

The Jefferson County Municipal Conference representing 27 cities, pointed out that if all the taxes on autos and real estate were collected properly it would mean an extra \$2 million a year for City and County Schools and City and County government, without a raise in rates. The inference was plain; collect the taxes you are entitled to now, before trying to get new ones. The Louisville Real Estate Board echoed this argument in newspaper ads.

*But people in favor of the increase argued that the need was now, while it would take some time to reform tax collection procedures. The people of St. Matthews listened. Only 15 precincts in the County voted in favor of the increase in November, and all 15 were in the heart of St. Matthews. The County as a whole rejected it by a 2-to-1 majority.*

Greathouse School was saddened in February by the news that Kenneth Farmer, principal for almost 10 years, was leaving at the end of the term to become principal of the new Goldsmith Lane School. Miss Elizabeth Bennett, teacher at Greathouse for 10 years, was also slated to leave. She accepted the principalship at Eastwood School.

Mr. Farmer was honored with a "This IS Your Life" program in May, and he and the departing Miss Bennett were given gifts of appreciation.

In September another "old hand" left the community.

Jack Dawson, principal at Eastern High since it opened in 1950, was named the first director of new buildings by the County Board of Education. Under his direction, Eastern had become one of the outstanding high schools in the state, both academically and athletically, and graduated a record class of 269 in June of 1955.

The husky ex-football star was succeeded by his assistant, John Trapp. At Greathouse, 46 year-old Howard Shaver took over, and Robert Neill, 30, was made principal of the new St. Matthews Elementary School.

1955 will be remembered as the year that Waggener Junior High's Band held its first spring concert, on April 29; that Waggener started its first newspaper, "Chit-Chat," edited by Phoebe Keith and Connie Carter; that Stivers School opened its library; and that St. Matthews Elementary's P.T.A. started work on that school's library.

*For Eastern High School band it was a sensational year. Directed by Cecil Karrick, the band won the top honors at the Southeastern Ban Festival at Bristol, VA.*

*In politics, it was a lively year in St. Matthews, just as it was throughout the state. Like all Kentuckians, the people of St. Matthews were interested in the comeback attempt of Happy Chandler, running for Governor, and many leading St. Matthews citizens took an active part in the campaign.*

But of more immediate interest was the campaign for control of St. Matthews. Mayor James Noland and his George Washington Party had been running the City without political opposition for five years. Under the Mayor's firm hand, the City had advanced to a fourth-class status, had repaired streets, and provided police protection and fire and garbage service.

Furthermore, in March of 1955, St. Matthews had defeated Louisville's last effort to annex the St. Matthews business district, before a Circuit Court jury which ruled against Louisville by a 8-3 vote. This victory freed St. Matthews after a decade of struggle with Louisville.

Opposition in the form of the Community Party developed from three sources. First of all, the people living in the Hubbards Lane-Westport sector were displeased with the rezoning by the City of the aforementioned tract of land owned by R. W. Marshall for use as a telephone maintenance center.

Young Frank Mimms, who acted as attorney for this group in their unsuccessful attempt to defeat the rezoning, was placed at the head of the Community Party and ran against Mr. Noland for Mayor.

Another group in the opposition consisted of men who had originally opposed incorporation of St. Matthews by Mayor Noland and his Party.

The third group was made up of people discontented with the administration for various reasons. Some of them were disturbed over the fact that two St. Matthews policemen had been indicted for rape in June, although charges were filed away in October.

The two parties maneuvered endlessly, and out of the two candidates for the Mayor's part plus 12 candidates for Council. It seemed for a while only four or five would be allowed to remain on the ballot. But a decision by the Court of appeals placed everyone on the ballot except three Community Party candidates for Council, and the voters had to write in their names.

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

Mayor Noland's party had the support of nearly all the businesses of St. Matthews, plus the many citizens who appreciated the Mayor's successful fight to keep St. Matthews from being annexed to Louisville unless the larger City showed itself willing and able to assume our liabilities and give immediate City services.

In a heavy vote, about 2,000 of St. Matthews 3,300 eligible voters went to the polls, and the result was a resounding 2-to-1 victory for Mayor Noland and his Party. With this mandate to govern and with this tribute to his won personal prestige, the Mayor faced 1955 with the knowledge tht the overwhelming majority of the people were behind him and his council.

Their problems of course, are not over.

Two of the Community Party candidates for Council, Frank Stallings and "Buck" Tharp, had earlier filed a suit charging St. Matthews with collecting 1954 property taxes improperly. In June, 1955, Circuit Judge Macaulay Smith ruled against St. Matthews, saying the City had used improper assessment dates. The final decision is awaiting judgment by the court of appeals.

*Two new sixth-class cities were incorporated here during the year—Woodlawn Park and Brownsboro Village.*

St. Matthews had earlier passed an ordinance proposing to annex the area between itself and Louisville. Brownsboro Village was in this area. But the people there wanted their own City and in January applied to Circuit Court for the right to incorporate.

St. Matthews adhering to its policy of not annexing any territory where a majority of the people were unwilling, turned Brownsboro loose, and incorporation was completed in February. Mortimer Goldsmith was elected Mayor by the Board of Trustees.

The same month, Woodlawn Park was incorporated. The little City lies between Westport Road and the L & N railroad tracks, east of Hubbards Lane. Appointed trustees were Burns Speer, Phil Perkins, John M. Owen, Woolsey Cavr, and John Kaster. The trustees elected Mr. Speer Mayor.

*An important developoment in February was final organization of the Jefferson County Municipal Conference, embracing 27 Cities in the County, and the election as chairman of Mayor Earl Otis of Norbourne Estates.*

The Conference was the brain child of the St. Matthews Committee of Commerce, and its purpose was to find areas of agreement between all the Cities in regard to common problems. The Conference came up with a six-point program to reform property tax collecting to produce about \$2 million dollars extra in taxes without raising rates or assessments.

The Conference's revelation that these taxes were being lost annually in the City and County governments and the two school systems was damaging to the campaign to raise school taxes by 50 cents. Many voters thought that all taxes should be collected before any new ones were levied.

The attention of the Conference and of everyone else was turned in August to the sewer problem. A. P. Bell of the City-county Health Department said that 48,000 homes in the County were using septic tanks. He warned that sewers were needed for these homes, for "septic tanks are not a permanent sewer disposal method," but were only "temporary." He called present conditions a "health hazard," and said in Beechwood Village, septic tanks effluent was running into the storm sewers.

The problem was a tough one. The St. Matthews sewer district was serving more than 4,000 homes, and could not extend its lines eastward. The district announced it could not service Beechwood and other areas. Neither could the Metropolitan Sewer District. By the end of the year, Beechwood was considering the possibility of building its own sanitary sewer system, but the cost will be so great, the project may be impractical.

The local Government Improvement Committee suggested in December that Louisville annex all the urbanized areas of the County and that the Metropolitan Sewer District build sanitary sewers for those areas. A bill to allow the people to vote on these issues is slated to be introduced in the 1956 session of the State legislature.

*Politically, St. Matthews displayed an attitude entirely opposed to that of the rest of the County and the state. Fifteen precincts in the heart of the St. Matthews area voted for the school tax while the rest of the County rejected it.*

Happy Chandler won the democratic nomination for Governor but St. Matthews area Democrats voted against him. Mr. Chandler won the general election in the State by a record margin, and carried Jefferson County, but greater St. Matthews gave his opponent Edward Denney a 9,226 to 5,047 majority.

Only one Republican was elected to the Legislature. He was Representative Henry Heyburn of St. Matthews, who defeated his Democratic opponent, Clarence Hampton, 11,824 to 3,735.

On the light side:

## **St. Matthews Not Altogether Suburban After 1955**

Beechwood Village treasurer M. W. Silvey announced the City had \$16,980 in the bank, plus \$2,000 in an improvement fund. The trustees promptly set aside \$2.50 per week to relieve Mayor Brad Williams of the job of cutting the grass of the City's three entrances.

The City of St. Regis Park organized a ladies auxiliary to brighten official meetings.

Richlawn was saddened when Mayor Courtney McIntyre died in December, 1954, and in January, named former Mayor Quincy Tyler to succeed him.

Ken Thompson was elected Mayor of St. Regis Park in January, succeeding John Vonderheide who moved from the City.

Leading the way in entertainment and cultural achievements were the St. Matthews Community Theatre Guild, Eastern High, and the Anchorage Children's Theatre.

The St. Matthews Theatre, only in its second year of existence gave competent and entertaining performances of five three-act plays, four under the direction of James Devul.

The Theatre's March production of "Ten Little Indians," starring Clare Pearce, John Carrell, was called "captivating and interesting" by a critic. Other shows were "Curious Savage," and "Laura," and two comedies by Noel Coward, "Blithe Spirit," and "Hay Fever."

The Lyndon Theatre scored with three one-act plays in February, rated by a critic as "good, thoroughly enjoyable." In May, they tried a three-act comedy, "John Loves Mary," directed by Mrs. James W. Pattee, and in December they did a fine job on the heavy drama, "Come Back Little Sheba."

Eastern High, outstanding in so many departments, added another laurel with its drama department. The department in its first entry to the regional drama festival in Richmond, Kentucky did a cut-down version of "The Heiress," a difficult serious play. The Eastern group was one of two to win a superior rating.

Entering the same show in the State Drama festival at the University of Kentucky in March, Eastern not only won the only superior rating granted in any school of over 500, but Midge Mezera, playing in the title role won the "Oscar" for the outstanding individual performance.

*The St. Matthews Community Center had some good news for the community in April. President Gene Wells was authorized to sign a 25-year lease for the center grounds on Shelbyville Road, next to the east Drive In Theatre.*

It is on these grounds that the Pony and Little League Baseball programs are conducted, and the Center building is used for the plays of the St. Matthews Community Theatre. The center kept the front 14 acres, relinquished the back 13 acres, and according to the contract, will pay only ??? a month rental plus \$200 a year in taxes. With a 25-year lease to depend on, the center and other organizations had clear sailing to go ahead with any long-range plans that might involve use of the Center grounds.

By the end of the year, the Center was getting \$125 from the theatre for each play it produced, and the second annual "Booster Day" program, held October 1, had netted \$2,700. (Van Buren Pell was elected president in December to succeed Mr. Wells.)

The St. Matthews Junior Chamber of Commerce, organized in March, got into action in May. The Jaycees, under the direction of their first president, Jim Collingham, collected \$2,300 in one evening for the Palsy Fund Drive. Fifty out of 54 Jaycees helped in the Drive, showing that the young organization had an unusually high degree of unity of purpose. The Jaycees in August sponsored a "Miss County Fair Contest," won by 17 year old Pat Mitchell, and in December, sponsored a March of Dimes to raise \$500. This money was given to 100 underprivileged children to buy Christmas presents for those they loved. And in November, the Jaycees started their own newspaper, "The Projector," with C. Roger Gernert as editor.

Other club news:

"The Nude," an oil painting by Mrs. Ray Leist, won for the St. Matthews Woman's Club the sweepstakes award at the 60th annual convention of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs, Lexington, in May.

In June, the Middletown Rotary celebrated its 50th anniversary.

In July, the St. Matthews Kiwanis Club voted to donate \$759 for the purchase of a new scoreboard for the Eastern High football field.

In September, the Middletown Lions club was orgainece with James Zimmerman as president.

In November the wives of the St. Matthews Optimists club organized an Opti-Mrs. Club, and elected Mrs. Smith Baker of Crestwood president.

# BElmont Phone Numbers Will Be TWInbrook 5 At Midnight November 18

## Anchorage Will Be CHEstnut 5, Harrods Creek Becomes CAstle 8

The Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company is closing its new directory on October 2 and it will contain much information of interest to residents of the St. Matthews area.

All BElmont numbers will be changed at midnight November 18 and they will have the prefix of TWInbrook 5. The last four digits of the present numbers will not be changed.

At the same time all of the telephones in Anchorage will be converted to dial and these numbers will all begin with CHEstnut 5. At Harrods Creek telephones are also being converted to dial and these numbers will use the prefix CAstle 8.

When St. Matthews residents call subscribers in Anchorage or Harrods Creek, they will need only to dial the listed number as shown in the directory. Previously it had been necessary to dial a code number before reaching subscribers in these areas.

B. S. Watson, district manager for Southern Bell, said that these changes are a part of a district-wide change in numbers which will entail 55,000 new numbers in the next directory.

These changes are effective at midnight on November 18, and on that date all telephone numbers in Louisville will have been changed to the new "two letter and five digit" plan except the telephone numbers in the Highland area in the east end of Louisville. Residents of this area will find many changes in dialing other parts of Louisville also.

Here are the changes:

BElmont numbers changed to TWInbrook 5.

AMherst numbers changed to JUNiper 2.

WAbash numbers changed to JUNiper 5 and 7.

ARlington numbers changed to SPring 6.

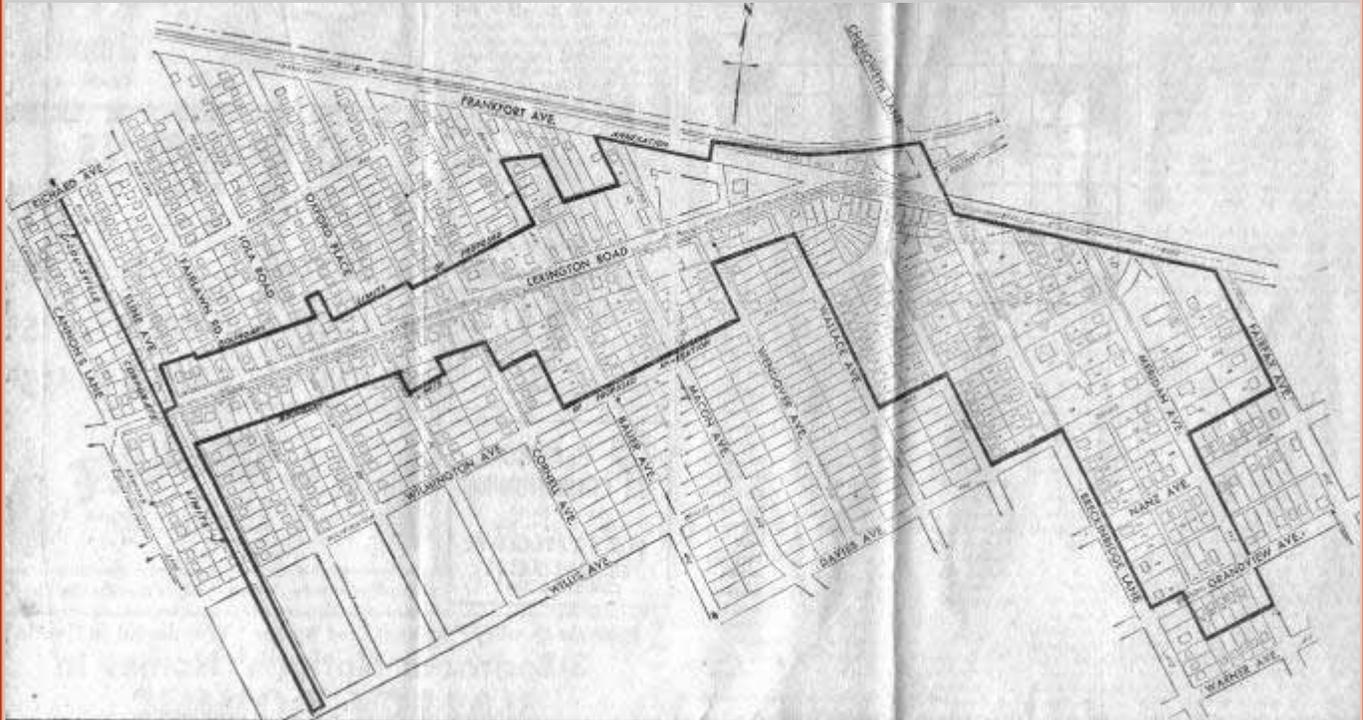
CLay numbers changed to JUNiper 3.

CYpress numbers changed to SPring 8.

All St. Matthews telephone numbers will have the TWInbrook prefix when the change is completed, Mr. Watson said. All downtown numbers will have a JUNiper prefix, all West End numbers a SPring prefix and the East End of town will have GLendale and HighLand. The South end will be served by MEIrose and EMerson.

The number change last November changed 70,000 numbers and this new directory will find the job largely completed. The change is necessary, according to Mr. Watson, to get this area ready for changes in handling long-distance calls. Operators now are dialing long-distance calls across the country and the day is not too far distant when customers will be dialing their own long-distance calls without the assistance of an operator, he said.

Louisville Wins Business Area of St. Matthews



THIS IS ST. MATTHEWS BUSINESS DISTRICT (HEAVY LINES) WHICH WOULD BE ANNEXED BY LOUISVILLE UNDER COURT DECISION YESTERDAY

**Area's Businessmen greet Ruling With Dislike, Favor, Indifference  
One Says Views Don't Alter Fact**

St. Matthews business operators showed a mixed reaction yesterday to the Court of Appeals ruling placing them in Louisville.

A survey of businesses along Lexington Road and Frankfort Avenue turned up strong feelings pro and con, as well as indifference.

Fred Bittner of Bittner's Radio & Music Shop, 3712 Lexington Road, said: "I don't like it. I prefer to remain in St. Matthews."

Bittner said if there is recourse to the court decision, he is ready to fight.

**'We'll Abide by Decision':** However, another Lexington Road merchant, who preferred not to be identified, said, "I'd rather 10 to 1 be in Louisville with all the City services I can get?"

Norman P. Ackerman, manager of Sears, Roebuck & Company's St. Matthews branch, said, "Whether we like or dislike the decision doesn't alter it. We'll abide by what the court says."

Ackerman, who also is president of the St. Matthews Business Association, made it plain he was speaking only for himself and not for the business association.

Ackerman said the association was purely for promoting business and does not take stands on other issues.

**Notes Fire Protection:** Maxwell Horn of Maxwell's Apparel, 3926 Frankfort Avenue, would he "very happy to be in Louisville." He said that while St. Matthews' police and fire protection is good, it is not as good as Louisville can provide.

Richard M. Wheeler, Jr., of the Canary Cottage restaurant, 3722 Lexington Road, and George Venhoff of Shower's Boys & Men's Shop, 3930 Frankfort Avenue, both said the move did not make much difference to them.

**Others Fail To Comment:** J. P. Terry, who operates a service station at 3800 Lexington Road, said, "I'd rather be in St. Matthews. I like it here."

Lewis Smithers of Smithers Super Market, 3141 Lexington Road, said "he would prefer to stay in St. Matthews because 'We've put in lots of work to get the community going.'"

However, he added that he had nothing against Louisville and was quite willing to accept the court's decision.

Other businessmen interviewed refused to express opinions, explaining that their customers came from both the City of St. Matthews and Louisville,

### Appeals Court Upholds Annexing Jefferson Circuit Court Judge's Adverse Decision Is Reversed

The Court of Appeals ruled yesterday that the City of Louisville can annex a large part of the St. Matthews business district.

The decision reversed Judge Stephen Jones of Jefferson Circuit Court. A jury in Judge Jones' court returned a verdict against annexation in March, 1955.

Louisville passed an ordinance proposing to annex the business district in 1946. A remonstrance petition was filed in Circuit Court, however, and the petition did not come to trial until last year. Meanwhile, the City of St. Matthews annexed the district in 1953.

The area in question runs along both sides of Lexington Road from Eline avenue east to Shelbyville Road.

It continues east on the north side of Shelbyville Road to Chenoweth Lane and on the south side as far as Fairfax Avenue. Between Wallace and Fairfax, it dips south in jogs as far as Willis, Davies, and Grandview Avenues.

It includes the St. Matthews City hall and Police Headquarters at 131 Breckenridge Lane.

**Louisville Mayor Delighted:** Louisville's Mayor Broaddus commented:

"If the decision had gone against us, I would have accepted it. Naturally, I'm delighted that the decision was for us. I feel sure the Court of Appeals ruling is correct, fair, and just. I hope everybody will accept it in that spirit."

St. Matthews Mayor James H. Noland said he was not surprised by the decision, but would fight "it" if recourse is available."

He noted that a "good portion" of the St. Matthews business district is not involved in the court decision.

**Attorney 'Not Excited':** Wilbur O. Fields, attorney for businessmen who fought the annexation attempt, said he was "not excited" by yesterday's ruling.

Fields said that in his opinion the Mallon-plan proposal repeals the 1946 ordinance under which Louisville sought the annexation.

Therefore the outcome of the Mallon-plan vote November 6 will determine whether the area becomes annexed, Fields said. A petition for rehearing the case can be made to the Court of Appeals within 30 days. If this is done, the City of Louisville has another 30 days to file an answer to the petition.

**Will Await Vote:** Briefs then would be submitted by both sides to reach a final determination of the case.

Fields said he would wait until after the vote on the Mallon plan to decide if a rehearing will be sought. The vote will determine whether a large suburban area, including St. Matthews, will be merged with Louisville.

Herman Friek, assistant City attorney who argued the City's case in last year's trial, was asked to comment on Field's opinion that the Mallon plan repeals the earlier annexation ordinance.

"That's a point he will have to attempt to prove in future litigation," he said.

**Louisville Steps Outlined:** If and when a final judgment is handed down upholding Louisville's proposing-annexation ordinance, the City will then pass an ordinance actually annexing the area.

Immediate steps then will be taken to provide City services to the area, said Mayor Broaddus and City Consultant Roy Owsley.

Both Broaddus and Owsley felt the Court of Appeals decision would have a favorable effect on the Mallon-plan vote.

"It should create additional sentiment for orderly annexation, with services furnished by the City as set forth by the Mallon plan," Broaddus said.

William L. Archer, chairman of the St. Matthews Annexation Protective Association, a party to last year's suit against annexation by Louisville, called yesterday's ruling "quite a setback."

**Will Fight Decision:** He said it would "take the backbone out of the City of St. Matthews." He added that the business district should not be separate from the rest of the City of St. Matthews.

Archer said his group would fight the decision.

St. Matthews Mayor Noland disagreed that loss of the business area would be severe for the fourth-class City of St. Matthews.

He estimated a loss of about \$22,500 in tax revenues if the area is annexed, out of a total of \$900.00 available to his City.

**Louisville Claim Superior:** The Court of Appeals ruling, delivered in Frankfort., was written by Commissioner Robert K. Cullen.

He held that Louisville started annexation proceedings first, hence its claim to the business district is superior to that of the City of St. Matthews.

He ruled that Jude Jones in the 1955 trial should have directed a verdict in favor of annexation. Thus the reversal was directed to the judge, rather than the jury, which included 11 Louisvillians.

Attorney Fields, commenting on this yesterday, said both sides in the case agreed at the trial that the jury would make the decision.

**Finds Only Two Issues:** Assistant City Attorney Frick later asked Judge Jones to grant the City a judgment despite the jury's decision, or to grant a new trial. Jones refused, and the Case went to the Court of Appeals.

Commissioner Cullen, in his finding yesterday, said there were only two legal issues in the lawsuit:

1. The addition of the new territory "for the interest of the City (of Louisville)?"
2. Will annexation "cause no manifest injury to the persons holding real estate in the territory sought to be annexed?"

**Gives His Conclusion:** Cullen found that "within the realm of clear and obvious facts, it is difficult to conceive of any situation in which the annexation of urban territory to a city would be contrary to the interests of the city, except where the annexation would constitute an overextension of the capacities of the city to function as a sound, going concern.

"In the case before us, there is no suggestion that Louisville is not a growing, prosperous city with a long experience of growth or that its capacities will be overextended by annexation of the small area here in question."

**No 'Grievous Burden':** As to whether annexation would injure the property owners, Cullen wrote:

"There is - no question but that the annexed territory, being urban in nature, will receive benefits in the form of City services from Louisville.

"The real question arises front the fact that the territory is now receiving what its residents consider to be adequate municipal services, at a lower cost, from the City of St. Matthews and from a Volunteer Fire Department."

Cullen concluded, however, that annexation would not place upon the property owners any "grievous, wearisome, or oppressive, burdens.

**Realty Taxes Would Rise:** Once annexation is completed, the Board of aldermen will be asked to appropriate money for a fire station, traffic signals, and street lights, Owsley said. Regular City services, such as street cleaning and garbage collection would start immediately, he added.

Owsley said a quad fire company, which would have a four purpose truck, probably would be installed in the business area. Meanwhile, the City would contract with the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and perhaps reshuffle its existing equipment to provide coverage. This probably would result in an immediate drop in fire-insurance rates. Owsley said.

Real-estate taxes in the annexed area would go up from the St. Matthews 60-cent rate to \$1.50 However, no City tax 'bills would go out until January, 1958.

**Water Rates Would Drop:** Water rates Would decline 33½ per cent. Sewer rates would remain the same.

People who work in the annexed area and business owners in it would pay the City's 1¼ per cent occupational tax on earnings and net profits.

Six other suits involving annexation attempts by the City of Louisville may depend on the outcome of the current ease, Court action has been held up pending the St. Matthews decision.

**Lists The Others:** Assistant City Attorney Frick listed the areas as follows:

The "Rubbertown" area, from Algonquin Parkway to Cane Run Road, between Bells Lane and the Ohio River; West Buechel and part of the unincorporated Buechel area; Rolling Fields; Ridgewood; Lincolnshire and part of St. Regis Park, and Meadowbrook Estates.

The City can move to have the suits reinstated, using the Court of Appeals decision on the St. Matthews business district as a legal precedent.

Since 1946, the City of Louisville also has made three major—and unsuccessful—efforts to annex the St. Matthews residential area. The City of St. Matthews meantime has completed annexation of the residential area.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

### **Building Of Homes Was Off 25%**

The big stories in St. Matthews for the year 1956 were the defeat of the Mallon Plan, the defeat of the school tax, the Court of Appeals decision giving Louisville the right to annex part of the St. Matthews business district, the growth of local churches and new big buildings finished here or projected for 1957.

There were many other stories, of course, some of them good and some bad.

Home-building in this area was off about 25 percent a V.A. and G.I. loans become increasingly difficult to get. Commercial construction was way down. Few new businesses opened.

The school population continued to increase, and some schools added wings, but no new schools were built.

The St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. continued to expand and grow. A new theatre group was started—under the auspices of the Y. The older Theatre groups—the St. Matthews Community Theatre, the Y.M.H.A. and Lyndon Theatres, the Anchorage Children's Theatre-continued their yearly drama programs.

Sports programs in this area were greatly expanded, as a new Babe Ruth League Baseball program came into being, and St. Matthews Little League built a second park.

Trinity became a full-fledged high school and its athletic teams, along with those of Eastern High, at times threatened to make the East End the scourge of the County and State.

**Annexation Plan:** The Mallon Plan was essentially simple. Put together by a committee of private citizens appointed by the County Judge and the Mayor of Louisville, the Plan derived its name from the committee chairman John Mallon.

Under the Plan, Louisville would annex all its urbanized suburbs. This would have included 46 square miles and 68,000 people. It would have taken in Shively, St. Matthews, and the 15 incorporated Cities in the St. Matthews area, besides a dozen others in the County.

The State Legislature passed the necessary law to put the Plan in effect, providing that a majority of the people in the suburbs and in Louisville voted for the Plan.

Under the Plan, the suburban cities would agree to turn over their assets and liabilities to the City of Louisville. They would be required to pay Louisville's \$1.50 property tax rate.

In return Louisville would provide municipal services. The Metropolitan Sewer district under the Plan would have extended sewers into the suburbs over a six-year period.

M.S.D. would take over St. Matthews Sanitation District No. 1 and grant the home-owners of the district a slight reduction in sewer rates. Water rates would also be reduced. Nothing was said about schools.

**Opposition Aroused:** The Plan ran into trouble in late summer. The Suburban Citizens committee, made up of suburban homeowners and some sixth-class City officials, organized a propaganda drive pointing out the shortcomings of the Plan.

Cherrywood Village trustees and the St. Matthews Jaycees came out against the plan.

But more important than all of these was the sometimes active but always fairly quiet, resistance of the suburban residents and leaders.

People didn't trust Louisville. They don't believe annexation was the answer to Louisville problems, or to that of the suburbs. They felt they could handle their own affairs better, either individually, or through their small Cities, which had proved able to provide garbage, fire and police services at reasonable rates.

Another factor was the cost. The Mallon Committee produced figures showing that annexation by Louisville would cost most suburban residents \$5 to \$80 a year more. This undoubtedly influenced some people.

Over television and radio, in the newspapers, and on public platforms, the debate raged during the summer and fall. Speakers went to scores of P.T.A. meetings, civic club affairs, and other gatherings to denounce or support the plan.

**Suburbs Defeat It:** The downtown daily newspaper supported the Plan. *The Voice* and other suburban newspapers opposed it. It is doubtful if the pros and cons of any other local public issue had ever been so thoroughly discussed in public and private.

Election Day was Nov. 6. The people of Louisville voted for the Plan by about 36,000 votes to 24,000.

But the people of the suburbs rejected it by two-to-one. The vote in A district comprising the greater St. Matthews area, was unofficially, 8,986 against, and only 4,585 for.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The vote in the City of St. Matthews was 1,567 against and 928 for.

Only two Cities voted for the Plan, Seneca Vista and Mockingbird Valley. But since the total suburban vote was against, these cities remained outside Louisville.

The Mallon Plan had failed.

But the long and furious debate had apprised the people of the fact that there were many serious problems in the City and County that had to be solved. More sanitary sewers were needed, and municipal services up and down the line could stand improvements.

The Jefferson County Municipal conference was asked to take up the task where the Mallon Committee left off. The Conference, representing 34 Cities in the County, accepted. St. Matthews attorney Howard Hunt was placed in charge of the committee to come up with a new plan to take care of local problems.

**Plan's Aftermath:** The repercussion of the Mallon Plan failure are being felt now and will continue to be felt.

Indian Hills raised its tax assessments by 20 percent. City taxes in Bellewood and Druid Hills for 1957 have been raised.

The Metropolitan Sewer District more than doubled the price of extending sewers to developers outside the City. A serious quarrel has broken out between M.S.D. and Louisville officials about the responsibilities and the control, of the District.

Louisville increased prices for dumping of suburban garbage into the City dump, and passed a law requiring suburban garbage trucks to be fully enclosed. The effect of these moves would be to increase greatly the costs of suburban garbage collection.

Finally, the failure of the Mallon Plan meant higher sewer-rates for the 4,800 users of the St. Matthews Sanitation District No. 1.

In December the District announced that rates would be raised 15 percent beginning in March, 1957. The District in the year ending May 31, 1956, had made its largest annual profit, nearly \$53,000 and had kept up its interest payments on \$103,400. But that was still short of the \$180,000 needed annually for interest and principal payments.

**Jolt From the Court:** The Court of Appeals decision jolted St. Matthews. (Next paragraph missing.)

Louisville appealed. Then in October, 1956, just 17 days before the vote on the Mallon Plan, the Court of Appeals reversed the decision. The Court gave Louisville the right to complete the annexation.

The rejection of the school tax by St. Matthews was somewhat surprising. County voters in 1955 turned down a request by the County board of Education for a 50-cent raise in property taxes for schools. Fifteen of 16 precincts in the St. Matthews area voted for the tax, even though the total in the County was against.

The School Board then proposed a half-cent occupational tax and held a special election in July. Again the voters rejected more taxes.

A District including the St. Matthews—Lyndon—Anchorage area, voted against it 3,284 to 3,104. The vote inside the immediate St. Matthews area was 3,844 to 1,925 against.

**The Legion Builds:** A great building project was completed by the American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180 of St. Matthews in July.

The Legionnaires sold their old post building on St. Matthews Avenue for \$30,500 to the Lehman-Davis Realty Co., which converted it into six modern offices.

The Legionnaires meanwhile were putting up a new \$125,000 post home on Shelbyville Road next to the Plaza. The building was finished and occupied in July and dedicated in November. It contains a 47 by 80 foot auditorium, a family room, a recreation room, a kitchen and a refreshment bar. By the end of the year, several local civic groups were meeting there regularly.

In September the Manufacturers Exchange Building Incorporated announced plans to build a three-level modern office building on Wallace Avenue across from Wallace Center, sometime in 1957.

The land, about 120 feet by 140, was the former site of Henry Showers Garden Center.

The firm announced \$250,000 worth of stock would be issued to put up the building. President was James Cottingham manager of Guardian Financial Corporation in St. Matthews.

In late November, plans were announced for the construction of two \$250,000 swimming clubs in the St. Matthews area.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The first was announced by Bollinger-Martin Builders, Inc. It would be situated on a 20-acre site on Westport Road, across from Briarwood Subdivision, and have the largest swimming pool in the county.

The following week the St. Matthews Lions Club took a six-month option to buy 29 acres of land off Breckenridge Lane south of St. Matthews. The Lions announced they would build a non-profit \$250,000 recreation center there, if the money could be raised by public subscription. Wilson Volk was named chairman of the project.

**Churches Expand:** Local churches undertook major expansion programs in 1956.

In January the St. Matthews Episcopal Church finished its addition costing more than \$100,000. It included new offices and 16 classrooms, totaling 6,938 square feet. Also in January the First Baptist Church of Middletown laid a cornerstone for a new education building to cost \$88,000.

Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church held ground-breaking ceremonies in March for its new sanctuary, estimate to cost \$250,000. The cornerstone was laid in October.

Christ Methodist Church in May announced it was going to build a \$1 million plant on U. S. 42 near Blankenbaker Lane. The first unit would cost \$175,000. Ground was broken in November.

In the late spring, St. Matthews Methodist Church began construction of the second unit of the educational annex. Cost was estimated at \$70,000.

In June, first services were held in the newly-constructed \$93,000 East Chapel of the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church on Rudy Lane.

The second Church of Christ Scientist in June broke ground for a \$200,000 church on Frankfort Avenue at the corner of Thierman Lane. Construction is now complete and first services will be held there Sunday.

In August, the St. Matthews Church of Christ, after worshiping for four years at the St. Matthews Woman's club, broke ground for a \$92,000 church building on a four-acre plot of ground off Westport Road, just west of Herr Lane.

Our Savior Lutheran Church in September dedicated its new Sunday School building.

**Burning a Mortgage:** Beargrass Christian Church in June burned its mortgage, after paying off it \$100,000 educational plant built in 1950. The church in November launched a drive to raise \$75,000 to build a new sanctuary and to remodel the present building.

Within a few days, parishioners had pledged \$117,000.

St. John Lutheran Church held last services in the church building at Breckenridge Lane and Grandview in January. Church activities were moved to St. Matthews Elementary School.

The congregation had outgrown the church and plans called for construction of a new \$178,000 church further south on Breckenridge lane.

The Free Methodist congregation bought St. John's church building for \$30,000, and held first services there in February.

A friendly neighbor, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, in April approved construction of a \$500,000 addition to the church.

In December, the Suburban Christian Church, meeting at the Community Center, was granted its charter. Thirty-two members signed the document.

**Post Office Added:** The population in 1956 outgrew certain needed services. Consequently a new post office and volunteer fire department were added.

The post office branch opened July 2 in the Levy Brothers store in the Shelbyville Plaza. Mrs. R. W. Richmond was named postmaster.

The new fire department was opened in March at Hikes Point. Roy McMahan, Sr. donated a 40 by 240 foot strip of land. The volunteers got a cash grant from the County and collected the rest of the money door-to-door to construct a firehouse costing \$12,800 and to purchase a 500-gallon fire truck for \$12,400.

Fire and extended coverage insurance rates in April were cut in half. Formerly 75 cents, they came down to 37 cents for all homes (about 1,000) within three driving miles of the Fire department.

In May, Robert McGee was named fire chief. Thomas M. Wilder was Chairman of the Board.

**Burt Stevens Dies:** St. Matthews was saddened in January by the death of Burton W. "Burt" Stevens.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

Mr. Stevens had been active in almost every important phase of St. Matthews civic life.

He helped found the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. Acting as building chairman, he directed construction of the \$205,000 St. Matthew Y.M.C.A. building in 1955.

He helped start the St. Matthews Community Center, was friend and advisor to Mayor Noland of St. Matthews, and was active in the St. Matthews Kiwanis.

He helped to found the Jefferson County Municipal conference.

In July the Y.M.C.A. erected a plaque in his honor at the Y building.

Another civic leader, Roy Boorman, died in July.

Along with Burt Stevens, he was a founder of the St. Matthews Y. He helped organize the Indian Guide movement here and was chief of the first tribe.

For six years, he and Mrs. Boorman had operated the Church Weavers Gift Shop in Colony Way.

Two other well-known figures died in January. They were Lewis D. Stigliz, police judge for Richlawn, and Mrs. Carrie Goodin Cooper, wife of Thomas H. Cooper, an assistant vice president of the First National Bank of St. Matthews.

On the good news side:

James Cottingham, president of the St. Matthews Jaycees, was named Outstanding Young Man in 1955 in the St. Matthews community.

**Rattermans Honored:** The federated Funeral Directors American Award "for high ethical conduct" was presented in February to the Ratterman Brothers Funeral Home of St. Matthews, and to the owners John B. Ratterman, Jr. and Carl Ratterman.

In February, Monsignor Anthony J. Gerst, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church was honored by his parishioners and fellow-priests upon the celebration of his silver Jubilee.

The congregation gave Father Gerst a new 1956 Chevrolet, Bel Air. He had been ordained in Rome, Feb. 24, 1931.

Kenneth Farmer, former principal of Greathouse School, was honored by the P.T.A. for his many years of service.

The P.T.A. presented a portrait of Mr. Farmer to hang in the school alongside two other former principals, Miss Tommie Greathouse and Mrs. Mayme S. Waggener.

Beargrass Christian Church in June honored the pastor of 25 years. Dr. Walter Lawrence by presenting him with a free trip to the Holy Land for himself and his wife. (Dr. Lawrence still hadn't been able to take the trip because he has been busy and because of the recent war in the Middle East.)

**Still Republican:** St. Matthews stayed firmly in the Republican column in 1956.

A District went for Ike by 5-2. The tabulation was 15,739 votes for the President and 6,264 votes for the challenger, Adlai Stevenson.

Ike and the Republican ticket carried 40 out of 50 A District precincts.

This area was in harmony with the rest of the County in voting overwhelmingly for Thurston Morton and John Sherman Cooper for the senate. John Robinson for the House of Representatives, and Lynn Smith for Circuit Judge. All these Republicans were swept into office.

In another election, the people of the St. Matthews area in the school district mostly north of Frankfort avenue elected Rucker Todd to the County school Board over four other candidates. That five candidates would enter the race from the one district attested to St. Matthews continuing interest in local schools.

This area's rejection of the occupational tax for schools was indicated in January by a poll taken among Stivers parents.

Asked if they favored additional taxes for schools, they replied yes 414, no 102, and eight undecided. Asked if they favored an occupational tax, they answered yes 302, no 265, and undecided 27. Asked about a sales tax, they said yes 309, no 192 and 14 undecided.

The St. Matthews Elementary School P.T.A. won widespread attention in February. The organization opened a library in the school's first year, the first time that had ever been done by a county elementary school.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The County Board of Education in June announced that Waggener Junior High School would be a full-fledged high school in 1959. Each year, Waggener would add on a grade until the change was completed.

The move was designed to relieve Eastern High in Middletown, which has a capacity of 1,500 pupils, but was expecting 1,957 for the 1957-58 year.

Trinity Builds: In March, what had been known as Holy Trinity High became simply Trinity High. Plans were announced for a new school building to cost between \$350,000 and \$400,000. It is now under construction and will be completed soon. Trinity will graduate its first class in June, 1957.

Holy Trinity grade school added a \$70,000 wing during the year, and St. Margaret Mary added eight new classrooms and four convent rooms.

Eastern High in May graduated 320 seniors, the largest graduating class in its six-year history. In September the school got them back with interest. Enrollments crept up to 1,641, and increase of 115.

Generally though, the increase in school enrollments here was not as great as in former years.

The year saw a switch in the P.T.A.'s here. The mothers went to work getting men active in P.T.A. work. They had started this move in earlier years by switching the meetings to night time.

Stivers P.T.A went the whole way and elected a man as president in March. He was C. H. Edwardsen, a former para-rooper. The following month, Eastern High followed suit and elected lane McCroskey president.

Melbourne Heights elected Ora Spaid president. At St. Margaret Mary's they elected four male officers. Joseph Diersen, vice-president; Haydon Heaphy, treasurer; Joseph Mehr, sergeant-at-arms; and Gorman McMullen, board member.

Waggener went easy. James C. Warren was re-elected treasurer. The rest of the officers were women.

Other P.T.A. presidents elected were at Waggener, Mrs. Henry Hoenig; Chenoweth Mrs. Thurston Cooke, St. Matthews Elementary, Mrs. Earl Schaaf, Lyndon, Mrs. Donald McCammon; Holy Trinity, Mrs. Evan A. Fraser; Ballard, Mrs. William Cheschier; and Greathouse, Mrs. Thomas St. Clair.

Ballard got a new principal Mrs. Elizabeth Vaughn, and Lyndon honored one of long standing Kenneth Lam. The P.T.A. gave Mr. Lam a surprise reception and a gift in December in honor of his 10th anniversary at Lyndon.

**Fine Sports Year:** In the field of sports it was a fine year for St. Matthews.

Eastern High's David Haycraft set a new Falls City high jump record of six feet while the Eagles were losing a track meet to Manual. In the state Track Meet in May. Haycraft set another record, with a jump of six feet, two inches.

The Eastern tennis team, coached by Emmett Goranflo, captured the State championship in both singles and doubles. Jim Tarr won the singles and teamed up with Burton Shelley to take the doubles crown.

The eastern golf team coached by Bill Hoke, compiled and impressive record of nine victories against only two defeats.

While the eastern High basketball squad was finishing up in March with a 13-9 record for the season, the Jayvees racked up 17 victories against only five defeats for eth County championship.

Opening the 1956 season, the Eagles, under Coach Roy Adams, won their first four games of the year and were ranked the No. 2 basketball team in the State. Then last week in the first Fern Creek Invitational Tourney, they lost their first game of the year. They were beaten 66-65 by Nicholas county.

**Other Champions:** A great young spots competitor, 14-year-old Jerry Kazunas, in March was awarded three trophies for h is basketball powers.

Playing with St. Margaret Mary in the parochial basketball competition, he was given trophies for being the outstanding player and most valuable man in the Far Eastern league, and for being unanimous choice for the All-Tournament team, he further won the Paul Karem award for outstanding ability, attitude and sportsmanship.

That same month, the Waggener basketball team won the Junior High Tournament sponsored by the County Board of Recreation.

Out Lady of Lourdes basketball team, coached by Bill Cardot and John Gaynor, won the Far Eastern League championship with a 9-1 record.

For the second, consecutive year, the St. Matthews Baptist Church team won the City-wide Baptist basketball tournament. They were coached by Carl Edwards.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

Waggener also shone in basketball. The school team, paced by the pitching of left-hander Bobby Marr, won all four of its season's games. Marr pitched two no-hitters and a one-hitter.

**Baseball Spotlight:** St. Matthews Babe Ruth and Little League baseball were in the spotlight all summer.

The Babe Ruth League opened its first year on Memorial Day at the St. Matthews Community Center with eight teams of boys 13, 14 and 15 years old.

The Cubs, managed by George Marr, won the pennant with a 10-4 record.

The Cub team was paced by the aforementioned Bobby Marr, 15.

Bobby won the league batting title with an average of .406. He was the league's strikeout king and second-best pitcher, percentage-wise.

Danny Carter, of the Indians won the pitching title with a 4-0 record. Marr won five and lost one. He sent 82 men down on strikes in six games and gave up only 21 walks.

Marr in July threw a no-hit game to lead the National All-Stars in a 10-1 victory over Bowling Green in the State tournament.

But the local All-Stars were defeated by the South End All-Stars 8-4 in extra innings and eliminated from the tournament. It was an auspicious start for the Babe Ruth League.

Another highlight of the season was Charlie Long's no-hit game June 5 as he led his Giant team to a 2-0 victory over the Yankees and struck out 19 men.

Little League opened its fourth season in May.

**Models and Lions:** The Models swamped all opposition and easily won the American pennant with 15 victories against three looses. The Lions set a new record in winning the National pennant. They won 15 games, lost two, and tied one, the best record ever compiled by a National League team.

The two St. Matthews Leagues picked All-Star teams and quickly eliminated all competitor for the area title.

Then in the title game at the St. Matthews park, the Americans lined up behind the two-hit pitching of Jim Shollenberger to defeat the National 7-1. The Americans demonstrated their superior power with an eight-hit, three-homer attack.

A few days later, the Americans got their long bats out of the rack again, and gave the Lexington Eastern All-Stars an unmerciful beating, 11-2 for the District title. The St. Matthew boys got 13 hits.

Then they went to Fort Knox for the state tournament. Here they met their downfall, through a combination of mental lapses, the breaks, and dumb luck. They bowed to Paducah 6-4 despite home runs by Wayne Glore and Cappy Hoskins.

Highlights of the season wee Citizens pitcher Tuffy Horne's no-hitter that defeated the Pryors 4-0 on June 19, and Tuffy's three -hitter that snapped the longest wining streak in St. Matthews Little League history.

That was July 14 against the Lions, a game the Citizens won 13-0. It was the first defeat of the year for the Lions, who had won 12 in a row.

**Breaking Records:** Carl Porter managed the pennant-winning Lions. He had the satisfaction of seeing his boys break the two records, the one for consecutive games won and the other for best season's record.

Both these records, had been established by a previous Lions' team, the one of 1953, couched by Walter Bales. The four best pitching records in the League were captured by Lions. They were:

Charles Kane and Him Lapsley, 4-0, Tommy Dudgeon, 3-0, and Mike Patrick 4-1. But little Tuffy won the strikeout title. Tuffy in 45 innings fanned 67 men.

Davis of the Citizens team won the League bat crown with .452.

In the American League, Tommy Pope of the pennant-winning Models was doing some record smashing.

The 11-year old hurler won eight victories against only one loss. That was more victories than have ever been turned in during a single season by a pitcher in either league. Tommy was backed by a tremendous squad of hitters.

Five Models, led by Wayne Glore with a .524 average, batted better than .340. Another Model, Merle Kruer, batted .472 and blasted five home runs.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

By the end of the year, St. Matthews Little League had a second diamond. It was built next to the old one on the Community Center grounds. In 1957, if all goes well, there will be a third Little League in St. Matthews.

**Siegel Retires:** In September, the granddaddy of St. Matthews Little League stepped down. Charles Siegel, president since the League was founded in 1953, was succeeded by Harold Hammon.

His own son, Freddie, had moved to the older Babe Ruth League, and Mr. Siegel was pretty tired after the work and effort it took to organize the League, build a park, and transform it all into a smooth operation.

The St. Matthews Merchants during the summer made a serious bid for the Louisville Amateur Baseball Federation Title. But after gaining a tie for first in mid-July, the Merchants lost a 4-3 game to Club Cuero and that ended their chances of representing Louisville in a National Baseball tournament.

The Merchants during the year added two Negroes to their teams.

Audubon Country Club demonstrated its superiority over local swimming teams. The youngsters raked up 161 points to defeat seven local competitors in the Big Spring Inter-Club championship August 12.

The Richmond Boat Club swimmers, led by Joe Roehrig and Judy Dillon, earlier that month won the River Road Invitational tournament, racking up 135 points.

Owl Creek's team, coached by Alec Reeves, defeated Richmond 79-72 at the end of July for their 11th victory in a row, spread over three seasons.

**Trinity's Surprise:** In the fall, Jeep Quire's Holy Trinity squad was the surprise football team of the County.

The shamrocks, playing their first year with seniors, won six games, lost only two, and tied one. Guard Jerry Sheehan was named the most valuable players.

Four Trinity players were named to the All-County team. They were halfback Dave Weber, Sheehan, end Bob Kiper, and quarterback Tony Fitzgerald

The eastern Eagles had their worst year, winning only one game.

In the St. Matthews Football League. The Eagles won the Senior Division title with seven victories and no defeats. The Bears won the Junior title.

And Country Day, a school just a little over five year old, completed the year as one of the few unbeaten, untied teams in the state. Coached by Stan Gould, they won six games, raked up 203 points and gave up only 28 points.

**Three New Cities:** The small Cities here continued active and vigorous.

Three new sixth-class Cities were organized. Five Cities, including St. Matthews, conducted sustained programs to curb parking, traffic and other law violations.

Several Cities, including St. Matthews completed annexation programs.

The newly-elected boards of Trustees were installed in January. Then the boards picked their chairmen, or Mayors.

Ken D. Thompson was re-elected Mayor of St. Regis Park, W. T. Porter was elected to his fourth term as Mayor of Bellewood.

Woodlawn Park reelected Burns Speer, and Norbourne Estates reelected Earle Otis, who was also chairman of the Jefferson County Municipal conference. Brownsboro Village reelected Mortimer Goldsmith.

In Cherrywood Village, Robert Love, Jr. was named to succeed Charles Meyer, Jr. Druid Hills named Milton F. Jefferson to succeed Jack Small.

Other Mayors named were Harold B. Williams, Jr. Beechwood Village; Robert Livingston, Springlee, Frank Anderson, Mockingbird Valley; William B. Pirtle, Indian Hills; Richlawn continued with Quincy R. Tyler.

The choice in Windy Hills was J. Paul Keith, Jr. who succeeded himself.

**Police Courts:** Taking the lead in curbing traffic violators were St. Matthews, Cherrywood, Bellewood, and Beechwood Village.

St. Matthews set up a weekly police court, under the direction of Judge Gilbert Flack. The St. Matthews police force was increased to seven, and a second patrol car was added. The result was a veritable flood of citations for violators. At one point, court was being held three times a week. Judge Flack couldn't handle it alone. He appointed two police Judges pro-tem, David Proffitt and Thomas W. Speckman.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

Cherrywood Village also acted. First, the City in April annexed a portion of St. Matthews Avenue to control speeding there, which was endangering Holy Trinity school children. The the trustees hired a part-time patrolman, Bill Jones, a Baptist Seminary student. The result was that Cherrywood shortly had an active monthly police court, presided over by police Judge Lucien Greene.

In December after many trials and tribulations, Judge Green could say that Cherrywood Village traffic problem was just about licked.

Beechwood Village also retained the part-time services of Mr. Jones and set up a regular monthly police court to enforce traffic regulations and a new ordinance to control dogs wondering unattended about the Village streets.

At one court session, on April 17, 22 motorists were fined. The Court was conducted by police Judge Larry Jones.

Bellwood,s police court, conducted by Judge Downey Gray, also cracked down on speeders. In seven weeks, 15 traffic tickets were issued.

**Cities Annex:** Annexation ordinances were approved by three Cities. St. Matthews in December completed annexation of two tracks of land.

One was the are between St. Matthews Avenue and Richlawn. It contained about 100 homes. Trinity High School, and about a dozen businesses, including Thurston Cooke Ford.

St. Matthews had first proposed to annex the territory in March, 1954, but held up when a protest suit was filed. The protest suit was dismissed by Circuit Court June 15, 1956, on agreement by both sides.

The other area annexed included seven homes in the 3500 block of Norbourne Blvd. The homeowners there petitioned St. Matthews to annex them.

In January, Woodlawn Park completed annexation of 28 homes. St. Regis Park in September completed annexation of 58 homes in adjoining Ashfield Acres.

The three new sixth-class cities ordained were Plymouth Village, Cherokee Unit No 5, and Bellemeade.

Cherokee became a City in July. It lies northeast of the City of Windy Hills. It has 82 lots and about 60 homes. W. H. Japs was elected chairman of the board. The other trustees named were C. Miller Scott, Charles W. Arnold, Dr. Charles W. Wheeler, and Phillip O. Mulkey.

Plymouth Village lying just west, of Breckenridge Lane, was created September 18 by Circuit Judge Stuart E. Lampe. It included 85 homes.

Trustees were William R. Molnar, Jack Ballard, Edward L. Munson, Daniel H. Larger, and Robert T. Langan. Mr. Langan was named Mayor.

Bellemeade, off Shelbyville Road near Moorgate, petitioned for incorporation in August. About 132 voters lived in the City. Named trustees were Arthur W. Amix, Fred Becker, J. L. Willenbrink, R. P. Kytly, and C. W. Schoch, Mr. Willenbrink was named Mayor.

These three brought to 36 the number of Cities in Jefferson county.

**Budget Increase:** The City of St. Matthews passed an eventful year. Highlights were the defeat of the Mallon Plan by the voters, the Court of appeals decision giving Louisville the right to annex part of the St. Matthews business district, the larger police force with stepped-up law enforcement, and the annexation.

Other important news was the budget increase, the street repair program, the change in the fire protection set-up, and the extension of the commercial area eastward.

The City in January announced its 1956 budget would be \$102,163.50, and increase of 23 percent ove the \$76,684.77 budget for the previous year. However, taxes were not increased. The additional revenues came from areas annexed during 1955, but not taxed.

The extra money went for public works, streets, health, sanitation and sewage, and police and fire protection.

The City assumed the responsibility for all fire protection costs levied by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department. Previously the City paid for fire protection for all buildings in St. Matthews. But the firemen had sent separate bills to business firms, apartment dwells and home renters for their furnishing and equipment.

The increased responsibility raised the City's annual fire bill to \$11,337 or abut \$3,000 more than in 1955.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The City spent about \$25,000 during the summer repairing the streets. About \$1,500 more was spent for six street lights in downtown St. Matthews. The City ordered about 100 metal street signs, at about \$21 each.

**Commercial Zoning:** In March, the City enacted a simplified occupational license tax ordinance. Except for certain occupations, the new ordinance imposed in effect a gross receipt tax on businesses here, amounting to one-tenth of one per cent.

The City in February approved rezoning of a tract of land on the south side of Frankfort Avenue, between Bethel Church and Fairfax, for D-1 commercial use. It had been zoned C-1 apartment.

The combined four lots ran 250 feet along Frankfort, 250 feet along Fairfax, 186 feet along Dayton and 408 feet along an alley east of Bethel. Later in the year, Anthony J. Eline began construction of several small stores there.

In June, the Council rezoned a tract of land at Shelbyville Road and Fairfax for D-1 commercial use from B-1 residential. A filling station was constructed there.

The Councilmen in September, over the objections of Mayor James Noland, voted to install parking meters on five St. Matthews streets, Bauer, Macon, Wilmington, Meridian, and Breckinridge. But by the end of the year, installation had not been made.

The council further passed a dog-control ordinance, authorizing the police to impound stray dogs, and forbidding residents to let their pets run loose.

Finally, John J. Barker was named a councilman to succeed William Archer, who moved from the City. Mr. Barker had been a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission since October 1954.

**Other Cities Active:** Other Cities were actively trying to improve themselves.

Windy Hills compiled and adopted a giant, new zoning code.

Druid Hills voted to spend about \$1,000 on drainage work.

Norbourne Estate voted to spend \$2,400 on streets and walks.

Beechwood Village made preliminary studies for installing a sewer system, which would cost an estimated \$300,000.

Woodlawn Park started twice weekly garbage collection, and began a newsletter to keep the citizens informed..

Lyndon (though not a City) took steps to install street lights.

Bellewood in December announced City taxes for 1957 would go to 52 cents, compared to 45 cents for 1954.

Indian Hills in December increased property assessment by 20 percent.

Zoning problems absorbed many of the cities attention. Indian Hills in July rejected a bid by the Louisville Gas and Electric Co. to build a transformer in the City.

Springlee won a battle to keep the Gas & Electric Co. from building a plant on nearby Plymouth Road.

Indian Hills also won a battle to have a used car lot removed from the U. S. 42 entrance to the City.

St. Regis, after three years, succeeded in getting a court decision to close a concrete plant operated nearby by Highbaugh Builders.

But the real hot battle was between Druid Hills and Broadway Baptist church. The church filed suit to force the City to open Olympic Avenue to through traffic.

The Court ruled in favor of the Church, and the City in July decided to appeal the ruling.

**Theater Starts:** In the field of straight drama, there was one promising addition. The St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. Theatre was organized in the summer.

William Carrell was named director and Mrs. John Johnson was elected president. Both had had considerable experience with the St. Matthews Community Theatre, as did many members of the new organization.

The group was sponsored by the Y, and the Theatre was designed as another recreational activity for Y members. In November, the Theatre staged its first play, "The Bishop Misbehaves."

Despite the fact that one of the lead actors dropped out at the last moment due to illness, the comedy was called "quite entertaining" by *The Voice* reviewer. The theatre plans to stage two more plays during the remainder of the 1957-57 season.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

Also venturing into the field of stage entertainment was St. Matthews newest high school, Trinity. The Glee Club joined with the Glee Club of Assumption High April 29 to present Geoffrey O'Mara's operetta, "Riding Down The Sky."

Another group from Trinity brought acclaim to the school at the same time. Four actors, Carl Frey, Lyman Chipman, Todd Hollenbach, and Tony Fitzgerald, won a superior rating for doing a one-act play, "Minor Miracle," for the Catholic Drama Festival April 28 at Assumption. Frey was selected as the best actor of the day. The boys competed against seven other high schools.

Meanwhile the old reliable's were still around.

The St. Matthews Community Theatre towards the end of February staged the difficult and famous American drama, "The Little Foxes," under the direction of Jim Devol, Newcomer Marilyn Reiser starred as Regina. *Voice* reviewer Cynthia Smith called the acting very good, but found the play itself dull.

The Theatre's workshop a few days later gave a free performance of "City Havoc," a war-time drama.

Lee Hammond was elected president in June, and the Theatre, still directed by Mr. Devol, opened its 1956-57 season in November with the ever-popular "Harvey," a three-act comedy of a man and his imaginary rabbit companion.

The performance got good reviews. The Theatre announced that it would tackle during the current season Henrik Tbsen's tense drama, "Hedda Gabler."

The Y.M.C.A. Theatre continued its high level of performance. The Theatre's February production of "Stalag 17" was adjudged "first rate" by *The Voice* reviewer.

The Theatre followed this with an April production of "Death of a Salesman."

During the summer, the group changed its name to The Heritage Theatre. In November under the direction of Mike London, the Theatre presented "State of the Union" a drama of modern American political life. "The play was found lacking (but) the actors were not," said *The Voice* reviewer.

**Business Growth strong:** Business continued to expand and grow during the year, but not nearly so rapidly as in the previous year, when the giant new Shelbyville Road Plaza was opened.

Businessmen continued to struggle with parking and traffic problems. Downtown St. Matthews firms increased their promotional activates. Plaza merchants came up with promotional plans of their own.

The downtown merchants, through the organization, the St. Matthews Business Association, gave out prizes totaling \$1,400 in an Easter give-way program. The grand prize was \$1,000 in cash.

In the fall, the Plaza merchants gave away a new automobile. Both give-aways attracted hundreds of thousands of entries.

St. Matthews merchants and State Highway officials continued to argue the question of whether Frankfort Avenue and Lexington Road were main streets of the City or arterial highways. There was no agreement.

However, the state indirectly conceded that the merchants had a point. A traffic division director recommended that the Highway Department put up a traffic light on Bauer and Lexington Road, and a walk-wait signal at Frankfort and Lexington.

The St. Matthews Committee of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce died in early 1956 after only two years. Local merchants and professional men preferred to act through the St. Matthews Business Association, which they seemed to feel was more exclusively their own organization.

**Parking Shortage:** The association reported in July that a shortage of parking space was the "most serious economic problem in the St. Matthews business area from Bauer Avenue to Fairmeade." The report recommended that employee and company cars and trucks be kept from occupying customer parking space. It also called for merchants and landlords to work together to get more parking spaces.

Meanwhile two leading businesses here took steps to take care of their own parking problems. Bacon's leased the property at 124 St. Matthews Avenue on which the old A. L. Hansen Paint and Body Shop had stood for about 50 years. The St. Matthews landmark was razed and Bacon's replaced it with a parking lot in the summer.

C. R. Chism, owner and manager of Chism Hardware, leased the parking lot behind his store on Frankfort Avenue for his own customers. He announced car owners other than his own customers would have to pay to park there. The lot would hold 48 cars.

The local business firms headed by very popular St. Matthews men, made major expansions, Sanders Cleaners at 129 St. Matthews Avenue completed a \$50,000 addition under the direction of the owner, I. J. Sanders and his sons, Carroll and Al.

## **Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The Charley Ruff Sing Co. on St. Mathews Avenue was doubled in size in November.

**Commonwealth Moves:** Other business news; The Phillips Shoe Shop on March 1 held it formal opening in Wallace Center. That same day, Reed Furs formally opened at 3620 Lexington Road. It was St. Matthews first fur shop.

On April 12, Richman Brothers opened its men's and boy's wear shop in the Shelbyville Plaza.

On May 1, Miss Mary Jean Kempf, assistant cashier of Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co. of St. Matthews transferred to the Colonial Federal Savings and Loan Association, St. Matthews. Miss Kempf had started work at the bank in 1940 when it was known as The Farmers and Depositors Bank.

Also on May 1, the Caudill Chevrolet Company became the Pendergrass Chevrolet Co. J. I. Pendergrass, vice president and general manager, announced he had bought the stock of president Arthur Caudill for an undisclosed price.

The St. Matthews branch of Commonwealth Life Insurance moved from Breckenridge Lane to new offices at 4404 Shelbyville Road.

A new Jones Apothecary opened at 4402 Shelbyville Road on May 17, under the manger-ship of John Peak.

In July, Henry Showers, after years of being active in St. Matthews business, announced "I'm really retiring this time." Mr. Showers had come out of retirement the year before to open the Garden Center, which handled trees and plants for the lawn.

(It was the property on which the Center was located, on Wallace Avenue across from Wallace Center, that the proposed Manufacturers Exchange Building was to be built.)

The California Shop in August went out of business and its location in Wallace Center was taken over by another woman's apparel firm, the Dwight Thomas Shop, Managed and owned by Virginia Thomas, the incoming firm had been located for many years in the Highlands.

A new hi-fi phonograph and record shop, called the Turntable, opened in September in the renovated former American Legion Hall, 135 St. Matthews Avenue.

The manager of the Sears-Roebuck store in St. Matthews, Norman Ackerman, on October 1, was elected president of the St. Matthews Business Association. He succeeded Richard Wheeler, owner of Canary Cottage.

In November, Theodore Hattemer opened two businesses at Lagrange and Shelbyville roads. They were the Mystick Tape Products co. and the Theodore Hattemer Co., the last to handle shower enclosures, room dividers, and folding doors.

**Civic Club Active:** The Year 1956 was an active one for the civic organizations of the community.

And it was an important one as new ideas were tried and proven, new groups formed, and new goals were reached and surpassed by old groups.

Prevalent throughout was a note of success and accomplishment.

Outstanding was the humanitarian response to the crises in Hungary.

In December, as the big year drew to a close, the St. Matthews Rotary Club created an original idea in the "Go Hungry For Hungary" project.

It was a dinner for club members and guests without food, the cost of the plate going to CARE for aid to the starving Hungarians.

In the same month, the theme was adopted by Middletown Rotarians and the ideas shoed promise of mushrooming into a national project.

Also concerned with the Hungarian situation, the St. Matthews Jaycees began negotiations with the State Department t bring a Hungarian family here to live.

The Jaycees also took 160 underprivileged children on a Christmas shopping tour, providing each with a \$5 bill out of March of Dimes donations.

**Courtesy Contest:** In November, the Rotarians started the Courtesy contest to remind "as many people as possible in all walks of life to be courteous and kindly....."

The Greater St. Matthews Democratic Club filed Articles of Incorporation in Frankfort.

**Mallon Plan, Church Growth, Court Decision Highlight 1956**

The St. Matthews Music Club, a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs, was formed.

The Y.M.C.A. membership drive went over the top with 3,543 members subscribing \$14,890.00

In September, the St. Matthews Community Center held a successful Booster day which netted \$3,258.57 for recreational facilities for the children of the community, surpassing \$2,889 collected in 1955.

The St. Matthews Little League and Babe Ruth League, aided by Minor League players, canvassed homes and came up with \$1,685 toward putting Booster Day over the top.

In August, a new Optimist Club was started in Lyndon, sponsored by the Buechel Optimist Club. Jim Harp was elected president.

In June, the Y added a Handicraft Room to its recreational program, complete with \$550 worth of power and hand tools donated by Lions, Kiwanis, and Rotary Clubs of St. Matthews.

In May, the Woman's Clubs of St. Matthews and Lyndon again sponsored the Junior Students service Center at the Y, which found summer employment for a number of teenagers.

**Jaycee Road-E-O:** The Jaycees conducted another successful Road-E-O for County High school students, allowing the youngsters to "drag" their cars in safety.

Mrs. William Cruse, Jr. who retired as president of the St. Matthews Woman's Club, was honored at the General Federation of Woman's Clubs convention in Kansas City, for her work with the state Youth Conservation Department.

Jack Dempsey, and art instructor at Ballard school, won the St. Matthews Woman's Clubs first Outdoor Art Exhibit.

The Harrods Creek Lions Club, sponsored by the St. Matthews Lions Club, received its charter.

In April the St. Matthews Woman's Club burned the mortgage on its clubhouse after only seven years of payments. The club had borrowed \$25,000 on the property in 1948 to be paid in 15 years.

Mrs. W. C. Cruse, Jr., witnessed the signing of the Comic Book Bill by Governor A. B. Chandler, which she helped to push through the legislature. The bill restrains the publication, sale and distribution to minors of comic books denoted to crime, terror, brutality, and illicit sex.

In February, the Jaycees approved a resolution calling upon the City of Louisville to give up its attempt to annex Ford and general electric plants.

**Other 1956 News Events**

**January:** Thirty minutes after the New Year opened, builder-architect John Walser's offices and storage facilities at 4050 Westport Road were wiped out by fire. Damage was estimated at \$50,000 to \$55,000.

Four St. Matthews and one Lyndon Volunteer fire trucks were called to fight the blaze. (Altogether during 1956, the St. Matthews Volunteer firemen were called to put out an even 100 fires.)

A. P. Bell, health engineer, was appointed a director of St. Matthews Sanitation District No. 1.

**February:** Quincy R. Tyler, Mayor of Richlawn was elected chairman of the board of St. Matthews Sanitation District No. 1.

Forty-five Eastern High Juniors and Seniors were initiated into the National Honor Society.

**March:** St. Matthews photographer Frederic Beck was elected president of the Louisville Professional Photographers' Association.

**May:** Fourteen of the 20 Eastern High school Band entries to the State High School Music Festival won Division 1 ratings, the highest.

Explorer Post 314, sponsored by St. Matthews Methodist Church, went down the Kentucky River on a raft from Boonesboro Beach to Frankfort Yacht Basin, a distance of 105 miles. Led by Pete Kouns, the Explorers were Bill Schultze, Lanz Schulze, Ronnie Howard, Jim Painter, Ronnie Calhoun, David Smith, David Pattison, Roger Pattison, and Jim Kouns.

**August:** Miss Darlene Scheibel, 15, of 3947 Massie, was chosen Miss Jefferson County Fair.

*The Voice* started carrier service to subscribers with a crew of 20 boys.

The Lyndon Volunteer Firemen built a third truck.

Miss Diane Reed, 19, of 2214 Manchester, and Miss Betti Webb, 21, 3410 Warner, finished second and third respectively in the Miss Kentucky contest.

**September:** Kent Campbell, 25, took over direction of the Eastern High Band.

*The Voice* published its first annual Get-Acquainted edition on the 27th.

About 100, armed men of the St. Matthews National Guard, were called to Sturgis, Ky., to help keep down trouble resulting from integration of schools there.

**October:** The Eastern High School band, for the second straight year, won top honors at the Southeastern Band Festival in Bristol, Va.

**November:** The Anchorage and Harrods Creek Telephone exchanges went on the dial system. All Belmont numbers in St. Matthews were changed to TWinbrook 5.

**December:** Fourteen-year-old Barry Barmore became a United States Marine in a touching ceremony at Waggener School. The crippled boy was made a sergeant with uniform and strips after he wrote to the Marine's National Commandant explaining his life-long ambition and his desire to have a Marine uniform.

The Eastern High School Band was one of only two throughout Kentucky picked to play at the Presidential Inauguration.

## **Community Leaders, John Walser Makes Name For Self Here**

A modest young builder, John A. Walser, has quietly made a good name for himself the past few years in St. Matthews.

He has had a hand in the development and building of houses in Bellewood, Beechwood Village, Marydale, Maryfield, Indian Hills, Ridgewood, Cherosen and Graymore.

Most of his efforts have been divided in speculative residential building and development. But as the result of a series of unforeseen circumstances he now finds himself proprietor of one of the most beautiful, modern office buildings in the east end of Jefferson County.

That is the new Walser Building now being completed at 4050 Westport Road, which was described in the January 31, *Voice*.

Here's how he came to put up the building.

On New Year's morning of 1956, old makeshift quarters for his business at the location burnt down. He realized how valuable was the 180 by 200 foot lot in downtown St. Matthews, and decided to put up a building, partially for his own use and partially for rent out.

But as he went along, he decided the location was too good for himself. What a builder needs, he figured, is not a prime piece of commercial ground, but a large property of relatively small value for his scrap lumber, bulldozers, trucks and other equipment.

So he went ahead and built the best building he could on the site, for rental to other firms. (He did the designing and widening himself. He is an architectural engineer.)

Now he has been forced to move his own office into a small building at the rear temporarily, and is looking for another location.

Now, 30, Mr. Walser was born and reared in Louisville's Germantown, where he went to school at St. Vincent De Paul. After three years of high school at St. Mary's near Chicago, he returned and studied drafting at Ahrens Trade school.

At 18, he went to work for a Louisville architect, and at 19 went to Central Construction Co. for five years, where he learned his present trade.

He served in the Army from 1942 to 1946, was in the Pacific a while, and attained the rank of major.

Out of the Army, he teamed up with Joe Wilhoyte as a residential speculative builder. Then in 1938, he struck out for himself.

With Mr. Wilhoyte, he built about 25 homes in Bellewood and another 25 in the 300 block of Bonner, plus four or five in Maryfield.

On his own, he developed about 300 lots in Beechwood Village, and built 60 to 70 homes there.

(Generally he develops a piece of ground—that is, puts in water lines, roads, and other utilities—then sells, four-fifths of the lots off, and builds on the rest. His average house is in the \$20,000 class.)

He has built 40 homes in Marydale, 15 in Maryfield, about 10 bigger ones in Indian Hills, Ridgewood Cherosen, and half a dozen in Graymore.

He is now building in Marydale, and has an option of 10 acres in Graymore, a quarter of which he is developing now. "We have 12 houses going all the time," he said.

Usually he has 20 to 40 men working for him. Now he's down to the minimum because of slow sales. "We're trying to be cautious," he said.

He has developed a successful method for hiring and keeping good workers. "We like to hire good, church-going men," he said. "Then we try to take care of them, year-round. We try our best to keep them working 40 hours a week during the winter. We are not always successful because of the weather, but we do our best. The men we have appreciate it. That's one of the reasons we get good men."

He gives his 72-year-old dad, Henry Walser, great credit for the success his firm has enjoyed.

"He's been a tremendous help," he said. "We're entirely different. He handles the money and keeps the books. He likes details and is cautious. I like to push and I hate details."



## ***The Voice Of St. Matthews, February 14, 1957: John Walser Makes Name For Self***

### **Community Leaders, John Walser Makes Name For Self Here**

He laughed and said "Dad's 72 and he gets around better than I do. I guess I keep him young."

Other than homes and the new building, he hasn't built much—a sewer plant in Marydale, a few filling stations and stores and such light work. "Those were accidental," he said. My main work is speculative residential development and building.

Something else keeps him busy too. He and his wife, the former Martha Morrison of Louisville, have been married only eight years. They have six children, John H., 7, Phil, 6, Susie, 4, Alice, 3, James, 2, and Joan, 1.

"All good eaters," said Mr. Walser.

The family lives in Pewee Valley and attends Saint Aloysius.

### ***The Voice Of St. Matthews: January 31, 1957, Walser Building Nears Completion***

Builder John Walser announced last week that tenants will begin to move into his new, modern building at Westport Road about February 1.

However, the building and landscaping won't be completely finished until about April 1, he said.

The two-story building, with about 16,000 square feet of floor space, plus the 180 by 200 foot lot, is valued at about \$250,000. Mr. Walser started construction after another building he owned on that site was destroyed by fire on January 1, 1956.

Mr. Walser said most of the space already has been rented out. Tweed and Tartan, a ladies' wear shop has rented the front on Westport Road, he said. All the rest is office space.

He said the upstairs already has been taken by the following: State Farm Mutual Insurance's adjusting office, Asphalt Institute of Kentucky, Tecon Engineers, the Kentucky District office of Pan Am, and realtor Harvey White.

He said the Federal Housing Administration wants to take the entire first floor and move its Louisville office there. The request to do so is now going through channels in Washington, he said, and "we should know about February 1."

The parking lot will be asphalt covered and will hold about 70 cars, he said.

The outside of the building is made of glass and porcelain panel., with aluminum windows frames and mullions. The outside colors are a pinkish orange and a colonial blue.

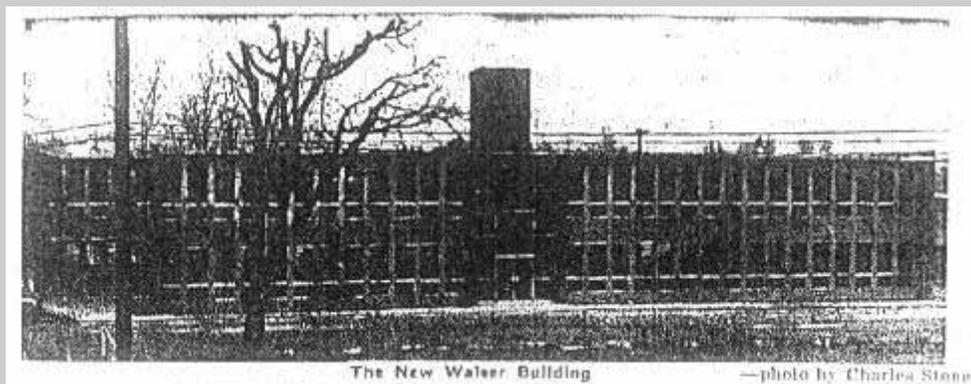
Mr. Walser, an architectural engineer, designed and built the building himself.

Most of the east and west walls are made of a special glass, designed to keep down the heat from the rays of the sun, he said. "It's like the green glass used for that purpose in cars."

The building has "zoned" air-conditioning. This system throws the bulk of its coolness to the east side of the building in the morning and to the west in the afternoon, it follows the sun, he said.

Mr. Walser said his building firm won't have an office in the building. For a while, he will stay in a storage building in the rear, and then find suitable quarters elsewhere.

He explained he needed storage space for his building equipment.



The New Walser Building

—photo by Charles Stone

## **Gary Young Wins Derby**

Gary B. Young, 13 of Pleasure Ridge Park, won the first Soap Box Derby in Jefferson county in more than 15 years Sunday.

The youngster zoomed across the finish line of the 1,000-foot course on Zorn avenue less than 15 feet ahead of his challenger, Richard T. Poppe of 313 Sage Road.

Gary won himself a four-day trip to the National Soap Box Derby in Akron next month. Winner of the National gets a free trip to Europe and a \$5,000 scholarship.

Consolation prize for young Dick was a bicycle given by Pendergrass Chevrolet, one of the sponsors of the event.

The Derby went off like clockwork. Not a single boy was injured, although one racer's brakes locked and the car rocked from side to side precariously, and a second racer crashed through the bales of hay beyond the finish line.

The weather was hard to take. The temperature was in the high 80's and the humidity was terrific. Alternate cloudiness and glazed sunlight gave the score of cameramen a hard time.

The spectators had virtually no protection against the sun, except for those who brought beach umbrellas and the like. City and County Police estimated the total crowd at 4,000 to 6,000, but there was a heavy turnover because of the heat. Many person's came to see a race or two and then left.

The St. Matthews Jaycees again arose to the occasion. To an outsider making inquiries, it was obvious that the organization and coordination of the program was haphazard. But somehow everything fell into place on Sunday, and there wasn't even a minor hitch to spoil the show.

About 40 Jaycees turned out at 7 a.m. to construct the ramps and mark out the racing zones on Zorn Avenue, and to put up the refreshment booths. After lunch they loaded up the truck and automobiles with racing cars, drivers and dignitaries.

Promptly at 1 p.m. as scheduled, the parade started, going through St. Matthews to Brownsboro Road and then to Zorn Avenue. Promptly at 2 p.m., the races started. They were over at 4:23, an hour ahead of schedule.

By 7:30 p.m. the Jaycees had the place cleaned up and all the equipment moved out.

Thirty-seven of the 52 boys registered actually took part in the races. The Jaycees weighed the boys and the cars, sent them down the runways two at a time, and brought the cars back up the hill by truck in a smoothly functioning operation.

The boys raced two at a time, with the loser being eliminated. The race was split into two divisions, the first for boys 11 and 12, with Dick Poppe winning, and the second for boys 13 to 15, with Gary Young winning. Then the two division champions met.

The two boys were even for about the first 500 feet, but Gary gradually pulled away for a reasonably easy victory.

Judges for the contest were Mayor James Noland of St. Matthew, County Judge Bertram C. Van Arsdale, and Robert Diehl, Republican candidate for Mayor of Louisville.

Other guests were Mrs. Van Arsdale, St., Matthews Police Chief William Tolliver, and Gen. Phillip Ardery. Also on hand were Al Schansberg, publisher of *The Voice*, and J. L. Pendergrass, president of Pendergrass Chevrolet.

The Jaycees, *The Voice*, and Pendergrass were sponsors of the event. Mr. Pendergrass presented Gary with the winner's trophy.

To liven up the proceedings, Mayor Noland and Mr. Diehl climbed into racers and staged a contest. Mr. Diehl won by five feet. In a later contest, television personality Ed Kallay defeated radio announcer Jim Bollinger.

Major William G. Kiefer of the City police was the official starter, assisted by Jaycee Tom Bailey. Major Kiefer was enjoying himself so much, he turned down an offer of relief midway in the contest, despite the broiling sun.

Mr. Diehl, too, had a good time. He told the Jaycees that if he wins the election in November, they can count on 100 percent cooperation for next year's Derby. He offered to provide City Police to help out.

These were the heat winners:

### **Class A (Boys 13 to 15)**

Second heat — Maurice Byrne, Edward Head, James Gatewood, Gary B. Young, Thomas Elston, Robert Colyer, Bert McQueen, and Joseph Hayden.

Quarter finals — Maurice Byrne, Gary B. Young, Thomas Elston, and Joseph Hayden.

### Gary Young Wins Derby

Semi-finals — Gary B. Young and Joseph Hayden.

#### Class B (Boys 11 and 12)

First round — James Lynn Cira, Lawrence Gatewood, Douglas Owens, Richard T. Poppe, Roy Raynor, Glen Dennison, Jr., Henry D. Cornelius, Jr., and Harold Brewer.

Second round — James Lynn Cira, Richard T. Poppe, Roy Raynor, and Henry D. Cornelius, Jr.

Semi-finals—Richard T. Poppe and Henry D. Cornelius, Jr.

Finals — Richard T. Poppe.

Mr. Webb, announced the following awards. GE radios from Appliance Park to Harry James for having the racer with the best upholstery, and Maurice Byrne, for the racer making the best appearance. Maurice also won the trophy for sportsmanship.

“Work luck,” prize to David Harper, Jr. of 5511 Holston Rd. David’s car was accidentally smashed when it rolled from a truck. It had to be hastily re-built before the race.

Other prize awards will be announced at the victory banquet to be given for the boys Monday, July 29, at 6 p.m. a the Brown Hotel by the Jaycees.

Prizes and donors were: Badminton set, St. Matthews Hardware; baseball and mit, Sears, St. Matthews; football, Woolworth’s, Plaza; baseball mit, Bacon’s; \$2 Smithers; baseball mit, Taylor’s Drug Store, Plaza; two GE radios, Appliance Park; models, Minnish & Potts; flying wing model, Fun Fair; flash camera, Gatchel’s; model plane, Lyndon Hardware Store; swimming fins, Fairmeade Pharmacy.

Archery set, Bob Schulten Pan Am; baseball bat, Firestone, St. Matthews; tennis racket, Woolworth’s; croquet set, Chism Hardware Co.; wallet, Dixie Drive-It-Yourself; two Timex watches and I.D. bracelet, Lester Jewelers; pen and pencil, Ashbury Berman Drugs; Shaffer’s pen and pencil, George W. Howard, CPA; camera, Sanders Cleaners; ID. Bracelet, Vic Lorch Sons; cuff links and clasp, K. Brown; four piece pen and pencil, Will sales.

Kodak, Richey’s Pharmacy, Lyndon; flashlight, Pendergrass Insurance Agency; Geiger counting, Pookman Drugs; five dollar gift certificate, Martins Grocery; 2 chickens-in-rough, Pryor’s Restaurant; and camera, Judy Goodson.



Early in the morning, the St. Matthews Jaycees carefully measured out the two racing lanes for the 1000-foot course. Soap Box Derby rules require each lane to be at least eight feet wide. The Jaycees had out 10 foot lanes for safety. This was precaution contributed to an extraordinarily safe contest, unmarred by a single injury.



A young contestant leans beside his racer in the Pendergrass Chevrolet showroom to give the wheels one last spin at all. The boys built their own cars, using plans provided by the National Soap Box Derby.



The boys and their racers were loaded aboard trucks for a parade through St. Matthews. Leaving Pendergrass’s at 1 p.m., the parade of cars and trucks went through St. Matthews out to the Zera Avenue site.



Cars and drivers were lined up at the top of the hill for final inspection before the race. The racers were of every conceivable shape but the slim, sleek jobs were the speediest, because they met wind resistance to a minimum. They were divided into two divisions, one for those 11 and 12, and the other for boys 13 to 15.



Jaycee Bob Pence checks contestant David Harper. Car and boy could not weigh more than 350 pounds. The Jaycees had score ranges and weighted but had to depend mostly on muscle power to get the work done.



Official scorer John Carwell, seated, went over the rules before the race with the judges, from left, Robert Diehl, G.O.P. candidate for Mayor of Louisville, Mayor James Noland of St. Matthews, and County Judge Herman C. Van Arsdale.



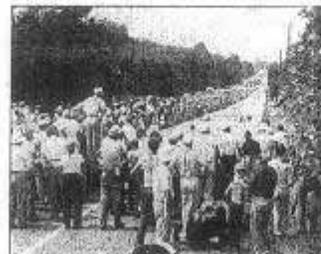
The ground looked after its own number. Taking refuge under a beach umbrella are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hirsman and family of Middletown. Their son, David, was a contestant. The temperature was in the high 60’s and the humidity was terrific.



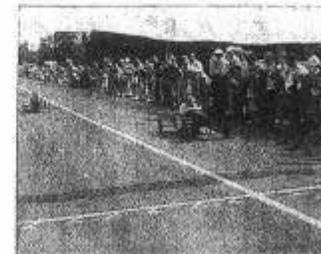
Mayor Noland, left, and Mr. Diehl opened the show at 2 p.m. with a race of their own. Although the cars reached a speed of 25 mph, the Mayor said he won’t admit Mr. Diehl had no contest, but he won the race by five feet. The Mayor wished his similar luck in November.



Starting line for the beginning of the races. Gary Young (right) is in the lead, with the lower being eliminated. A cheer at commencement is Richard T. Poppe (the lower ear). Dick won the championship of the younger division and took on Gary Young in the final.



There they go! Two racers are shown neck and neck at the one-quarter mark while in foreground another boy is prepared by his father for the next heat. Police estimated that 3,500 boys’ friends sat, although the actual count at any one time was probably never more than 2,500.

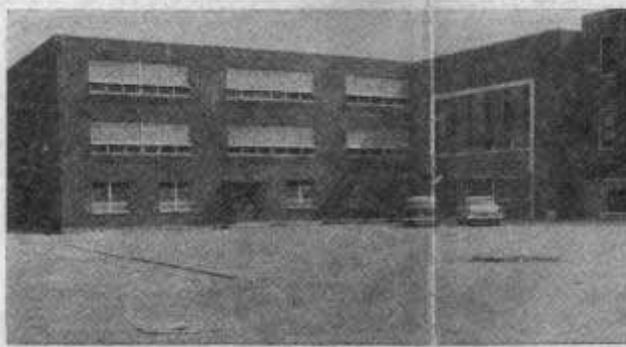


Dick Poppe, left, led out in the final by about 15 feet to Gary Young, right, at Pleasant Ridge Park, pictured just before he crossed the finish line. The two racers were about even for the first half, but Gary gradually pulled away. Boys estimated it took 100 yards wind resistance.



The champion is congratulated and given the trophy by J. J. Pendergrass whose Chevrolet firm, along with the Jaycees and The Voice sponsored the event. Also pictured are Mr. Diehl, left, and Judge Van Arsdale.

**Annual Back-to-School Edition**  
**St. Matthews schools are big business**  
**\$2,344,000 worth of new school buildings will open this Fall**



Trinity High's new addition is completely finished.

Photos by Joe W. Shook

Education is getting to be a tremendous business in the St. Matthews. Area.

More than \$2,344,000 worth of new school buildings will be ready here this Fall.

Besides all that, the County School Board alone is spending almost \$2 million to operate schools in the St. Matthews area this year. Of this, about two-thirds will go for teachers' salaries.

There will be two new public schools — the Wilder Elementary School on Herr Lane between Westport Road and Brownsboro Road, and the Shryock Elementary School on Browns Lane between the Inner Belt and Lowe Road.

\*\*\*



The new wing at Waggener is ready except for some electrical work.

One new private school will be ready to go. That's the Catholic Country Day School in the former Thomas Monohan residence on Browns Lane near the Inner Belt. The new building will cost an estimated \$85,000 and school will open there Sept. 9.

Estimated cost of the Wilder School will be \$653,000. The Shryock School will cost about \$604,000. These two are expected to be ready by the time school opens Sept. 3, although there is some doubt about Shryock.

Also ready to go will be the \$524,000 addition to Waggener High.

\*\*\*

Sad to say, Eastern's \$178,000 addition will not be ready. Because of the cement strike, the building may not be finished until the latter part of October, according to John L. Ramsey, assistant superintendent of County Schools.

Trinity's High's \$350,000 addition was completed early this month.

Until Eastern's addition of 10 classrooms is ready, the school will have to do a lot of doubling up, according to Mr. Ramsey. "We'll have to use the lounge, conference rooms, and the audio-visual room to get by," he said. "It'll be inconvenient but we're used to it."

\*\*\*

The extra 10 rooms will give Eastern 73 rooms. That will—take care of the school "for several years," according to Mr. Ramsey. This year there will be about 1,-765 students,



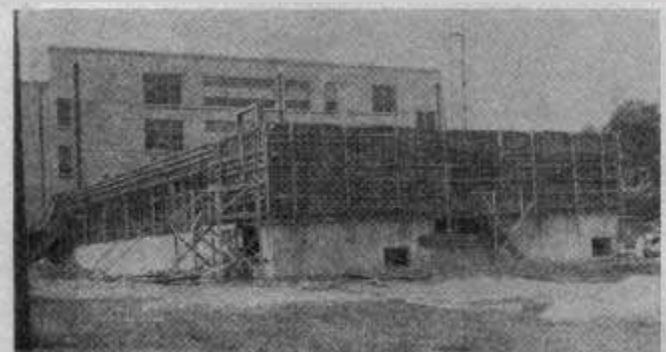
A truck unloads the last of the materials for the Wilder School.

Photos by Joe W. Shook



A lot of work still needs to be done on Shryock but it might be ready by Sept. 3.

Photos by Joe W. Shook



Concrete forms still in place tell the story at Eastern. It won't be done until October.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, August 15, 1957: St. Matthews School are big business***

### **\$2,344,000 worth of new school buildings will open this Fall**

compared to 1,650 last year. The staff will include 71 teachers, two deans, an assistant principal, and principal John Trapp. That's an increase of two teachers over last year.

The pressure is being taken off Eastern by the expansion of Waggener. Formerly a junior high with grades six to nine, Waggener will, add the 10th grade this year, the 11th next year, and the 12th the following year.

\*\*\*

Waggener's size will be almost doubled when it opens next month. Twenty—seven classrooms are being added, giving the school 57 altogether.

The staff will include 55 teachers, two deans, an assistant principal, and principal John Lowe. Last year, the school had only 33 teachers.

Enrollment is expected to be 1,440 as compared with 852 last year. This sudden jump is mostly the result of adding the extra grade and shifting seventh and eighth grade pupils from Greathouse and St. Matthews Elementary Schools.

Mr. Ramsey said that Waggener will be even bigger in the future. Expansions are planned to take care of the senior grades being added next year and the year after.

\*\*\*

Wilder Elementary will have 21 classrooms. It is being built for 630 pupils but will have an enrollment of only about 552 the first year.

The starting staff will include 20 teachers and principal Roy Cobb, former principal at South Park Elementary.

\*\*\*

Shryock will have 19 class-rooms, and a staff of 17 teachers, plus principal Leo Colyer, former principal of Melbourne Heights.

Estimated capacity is 570 pupils. First year enrollment is expected to be about 500.

\*\*\*

Principal John Lowe announced that Waggener would be adding 11 new courses to take care of the 10th grade. These are: Spanish II, Home Economics II, Shop II, General Art II, 10th grade English, Journalism, Biology, Plane Geometry, Algebra II, French II, and Latin II.

\*\*\*

Trinity High's addition will include 12 classrooms, a typing room, a mechanical drawing room, a chemistry and physics lab, a cafeteria, kitchen and snack bar, a chapel and several offices.

Father Alfred Steinhauser, principal, said that the school will have 31 teachers this year as compared with 24 last year. He also expects enrollment to go up to 750 this year, an increase of 160 over last year.

The only new subjects being added are Speech, Business Law, and Mechanical Drawing, he said.

The school will open at 9 a.m. Sept. 3 with only freshmen reporting. They will get their books and home - room assignments, and other administrative details will be ironed out.

On Sept. 4, the sophomores will report. The next day will be reserved for the juniors, and the next for the seniors.

\*\*\*

He announced that Trinity had lost the following teachers:

Father John Hanrahan (Latin I and Business English), Father Robert Huber (Algebra), James Spalding (biology and American history), and Tom Sheehan (senior and sophomore English).

New teachers will be Father Vince Dentinger, (Business Math and Religion), Father William Gorman (Problems in American Democracy and assistant football coach), Father Anthony Heitzman (Latin and Algebra), Father Richard Hollenkamp (Latin and Algebra), Father Robert Osborne (Plane Geometry and Religion), Father C. J. Wagner (Junior and Freshman English), Jim Eberenz (senior and freshman English), Herbert Erhart, Jr., (Chemistry and American History), Dave Kelly, (Physical education, Health and Civics, and assistant basketball and baseball coach), Carl McDonald (Biology, and General Science) and Bud O'Neill (fresh-man English and Civics).

\*\*\*

Headmaster Daniel. M. O'Neill said the Catholic Country Day School should be ready to go by the opening date, Sept. 9.

The school will have 10 class-rooms and 10 teachers, besides the headmaster himself, who will teach Latin.

(No budget figures were released on the Catholic schools which are private).

Also, the old Monohan home is being completely remodeled and converted into three classrooms and several administrative offices. The new building will have seven classrooms, a kitchen, an all-purpose room, and a chapel.

An enrollment of 100 boys is expected in grades one through nine. Each year a grade will be added until there are 12.

Teachers will be: Mrs. Rosanna Bassett, first grade; Miss Mary P. Kassenbrock, second grade; Mrs. Marjary G. Mitchell, third grade; Miss Delores Schimpler, fourth grade; Mrs. Gertrude M. O'Neill, fifth grade and director of the lower school; Harry A. Ropke, Jr., Sixth grade and athletics; and Kenneth R. Combs, athletic director; Eugene A. Steilberg, math, science and athletics; Francis A. Stultz, history and athletics; Thomas P. Sheeran, English and athletics.

**Editorial—A salute for our schools**

We're proud of our school system in St. Matthews. We realize it's only part of a system embracing the entire County, but we take a particular pride and interest in those schools in our neighborhood. And we are proud of our Catholic schools as well as the public schools.

Back in 1949, when *The Voice* first opened for business, there were only four schools—Greathouse, Ballard, Lyndon and Middletown—to serve this whole area. The high school was a small one in Anchorage.

The only Catholic schools here were Holy Spirit and Holy Trinity.

Since then, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Margaret Mary and Trinity High has been added to the Catholic school system.

Stivers, Chenoweth, St. Matthews Elementary, Waggener High and Eastern High have been built by the County school system.

This year, two more have been added — Shryock and Wilder.

The booming development of our community has made the addition of these schools vitally necessary. They have been expensive. Time and again we have been asked for more taxes.

Though only one of these tax increases was approved by the voters, we in St. Matthews can take particular pride in the fact that we did not shirk our duty. The people here always voted for the increased taxes, except on one occasion when we narrowly voted down an occupational tax. It was our vote in 1952 that put across the increase of 50 cents and gave the School Board the money to meet the need to build more schools. Other sections of the County voted against the tax. But we voted in favor of it by such a heavy margin, that the deficit was easily made up.

Another source of pride is the continuing interest the people of St. Matthews have shown in the schools. We attend P.T.A. meetings faithfully, participate in school activities, and generally give the teachers the fullest cooperation. We like our teachers and we think they like us.

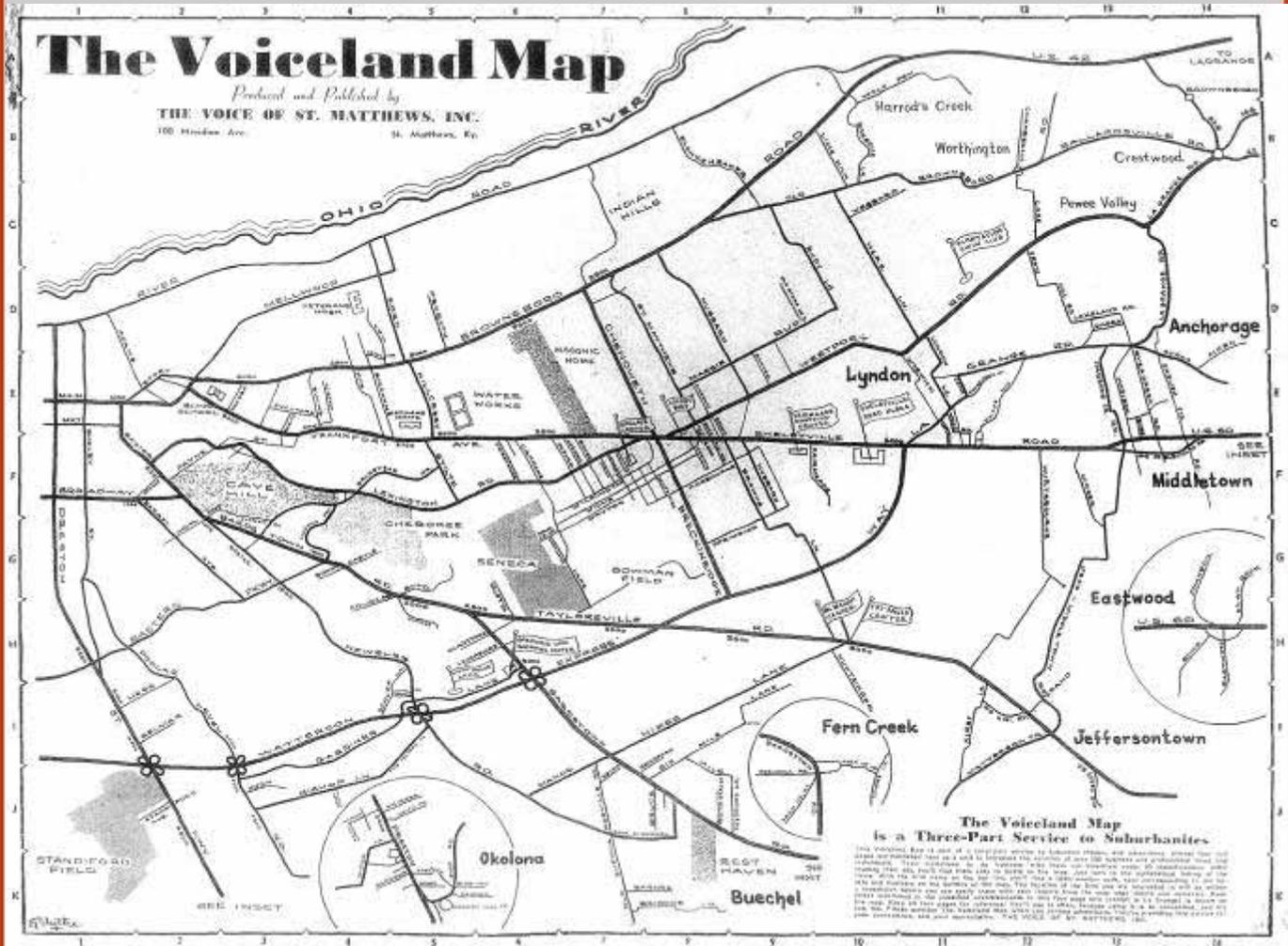
Even the criticism some of us have leveled at times at our school system is evidence, not of an urge to be destructive, but of a desire to make what is good even better, if possible. If we have caused the school system any headaches, we are sorry. We were merely trying, in our fumbling way, to help.

The problems of the schools in the past few years have been terrific. We think the County school system (as well as the Catholic) has handled this situation masterfully. Every problem has not been solved and won't be, and we've all made mistakes, but the problems and mistakes were those of an expanding school system and not, Thank Heavens, of a declining one. They were merely the pains of growing.

We know the County school system's problems — not enough money, not quite enough qualified teachers, and probably most serious of all, a shortage of trained, experienced administrative personnel to fill the posts of responsibility that have been opening up in the expanding system.

We think school superintendent Richard VanHoose and his staff and his principals and teachers have done a marvelous job. They have created schools that have the very air of American democracy about them, that children (unlike their parents before them) love to attend, and that are an integral and happy part of our community life.

We salute them.



## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy***

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years St. Matthews still into it with Louisville, more churches and schools were built, but sports scene was really outstanding (Article in very bad shape, many paragraphs missing or unreadable. Edited.)**

Although 1957 was a year of growth and progress in St. Matthews, the news reads almost like a carbon copy of former years.

The City of St. Matthews was still tussling with Louisville, new churches, places of business and schools were going up, and the population was increasing.

The City was still ruled by the same men who organized it seven years ago and in the smaller cities on its fringes, there were still many familiar faces.

By the end of the year, the St. Matthews business district still belonged to the City of St. Matthews, and the public was still waiting to see whether the Court of appeals could let St. Matthew keep it or turn it over to the City of Louisville.

St. Matthews grew considerably in size as ordinances annexing stores, churches and other institutions along Shelbyville Road, Browns Lane and Hubbards lane were passed.

A move to incorporate Middletown failed, but another move to incorporate part of Lyndon seemed certain of success.

The sixth class Cities of Broad Fields and Briarwood were incorporated.

Several attempts to rezone major portions of the East end for commercial and industrial use were made, the most conspicuous failure being the request for rezoning of 524 acres near Lakeland to build a Reynolds Metals research center and plant.

Residential building slowed down, but non-residential construction was high. John Walser finished a quarter million dollar office building on Westport Road, and the quarter-million-dollar Plantation Swimming club was open by July. The Fairfax Building was constructed on Frankfort Avenue by A. J. Eline, housing two stores, a dance studio and several offices.

About \$2,344,000 worth of new school buildings opened in December, including the Catholic Country Day school and two new elementary schools, Shryock and Wilder.

??? ??? Church buildings were ????, not counting a major expansion at Bethel E & R, and one of these, St. John Lutheran, was wrecked by a gas explosion and fire.

*In politics, St. Matthews remained Republican by a margin of more than nine to seven, while the rest of the County was going democratic in the race for County-wide offices.*

The incumbent George Washington Party easily retained control of the six St. Matthews City council seats.

The drama continued to flourish, as the Heritage Theatre, the St. Matthews Y Players and the St. Matthews Community Theatre maintained full and varied schedules.

Two new fraternal organizations sprang into being the High Twelve club and the Elks.

But most important to the youngsters here was the sports scene, and this formed one of the brightest chapters in the history of St. Matthews for the year.

The Eastern High Eagles completed the best season they ever had by winning the District and Regional Basketball titles and going on to the finals of the State Tournament before they were beaten.

The St. Matthews Merchants team won the Metropolitan Amateur Baseball Federation championship, and the Eastern High football team won the County championship. And finally, the Trinity High cross-country track team won the State championship.

St. Matthews Little League ??? expanded from its two ??? four teams each, to four team ??? 16 teams, and an American Legion League was formed.

*Circuit Judge Lyne Smith electrified the community. At the beginning of June, he ruled that Louisville's April 1 annexation of the St. Matthews business district was null and void on the grounds that Louisville was barred by the failure of the Mallon Plan from annexing the area for five years.*

Under the Mallon Plan the previous November, Louisville attempted to annex the suburbs. The plan was defeated by the suburban vote. According to State law, a City may not attempt to annex the same territory twice in five years.

Louisville immediately took the case to the Court of Appeals and there the matter rested at the end of the year.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy***

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years**

Meanwhile the City of St. Matthews continued its expansion. The City Council on January 8 gave first reading to two ordinances proposing to annex an area on the south side of Shelbyville Road extending to Fairmeade.

The area included 18 stores and professional offices, among them Pryor's Restaurant, Landohr Bowling Alleys, and Pendergrass Chevrolet.

Also included were the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A., the Woman's Club of St. Matthews the Kentucky Farm Bureau, and Beargrass Christian, Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian, and St. Matthews Methodist Churches.

These annexations were completed in due time.

Another important annexation was stopped, however, when residents of the area filed a remonstrance suit. The City Council on June 4 had taken first steps to annex most of the unincorporated area between Browns Lane, the Innerbelt Highway, and Shelbyville Road. The area to be annexed included the Shelbyville Road Plaza shopping center.

*The City completed another important action in April when it joined with the St. Matthews Business association to open a free municipal parking lot off Chenoweth Lane designed for accommodation of 240 cars.*

And the City got a break from the Court of Appeals which ruled in February that the ordinance by which St. Mathews collected 1954 taxes was valid. The Court reversed a ruling made in 1955 by Circuit Judge Macauley Smith. More than \$50,000 in taxes were involved.

The attempt to incorporate Middletown as a sixth class City was started in January but failed as the incorporators could not get the required number of registered voters to sign the petition.

But the move to incorporate Lyndon, which started late in November, seemed more likely of success. The move was prompted by a City-County Planning and Zoning Commission decision rezoning 18 acres on Leyton Avenue for industrial use.

The men behind the incorporation filed a suit in Circuit Court the first week in December to reverse the rezoning decision.

*Two new sixth class Cities were created here. They were Broad Fields and Briarwood.*

A petition was filed April 8 in Circuit Court for incorporation of Broad Fields as a City of 54 homes just southwest of St. Matthews. The incorporation was granted and the City held its first meeting May 31.

Emil Maresz, of 3600 Graham Road, was elected Mayor and plans were made for annexation of the 30-some additional homes in the subdivision, not included in the original incorporation. The annexation was completed in July.

Briarwood was incorporated in December, and Robert H. Davis, 31, of 2009 Japonica, was elected Mayor. The City is located off Westport Road, just past the Children's Center. There are 235 voters in the City.

*The incumbent George Washington Party had an easy time retaining the six St. Matthews City Council seats in the November election.*

They won by a majority of almost 3 to 1. Re-elected were B. W. Gratzner, E. R. Grinstead, Henry Leathers, M. C. Rudy, Sam Rudy, and John Barker.

Winners in Cherrywood for five trustees were Lucen Greene, Charles C. Myers, Rollo Fox, William Gladden and Evan A. Fraser.

In Indian Hills, the incumbent Indian Party was re-elected. Winning as trustees were R. Frank Gay, Henry D. Ormsby, Jr., William B. Pirtle, W. R. Williamson, and William F. Lucas.

On the County-wide level, St. Matthews was completely out of harmony with the rest of the County.

While the Democratic ticket, headed by County Judge Bertram C. Van Arsdale, was sweeping back into office, St. Matthews was going Republican by a margin of more than 9 to 7.

St. Matthews vote was the margin of victory for Republican Scott Miller in the Senate race against incumbent Arthur Grafton.

*The attempt to rezone 524 acres approved by the state at Lakeland for a Reynolds Metals plant and research center caused a tremendous debate not only in the East End, but throughout the community.*

Business interests were for it, particularly the Chamber of Commerce and the real estate men. Local labor unions also go behind it on the hope of creating more jobs in the growing unemployment in the Falls City area.

## *The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy*

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years**

Arrayed against it were the home owners of the East End, who contended we've paid a premium price for homes in the last section of the county reserved solely for residential use, and resented the idea of industry moving in.

The City & County Planning and Zoning commission voted against the zoning 5-2.

In the sports field, the eastern High Eagles fielded a great basketball team coached by Roy Adams and were capturing the spring headlines.

On February 22, the Eagles ended their most successful season with 17-1 record for regular play. They swept their way through the District and Regional Tournaments and went roaring into the finals. Here they ran into Lafayette.

Eastern's track team won the seventh regional championship, finishing with 53 1/2 points. Trinity High was second with 37.

And to round out a great year for Eastern, the football team coached by Emmett Goranflo, on October 4, defeated Fern Creek 40-7 to clinch their third County championship in six years.

Trinity High found its place among the sports champions on November 15, winning its first State title, when the Cross-Country track team, led by Capt. Pee Wee Wine, won both the individual and team championships, at Picadome Golf Club in Lexington.

The Shamrock runners ended the season unbeaten Thanksgiving morning by winning the 20th annual Shamrock run at Bel-larmine College.

The community was presented with another championship in October when the St. Matthews Merchants, coached by Motts Minoque, won the Metropolitan Amateur Baseball Federation championship. The locals won the title by virtue of six victories without a defeat in the playoffs.

Unhappily, the League ran out of money, and the champs were deprived of their World Series trip.

A new dimension was added in the sports scene July 14 when the first Soap Box Derby in Jefferson County in 15 years was held on Zorn Avenue.

The Derby was sponsored by the St. Matthews Jaycees, Pendergrass Chevrolet, and *The Voice of St. Matthews*, Gary D. Young, 13 of Pleasure Ridge Park was the winner, thirty-seven boys competed, while a crowd of 4,000 to 6,000 watched.

*About \$2,344,000 worth of new school buildings opened in September.*

There were two new public schools, Wilder Elementary on Herr Lane and Shryock Elementary on Browns Lane. There was ???????????? The Catholic Country Day on the Thomas Monohan estate.

Estimated costs were \$653,000 for Wilder and about \$604,000 for Shryock. Also ready to go was the \$524,000 addition at Waggener.

Eastern's \$178,000 addition was not ready by school's opening, but it was in service about eight weeks later. Trinity High's \$350,000 addition was completed early in August.

Leo Colyer was named principal of Shryock and Roy Cobb principal of Wilder. John Norton was named principal of St. Matthews Elementary, succeeding Robert Neill, who was appointed supervisor of county high schools.

School opened September 3, with an enrollment of more than 9,500 as against 8,469 the previous year.

When the school year started, Holy Trinity parochial school had a new Library.

Trinity High the previous May held its first graduation. Eighty two seniors received their diplomas at Freedom Hall. Rt. Rev. Charles C. Boldrick, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, delivered the Commencement address.

*It was a great year for churches, with the single exception of St. John Lutheran.*

Ground was broken for the church in March and the cornerstone was laid April 14. The structure was virtually finished on the morning of October 21 when disaster struck.

A gas explosion wrecked the \$201,000 building, and the resulting fire was fought for two hours by St. Matthews and Lyndon volunteer firemen. Damage was estimated at \$50,000 to \$60,000.

The pastor Rev. Samuel P. Diehl, suffered shock, and had his hair and face singed. The dedication ceremony, set for November 24, had to be postponed.

## *The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy*

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years**

The parishioners, however, were undaunted. The politely declined offers of neighboring churches to use their facilities for Sunday services, and went on holding worship in the undamaged part of the building.

Other churches were having better luck.

The Lyndon Christian Church's new \$35,000 building was opened January 29, and dedicated May 19. The new \$92,000 St. Matthews Church of Christ located off Westport Road just west of Herr Lane, held first services April 20.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Lowe Road was dedicated May 26. The land and building were valued at \$275,000.

Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church's new tower and sanctuary, adjoining the old building at Frankfort and Meridian Avenues, was finished and 17 ministers took part in the week-long service of dedication June 2 through June 9.

The First Unitarian Church opened a St. Matthews branch on the F. W. Russell property at 4938 Brownsboro Road June 16. The church took possession of the property, which included more than nine acres, a residence, carport, and barn, for \$42,000.

And finally, Christ Methodist Church held first services in its new building at Brownsboro Road and Blankenbaker Lane September 1. The first unit cost \$160,000.

*The completion of the Plantation Swim Club was a welcome sight to the families who couldn't afford, or were tired of, the regular country clubs.*

Built by Bollinger-Martin, Inc. and operated by former swimming start Ralph Wright, the club's membership fee was only \$80 and family annual dues were less than \$60. Built at a cost of \$250,000, the club was designed to accommodate 2,000 families and by the time the large pool was opened in July, about 1,500 families had joined.

The club will ultimately have three pools, picnic grounds and a large clubhouse, and no alcoholic beverages will be sold.

*Among the civic clubs, the St. Matthews Jaycees marked up the outstanding record.*

Along with the Shively and Louisville Jaycees in February, they collected more than one million items of clothing and 50,000 pounds of food in Jefferson County and dispatched them to the flood-stricken areas of southeastern Kentucky.

Taking up where they Jaycees left off, the St. Matthews Woman's Club and Younger Woman's Club, added by the Lyndon Woman's Club, opened a three-day drive to collect furniture and bedding for the flood victims.

The Lions Club of St. Matthews sent \$600 to three Lions clubs in the stricken area, and Amvets Post 18 of St. Matthews launched a drive to gather mattresses for the flood victims.

Further luster was added to the Jaycee record when its twice-monthly publication, the Projector, in July was named the best Jaycee newspaper in the United States.

Two ???????? organizations were added to the St. Matthews roster in 1957. First was the High Twelve club which elected Theodore J. Heim of Rudy Lane, president on February 9.

A St. Matthews Elks lodge was organized in September and St. Matthews attorney Nelson ??? was elected Charter president later, Exalted Ruler.

Three paragraphs missing.—

The St. Matthews Community Theatre stretched its resources of properties and talents to the limit to bring forth a production of Ibsen's drama, "Hedda Gabler." The show played three nights beginning February 21 with Anne Devol in the title role.

The production was called a "triumph" by *The Voice* reviewer, who said Mrs. Devol "played the lead with inner fire and flawless technique."

The theatre closed the season in May with an extremely good production of a very funny show, "The Tender Trap," but stumbled with a mediocre production of an indifferent show, "Bus Stop," in November.

The new St. Matthews Y Players made a hit in March with their second production. "Dear Ruth." In June, they tackled with some success the unusual melodrama, "An Inspector Calls," but had little luck in November with "The Loud, Red Patrick."

Death and retirement claimed several St. Matthews personalities. One of Kentucky's most famous citizens William Marshall Bullitt, died October 3 at the age of 84 after a heart attack at his home, Oxmoor.

## News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years

About 8 paragraphs missing.—

St. Matthews Zoning Commission recommended granting Sears one of two requests for rezoning for parking purposes on Thierman Lane. On February 25, the City Council formally approved the recommendation.

John L. Raney, of 609 Indian Ridge Road, was elected president of the St. Matthews Rotary Club.

Beechwood Village announced its 1957 tax rate on real property would be 75 cents. That was the legal limit allowed a sixth class city and a 50 percent increase over the City's 1956 rate, which was 50 cents.

*In March:* The St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. board members and their wives honored board chairman Clarence W. Hardin and Mrs. Hardin in a surprise banquet. When Mr. Hardin took office in 1954, the Y had only an office over what is now Pendergrass Chevrolet. When he retired at the end of 1956, the Y had its present quarter-million-dollar plant at Norbourne Boulevard and Hubbards Lane.

A drive was launched to raise about \$5,000 to provide the Waggener Music Department with uniforms for the band and orchestra, and robes for the chorus.

John White, 34, of 66 Brentmoor Lane, was elected president of the St. Matthews Jaycees, succeeding Jim Albe.

*In April:* J. D. Marstiller, 356 Hillcrest, was installed as commander of the St. Matthews Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

Ross Chasteen resigned as executive secretary of the St. Matthew Y.M.C.A. effective June 20. Mr. Chasteen left for his new job as general secretary of the Vicksburg, Miss. Y.M.C.A. He'd been here three years. He was succeeded by Charles Ploegsma.

John B. O'Leary, 4201 Rudy Lane, was elected president of the St. Matthews Optimist Club, and L. E. Collins, Lyndon real estate and insurance agent, was elected president of the Lyndon Optimist Club.

*In May:* The 1957 graduating class of Eastern High numbered 310, largest in the school's history. A crowd of about 4,000 people attended ceremonies at Freedom Hall at the State Fairgrounds.

Construction began on a new \$100,000 building for Colonial Federal Savings and Loan Association, nest door to its present location, 3808 Frankfort Avenue.

After 17 years in St. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgan sold Morgan's Men's Shop, 3908 Frankfort Avenue to Pinkston's Inc. a Bloomington Ind. firm.

St. Matthews first miniature golf course was opened on the lot behind the Burger King Drive-in on Shelbyville Road. It was called King Putt Golf.

The annual St. Matthews Outdoor Art Show, sponsored by the Woman's Club of St. Matthews, attracted 170 entrees. First place in the professional class oils was won by Don Young.

Guthrie Meade, 3217 Marion was elected commander of Zachary Taylor Post of the American Legion.

Clinton Thaxton, 4124 Ledyard was elected president of the St. Matthews Lions Club.

St. Margaret Mary School got itself a new library and opened a drive to get books.

*In June:* The East Chapel of the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, 2501 Rudy Lane, became the Calvin Presbyterian Church. The congregation issued a call to Dr. Arie D. Bestebreurtje of Pelham, N. Y. to serve as pastor. He accepted.

Sacred Heart Academy graduated 93 seniors.

The Board of Trustees of Cherrywood Village set the 1957 property tax rate at 65 cents, 15 cents higher than the 1956 rate. The City intended to use the money to hire a professional policeman to patrol the City.

St. Matthews' annual Booster Day made a profit of about \$3,000 all of which went to the St. Matthews Community Center.

*In July:* The Indians became the 1957 champions of the Babe Ruth League by beating the second place Braves 11-6. The Indians wound up with an 11-3 record.

The Thurston Cooke team captured the International League championship in St. Matthews Little League baseball.

The Cookes beat the second place St. Matthews Kiwanis 10-6 for their eight victory in a row and wound up with a 12-5 record.

The Lions won the National pennant with a 13-5 record, and the Showers won the American title also with a 13-5 record.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy***

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years**

The National League season was highlighted by seven no-hitters, a record.

Evidently worn to a frazzle from an 11-inning battle in which they beat the Beechmont All-Stars 6-4, the St. Matthews Americans bowed to the South End Optimists 6-5 in the finals of the City Babe Ruth League All-Star Tournament at the Community Center.

The Frank Hardware team won the Triple A championship in St. Matthews Little League play.

In the new American Legion League in St. Matthews, Bobby Marr twirled a neat two-hitter as the Zachary Taylor Reds defeated the Shawnee Vikings 5-1 and won the pennant.

The Little League playoffs, the St. Matthews American League All-Stars were knocked out in the third round of the District tournament, losing to Beechmont 4-0. The St. Matthews Nationals did a little better. They went all the way to the District finals before losing to Beechmont 4-3.

The City of St. Matthews announced a record-breaking budget of \$134,000 for the 1957-58 fiscal year starting July 1.

Another line of cars for sale in St. Matthews was announced by Duncan Nash Co., 118 Breckenridge Lane, which received the American Motors Corp., franchise to sell and service the Nash, Rambler, and Metropolitan autos.

President of the new company was Robert H. Riggs, formerly secretary-treasurer of Duncan Motors, 128 Breckenridge Lane.

The Board of Trustees of the City of Druid Hills voted to cut property taxes 10 cents. The 1956 rate was 25 cents.

*In August:* The St. Matthews Reds went all the way to the finals of the American Legion Baseball Tournament before losing in the championship game to Owensboro 18-2.

The host Louisville Boat Club won the annual River Road Invitational Swimming meet. The final tally was Louisville Boat Club 121, Richmond Boat Club 113 1/2, Pastime 102, and River Road 51 1/2.

A well-balanced team brought Big Spring victory in the Inter-club Swimming Association's annual championship meet at Audubon Country Club.

Big Spring racked up 154 points to 140 for Audubon, 133 for Wildwood, 125 for Richmond, and 124 for Pastime.

St. Matthews Sanitation District No. 1 announced it had a profit of more than \$71,000 for the year ended June 1, 1957, the highest in its history. The 1956 profit was \$52,620.54.

The City of Norbourne Estates voted to increase the city property taxes from 30 cents to 40 cents to raise a contingency fund.

Rollo O. Fox was named Mayor of Cherrywood Village to succeed Robert Love, who moved from the City. Mr. Fox had been a trustee for four years.

Walter Kahn woman's apparel shop opened at the former location of Zellner's, 3723 Lexington Road. Zellner's moved its store to the Shelbyville Road Plaza.

*In September:* Rev. Arie D. Bestebreutje of Holland was installed as first pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church. The same day, first services were held in the suburban chapel of the First Unitarian Church at 4038 Brownsboro Road.

*In October:* The Waggener High P.T.A. announced a drive to raise \$1,500 to pay for school athletic equipment. The drive culminated with the football game late in October between the Waggener Wildcats and Durrett. Two thousand person attended the game and \$900 was raised.

The trustees of the City of Beechwood Village announced that sanitary sewers, if installed, would cost each homeowner about \$6.05 a month. The project would cost about \$300,000.

Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church started an outpost in Middletown. The name of the new parish was Trinity Presbyterian Church. Lawrence Cater, a student at the Presbyterian Seminary in Louisville, was appointed student pastor.

The Eastern High School Band won for the third year in a row a Superior rating at the Southeastern Band Festival. That was done despite the ravages of flu which sidelined quite a few band members. Kent Campbell was director.

Knoicov's woman's apparel store opened at 3708 Lexington Road, the former site of Bennett's.

Walter K. "Bud" Witherbee was elected president of the St. Matthews Business Association.

Joseph Barrett was elected commander of the St. Matthews Amvets Post 16.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 2, 1958: New in 1957 almost a carbon copy***

### **News in 1957 almost a carbon of former years**

*In November:* Boy Scout Troop 315 set a record when it made four Eagle Scouts at once at Harvey Browne Church. The four were: Charles Farmer, 13, of 5 Westport Terrace, Steve Graef, 15, of 4030 Hillsboro Road, Andy Jamieson, 14, of 3532 Hughes Road, and Tommy Ogle, 15, of 409 Sherrin Avenue.

Rev. John Kutz, Our Savior Lutheran Church's first and only pastor left after 15 years to accept a call to Faith Lutheran Church in Hinleah, Fla. Rev. O. A. Schedler was named to act as vacancy pastor.

Glen Reeder, of 123 Fairmeade Road was elected president of the St. Matthews Kiwanis Club.

A new church, St. Mark's Methodist, was organized and a new building announced for Lowe Road.

Coach Dick Davis' Bears won the St. Matthews Football League title again by defeating the Browns 33-12. The Bears have held the title since 1954.

November 6 was Youth Government Day in St. Matthews. Twenty-one high schoolers from Trinity, Eastern, Sacred Heart and Kentucky Military Institute took over the City of St. Matthews for one day.

The program was sponsored by the Lyndon Optimist Club.

Windy Hills raised property taxes five cents to 57 cents to raise money for road maintenance.

*In December:* The County Board of Education announced that a \$160,000 addition would be made on Waggener High early in 1958. This will include a new shop building and enlarged kitchen and six more classrooms.

Beargrass Christian Church announced plans to build a new sanctuary costing about \$250,000 in 1958.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church celebrated its 75th anniversary.

Brownsboro Village announced taxes in 1958 would be 55 cents per \$100 valuation, down 10 cents from 1957.

Robert Clarke, of 3617 Hycliffe was elected president of the St. Mathews Community Center.

Will Lausman was reelected chairman of the Y.M.C.A. Board of Managers in December.

A gas explosion and fire at Pryor's Restaurant injured two employees and did \$40,000 worth of damage.

**St. Matthews area restless in 1958**

**People seek improvements in government, recreation, education, and public facilities**

There were marked signs of restlessness in the St. Matthews area in 1958. The people were no longer satisfied with things as they were, and they began to cast about for improvements.

\* \* \*

This restlessness manifested itself in several areas—in, government, in recreation, in education, and in public facilities.

People began to ask questions. What about Metropolitan Government? Why don't we have an adequate library? Why can't we get more park and playground space? Why are our post offices antiquated and crowded? Can't we improve our schools?

At the end of the year, many of the questions were still questions. But far more of them had been answered and acted upon.

**Get library and park:** Committee after committee was organized, and with impressive results. By the end of the year, the community had a new library, a new park, another recreation center, a new post office, and a new education system. There was no Metropolitan Government, but people were at least talking about one.

St. Matthews was saddened by the loss of its Mayor, Jim Noland, who retired, and by the annexation by Louisville of part of its business district.

But these were relatively minor setbacks compared to the general trend of advance and progress.

New church buildings went up, business expanded, and new Cities were formed. St. Matthews area teams captured title after title—in track, swimming, baseball, football, and basketball.

**Bad news is big news:** because it was bad news, the greatest news story of the year was the annexation of part of the St. Matthews business district.

In July, the Kentucky Court of Appeals handed down its final ruling, giving Louisville the right to annex 269 businesses, homes and apartments out of 3,068 in St. Matthews.

But while Louisville won only about 10 per cent of St. Matthews' territory, this 10 per cent was centered in the downtown area along Lexington Road and Frankfort Avenue, and accounted for about 25 per cent of St. Matthews' annual revenue (\$34,000 out of \$140,000).

\*\*\*

St. Matthews' new Mayor, Bernard Bowling, who succeeded Jim Noland on Oct. 1 after eight years, then came up with a plan that had the community on fire for several weeks.

**Seeks Metro Government:** He asked Louisville to postpone the annexation. In return, his administration would cooperate in setting up a Metropolitan Government for Louisville and Jefferson County.

The City of Shively backed up St. Matthews with a resolution supporting the idea of Metro. Eight of 10 St. Matthews area Mayors interviewed also lent their support to Metro.

The St. Matthews Jaycees, determined to strike while the iron was hot, set up a Metro Government seminar at Waggener School for Dec. 3, and invited as principal speaker O. W. Campbell, County manager for Dade County, (Miami) Florida.

**Sabotage by Louisville:** More than 250 community leaders attended the seminar. But by then, a lot of the steam had gone out of the program. For Louisville in the meantime, with its leaders mouthing the most pious, and yet the most cynical, hypocrisies about friendship and mutual understanding, went through with the annexation, effective Dec. 1.

Mayor Bowling insisted that Metro Government was still a good idea, but it had a hollow sound. Louisville's cynical move had done what it was apparently designed to do—stripped him of any effective support and laid the idea of Metro Government peacefully to rest for a while.

But while the professional politicians were able to scotch progress in local government, they were unable to get their hands on local education, and great reforms were taking place.

**New education program:** The County Board of Education announced a dramatic new program. This program, to be effected over a period of several years, will offer five different programs for pupils with different needs and abilities.

At the head of the list will be the advanced students, who will get an accelerated course of study culminating in a tough, four-year high school program that will include four years of English, three each of Science and Math, two each of Social Studies and Foreign Languages, one each of Humanities, Fine Arts, and Physical Education, and three of electives.

That amounts to 20 units, four more than that required by the State.

\*\*\*

The trainable program will be for students who can't learn to read. They will be taught useful skills and crafts. The education program will be for slow learners who can learn to read, but must be allowed a more leisurely pace.

The superior program will be for fast learners, who are either not qualified for the advanced course, or are not interested. The regular program will be for the average student.

**Years of preparation:** The new program was adopted after years of study and experiment, and is tailored to give the individual student just as much education as he can absorb. Now the Board of Education is faced with the task of getting full public approval and cooperation to make the plan work.

\* \* \*

The library immediately won mass support here. St. Matthews for years had been served by a single, small inadequate room on St. Matthews Avenue, - crammed to the ceiling with 5,200 volumes. There was no room for children to sit down. There were no basic reference works.

In February, Mrs. Harriett Cowman, who had come here from Baltimore to make her home, called at The Voice office with some facts and figures on libraries in general and the inadequacy of the St. Matthews library in particular.

She persuaded Voice editor Emil M. Aun that he ought to help her do something about it so the first meeting was called March 13 in The Voice office. Despite seven inches of snow, representatives of a dozen civic, fraternal, veterans, church and municipal organizations showed up.

**Officers were named:** The idea caught fire, and Mr. Aun representing the Voice and the St. Matthews Jaycees, was named chairman; Price Webb, of the St. Matthews Lions, Vice chairman; Mrs. Cowman, representing the City of Windy Hills, secretary; and John L. Haney, of the St. Matthews Rotary, treasurer.

A budget of \$7,000 was drawn up for the first year's operation, and the City of St. Matthews and the Louisville Free Public Library pledged to meet it. The library would be open 30 hour a week and operated as a branch of the Louisville library.

\*\*\*

St. Matthews businessman A. J. Eline came forward with an offer of a tract of ground behind the St. Matthews Methodist Church. He further offered to match all funds raised, and asked only that the library be named after his son, Sidney, a bomber pilot killed in action over Germany during World War II.

His offer was accepted but was later modified. The Library Committee decided that while the ground offered was adequate for the present, it would not meet future expansion needs.

**\$34,000 was raised:** Mr. Eline consented to give an additional piece of ground, making about an acre all told, and to limit his gift of money to \$10,000.

\*\*\*

A door-to-door drive for funds in June, headed by Mrs. John B. Henderson, yielded another \$7,000. Additional gifts from businessmen, clubs, churches, fraternal and veterans organizations, and individuals brought the total raised to more than \$26,000.

Ground-breaking was held for the 70-by-30-foot brick building in October, and it was almost finished by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the Library Committee learned that a work room would have to be added. This work room, plus furniture and shelves, came to about \$7,000.

The St. Matthews Lions Club, which had already given \$1,600, came forward again. The Lions voted to give an additional \$7,500, making a total contribution of \$9,100. By the end of the year, total contributions and pledges topped \$34,000.

**A new 18-acre park:** Notable advances were also made in recreation.

An 18-acre park was secured for the Keeneland-Moorland area in November. Six acres were given by the State, and the rest was bought by the County for \$15,000. In December, a park board of nine members was formed, representing the Cities, subdivisions, and clubs in the area interested in developing and maintaining the ground, in cooperation with the Jefferson County Playground and Recreation Board.

The Recreation Board also cooperated in setting up a 10-week summer program of supervised recreation at Stivers School. A neighborhood committee was organized to raise money for capital improvements, and Dan O'Neill, headmaster at Catholic Country Day School, was elected chairman. The playground was opened in June.

**A post office for Lyndon:** Lyndon got a new post office, The new building, comprising 2,900 square feet, more than twice the size of the old building, was opened in downtown Lyndon in August. James Tong, superintendent, supervised dedication ceremonies.

\* \* \*

St. Matthews, meanwhile, was getting itchy for better post office facilities. The new superintendent, George Nestmann, was saying as far back as February that the post office had outgrown its building at Breckenridge Lane and Willis Avenue.

By the end of the year, there were many rumors, but no concrete news, as to when St. Matthews would get a bigger post office and where it would be located.

At Waggener, big things were happening as winter approached. The Waggener High School Development Association was formed to raise \$50,000 to provide football, baseball and other athletic facilities on the school grounds.

## **The Voice of St. Matthews, January 1, 1959: St. Matthews area restless in 1958**

Claude F. Sexton was elected president; Woody Axton, vice president; and John Abbott, treasurer.

**Great sports year:** The year 1958 saw St. Matthews come into its own in the field of sports. This was particularly true in, baseball, as St. Matthews teams won five championships and two State titles.

\*\*\*

Little League began its sixth season here in May and it was obvious from the start that St. Matthews was in for a great year. A flood of boys 9 to 12 years old came for tryouts, and, after two major leagues of six teams each were formed, there were enough boys left over to form two minor leagues of four team each.

By the first of July, the Models had won the American League title for the second time in three years, and Ashbury Berman had the National League title sewed up.

\*\*\*

In the American League, three records fell, as the Models won 14 games out of 15, and their star pitcher, Jim Helm, won seven games without a loss. Bill Ransom, of the second place Thurston Cooke team, broke the league record for strikeouts, getting 108, against only 22 walks.

Twelve-year-old Barney Neal copped practically every National League honor. The Ashbury Berman star pitched victories without a defeat, and struck out 73 men to lead the league. He also led the league in hitting with a batting average of .538. His five home runs and six doubles also led the league.

**Win State title:** In the post season tourney, the American All Stars, paced by Mike Graven's seventh inning homer, won a stirring last minute 9-8 victory over Algonquin in the finals of the Area Tournament.

Launching the greatest sustained hitting attack in the history of St. Matthews Little League, the Americans pounded Glasgow 16-5 and Fort Knox 9-0 to win the District title, and copped the State championship by defeating Paducah 6-2.

\* \* \*

The Tigers sewed up the Babe Ruth League pennant July 1, when John Thompson pitched a one-hit, 3-0 victory over the second place Red Sox. Thompson then proceeded to pitch the St. Matthews Americans into the State tourney, as he beat the St. Matthews Nationals 4-0 for the local title. The Americans lost out to Campbellsville in the State.

Meanwhile, in the American Legion Leagues the St. Matthews Zachary Taylor team was on the rampage. The Reds defeated Owensboro 10-3 to win the Western Sectional, and then, by virtue of Ronnie Barrow's grand slam homer, beat Latonia 7-3 for the State title.

**Take MABA title:** And to round out St. Matthews greatest baseball season, the St. Matthews Merchants won their second straight Metropolitan Amateur Baseball Association title by beating the Police twice in the playoff, 17—13 and 13—1, at Trinity Field.

Baseball is a secondary sport in high school, and it almost passed unnoticed, but back in May, the Trinity Shamrocks had won the 26th district baseball title by defeating Eastern High 3-2 in the finals.

St. Matthews added to its sports laurels in August. That was when the new Plantation Swim Club coached by Ralph Wright, surprised everyone, including themselves, by the sensational 365-326 upset of Lakeside in the State A.A.U. Outdoor Swimming and Diving meet.

**Holy Spirit wins:** St. Matthews' prowess in sports had first showed itself in February when the Holy Spirit team with a record of 10 wins without a loss, won the County Parochial League basketball championship.

\*\*\*

Later in the month, the Eagles of Eastern High School won their second straight County basketball championship. The Eagles finished with a regular season's record of 14 wins and four losses and in County play, seven wins in eight games. That gave the Eagles a two-year total of 31 victories and only five defeats excluding tournament play.

\*\*\*

Waggner finished its first basketball season in March with a good record, 18-13. The St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. High School All Stars won the Kentucky-Tennessee-North Carolina basketball tournament in Lexington in March.

**Waggner swim champs:** In April, Waggner won the Class C. State Swimming championship at Lexington, and Trinity High won the Class B title. Also in April, the eastern track team won its 13th straight victory, a victory streak running over three seasons. The following month the Eagle trackers took seven of events at Bellarmine College to win their second straight Regional title, and run their win streak to 15 without a loss.

\*\*\*

The bowling season came to an end in May, and Clarke Painters won the Associated Club Bowling title at Landohr Alleys, finishing two games better than Eastwood. Top bowler for the year was Floyd Korb of Eastwood with a 184 average for 99 games.

Other season's highlights:

Pastime Boat Club won the River Road Invitational Swim meet in July.

## *The Voice of St. Matthews, January 1, 1959:*      **St. Matthews area restless in 1958**

Our Lady of Lourdes upset St. Raphael 12-7 in November and won a shot at the Toy Football Bowl. But Lourdes bowed to Holy Cross 26-0 in the Bowl.

The same month, the Bears finished with a 7-0 record for their fifth straight championship in the St. Matthews Football League.

Also in November came Trinity High's greatest triumph. The underdog Shamrocks beat mighty St. X 13-0. It was the upset of the year. Meanwhile Trinity's Cross Country track team was winning the State Championship.

\*\*\*

Eastern High, always a threat in any sport, added to its laurels in November, by beating Dixie Heights 14-13 in the Burley Football Bowl. It was Eastern's eight victory against two defeats, and was a new record for the Eagles for numbers of wins in one season.

Trinity's Cross Country team came through again in December by winning the Shamrock run.

William McConnell was elected president of Little League and W. T. Porter, president of the Babe Ruth League.

**Sears' \$2 million store:** The biggest business news for the year was Sears, Roebuck & Company's new \$2 million store. Ground was broken August 13 on Shelbyville Road, west of Thierman Lane, and the store is slated to be finished sometime in 1959.

Ground was broken in January for a new shopping center at the corner of Rudy Lane and Old Brownsboro Road. The first unit, a Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co. branch, opened in September. Eugene F. Farmer was named manager. In December a colonial Stores Super Market was opened.

\*\*\*

Another great building was started in the summer. Ed J. Augustyn, of 1013 Old Cannons Lane, announced plans for a \$500,000 bowling alley behind the Community Center grounds. By the end of the year, it was almost finished.

\*\*\*

Bacon's began expanding in January. The store bought four properties, totaling 150 feet fronting on the west side of St. Matthews Avenue, and began leveling them for increased parking facilities. But one store held out. Kreshchmer's Appliances, which had a nine-year lease, announced it intended to stay.

In April, St. Matthews' greatest builder, A. J. Eline, was at it again, He announced plans for a \$100,000 two-story office building, called the Parkside Building, on Shelbyville Road just west of Pendergrass Chevrolet. By the end of the year, the building was virtually finished.

Colonial Federal Savings and Loan Association's new building at 3808 Lexington Road was completed in May.

\*\*\*

The Stauffer System began a new building, 31 by 50 feet, on St. Matthews Avenue in June. That same month, the National Health Center opened a studio in the former Jefferson Island Salt Co. building at 136 St. Matthews Ave.

Contractor F. W. Owens in July announced plans for a \$250,000 office building on Shelbyville Road between the Woman's Club of St. Matthews and Beargrass Christian Church.

\*\*\*

In October, Richard M. Wheeler Canary Cottage proprietor, was named president of the St. Matthews Business Association, succeeding Walter K. Witherbee.

**Three new Cities:** Three more sixth class Cities were organized in the St. Matthews area, bringing the total of sixth class Cities in the County to 40.

\*\*\*

In March, the City of Keeneland was established, with Charles S. Stephens as Mayor, and the City of Rolling Fields was incorporated, with Baylor Landrum as Mayor.

Devondale was incorporated in June, established a 40—cent tax rate, and elected F. Everett Warren, 1713 Devondale, Mayor.

\*\*\*

In other Cities here, there was a heavy turnover. New Mayors were:

Fairmeade, Robert Barns, succeeding John Theobald; Springlee, Norman Ware, succeeding Ruben Livingston; Bellewood, James B. Tabler, succeeding W. T. Porter (who served eight years); Woodlawn Park, Robert E. Coekerill, succeeding Burns Speer; Beechwood Village, John Guthrie, succeeding Harold Williams; Norbourne Estates, James Menefee, succeeding Earle Otis, Windy Hills, Norman Kirschke, succeeding J. Paul Keith, Jr.; St. Matthews, Bernard Bowling, succeeding James Noland; and Plymouth Village, James M. Ballard, succeeding Robert Langan.

\*\*\*

By the end of the year, Mr. Burns had moved from Fairmeade and was succeeded by Harold Douds. Windy Hills had two changes, Mr. Kirschke moved away and was succeeded by Robert Forcier. Mr. Forcier was transferred to Philadelphia by his company and was succeeded by Roy Foeman.

\*\*\*

## *The Voice of St. Matthews, January 1, 1959:*      **St. Matthews area restless in 1958**

Other Mayors were W. B. Pirtle in Indian Hills, Emil Maresz In Broadfields, Clifford Ziegler (serving his third term) in Parkside, Rollo Fox in Cherrywood Village. Clifford E. Clark, Jr., in Druid Hills, Gordon Ford in Mockingbird Valley and Mortimer Goldsmith in Brownsboro Village.

\*\*\*

St. Matthews named David L. Proffitt police judge to succeed Gilbert Flack, who moved from the City. Mr. Proffitt had served as judge pro tem for two years.

St. Matthews completed one annexation. That was in March. Annexed, were 104 homes on Bonner Drive and MacArthur Drive.

**Eagles have new club:** The year started out badly for the St. Matthews Eagle, but by summer the club was in better Shape than ever.

\* \* \*

A fire destroyed the clubhouse at 3914 Frankfort Avenue at the end of 1957. The Eagles spent almost \$40,000 remodeling. In May, they reopened with a beautiful, modern clubhouse, complete with kitchen, bar, and dance hall.

On the constructive side, the St. Matthews Jaycees and the St. Matthews Lions were outstanding. The Lions contributed a handsome \$9,100, 'or more than one-fourth of all money collected for the new library in St. Matthews,. They spent an additional \$2,000 or so on various worthy charities, Including a motion picture and sound projector for the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic at St. Anthony Hospital.

\* \* \*

Where the Lions gave money, the Jaycees gave manpower hours. They sponsored the seminar on Metropolitan Government. Dec. 3, helped count money for the library, sponsored the Miss Jefferson County beauty contest, got the State to put a traffic light at Lagrange Road and Whipps Mill Road, raised \$2,200 via the Mile of Dimes for orphaned children, helped establish an 18-acre County park, and just generally made themselves useful.

\*\*\*

They were honored in April by the State Jaycee convention, which cited them for having the best club in intra-club relations of the 79 chapters in Kentucky, and their Soap Box Derby was voted the second-best project of 1957. Bob Fence of the local club was elected State Vice President.

\*\*\*

Other State honors came to local men in June when St. Matthews Lion Key Elliott was elected District Governor, and St. Matthews Eagle Leo Peleske was elected State president.

**New presidents elected:** Most of the clubs had new presidents. For the Kiwanis, it was John B. Lowe; the Jaycees, D. B. Murrell; the Woman's Club (which celebrated its 20th birthday) Mrs. Robert Fritz; the Rotary, Leroy U. Schultz; the Optimists, George Niehaus; the Younger Woman's Club, Mrs. William B. Fravert; The Lyndon Optimists, Don Brighty; the Suburbanettes, Mrs. Arthur J. Eve, Jr.; and the Lions, Emanuel Malkin.

\*\*\*

Master sergeant Columb J. Frize was elected commander of the American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180, and William McGuirk was selected Exalted Ruler of the Elks.

\*\*\*

The Elks at the end of the year had moved into their new quarters in the Parkside Building and were preparing a reception and open house for the community.

**Great church progress:** St. Matthews churches, as usual, made great progress during the year.

One new parish was formed and its churches either completed or began new building programs.

The new parish was Trinity Presbyterian Church, formally organized May 11 at the Woman's Club of Middletown, as an outpost of the Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian church.

Lawrence Cater was elected student minister. Elected elders were Lacy Frantz, Billy Davis, Clarence L. Cochran, and W. B. McGee. Charter membership numbered 57.

In July, 10 lots in Blue Ridge Manor Subdivision were purchased for \$30,500 for the new church. A drive was launched in November to raise \$90,000 for a building.

**St., John's luck improves:** The new St. John Lutheran Church, worth some \$200,000, was dedicated in February—after a delay of four months due to vandalism, an explosion, and a fire which severely injured the pastor, Rev. Samuel Diehl.

The gas explosion, followed by a fire, happened, the previous October and caused \$50,000 to \$60,000 damage.

\* \* \*

The East Unit Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses began construction of a 70-by-45-foot building in March on Hubbards Lane between Rudy and Pin Oak Lanes.

In April, the Lyndon Baptist Church bought two acres of ground and dedicated a new youth building valued at \$18,000.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 1, 1959: St. Matthews area restless in 1958***

**Beargrass builds:** One of St. Matthews oldest churches had a new look by the end of the year. Ground-breaking was held April 27 for a new, \$310,000 sanctuary for Beargrass Christian Church. It was competed and dedicated in December.

\* \* \*

The Second Presbyterian Church, Rolling Fields, completed a major project May 24, when a complete new education building valued at \$400,000, was dedicated. It was the second of a planned three units' for the church.

The Suburban Christian Church in May bought a four-acre site on Westport Road one block east of Lyndon for \$28,000, and in November, a drive was launched to put up a building.

In June, Christ Methodist Church dedicated its newly organized library, and honored contractor Jack Pruitt, who built the church, offering his service free, in 1957.

An up-and-coming young church, Calvin Presbyterian, broke ground for a \$175,000 addition in September.

St. Francis-in-the-Fields opened its new \$275,000 wing in October.

\*\*\*

That same month, the biggest project of all was announced. Broadway Baptist Church unveiled plans to raise \$561,500 for a new sanctuary and education building. A campaign was launched to raise \$215,000 immediately, and in November, ground was broken.

**New ministers arrive:** Several new faces were added to the list of ministers here.

Rev. Robert Jones, 29, of Covington, in April became pastor of the Lyndon Christian Church, succeeding Rev. Lilburn Simmons. Rev. Simmons left in March after 2 1/2 years here to take a new pastorate at the Owensboro Christian Church.

In July, James C. Brashear, minister of the St. Matthews Church of Christ, returned to his native Louisiana. He was succeeded in September by Rev. Dewey E. Shaw, 40, a native of Atlanta.

Our Savior Lutheran also got a new pastor in July. He was Rev. Paul E. Kolch, 33, who succeeded John Kutz. Rev. Kutz had left for a new pastorate in Florida the previous November.

**Rev. Curry promoted:** After six years at the St. Matthews Methodist Church, Rev. James S. Curry in July was promoted to Louisville District Superintendent of the Methodist Church. He was succeeded as pastor by Rev. Rual T. Perkins, former pastor of the Fountain Avenue Methodist Church in Paducah.

A special ceremony and a reception by his parishioners honored Father Ehrich J. Stuart, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, on his Silver Anniversary as a priest in June.

In April, Dr. James B. Sawyer, pastor of the Beechwood Baptist Church, was elected president of the St. Matthews Ministerial Association.

**Education news:** In the field of education, there was little news outside the announcement of the overhaul of the system at instruction.

\* \* \*

An announcement was made in February that the Greater Louisville College of Arts and Sciences would be built on Shelbyville Road next to Moorgate. The Baptist college would sit on 238 acres of ground.

\*\*\*

A 15-room addition was built at Waggener High, and Wilder Elementary added four rooms.

Waggener was honored in May, when the Kentucky Congress of Parents and Teachers awarded it a trophy for having the largest P.T.A. in the State, with 1,797 member.

Eastern High in May had its largest graduating class, 323, Trinity graduated 91.

\*\*\*

The P.T.A.'s elected new president at Greathouse elected Mrs. M. R. Disborough, Stivers, Mrs. Willard Brown (who had been elected two years before), Waggener, Mrs. J. Paul Keith, Jr.; St. Matthews Elementary, Mrs. Charles J. Theobald; Chenoweth, Mrs. W. G. Stiglitz, Jr.; Wilder, Mr. John J.- Crrdill; Holy Trinity, Mrs. Oscar Reuter; Eastern, Mrs. Joseph E, Green; Shryock, Mrs. Austin Proctor, Jr.; Lyndon, Mrs. Louis Lusky; and Ballard, Mrs. O. K. Schmied.

**Five Eagles at once:** The local Scouting program was greatly expanded and many new Scout and Brownie troops and Cub packs formed.

The biggest news came from Lyndon when Troop 114 at one stroke is, September made five Eagles—Rusty Goodwin, Dickie Hornback, Charlie Hilpp, Bill Frew, and Jim Hornback.

Owen Pillans was elected Seneca District chairman.

**Theatres do well:** The theatres continued to function and turn out popular productions. The St. Matthews Community Theatre had a good year with "The Glass Menagerie," "The Reclining Figure," and "The Philadelphia Story." Wallace B. Henshaw, Jr., was elected president in June.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, January 1, 1959:*      **St. Matthews area restless in 1958****

The Heritage Theatre at the Jewish Community Center did three plays— “Picnic,” “Dark of the Moon,” and “Inherit the Wind.”

\*\*\*

Also on the cultural side, a young housewife, Mrs. William (Ann) Hebson, of Herr Lane, had her first novel published in May. It was called “A Fine and Private Place.” MacMillan was the publisher.

\* \* \*

Other news items:

April—The Committee of 10,000 was formed to clean up St. Matthews newsstands.

May—Jane Buechler, 19, of 3224\_ Rock Creek Drive, was elected Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival Queen at Pineville. Voice photographer Basil Willis died at the age of 50.

June—The St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. won a superior rating.

July—St. Matthews -business-man Al Ermann died; He was 63.

November — Dave McCandless, 639 Warner, was elected president of the St. Matthews Community Center.

December—Mrs. Edwin Wahl, wife of the pastor of Bethel E & R church, was beaten and robbed by a Frankfort man.

**History of St. Matthews: Early St. Matthews center of great families, potato-growing and cock fights**

A local resident has furnished us with some interesting St. Matthews history. It appeared October 7, 1936, in the now-defunct Louisville newspaper, "*The Herald Post*," under the by-line Hewitt Taylor).

If the pioneers were coming west today, they'd stop most likely at St. Matthews, where five roads come together. They'd think they'd got as far as possible.

Anyhow, they'd see no point in going on to Louisville, for St. Matthews has everything—or nearly so. Two traffic lights, two banks, two drug stores, two dry goods emporiums, two five-and-tens, three chain groceries, and five beauty parlors.

It used to be Gilman's Point—the place where five roads came together. The roads are, of course, Shelbyville Pike, Lexington Road, Westport Road, Chenoweth lane, and Breckenridge Lane.

When Daniel Gilman came out from Louisville, about 1840, it was a long way out from town. Even 25 years later, the nearest toll gate was well down Frankfort Avenue in Clifton.

But the five roads came together then as now, and traffic of one kind or another had established a settlement there long before even the horses and buggy days.

So Dan Gilman found it a good place, right at the point, to set up a tavern and a general store, dispensing liquors on the side or vice versa.

There he held forth, a substantial and respected citizen of the community for 30 or 40 years. Thus it was that the settlement became known to travelers along these roads from miles around as Gilman's Point.

But meanwhile a little church has been established on the then northern edge of the settlement, across the short-lived railroad. It was an Episcopal Church, and was called St. Matthews. It too, had become a factor in the community; people went to church at St. Matthews for 50 years.

It was, some citizens thought, a better name for a post office than Gilman's Point. The first post office opened in 1854, was called St. Matthews.

So, in course of time, was named the railroad station, too. And so, of course, the name took hold. But some local historians stubbornly contend there is no St. Matthews officially, and never was.

As a matter of fact, excepting the post office, the community was never St. Matthews, or anything else officially. It was never incorporated as a town.

(Editor's note: St. Matthews was incorporated as a sixth class City in 1950. It is now a fourth class City). It just grew. But how it grew.

Twenty-five years ago, (1911) St. Matthews was statistically, the largest single shipping point of Irish potatoes in the United States, and that means probably in the world. Farmers had discovered that two crops to the season could be grown in the salubrious climate of St. Matthews and vicinity.

To potatoes—and the potato-growers associations—St. Matthews owes an enviable position on the map. There are two of these associations operating largely through St. Matthews now—the St. Matthews Producer Exchange (Editors note—the building is now the Marshall Planing Mill) run by R. W. Hite, and the Worthington Produce Association, run by H. H. Simcoe.

But the advance of the suburbanite has pushed the potato growing zone back to Lyndon and beyond—up Worthington and Prospect way. The Holzheimer land, on which acres of potatoes were visible only recently from "The Point," is Breckenridge Villa, a populous subdivision toady, and Henry Holzheimer, Jr. who quit potato-growing to make the deal, is a real estate agent now.

It was Henry Holzheimer, Sr. who, coming out from town with money to invest, bought old Dan Gilman's store and some good farm land nearby shortly after the war between the States. Three Bauer brothers, Louis, Henry, and John, bought out the store, or stores, about 1890, and the Holzheimer's went to farming only.

(Editor's note: The "store" is now the First National Bank Building).

The Holzheimer's and the Bauer's belong in the middle and modern picture of St. Matthews. Louis Bauer is now the local bank president and Bauer's their sons, their nephews and the like, are into nearly everything.

St. Matthews has had a long and varied history. You might almost say, if you like the word, that it has run the gamut. Fairly young old-timers around the Falls Cities may remember "the Point" as a famous place for cock fights.

Some of the best birds in the country were brought there and fought, openly, in the good old days. Tradition has it that as much as \$100,000 changed hands in the betting of a single night.

**History of St. Matthews: Early St. Matthews center of great families, potato-growing and cock fights**

Latterly, of course, the thing had to be done somewhat under cover; but many now substantial citizens, in their young days supportively inclined, could tell good stories about cock fights at “the Point.”

The memories of these citizens do not go back far enough, however. They do not go back to the days when the “haute tone” of Louisville (the term is from an old newspaper clipping) went out to St. Matthews to visit at neighboring estates, or to attend the races at old Woodlawn Race Track.

Woodlawn flourished in the years just after the Civil War. Though the establishment was relatively small, it was the local Saratoga, and driving out by carriage-and-pair in the racing season was quite the social thing to do.

The old clubhouse still stands, converted into a dwelling and long occupied by Norbourne Arterburn. It is now “Sunny Acres, the property of Dr. Ray the stables are still intact on the Palmer place nearby.

In those days and before, the country around St. Matthews was (it is getting to be again) - oh, definitely! - “haute tone.” A historic example of that shining and substantial background was James Brown, who came out from Delaware in 1800 to establish himself as a country gentleman near old Dutch Station on Beargrass Creek.

His house survives today, to some extent remodeled, just south of St. Matthews on Brown’s Lane. It is now and has been for several generation, the Monohan home, “Wildwood.”

Getting further back, there is the old Rudy House, on Rudy Lane. This house, built of stone to withstand the Indians and the elements by first settler Jacob Rudy for his eldest son, Daniel, dates back in part to about 1790. In it have lived six generations of Rudy’s. County Judge Ben F. Ewing, his mother a Rudy, was born in this house.

Also north of St. Matthews, back on what is now called Massie Avenue, is a fine old house now occupied by Judge Churchill Humphrey. It was built in 1806 of brick made on the place for Col. Henry Massey and his bride, Miss Helen Bullitt.

A long straight road, from Westport Road to Massie Avenue, recently has been completed. Judge Mumphrey’s house, at the far end, sits athwart it.

On Chenoweth Lane—and in the history of Kentucky you have in Chenoweth’s name to conjure with—stands another old house, the oldest only in a small part of its structure.

It is now occupied by Alex Heyburn and Mrs. Heyburn, granddaughter of Dr. Henry Chenoweth, who 50 or 60 years ago was a resident of the place and physician outstanding in Jefferson County.

The memory of Dr. Chenoweth is particularly revered in the neighborhood of St. Matthews. He was, they say, the old country doctor of the finest type. (Editor’s note: Chenoweth School was named for him).

A very early settler on the fine land near St. Matthews was general John Breckenridge of Revolutionary history, who acquired so much land in Jefferson County that early squatters on it, the story goes, remained for years undiscovered and unmolested—and of whose place no physical evidence now remains but the old Breckenridge family graveyard on Breckenridge Lane.

Back on this lane and a little to the right, is another old but somewhat later graveyard. There are buried Floyd Parks, who died in 1865, and members of his family. (Editor’s note: These graveyards are still undisturbed and may be seen to the west of Breckenridge Lane, in the neighborhood of Our Lady Of Lourdes Church).

Floyd Parks came as a very young man from New York State and gradually acquiring a considerable fortune and large land holdings, built a fine colonial home, since burned, near St. Matthews.

Parks is a name which old residents of St. Matthews well remember. His lands, it is said, at one time extended from Westport Road to where Bowman Field is today. Some of his descendants, now married into Louisville families of other names, tell fascinating stories of the old home in antebellum days.

St. Matthews has her background. Run down the story of the Rudy’s, Holland Dutch, who came with the very earliest settlers, or the Herts, or the Arterburns, whom St. Matthews claims but who really belong to the County-at-large; or the Hites or the Bullitts.

Learn how the Simcoes, of early French ancestry, were represented by a Governor-general of Canada and a colonel who surrendered with Cornwallis, remarried in America, married Mad Anthony Wayne’s sister, and brought a Wayne visiting to St. Matthews.

Dodge, if you can, the story that Abraham Lincoln, young lawyer from Springfield, Ill, came occasionally a-visiting his old friend, Speed, or his grandfather's grave in Jefferson County. (Hardin Herr’s mother was related to Lincoln).

Those who lived these stories, their descendants, or their collaterals, are the kind of folks you meet in St. Matthews. Plus the folks who in recent years have moved out from Louisville, and who hope St. Matthews, the suburb, which in one way or another dates back 150 years, or more, will live forever.

**In ten Years...**

Ten years is not a very long time in the life of a community, or even of a man, but the bare statistics demonstrate that the ten years *The Voice* has been in existence have been crucial in the history of St. Matthews.

What was more or less a sleepy little Democratic community, with many of the outward appearances of a small town in 1949, has grown into the loveliest—and one of the most expensive and largest—residential areas in the State, with a solid 2-1 Republican majority.

Expanding at a rate rivaled only by the sister—suburb of Shively, the population of St. Matthews and the East End has swollen from something under 20,000 to a Louisville Chamber of Commerce—estimated 54,500.

Twenty-one new Cities have been incorporated, making 24 in all; and 17 new churches, a library, and a Y.M.C.A. have been built. The community has a sanitary sewer system, and a second one (for Beechwood Village) is on its way.

There are 12 new schools (including three high schools) and church membership has risen to 30,000. The number of business houses and professional offices in St. Matthews (excluding Lyndon, Anchorage, and Middletown) now stands at 424, and among these are 59 doctors, dentists and chiropractors; 23 barber and beauty shops; 10 groceries; 20 restaurants; six jewelers; 17 insurance offices; and nine financial institutions (including five banks).

Figures released by the Southern Bell telephone Company show that almost exactly 10,000 new telephones have been installed; almost 1,800 in the Anchorage and Harrods Creek exchanges alone.

The growth has been an astonishingly prosperous one. The annual gross family income for St. Matthews and the East End currently stands at \$166,163,114 or \$10,157 average for the community's 16,649 families. As a (missing words) average house is valued at \$22,580.

In some areas, we have been weak. Commercial growth, suffering from a lack of real planning, has turned Shelbyville Road into another Dixie Highway, and the community has made virtually no provision for new parks and playgrounds to take care of the expanding population, although in the last year there have been promising moves in that direction.

There has been a certain weakness, too, in the division along arbitrary lines into 24 municipalities — a weakness community leaders have recently been seeking means to correct, either through Metropolitan Government or some other form of consolidation.

But generally the record here has been excellent. We have spent fortunes on new churches. The new schools have been modern, airy, and adequate. Industry has been kept out, and the new stores and offices are functional and attractive, and, in most cases, have adequate parking space.

The library, the Y.M.C.A., the new American Legion Post, and the Volunteer Fire Department have been a credit to the community, and the post office has done a manful job of meeting the staggering needs of an exploding population.

*The Voice* is tremendously proud to have been a part of this growth, and it has been our intention all these years to furnish the public with a week-by-week history of the greater St. Matthews community. In this, our special tenth anniversary issue, we have tried and we hope successfully—to summarize ten years of progress.



**In ten Years...**



**Fashion Shows**



**Informal shopping**



**Kings and Queens**



**Community Theatre**



**Graduation**



**Cub Scouts**



**Little League Baseball**



**New library**

**In 10 Years — new schools, new taxes, new education**

Nowhere has the change in the past 10 years in St. Matthews been more striking than in the schools.

\*\*\*

In St. Matthews proper there were only two Catholic schools and one County school when The Voice began publication July 14, 1949.

There were no high schools. County pupils went to Anchorage High, and Catholic students went to St. Xavier or Flaget, both in Louisville.

Now the count is:

Four Catholic grade schools with two more being organized; six County elementary schools (with one more being organized); one Catholic High school; two County high schools (counting Eastern High of Middletown) ; two Country Day schools (one of them Catholic.); one Catholic High School; and, in the planning stage, one Baptist College.

\*\*\*

This does not count Middletown, Anchorage, or Lyndon, each of which has an elementary school and has had for years.

School taxes have been raised 50 cents so that they now stand at \$2 per \$100 property valuation, and the County School Board. has introduced a five-track program of education designed to give each County pupil the type of training he is best fitted for, and at the speed at which he is capable of learning.

The five-track program was announced in December, 1958. The programs are known as: advance, superior, regular, educable, and trainable. The plan will be put into effect gradually, beginning this coming Fall.

\*\*\*

Said County School superintendent Richard VanHoose:

“The program is structured to meet the needs, abilities, and interests of all youngsters. It is our fervent hope that this instructional organization will enable each youngster, from the trainable to the gifted, to develop to his fullest extent.”

The superior and regular programs will be offered by all elementary schools and all high schools. The superior program will be for pupils who are fast learners, but are either unqualified for the advance program or choose not to enter it. The regular program is for pupils of normal academic abilities.

\*\*\*

**Prepare for college:** The superior program will be comparable to a normal college— preparatory course.

The advance program will be offered only, at selected schools and will be centrally administered. It will attempt to provide a “challenging and stimulating program” for gifted pupils.

Mr. VanHoose said the five per cent of the pupil population expected to qualify for the advance program will do so on the basis of achievement records, intelligence tests and evaluations by teachers.

\*\*\*

The advance students will be required to earn 20 units for a high school diploma, four more than required by the State. This includes four years of English, three each of science and math. two each of social studies and foreign language, one each of humanities, fine arts, health and physical training, and three electives.

The educable program is for slow learners who can learn to read and can profit from other academic studies, but must be brought along at their own pace. The trainable program is designed for pupils who cannot learn to read. They will be taught useful skills and attitudes.

\*\*\*

On the surface, the plan seemed revolutionary. The schools had always made some effort to separate students according to abilities, but there was a marked tendency to mix students of varying abilities all into the same classrooms.

Never had there been such a thorough-going, well-organized effort to give each class of students a program of education so closely tailored to their individual needs.

\*\*\*

**Tried and tested:** But actually the plan was almost solely a synthesis of programs tested here and elsewhere, and found to be successful.. County school officials for years had been visiting or observing other school systems and making experiments in the local system to see what was practical and what was not.

Robert D. Neill, former principal of St. Matthews Elementary School, was placed in charge of the advance program. This summer he opened a three-week workshop at St. Matthews Elementary to train principals and teachers for the advance program.

\*\*\*

St. Matthews Elementary and Waggener High were designated as the schools for this area where the advance students from this area, no matter what school district they live in, must attend these two schools for the advance course of study. The program goes into effect this Fall only for students in grades one through seven, however.

That the program had wide support among educators soon became evident. The Louisville School system announced shortly thereafter that it was setting up a similar, “three-track” program.

\*\*\*

**State goes along:** And on June 23 of this year, the State Board of Education fell in line. By unanimous vote the board approved these basic reforms to strengthen the school system through out the State:

1. Raised minimum requirements for high-school graduation from 16 to 18 units.
2. Revised the 12-year course of study with added emphasis on reading, science, math, and foreign languages.
3. Changed the primary basis of accrediting schools from quantity to quality.
4. Approved the higher academic standards for teachers recommended by the Council on Public Higher Education May 18.

\*\*\*

In the future, a student graduating from high school will need the following units: English, three; social studies, mathematics, and science, two each; physical education; one; and remainder electives.

The new program also makes mathematics available from the first grade on, and languages available from the third grade on.

\*\*\*

On the more mundane side, the schools were having indifferent luck. After rejecting a special 50 cent increase in school taxes to construct new buildings in 1951; the voters in Jefferson County approved the special tax the following year.

The St. Matthews area carried the day; the tax failed in the other two districts of the County, but a majority vote in A District (east East End) put the tax across.

An additional 50 cents was asked in 1955. Again St. Matthews voted in favor, but the rest of the County rejected it by such a large margin that it failed to carry. A fourth attempt in the summer of 1956 also failed, and there the matter rests.

\*\*\*

**Building starts:** The county School Board, under the direction of superintendent Richard VanHoose, was quick to show the voters something for the money voted in 1952.

Schools began sprouting up all over the County, seven of them in St. Matthews.

The O. J. Stivers Elementary School, named for the former superintendent of County schools, was opened in 1952. The first year it had 530 students instead of the 480 it was designed for. Classes were held in auditoriums and reading rooms. This crowding continued for two years. Mrs. Ruth Osborne was first principal and still serves in that capacity. It now has 604 pupils.

\*\*\*

In 1954 Chenoweth Elementary School was opened on Brownsboro Road. It was named for Dr. Henry Chenoweth, a famed St. Matthews Physician. Miss Marguerite Lewis has been principal since the school opened.

The school, situated on a 9 1/2 acre site with 21 classrooms, a cafeteria, a library, and all-purpose room, and several special rooms, cost some \$372,000. Current enrollment is 667 students.

**Neil promoted:** Mr. Neil was promoted to supervisor of County High Schools and lately has been placed in charge of the advanced program for County schools.

Dedicated October 30, 1955, the school is situated on a 20 acre site. It has 21 classrooms, a music room, visual aid room, library, cafeteria, all—purpose room and administrative office suite. The cost was \$488,299. Enrollment is 417.

Two new elementary schools opened here in 1957—Wilder on Herr Lane and Shryock on Browns Lane.

\*\*\*

Wilder cost \$653,000, and became crowded so quickly that in 1958 the County School Board found it necessary to add four more rooms. Current enrollment is 867 students.

Shryock with classrooms and 16 acres, cost \$604,000. Dedicated in October, 1957, it now has 529 students.

**Ballard was closed:** The principals—Roy Cobb at Wilder and Leo Colyer at Shryock have, served since their respective schools opened.

One school was closed at the end of the current school year. For economy reasons, the Board of Education decided to shut down Ballard School after 45 years and transfer the pupils to other schools here, including the new Zachary Taylor Elementary School, due to be completed by September.

Eastern High—a school destined ~ to make its athletic prowess felt e throughout the County and State—opened as a high school in Middletown in 1950.

**Dawson first principal:** Jack Dawson was first principal. Designed for 1,500 students, it had 1,631. in 1951, indicating the terrific pace at which the community was growing.

Mr. Dawson was promoted to the School system’s executive staff in 1955, and. was succeeded as principal by his assistant,

John Trapp. A \$400,000 addition was built in 1956, and this year Eastern graduated the largest class in the history of the County, an even 1,688 Students.

The Eastern Band has won numerous prizes for excellence and in 1957 was picked to play at President Eisenhower's inauguration.

Football field added: A football field was added in to 1954, all the money being raised by the parents and friends of the school. Current enrollment is 1,688 students.

Named for the former principal of Greathouse School, the Mayme S. Waggener Junior High School on Hubbards Lane was opened in September, 1954, to relieve crowding at Eastern and at the elementary schools here.

Originally intended for the seventh, eight and ninth grades, it was soon marked to become a high school. In 1957 it added a 10th grade, in 1958 an 11th, and this coming Fall will add a 12th. It will have its first graduating class next Spring.

The first principal was John Lowe, former assistant to Jack Dawson at Eastern. Mr. Lowe resigned after the 1958-59 year to take an executive post with the County school system. He was succeeded by Earl Duncan. Current enrollment is 1,866 students.

**Worth \$2 million:** The original school and equipment cost an estimated \$1 million. Additions to the school in 1956, 1958 and 1959 have - raised this figure to \$2 million. One of the outstanding features is a series of education—by-television classes being held there, with instructions in science, history and English.

Greathouse, of course, is the one County elementary school in St. Matthews proper that has NOT been built since The Voice began publishing here 10 years ago.

Though It has not always been known by that name, Greathouse has served this area since 1877. It has expanded from one to 27 rooms and has had six locations.

For those interested in a bit of history, it was located in 1877 on Browns Lane opposite the Phillip Brown home. Miss Emma F Russell was the first teacher and there were seven pupils. Tuition was \$4.94 per month.

**Named for Miss Tommie:** It then moved to the Holzheimer Home off Breckenridge Lane and then to the present site of the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corporation on Staebler Avenue.

Here Miss Tommie Greathouse was appointed teacher for the five-month term for a salary of \$210.38. It remained a one-room school until 1903 With Miss Tommie the only teacher for 19 years. She remained as principal for 15 more.

The school moved in 1888 to the triangle formed by Lexington Road and Frankfort Avenue. By 1893 the enrollment was 32. Miss Greenhouse's salary was raised to \$85.88 per month in 1902.

A building was erected for \$7,252 on the north side of Frankfort Avenue opposite Browns Lane in 1915, and it was named for Miss Tommie.

She retired in 1918. Miss Mayme Waggener, her successor, remained on until 1946 when she was succeeded by Kenneth Farmer. Mr. Farmer was succeeded in 1955 by Howard Shaver, the Present principal.

**May. be commercial:** The school moved to its present site on Grandview Avenue in 1939. The Eline Realty Company purchased the Frankfort Avenue School and converted it to an eight unit apartment house. It is still used for apartments today, although the Eline firm is having the property rezoned for commercial use.

The two-story building cost 588,000 to build. A lunchroom for 280 persons was added in 1950. Although the schools enrollment was up to 740 in 1952, the construction of other schools here has eased the load, and this past semester's enrollment was down to 481.

**Holy Trinity granddad:** The grand-daddy of the Catholic grade schools, Holy Trinity, looks like anything but an old man. The modern yellow-brick school on Cherrywood Road next to Holy Trinity Church is as up-to-date as anything in the County.

For it was built in 1953. That's the year Holy Trinity moved out of its ancient quarters on Frankfort Avenue, and turned the old school building over to Holy Trinity (later Trinity) High.

The original Holy Trinity was established in 1880, and until 20 years ago, when Holy Spirit was finished, was the only Catholic school here.

**Built up in 6 years:** Most of its expansion has taken place in the last six years. The new school was finished in 1953, two classrooms were added in 1955, and a \$70,000 wing in 1956. A library was opened in 1957. The school now has 16 classrooms and the past year's enrollment was 712. Msgr. Charles Boldrick is pastor.

Holy Spirit, now 20 years old, and situated at Cannons Lane and Lexington Road, has added seven classrooms since 1949,

now has 16 altogether and an enrollment of 580.

Since *The Voice* started publication, two new Catholic Schools have been built—St. Margaret Mary and Our Lady of Lourdes.

**Lourdes in 1950:** Lourdes opened in 1950 with 240 students and gradually got more and more crowded until part of the parish was transferred to St. Barnabas in the Highlands.

Now, under the direction of Msgr. Anthony Gerst pastor, and Sister Thecla, principal, the Breckenridge Lane school has an enrollment of about 760 students.

St. Margaret Mary, with Father Ehrich Stuart as pastor, was opened, in 1953. Since then 10 classrooms and a library have been added and enrollment the past year was 710.

**Trinity began in '53:** Trinity High started as Holy Trinity High back in 1953 in the old Holy Trinity Grade School at 4011 Frankfort Avenue. The first year it had only, a freshman class. A class was added each year until finally it was a full—fledged four year high school.

The first graduating class in 1957 numbered 82 students. The 1958 class was 91 graduates, and this year the number was 133.

Since 1956, the School has been called simply “Trinity High.”

A new wing, valued at \$350,000 to \$400,000, was begun in 1956 and dedicated in 1957. Enrollment last semester stood at around 750.

**Two private schools:** Two private schools rounded out the education picture. The Louisville Country Day School on Rock Creek Lane near Seneca Park was established in 1951, for grades one to 12. The original building cost \$150,000, and a 1954 addition of science and art rooms, four classrooms, and a gym cost another \$160,000. The headmaster is Harry S. Ludwig, and expected enrollment next semester is 300 pupils.

The Catholic Country Day was established on the Thomas Monohan estate on Browns Lane near the Expressway in 1957. The school represented something new in local Catholic education, as it was staffed by laymen and was eventually to be a combined elementary and high school, though it started out with grades one to nine.

**June ground-breaking:** Ground was broken in June for an \$85,000 building and the school opened in September. Classes were limited to 20 boys each. A kindergarten was added in 1958, as well as 10th grade. An 11th grade will be added this Fall.

Present enrollment is 171. In March a \$100,000 fund-raising drive was launched to build four classrooms, two science labs, and shower and locker rooms. There is ample room on the 23-acre site for expansion. Headmaster is Daniel M. O'Neill.

The Greater Louisville College of arts and Sciences a Baptist institution, is scheduled to be built next year on a 238-acre site on Shelbyville Road next to Moorgate. A total of more than \$2,000,000 was raised towards a goal of \$3,000,000 by February 1958. Ultimately the school is expected to cost \$15 to \$20 million.

And two more Catholic grade schools are due to open soon—Mother of Good Council on Westport Road near Plantation Swim Club, and St. Albert the Great near Herr Lane and Westport Road.



Principal LEO COLYER and his new school.

**A decade of sports: St. Matthews has produced great teams and athletes in 10 years**

St. Matthews has produced some outstanding athletes and some outstanding teams in ten years. Therefore, the sports program in St. Matthews has received unequaled enthusiasm and support.

No other school has done as well in all fields as Eastern High School, which has a trophy or a crown for every high school sport.

The Eagles basketball team has done a fabulous job. In 1954, under Earl Duncan, the Eagles won the County basketball championship, and again in 1955, under Roy Adams, they took the crown. They were honored in 1955 by being the only county team invited to play in the twelve team Louisville invitational Tournament at Male.

In 1954, they also earned the 25th district championship, but lost by a narrow margin to Male in the regionals. Four boys that year made the All-District and All-Region teams. They were Llew Spears, Dick Ewing, Phil Barker, and Hugh Durham. Durham was also an outstanding star in track and football, and was awarded the Flying Dutchman's Corn Cob.

**Eagles win crown:** In 1957, the Eagles had the whole County in an uproar when they won the District and Regional crowns, and then proceeded to the finals in the State Basketball Tournament at Freedom Hall, where they were edged out by Lafayette 55-52. Again, in 1958 and 1959, the Eagles won the County Championship. The Jayvees took the County title in basketball in 1956.

\*\*\*

The basketball team's record for the first four years was 55 won and 25 lost. The football teams record was 22 and 13. Cager John Doninger was named to the All-State team in 1957.

The football field was dedicated October 15, 1954. In 1957, the football team under Coach Emmett Goranflo, took the County title, In 1958, the team beat Dixie Heights to snag the Burley Football Bowl. The Eagles' first years with more losses than wins was 1956. The 1958 football team had 8 wins against 2 losses. In 1955, Louis Roos captured the County scoring title with 60 points for the season.

**Take track title:** In 1957, the Eagles greatest year in sports, they also captured the Seventh Region Track Championship, and won it again in 1958. David Haycraft set a new high jump record of six feet in 1956, and set a record of six feet two inches, in the State track meet. They were fifth in the state in 1957.

Eastern's tennis team captured in the State Championship in 1956. Jim Tarr won, the singles and teamed up with Burton Shelley to take the doubles. Jack and Jimmy Tarr won the Kentucky High School doubles championship in 1954, too. The golf team snared the state championship in 1955, and in 1956 had a record of 9-2 in 1956. The Eagles baseball team took the county and district champion-ships this spring with a record of 17-2, the best ever of an Eastern baseball team.

\* \* \*

Trinity is famous for its track team. The Cross-county team won the state championship and were unbeaten in 1957. Again in 1958 the Cross-Country Track Team took the state title in 1956, they were third in the State. The team won the Catholic High School Invitational Track Meet in May, 1958. The "thinlies" slipped down to second place in this year's State meet, however.

The Shamrocks also won the 26th District baseball title, by beating Eastern in 1957. and in April, 1958, took Class B of the State Swimming Championship.

Also, in 1958, the Shamrocks took the City Bowling Championship. Dave Weber won the Seventh region basketball one-game scoring record when he made 51 points in one game in February, 1957. The golf team won the Regional tournament in golf this spring, and managed to come in third in the state.

\*\*\*

Waggener High School is a school with more of a future in sports than a past. 1958-1959 was its first year in any varsity competition, although the Wildcats had had a Jayvee football team the year before and Jayvee basketball since the school opened.

The Wildcats took the County Junior High Basketball Tournament in 1956, and that same year had a perfect baseball season. In 1958, with the oldest members on the team sophomores, the Waggener swimming team finished in first place at the State Swim Meet, Class C, and this year, with juniors, moved up to Class ???. They placed second.

\*\*\*

The school had a rising track star in Butch Mathis, who will be a junior next year. A transfer from North Carolina last year he placed second in the mile and 880 at the Shawnee Invitational Track Meet, then won both the mile and 880 in the Regional at Bellarmine. In the state meet, he finished fourth in both.

**Little League:** But the biggest sports organization here is St. Matthews Little League Baseball for boys 9 to 12, Organized in 1953, it now has 16. The original plans were for four teams, but so many boys showed up on the first day, that a minor league as well as a major league was begun. Eight St. Matthews firms agreed to sponsor teams, and Sander's Cleaners agreed (and still does) to clean uniforms free.

A regulation ball park with dugouts stands, and press box was erected on the Community Center playground in 1953. The

first season opened on June 7 that year, with each team playing 18 games.

The first-year pennant went to the Lions in one league, and the Models in the other. In 1954, the Colonials, spurred on Mike Lawson beat the Taylors for American League Pennant, The Citizens won easily in the National League, sparked by Dick Peloff and Gerry Kazunas. The Americans won the District Championship in 1954.

The National League All-Stars were good enough to get to the State Tournament and win their first game, before bowing to Paducah. The Ermann's won the National pennant in 1955, and the Models took the American League pennant.

The Models again captured the American League pennant in, 1956, and the Lions won the National League with a record of 15-2-1. The American League All-Stars captured the district title in 1956 also. A second diamond was built at the Center that year. Charles Siegel president since 1953 stepped down in 1956 to be succeeded by Harold Hammon.

\*\*\*

In 1957, the Little League was enlarged to four leagues of four teams each. The Thurston Cooke team captured the International League Championship. The Lions again took the National League pennant in 1957, and the Models the American League for the third straight year. The Models again took the pennant in 1958, and Ashbury Berman took the National League. Jim Helm was the outstanding pitcher of the American League, and Barney Neal the outstanding pitcher of the National League. The American All-Star team copped the State title in baseball in 1958. The team then went to Maryland for the Divisional tournament but lost to Brooklyn Park in the first round.

\*\*\*

William McConnell was elected president of the Little League in 1958, and a second minor league of four teams, with 15 boys per team, was organized.

**Babe Ruth League:** The Babe Ruth League was first established as the Pony League for boys from 12 to 15 in 1954. There were four teams of 16 boys each. Each team played 16 games, with the Yanks taking the first pennant. The Pony League All-Stars, sparked by pitcher Bobby Marr, won the Eastern Kentucky Championship, but lost the State Championship.

In 1955, the name was changed to Babe Ruth League, with the Cubs Winning the first Babe Ruth pennant. The American All-Stars barely defeated the National All-Stars in 1956. Bobby Marr was named the Out-Standing Player For The Year 1956. The 1957 champions were the Indians, and the Tigers copped the 1958 pennant. John Thompson was the outstanding pitcher in 1958. W. T. Porter is league president.

\*\*\*

The American Legion League was established in 1957 for 16-and-older boys. The Zachary Taylor Reds won the pennant in 1957, spurred on by Bobby Marr.

The team went to the state finals in 1957 before losing. They won the state title in 1956 and got a trip to the Regionals in North Carolina but lost in the first round.

**Jefferson League:** The Jefferson League for boys 8 to 12 was organized in July, 1958. There are four teams of 15 boys each, and they play twice a week. The 1958 champions were the Cubs, with a 9-3 record. President of the League is Maurice Silvey. This year there are eight teams in the League.

\* \* \*

The St. Matthews Merchants won the Metropolitan Amateur Baseball Federation championship in 1957, entitling them to a World Series trip but they ran out of money and could not go. The Merchants won again in 1958. In 1955 they were in the finals but lost. The president for 1959 is "Motts" Minogue.

\* \* \*

The Y.M.C.A. sponsors basketball leagues for high school boys, junior high boys, and men. The St. Matthews Y. M. C. A. All-Stars for high school basketball won the Kentucky-Tennessee-North Carolina basketball tournament in Lexington in March 1958.

Joe Viviano outscored Charlie Tyra in the summer of 1957 with a 29.9 average per game against Tyra's 22.8. The Warriors won the Prop League in February, 1958, the Hawks won the Hi-Y League, and the Wildcats took the junior high league.

**Football for youngsters:** The St. Matthews Football League was established in 1954. In the Junior Division, the Bears have had a monopoly, winning every year since 1955. In the Senior Division for boys 13-15, the honors have been split between the Trojans and the Eagles. The Junior Division is for eight to 12 year-olds.

The Plantation Club was organized and opened in 1957. In 1958, the Club upset Lakeside to win, the State A.A.U. Outdoor Swimming and Diving Meet Lakeside had been the previous undisputed champion of the area. Again last month, Plantation beat Lakeside to win the Novice Meet. At the Aquacade this year six national and three world marks were set, (not by Plantation swimmers, however.)

\*\*\*

Our Lady of Lourdes has also had some successful athletic events. They had a record of 11-0 in basketball in 1955 to capture the Far Eastern League basketball title. They were edged out by St. James in the second round of the County parochial tournament however. They again took the Far Eastern League in 1956. They won an invitation to the Toy Football Bowl by defeating St Raphael but lost to Holy Cross in 1958.

**Miscellany:** Other brief sports items are:

A St. Matthews Basketball League is being organized here for boys 9-12 by Torn Jarrell and his Campbell - Summerhayes Windcats. This team is now playing boys from other communities.

A Soap Box Derby was held in 1957 on Zorn Avenue and sponsored by the St. Matthews Jaycees, Pendergrass Chevrolet, and The Voice of St. Matthews. Winner over 36 other entries was Gary B. Young of Pleasure Ridge.

Holy Spirit won the County Parochial League Basketball Championship in 1958, and went to the semi-finals of the Parochial Tournament, before losing to St. Raphael.

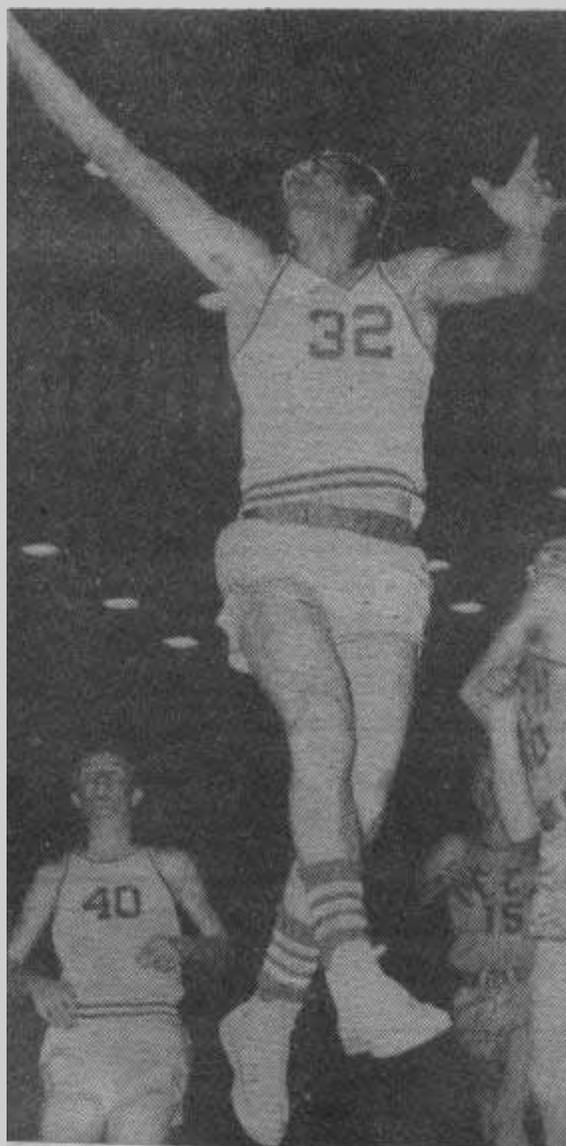
Fourteen-year-old Gerry Kazunas was awarded three trophies in 1956 for his basketball at St. Margaret Mary.

The Richmond float Club swimmers won the River Road Invitational Meet in both 1955 and 1956.

The Louisville Boat Club won the River Road Invitational Swim Meet in 1957.

The Pastime Boat Club swimmers won the River Road Invitational Meet in 1958.

The Big Spring Golf Club swimmers took the 1957 Inter-club Swimming Association Meet at Audubon with 154 points.



Eastern's Dick Ewing pours one in.

**Civic, fraternal and veterans groups enrich community life**

By Jinny McMichael (60): The clubs in the St. Matthews area are of every variety.

There are the service clubs like the Jaycees, the Rotary, the Lions, the Kiwanis, and the Optimists; the political clubs like the Republican Woman's Club, and the greater St. Matthews Democratic Club; the woman's clubs, such as the Suburbanettes, the Younger Woman's Club, and the Woman's Club, and the fraternal lodges such as the Elks, and Eagles, and the High Twelve, and the veteran's such as the V.F.W., the Amvets, and the Zachary Taylor American Legion Post.

Many of them have been organized and most of them have grown and expanded and performed valuable services for the area in the past 10 years.

The St. Matthews Junior Chamber of Commerce was organized in March 1955, with Jim Cottingham, president in spite of a mere four years of existence, they have done immeasurable good in the community, and have won recognition in both the state and nation.

The Jaycees collected \$2,300 in one evening for the Cerebral Palsy Fund Drive; they annually sponsor the "Miss County Fair" contest, and each year at Christmas they have sponsored the Mile of Dimes, with money being donated to underprivileged children.

They have sponsored Road-E-O's each year to promote safe driving among high school students. They collected with other clubs more than a million items of clothing and 50,000 pounds of food in Jefferson County for the food-stricken southeastern Kentucky area in 1957.

They sponsored a Seminar on Metropolitan Government on December 3, 1958, collected money and books for the Sidney Eline Memorial Library, got a traffic light put in at LaGrange and Whipps Mill Roads, helped to establish an 18-acre park on Hounz Lane, raised \$2,200 via the Mile of Dimes for orphaned children in 1958, sponsored a Soap Box Derby in 1957, and sponsored Dollar Days to boost business in St. Matthews.

The Jaycees newspaper; "The Projector" was begun in November 1955, with C. Roger Gernert as editor. The paper was named the best of the Jaycees papers in the nation in 1957, and the Soap Box Derby was named the second best project of 1957.

But 1958 was the prizewinning year for the Jaycees. With D. B. Murrell heading the organization it won six state prizes at the convention in April and was named the outstanding club in its class in the nation in June. The paper was named second best in the nation under the editorship of Herb Burnett. Sammie Lee is the president of 1959.

The St. Matthews Rotary Club is 18 years old, having been organized in 1941 with 22 members. Charles W. Owens was elected the first president. There are four areas of service; club service, vocational service, community service, and international service.

The Rotarians led the 1951 program to improve St. Matthews traffic condition, took a leading part in revamping the rate structure of the St. Matthews Sewer District in 1951, and in 1950 originated the idea of "Go Hungry for Hungary," and held banquets with no food while the price of the plate went to Hungary to feed the starving. The idea spread well.

In 1958, the club pledged \$500 to the new St. Matthews Library. Other projects include the annual Courtesy Contest, the Potato Festival, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., blood donations, crippled children traffic surveys, and a memorial for the war dead.

Only one person per profession may belong to the rotary, and it is his duty to improve business ethics by applying this four-way test: 1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it fair to all concerned? 3. Will it build good will and better friendships? 4. It is beneficial to all concerned?

The motto is "Service Above Self." The National Organization of Rotarians celebrate its Golden Anniversary in 1955. Owen Pillans took office as president July 1.

The St. Matthews Lions Club was established February 2, 1950, with charter members. Dr. J. Charles Ray was the first president. The club nearly collapsed when it insisted on meeting weekly, but changed it to twice monthly, which proved to be the salvation of the club.

The projects include sight conservation, spastics, annual Christmas baskets, the Community Center's 14-acre playground, the library, crippled children, two seeing eye dogs. They helped send Eastern High band to President Eisenhower's Inaugural Parade in 1957.

The Lions also purchased a motion picture and sound projector for the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic at St. Anthony Hospital, donated \$9,100 to the St. Matthews Library, sent \$800 to the flood-stricken area in Kentucky in 1957, sponsored the Harrod's Creek Lions Club, gave St. Matthews seven waste cans to keep the streets clean, granted a \$250 scholarship to Eastern High student, Benny Fryrear in 1955, built a ramp on a crippled boys front porch so he could get in and out of his home, and began plans on a huge swimming pool project, but were forced to drop it because of zoning opposition.

**Civic, fraternal and veterans groups enrich community life**

Membership in the international organization is by invitation only. Although they have 90 members, they have no clubhouse, explaining they would rather spend the money on charity or children rather than a fancy clubhouse. William Archer was elected president of the Lions in May, 1959. Key Elliott of the St. Matthews group was elected district governor in 1958.

The St. Matthews Kiwanis Club was organized in April, 1945, with the late civic leader, Burton W. Stevens, as first president. It had 30 charter members, but has grown to 51 now.

The Kiwanians support the Community Center, the Y.M.C.A., Sunshine Lodge, a Girl Scout Troop, Children's Hospital, the Masonic Home, Boy's Estate, (now Kentucky Boy's Home), and the Iroquois Kiwanis Club.

They gave Eastern High \$750 for a new scoreboard in 1955, and donated money for tools for the handicraft room of the Y.M.C.A. They sell Christmas trees and peanuts annually to raise money. They sponsor a Little League team and plan to grant a scholarship to the first graduating class of Waggener High. The club also pledged \$1,800 for a scoreboard for Waggener and \$300 for the St. Matthews library. The club meets at the Crescent Hill Methodist Church, but would like to move its headquarters to St. Matthews as soon as a suitable place is found. John H. Lowe is the president.

The Lyndon and St. Matthews Optimist Clubs merged July 1 and elected George Middendorf president. Total membership is 43.

Both clubs had a record of achievement before merging. The St. Matthews Optimists had organized in 1954 with Richard Wheeler as president. In November, 1955, an Opti-Mrs. Club was organized of Optimist wives with Mrs. Smith Baker, president. They sponsored a bike inspection in 1957 and sold Christmas trees. Their sustaining project is Ormsby Village, where they plan parties and trips for the boys. The Opti-Mrs. help in a similar manner with the girls.

The Suburbanettes (wives of the St. Matthews Jaycees) organized in May, 1955, with three objectives in mind: (1) To promote social improvement of the community. (2) To give auxiliary aid to the Jayvees. (3) To increase general civic welfare. They have supported Sunshine Lodge, made children's robes for General Hospital, and given Christmas baskets every year. Mrs. Frank D. Boone, Jr., is the president. The club donated \$100 to the library.

The St. Matthews Woman's Club was federated May 16, 1938 with 15 charter members. Mrs. E. V. Bazzell was elected president at the first meeting April 17, 1938. The club moved into its present spacious clubhouse in 1948, and burned the mortgage in 1956.

The Woman's Club has two speakers a month, two annual style shows, several flower shows, and contributes to numerous charities. The Junior Students Employment Center was sponsored by the Woman's club. Aided by the Younger Woman's Club and the Lyndon Woman's Club, the St. Matthews Club collected furniture and bedding for the flood-stricken areas of southeastern Kentucky in 1957.

Other projects include a campaign against objectionable literature, helping to provide the soldiers at Fort Knox with entertainment, providing for a little girl's teeth to be straightened, and a benefit play for the St. Matthews Library.

The Woman's Club also sponsors an annual art show, as well as having a continual exhibit at the clubhouse, and sponsors First Aid classes for Civil Defense. They donated \$800 to the library, and have promised more each year. They also furnish volunteer workers for the library. There are approximately 365 members. Mrs. Robert Fritz is the president.

The Younger Woman's Club of St. Matthews was organized with five members present on October 16, 1939. Six officers were elected, as the other members could not attend the organizational meeting. It remained a Junior Department of the Woman's Club until it was reorganized in 1949.

The club supports the Community Center and the Child Guidance Clinic, as well as helping cripple children. It also supports Bridgeheaven, a sort of community center for patients discharged from the mental hospital at Lakeland, to help them adjust again in normal living.

The Younger Woman's Club sponsored a Christmas Door Decoration Contest in 1954, gave a Christmas pageant for the Woman's Club of St. Matthews in 1955, and donated \$100 to the library in 1958. The club of some 230 members will celebrate its 20th anniversary in October. Mrs. Bryan McCoy is the president.

The Charter for the American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180 was granted on January 13, 1925. T. H. Huffman, Sr. was the first Commander. The post always emphasizes safety and consequently formed the first school patrol in the area.

The Post donated \$350 to the St. Matthews Library last year, and helped on bloodmobile drive. The Auxiliary is 28 years old. It donated \$100 to the library.

The post sold its old building on St. Matthews Avenue in 1956, and was able to dedicate its brand new \$125,000 post home on Shelbyville road on Armistice Day 1958.

The building has a 47 x 80 foot auditorium, a family room, a recreation room, a kitchen and refreshment bar.

The veterans of Foreign Wars Beargrass Post 1170 is located at 115 North Sherrin Avenue. Three thousand dollars was spent by the Post in 1954 on improvements for the building. The Post was chartered February 10, 1940, with 19 members.

## ***The Voice of St. Matthews, July 16, 1959: Civic, fraternal and veterans groups***

### **Civic, fraternal and veterans groups enrich community life**

Joshua A. Noland was the first Commander.

The auxiliary was organized in 1949.

The American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) Post 18 of St. Matthews was organized February 8, 1951, with Joseph Gorter as commander. The Amvets conducted a drive for mattresses for flood victims and offered four year scholarships to children whose fathers were disabled veterans of World War II or Korea. The Auxiliary was chartered in December, 1951. Mrs. Lee Pittelko is the President of the auxiliary, and Charles Moore is the Commander of the Post.

The St. Matthews Elks Lodge was organized in September, 1957, with Nelson Perry elected charter president and later Exalted Ruler. The club moved into its new headquarters in the Parkside Building on Shelbyville Road at the end of 1958.

The Elks signed up 125 blood donors in 1959, offered bonds and a chance at a scholarship to local students in 1958, and gave \$100 to the library. A. P. Bell is the present Exalted Ruler. The Elks now have about 120 members.

The High Twelve Club is a Masonic, civic-minded luncheon and fraternal club. It was organized in 1957 with Theodore J. Herm as the first president, V. E. "Cap" Carrithers was elected president in January.

The St. Matthews Eagles Club was chartered November 26, 1941, with 131 members. Although it is primarily a fraternal organization the club also assists sick members, destitute families and supports the Community Center.

The Auxillary was formed in February, 1951, with 50 members. The clubhouse at 3918 Frankfort Avenue was destroyed by fire late in 1957. forty thousand dollars was spent to remodel, and what a beautiful clubhouse it is now.



Paul G. Bolus M. P. Hayden Bud Ball Paul Hayden

**BOLUS BARBER SHOP**

AIR CONDITIONED  
Serving St. Matthews for over 10 years  
105 Fairmeade Ave. at Shelbyville Road



**TEXACO TERRY SAYS:**  
WE'RE DuPONT SPRAY GLAZE  
SPECIALISTS — CALL ME TODAY!



**BRIGHTEST SHINE YOUR  
CAR HAS EVER HAD!**

**TERRY'S Service Station**

3800 Lexington Rd., St. Matthews TW. 6-9217  
"YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD TEXACO DEALER"

ST. MATTHEWS

**Sample Bootery**

TW 5-3491 3795 FRANKFORT AVE. AT THE TRIANGLE

**STORE-WIDE CLEARANCE!**

EVERY SHOE  
IN THE STORE  
REDUCED **25% TO 50%**

SEE OUR BARGAIN RACKS & TABLES  
FOR EVEN GREATER SAVINGS

Congratulations to "The Voice on 10 Great Years

**NEW SUMMER HOURS—9:30 to 5:00  
THURSDAY NIGHTS TIL 8:30**



*Uncle Jim says:*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE VOICE ON  
10 YEARS OF SERVICE**

—FROM—

UNCLE JIM

**THE SOUTH'S LARGEST  
YEAR-ROUND TOY STORE**



**Thornbury's  
TOYS**

Where the Monkey  
Rides the Bike

117 Breckinridge Ln. Phone TW. 5-0553  
OPEN FRIDAY NIGHTS 'TIL 9

**TOP HAT  
LIQUORS**

3720 LEXINGTON RD.

KENTUCKY'S FIRST SELF-SERVICE STORE

OUR MOTTO:

"IF IT'S BOTTLED—  
WE HAVE IT!"



COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF FINE WINES  
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

**GLASSWARE RENTED  
FOR WEDDINGS, PARTIES, ETC.**

• **REBECCA RUTH CANDIES** •

WE GLADLY REDEEM SOFT DRINK  
AND BEER BOTTLES FOR YOU!

TW 6-4772

**EPP STICH**

—And Sons—  
**GARAGE**

- ★ Front End Alignment
- ★ Wheel Balancing
- ★ Gates Tires

8004 Shelbyville Rd.

TW 3-5811

## TRANSISTOR RADIOS

HEY LOOK!  
PORTABLE RADIO SEASON!



Not much larger than a pack of cigarettes.  
Attractive carrying case, ear plug and battery.

ONLY— **\$29.95**

RECORDS  
POPULAR, JAZZ & CLASSICS



*The Turntable*

125 ST. MATTHEWS AVE. TW 7-3557  
Congratulations to the Voice on their 10th Anniversary

New Summer 10:00-5:30  
No Evening Hours

## HATS OFF!

to the Voice

FOR . . .

### A DECADE OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

## St. Matthews Feed & Seed

225 CHENOWETH LANE TW 6-4473

# W E B B S

—Since 1950—

Serving the Prescription Needs of the St. Matthews Area



## DRUGS

4200 Shelbyville Rd.—at Hubbard's Lane  
TW 5-5446

*K. Brown*

### One of the Finest Jewelry Stores -- with Prestige Lines -- in the South!



1938



1951

Here you will find made names of international renown. Names trusted throughout the world by discriminating giftgivers who have in mind a delicately designed "piece" of today — that will be held and treasured as an heirloom of tomorrow . . .

"Smothering Fine & Jewels"  
"Always something special"

3708 LEXINGTON ROAD, ST. MATTHEWS, KENTUCKY



**GULF** the sign of Quality Service

Serving the public with Gulf Quality Products for 33 Years.

Serving St. Matthews with Gulf Quality Products for 10 Years.

### More and Better Service for Your Convenience

with

#### The Newest and Most Modern Equipment

- ✓ Light Mechanical Work
- ✓ Wheel Balancing
- ✓ Complete Brake Service
- ✓ Radiator Repair
- ✓ Minor Tune-Ups
- ✓ Mufflers
- ✓ Tail Pipes

Taking this opportunity on our 10th Anniversary to congratulate "The Voice" on its 10th Anniversary . . .

Both symbols of the finest service to you!

## PAUL SNYDER GULF SERVICE

3794 LEXINGTON RD. PHONE TW 6-9292



43 YEARS in the County  
10 YEARS in St. Matthews

Opposite Bacon's

### Continuous Quality!

Make A Sitting Appointment for Your Children TODAY!

Call TW. 5-1802



"They don't stay little very long"

### Hamburgers were a nickel in those days, by H. F. Hillenmeyer

When they tore down the White Castle in St. Matthews last year, I was telling the kids about how I used to buy hamburgers in that same shop for a nickel a-piece.

It gradually dawned on me that I was talking about 30 years ago, so I shut up.

Just the same, I got to thinking about the buildings around St. Matthews that have disappeared in the relatively short time I've been on the scene, and about how few firms are still doing business under the same name at the same location as they were 30 years ago.

Probably the most widely remembered landmark in St. Matthews is "the bank with the clock on the corner." it stood at the intersection of Frankfort Avenue and Chenoweth Lane, originally known as Gilman's Point. That famous clock was a massive thing projecting out over the sidewalk. Three of the sides were clock faces. Above the faces lettering in stained glass proclaimed that this was the St. Matthews Bank and Trust Company.

**"Lost: without the clock:** Directions to St. Matthews always began with, "Do you know that bank with the clock on the corner."

My aunt in Lexington used to say, "if they ever do away with that clock, I'm lost."

They did away with the clock and building in 1966. That site today is the location of a handsome First National of Louisville branch bank; but no clock. Catty-cornered across the Street Citizens Fidelity occupies the old Farmers and Depositors Bank Building. They have a clock, but it's just one of those digital things like you see on every bank in town.

So it goes with change, To the east are probably three miles of shopping centers, service stations, auto dealers, assorted retail stores, and feeding stations dispensing everything from pizza to Chinese food. Only a few old-timers have firmly rooted in the original business district at the same location for 30 years or more. Mayor Bernard Bowling and his Plehn's Bakery are synonymous with St. Matthews, Standard Oil on "the point" is solidly established. St. Matthews Hardware has been doing business in the same place for 45 years. The sign at the door to Gerstle's Place still says "No Ladies."

Holy Trinity is now Trinity High, but the buildings remain the same, with a couple of additions. Bethel E. & R Church has experienced some remodeling, but its members still labor in the same vineyard. Showers Shop is outfitting its third generation from the same store. Frankel—Obrecht made one move of a block and a half and became Frankel-Klappeke, but the stood as St. Matthews oldest druggists.

The aforementioned White castle has rebuilt at the other end of an enlarged parking lot. As far back as 1936, automobile dealerships were housed in the building that came down to make way for the White Castle.

Kroger and A & P have been around St. Matthews for more than 30 years, but they have both made several moves. If one veers off the Frankfort Avenue axis just half a block, he finds Palmer Asbestos, built in 1930, who certainly qualifies as a steadfast old-timer.

**The A. J. Eline Story:** Reminiscences of St. Matthews wouldn't be complete without some mention of A. J. Eline, now deceased. Certainly this man built, bought, and traded more property than any one person in the history of St. Matthews. If there is such a location today as "the heart of St. Matthews", it would have to be in the 3900 block of Frankfort Avenue, where Eline Realty has had its offices for over 40 years.

They used to tell a story on Tony Eline that he religiously denied, but it's one of those tales that is too good to die. It seems that one day he spotted a piece of property in St. Matthews as a likely location for some enterprise or other, and he instructed one of his legmen to go down to the courthouse and find out who owned it. In due time the scout reported back; "Mr. Eline, you do!"

Perhaps that property, if ever there was such an episode, is today one of the few mentioned above. Who knows—in another 30 years maybe we'll see "the affluent East End" centered around Middletown, while the old business district reverts to potato fields. And the farmers will be running ads: "You dig 'em."



THE LANDMARK clock on the bank shows at the left edge of this picture taken about 1950.

**A 20-YEAR LOOK AT THE RETAILING PICTURE HERE  
1955 plans for shopping center chilled old-timers, by Joe Oglesby**

Announcement of plans for the first major shopping center in St. Matthews in 1955 sent chills up the spines of members of the “establishment” business district.

One of the purposes of the St. Matthews Business Association, organized that same year was “to promote business in St. Matthews against the competition of Louisville on the one hand and the new shopping center going up on Shelbyville Road on the other.”

The stores of most members of the association were in “old” St. Matthews or in Wallace Center and the merchants feared the drawing power of the new shopping center.

The center was Shelbyville Road Plaza, and when it opened in November of 1955 it contained 27 stores on a 20-acre site of St. Matthews.

Since then, shopping centers occupy a large part of the landscape in the St. Matthews area, and merchants and residents alike are more curious than worried about new commercial developments.

The big “explosion” in shopping center construction, though, didn’t start until the 1960’s.

After a two-year delay, construction of The Mall, just outside the St. Matthews city limits, got underway in 1961. The giant center, containing 50 stores, opened in 1962.

Last year, additions doubling the size of The Mall were built. These include 16 new stores, the 198,000 square foot J.C. Penny installation and the Kaufman-Straus expansion.

Other major companies, seeing the commercial fertility of the Expressway—Shelbyville Road area announced plans to build.

The Bluegrass Manor Shopping Center, containing the giant Woolco store, opened in 1966, on the fringe of St. Matthews.

Then in 1967, owners of the drive-in theatre across from the Bluegrass Manor Shopping Center sold a 15-acre tract to the Almart department store chain. A one-story building costing \$5 million was built on the site that year, after the theatre was razed.

Adjoining the Almart store is the Giant Food Store, said to be the largest Grocery in Kentucky. The store was built last year.

In the meantime, other areas of St. Matthews were attracting interest, too, as commercial sites. A G.E.S. store was built on part of the J. Graham Brown tract on Breckenridge Lane near I-64 in 1966.

Warren Atkinson, an Indianapolis developer, also was eyeing the Breckenridge Lane area. In 1967 he negotiated for purchase of 100 acres for construction of a \$30 million shopping center that would have included two department stores, a car agency and a movie theatre.

Atkinson later dropped interest in the center, saying that the area could have presented traffic problems and that one of his prospective lessees had “cooled off” about building in the center.

The latest member of the shopping center “family” is the new Camelot Shopping Center, partly in St. Matthews and partly in Lyndon.

Winn-Dixie and Walgreen Drugs were among the first stores to open in the center last year. The complex now has eight other tenants and construction of space for new stores is still underway.

While merchants flocked to St. Matthews to erect shopping complexes, they didn’t ignore the rest of eastern Jefferson County with its expanding population and affluence.

Ground was broken in 1958 for the Brownsboro Road Shopping Center at Rudy Lane and Old Brownsboro Road. A wing was added to the center in 1961.

Another earlier member of the shopping –complex fraternity is the Middletown Shopping Center, located on a seven-acre tract on the south side of U.S. 60 just east of Evergreen Road. The center, built in 1961, was developed by the Evergreen Land Company.

Construction of the first phase of the Holiday Manor Shopping Center, costing \$3 million, was begun in 1962. The center, located on U.S. 42 at Old Brownsboro Road, has doubled in size since then. Plans call for the construction of a twin theatre near the center this year.

The first phase of the Jeffersontown Shopping Center, another giant, was opened in 1960 and cost approximately \$1 million. The first phase contained 10 stores and presently the center houses 31 businesses.

Located at 9600 Taylorsville Road, the Jeffersontown Shopping Center was developed by Jack Durrett.

More shopping centers are on the way, too. Construction is well underway on the Oxmoor Center on U.S. 60 east of the Expressway. The major tenants will be Stewart's Dry Goods Co. and Shillito's, occupying large wings at each end of the complex.

The entire center will have 670,000 square feet of space under roof.

Winmar Co. Inc. and the Bullitt Estate (Beargrass Cop.) are the developers of the \$9.2 million center. The store will have 70 stores and a movie theatre.

Although the giant Sears and Bacon's stores in St. Matthews are not classified as shopping centers, they are main factors on the east end commercial scene.

The Sears store, opened in 1959, covers a large tract in the Thierman Lane-U.S. 60 area and the Bacon's store, built in 1953 and expanded in 1955, was the first area commercial development with an enclosed parking garage.

### **Country clubs earn place in East End's way of life, by Glee Crutcher**

Country clubs line become a way of life for many residents of the eastern part of Jefferson County. With the population moving eastward in the last three decades, many new clubs have been formed some of which provide total living with homes and townhouses built on tie property.

The old clubs still are going strong. The Louisville Country Club, founded before the turn of the century by a group of men who liked golf, first was located at Zorn Avenue and River Road, the present site of the River Road Country Club.

The facilities later were moved to the hills above Mockingbird Valley, with on 18—hole golf course, tennis courts and a swimming pool. The original big stucco building still stands and has been remodeled and changed many times. The River Valley Club at Glenview is another old-timer. it was founded by residents of the area and used mostly for social gatherings. Tennis players keep its courts busy and a swimming pool was built a few years ago. The club also has a marina where river enthusiasts dock their boats during the summer.

An Interesting "middle—aged" club is Big Spring Country Club. It was organized in 1926 by 22 golfers from the Louisville Country Club, who found the going too tough on the hills of their own course, They preferred flatter fairways and bought property on Dutchman's Lane. Since then a half a million dollar clubhouse has been built and a swimming pool and tennis courts added. The founders were William Heyburn, Dara F. Cross, Charles W. Allen, John W. Barr, Jr., Allen R. Carter, Harry Dumesnil, S. E Duncan, T. B. Gamble, Charles D. Gates, James and W. A. Glazebrook and Bruce Haldeman.

Others were T. S. Hereford, W. W, McDowell, C. R. Mengel, A, Lee Robinson, J. H. Scales, William S. Speed, J. A. Stewart, Alva L. Terry, James Ross Todd, and Prince Wells.

Of the 22, only Dara Cross is living and a brass plaque in his honor was installed on one of the bridges on the golf course this spring.

Among the newly-formed east end clubs is the Hurstbourne Country Club that has grown like topsy since it was organized in March, 1966. It is on the former site of the A. T. Hert estate on Shelbyville Road. The late Leroy Highbaugh bought the original farm and mansion and his son, Leroy Highbaugh, Jr., developed the property into acres of handsome private homes.

The original mansion is the clubhouse, and a swimming pool, tennis courts, and a golf course have been built, The old stables have, been enlarged and many members board their horses there, A riding ring also has been added.

The golf course has grown from nine holes to 27, due to demand and this June will be the scene of a large national golf tournament, with celebrities coming to compete from all over the country, including Jack Nicklaus and Gary Players.

Another new club in the east end is Hunting Creek on Us 42, which opened July 4, 1964. Developed by the Semonin Real Estate Company, it is also comprised of private homes and handsome townhouses, which look out onto the rolling golf course.

**“The Lace Panty Building” by Audrey Janiak**

“The Lace Panty Building” -- that’s how a 70 - year - old woman describes the imposing 16-story Lincoln Tower Building at 6100 Dutchmans Lane neat the Watterson Expressway and Breckenridge Lane.

The remark of this elderly friend brought a smile to the lips of John T, Acree Jr., president of the Lincoln Income Life Insurance Co., whose home offices are there. There are many other tenants in the buildings, of course.

The imposing and unique structure of concrete, glass and steel was designed by Taliesin Associated Architects, an affiliate of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. The unusual idea in design is a 16—story building (sans a 13th floor) of a cantilever construction.

The Walls in the core of the building are of cast-in-place concrete with semi-circular ‘half-round’ grooves 4 feet on center both ways.

**Efficient floor plan:** The surface, which is finished in a soft rose color, has its own highly decorative appeal.

With 115,530 square feet of total floor area, Lincoln Tower boasts a high efficiency floor plan that makes 86 percent of the floor space usable.

The function of the core of the building is to eliminate the necessity of supporting columns within the building, adding to this usable floor space.

Also contained in the core is the elevator shaft, stairway and heating and cooling ducts.

It also houses the. communication system.

At right angles to the core, reinforced “I” beams jut out to meet and connect with “I” beams which are connected to the floor above, giving the building an appearance of hanging in midair.

**Basement’s on 15th floor:** The 15th floor “basement” of the building contains the storage and important files. This floor, which has no windows, is lighted entirely by artificial lighting.

All floors except the 15th are covered with carpeting, cutting down on noise and adding to the comfort of the employees.

Acree has reason to be proud of the first-of-its kind building.

It has had many nicknames, but the one which brought a Smile to Acree’s lips was “The Lace Panty Building” remark of his woman acquaintance.

The top floor of the building is reserved for the dining rooms. Surrounding the glass-enclosed floor is a balcony which provides a breath-taking view of the countryside.

**Acoustics are excellent:** On the ground level and looking out into a nearby pond is a “Civic Room” which seats between 150 and 250 people. The acoustics are so well-planned that the speaker at the rostrum can be heard in all parts of the room without the aid of a microphone.

This room, which is utilized for sales meetings has been lent to church and civic nonprofit groups for meetings.

Acree is an avid fisherman and evidences of his prowess grace the curving walls of this room.

Inside, the building has an aura of efficiency. There is the impression that one is in a cosmopolitan area. It is amusing, then, to look out the windows at the pastoral scene of horses grazing in a field. The Lincoln Tower area is a combination of city and country.

**Gremlins ran the elevator:** Another interesting feature of the building is the outside elevator. The mechanism can be set on this elevator to control its descent. By taking a full 2.8 minutes to descend, riders have the feeling of floating down to the ground. Gremlins were thought to occupy the outside elevator at first because it went up and down, Seemingly by itself. It was discovered that the sun activated the buttons designating the various floors. The problem was solved by installing colored buttons.

There is enough concrete in this building for a highway 20 miles long and 20 feet wide. The precast filigree work alone weighs 1,246 tons. The glass would cover about half an acre.

**The use of the pond:** The concrete and insulated glass not only give the building its unusual beauty but serve to reduce the operating cost of the air-conditioning system.

The pond and fountains are functional as well as beautiful. They are integrated into the cooling system and have eliminated costly piping.

**“The Lace Panty Building” by Audrey Janiak**

The ceilings are opaque panels which permit fluorescent fixtures to spread light more effectively. This arrangement permits a less—expensive way of providing adequate lighting and the building remains lighted 24 hours a day. If an office or enclosure is needed in any particular part of the building, portable and removable partitions are available. These provide almost instant privacy. They are designed to give the appearance of permance.

**Locks by Zeiss-Ikon:** The locks in the building were supplied by Zeiss-Ikon, locksmiths who are also noted for theft precision cameras. The unusual locks and keys provide maximum security for the building.

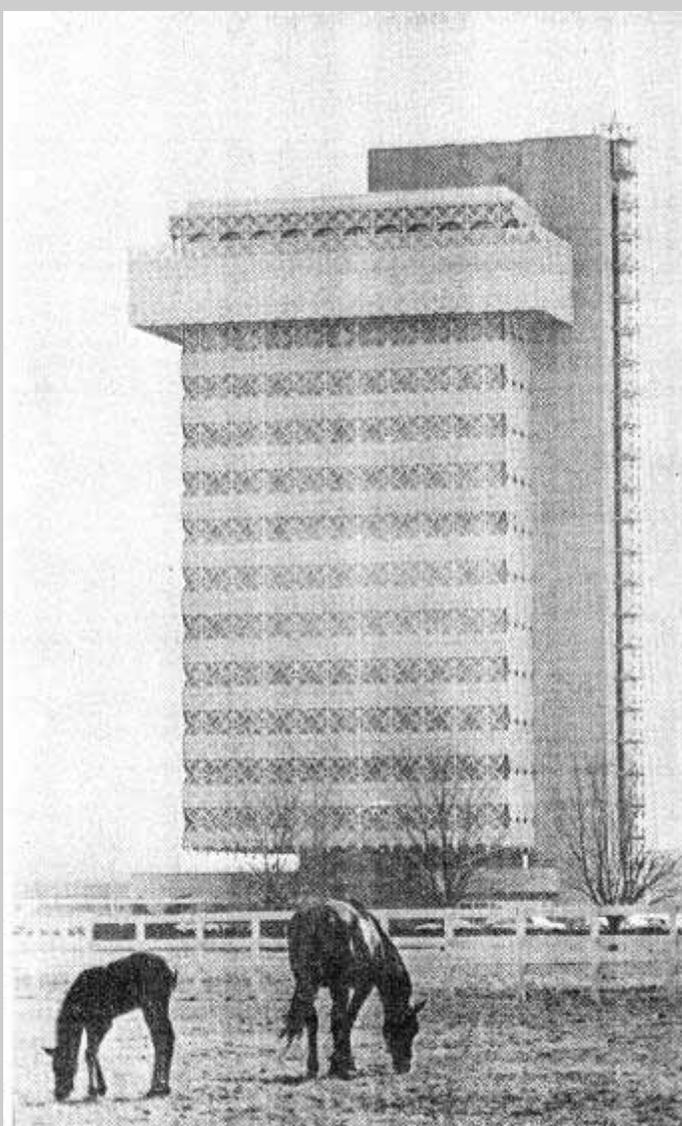
A window-washer will never be seen suspended from the outside. The windows are all removable from the inside, thus eliminating the necessity of the “cliff-hanging” from the exterior.

The interesting decorations at Christmas time and the Red Cross design which currently can be seen on the windows of the Tower, have resulted from the ingenuity of the maintenance staff. These designs, made from an acetate material, are placed in the windows from the inside.

One Christmas, an employee inadvertently placed a Star of David on top of a tree — what an interesting way to spread good will among men.



HERE'S THE 14-STORY LINCOLN TOWER Building as its lacy covering was being lifted into place in 1965. *Voice photo*



*Voice photo by William Shipley*

AND HERE'S A REMINDER of the area's past -- horses grazing in a farm field half a mile away.

### A Library In Memory Of A Flier, by Sudie Moseley

The Sidney Eline Memorial Library may look, like an average place, but in at least one respect, its appearance is most deceiving.

It is completely unique. In fact, says C. R. Graham, director of the Louisville Free Public Library, "I don't know of another one like it in the entire country."

What sets this branch of the Louisville Free public Library apart from all the rest is that the building at 4210 Church Way and its contents are under separate management. "All I do is pay the (librarians') salaries, buy the books and run the library," Graham said. All problems, dealing with the building itself — such as repairs, expansion, insurance, etc.- come under the Jurisdiction of the St. Matthews Eline Library Board of Managers, a special citizens committee, now headed by George B. Walker.

This unique arrangement came about ay a meeting of the St. Matthews Library Committee March 13, 1958, when according to Walker, residents of the area felt that St. Matthews had outgrown the two-room lending library in a residence at the corner of St. Matthews Avenue and Westport Road. The committee wanted larger facilities.

At that time, says Graham, the Louisville Free Public Library did not have available funds to construct a new building for St. Matthews. The library, however, was more than willing to provide the books and personnel needed for such a facility if a structure could be built with private funds.

**Do-or die effort:** The funds were raised in what amounted to a colossal case of do-or-die team-work. Virtually every civic and social club in St. Matthews did everything from ringing doorbells to dialing telephones in the quest for the \$64,000. needed to construct the building that now stands on land donated by the late A. J. Eline. His only request was that the library be named for his son, Sidney Eline, an Army lieutenant killed in World War II.

Sidney Eline was born March 30, 1918, the youngest of A. J. (Tony) and Elizabeth Eline's four children. He was the home town boy who married his Anchorage high school sweetheart (Margaret A. Jones) and settled down-- he thought-- to work for his father in, the Eline Chevrolet Co., and to rear a family.

But things didn't quite work Out that way for the Anchorage football and basketball star — as it didn't for a lot of young men who had to face up to World War II.

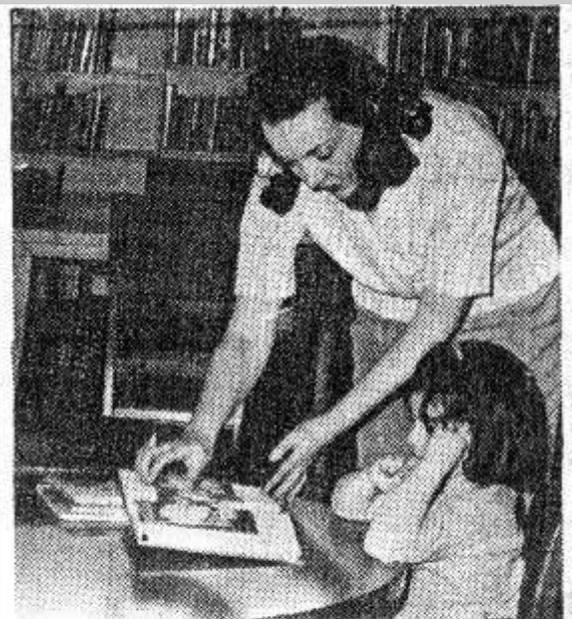
Four months after his wedding in March, 1941, Sidney Eline was called into military service and trained to fly B-24s' for the 389th Bomber Group, a rugged outfit that saw, a great deal of action over Germany. In fact, Lt. Eline had flown so many missions he was scheduled to be sent home on furlough to see his newborn son when his family received, the "We regret to inform you..." telegram from the Department of the Army in April of 1943.

**Hope against hope:** Missing in action over Germany, the, telegram said, offering a glimmer of hope to the Eline family that young Sidney might still be alive -- a dream they clung to until, 18 months later, he 'was officially declared dead.

It wasn't until months later that the family learned the details of Sidney Eline's death when -- from out, of the blue -- a letter arrived from the only surviving member of his bombing crews" who had just been released from a German prisoner of war camp.

"We were on our 13th mission over Germany," the crewman wrote. "It was an overcast day and the navigator kept getting lost. We suffered a direct flak hit in the wing, and one engine and the end of the wing fell away. Immediately we went into a spin and I was thrown out at about 3,000 feet when the plane blew up."

And so it was that First Lt. Sidney Eline was killed in action April 1, 1948, Just two days after his 25th birthday anniversary and three weeks before his furlough home to see 3-months—old Sidney Eline, Jr., for the first time. Fifteen years later, October 2, 1958, ground was broken for the library built in the young flier's honor. It was opened to the public March 23, 1959.



*Voice photo by James M. Yuhr*

AMY LAZOR, 4, glances at a book held by her mother, Mrs. Donald K. Lazor, in Eline Library.

### L & N, an old, valued friend of St. Matthews, by E. R. Thomas L & N Public Relations

Construction of the first railroad track through what is now the city of St. Matthews was begun in 1847. This new line, to connect Louisville and Frankfort, was completed four years later, September 8, 1851. Trains began running between the cities via the St. Matthews area, which in those days, as it was for many years to come, was vast, fertile farmland.

Within a period of 21 years, the span of time that now constitutes the area of *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, the Civil war had been fought, and the railroad had come of age. Other lines had been built, and the Louisville & Frankfort had become a part of a longer railroad, the Louisville, Cincinnati & Lexington. Two years later, June 28, 1869, the road was opened between Cincinnati and LaGrange. Known as The Short Line, this section of track enabled through trains to run between Louisville and Covington for the first time.

It wasn't until 1881 that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad entered the transportation picture of St. Matthews. That year it acquired the financially tottering LC & L on the auction block. The L & N has been a part of the city's growth ever since.

Today, the L & N Railroad is one of the leading rail transportation systems in the nation. It comprises almost 6,000 miles of main line with 9,000 miles of track in 13 states. It is still in the process of enlarging its system, and most recently acquired the 287-mile Evansville—Chicago segment of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad to give it entry into the Windy City. The L & N now links the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico through single-line service for the first time. Plans are under way to merge the Monon Railroad into the system to provide a Louisville-Chicago connection within the near future.

**Employs 15,000:** During a 24-hour period, L & N trains travel approximately 36,000 miles. There are 15,000 L & N employees and the equipment they operate includes 850 diesel locomotives and 58,000 freight cars.

The L & N is a Kentucky corporation and the home office has always been in Louisville. The railroad's assets total more than a billion dollars, a figure reached in 1968 for the first time.

In *Forbes* magazine's most recent survey of the transportation industry, published in January, 1970, the L & N ranked fifth in five year annual earnings per share growth; 10th in five year return on total capital, and 11th in five year return on equity.

More than 5,000 of the total freight cars owned by the L & N are tailored for specific uses. Among them are open top hopper cars of 7,000 cubic foot capacity for hauling wood chips; 1-00-ton capacity "Big Blue" covered hoppers with full length trough hatches for fast handling of grain and "hi-cube" box-cars measuring 86 feet inside and extending 17 feet above the rails. The latter accommodate about 10,000 cubic feet of cargo for hauling automobile parts and stampings.

In addition to the movement of freight via the conventional methods, the L & N continues to set expansion records with its TOFC (trailer- on - flatcar, often called piggyback) traffic and containerization. Loading and unloading has been simplified by utilization of giant mobile gantry cranes and other maneuverable, self -propelled devices that lift entire trailers on and off flatcars.

**New techniques:** One of the most dramatic changes in the movement of freight by rail, a method undreamed of when the fledgling Louisville & Frankfort rails were first laid through St. Matthews, has been that of hauling new motor vehicles. Moving aboard 85-foot multi-deck rack cars, automobiles are now being rapidly hauled from assembly line to distribution points by the trainload. The L & N maintains automobile handling terminals at several points on its system. One, at Atlanta, Ga., is the largest such facility operated by a U. S. railroad.

The unit train, long in use by the L & N to transport coal, is designed especially to transport bulk commodities in volume. The railroad maintains facilities that permit quick loading and unloading of the unit train, and quantities up to 10,000 tons per trainload are not unusual. Fast emptying hopper cars are equipped with devices that automatically open the doors, and permits unloading of an entire train of 72 cars or more in less than 15 minutes.

The L & N also utilizes numerous innovations in the electronics field — television, radio, microwave, to name a few - in order to provide the best possible service for its customers. It was one of the first railroads to make extensive use of computers and now uses these electronic brains to expedite traffic and many other operational phases of railroading.



L & N FREIGHT at the St. Matthews depot which was raised in 1967.

## Jim Herron Collection:

### L & N St. Matthews Station by Jim Herron (60)

The L&N St. Matthews Station was at the corner of Chenoweth Lane and Westport Road. It was a small wood building and most trains passed right by. However, L&N trains 19 and 20, the "Blue Grass Local" from Louisville to Lexington and trains 101 and 104, a local to and from Cincinnati, did stop there. Both were discontinued by 1954.

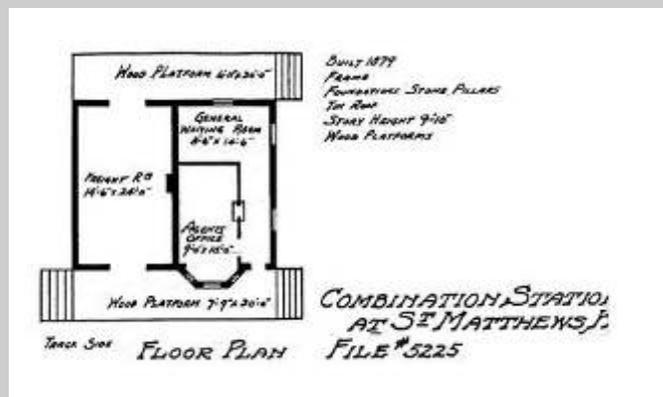
I used to ride the Lexington train once or twice a year just for the fun of it. One of the conductors, Les Sandidge, alternated between the Lexington train and the Humming Bird, one of L&N's finest trains. He was very well liked by folks along the line and took candy to hand out to kids at the many stops the train made and often bought eggs and vegetables from farmers who showed up to meet the train. It made 23 stops before reaching Lexington, leaving Louisville Union Station at 7:55 AM and arriving at Lexington at 10:45 AM. Returning, it left Lexington at 4:55 PM and arrived in Louisville at 7:50 PM. I last rode it a few days before it's last run and I think Dan Schmitz (60) was with me and we boarded it at St. Matthews.

During WWII, the station saw a lot more activity with several more trains stopping each day. The St. Matthews depot agent also handled freight shipments that were loaded or unloaded on a track along Westport Road.

In my early years we lived on Staebler Ave and I had a direct view of the station from the back of our house. I used to go over there and watch the agent going about his business. He showed me a lot of things about the railroad and put up with me. There was old derelict boxcar in the field between the station and our house and we'd occasionally fly kites from there, even climbing up on the roof of the boxcar to do it.

The depot was torn down in the mid to late 1960's. If you go to the tracks there, you can still see parts of the asphalt platform where passengers got on or off the trains. Strangely, I never took any pictures of the station and I've never seen a good one from anyone else, only scenes where it's in the background.

Jim Herron



St. Matthews depot floor plan, built in 1879, the depot was only 420 square feet. The plan is from L&N files. track platform later replaced by asphalt.



St. Matthews depot



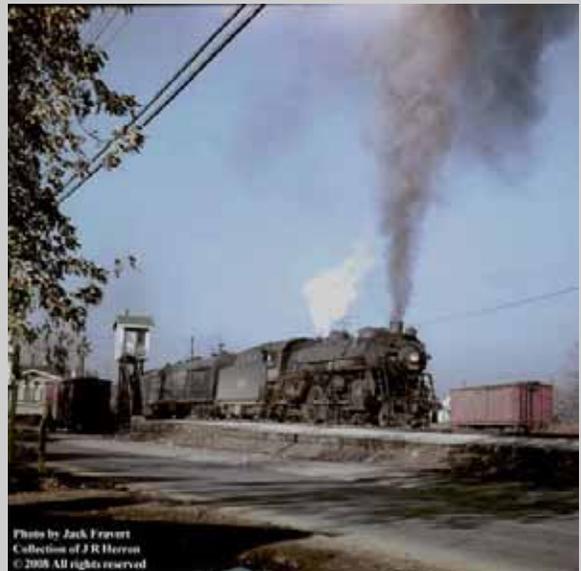
St. Matthews depot, reconstructed in Photoshop

**Jim Herron Collection:**

**L & N St. Matthews Station by Jim Herron (60)**



**The Bluegrass Local—1**



**The Bluegrass Local—2**



**Steam freights at St. Matthews**

### After growth, a new system

*The Voice* Newspapers this month celebrates its 25th year of publication.

Founded July 14, 1949, by James K. Van Arsdale, the paper has been known for most of its years as *The Voice of St. Matthews*, has been sold twice and has grown to be one of the largest weeklies in Kentucky.

Back in 1949, *The Voice* was a one-man operation, more of an advertising ‘shopper’ than a traditional newspaper. But within a year of its founding, an editor was on the payroll and it had become the dominant medium in and around what was then the new sixth-class City of St. Matthews.

Van Arsdale, whose family lived in the Highlands section of Louisville, also established a second edition of *The Voice*, called *The Voice of the Highlands*, it was not, however, a financial success.

In April, 1952, Van Arsdale’s financial problems got the best of him and he sold the paper to Alden J. “Al” Schansberg, a New Albany newspaper advertising director.

Almost immediately, in October, 1952, Schansberg discontinued the Highlands edition, but for several years carried that name in a secondary position on *The Voice of St. Matthews* masthead.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Schansberg built the paper from a thin, largely free distribution paper to a full-fledged, paid-circulation weekly of state-wide reputation.

Then in August, 1965, Schansberg began a new paper called the Middletown Mirror, circulated free in the Middletown area. Three years later, the *Lyndonarean* was born, a tabloid containing some local news and feature stories sent to all homes in the Lyndon area. Later these were merged to form *The Suburban Mirror*, which circulated through the eastern part of Jefferson County until 1973.

In March, 1965, Tom Jones, publisher of Jeffersontown’s 63 year-old weekly paper, *The Jeffersonian*, decided to sell out to Schansberg. He said he found it impossible to get adequate help and that an accident which made his wife an invalid motivated him to sell.

At that point the *Voice of St. Matthews* was merged with the *Jeffersonian*, and the result was renamed *The Voice-Jeffersonian*. It was published in two editions.

In April, 1971, after 19 years as publisher, Schansberg sold his company to Bruce B. VanDusen, a native of Michigan who had spent 12 years as a reporter and editorial writer on major daily newspapers.

Under the new publisher the paper discontinued the *Suburban Mirror*, organized a carrier delivery system, changed from paid to controlled distribution and boosted circulation from an estimated 6,000 circulation to 34,750 as of this month.

In addition, the paper has added two new editions, so that, in effect, four separate papers now are distributed:

One for the St. Matthews area and others for Middletown, Jeffersontown and Hikes Point. Advertisers may purchase space in any combination of these editions.

### How it was—really—back when by Emil Michael Aun

It is a quiet, rainy Sunday here in Arlington, Virginia, and for the past several hours I have been having a good time. I have been reading the July 15 and July 22, 1954, editions of *The Voice*, containing the history of St. Matthews I wrote 20 years ago for the paper’s fifth anniversary.

I will never forget the night I wrote that story. St. Matthews was having one of the hottest summers in memory -- I believe there were 90 days in 1954 when the temperature went over 90 degrees:

The *Voice* office was on the second floor of a two-story building in Colony Way then, across the parking lot from the A & P supermarket on Shelbyville Road. The temperature was over 100 degrees as I sat down to write and it stayed that way for 36 straight hours.

By 5:30 everyone else on *The Voice* staff had gone home but I went on writing late into the night. Everything I touched was warmer than my body and the copy paper stuck to my hand.

We had no air conditioning, just a small window fan blowing 100-degree air across my face. By 9 pm my shirt was off, by 10 my shoes, and by midnight I was down to my shorts, still hacking away. I finished at 2 am after about 16 straight hours of writing, and the material was published just as it came from my typewriter. We had no time to edit or rewrite it. It was in the printer’s hands by 7 am.



Emil Aun, whose 'best years' were spent on *The Voice*

Reading it now 20 years later, I am astounded at how much I wrote and how fact-filled the history is. Its inordinate length required us to publish it two weeks running.

Frankly, I think I wrote more than anyone wanted to know about St. Matthews, dating clear back to pioneer days. I had studied county records, doctors' theses and old newspapers — and had interviewed old-timers like Tony Eline. And I put it all in. But long and rambling as it is, I am proud of one thing. Not a single fact in those thousands of words was ever challenged for accuracy.

I served as news editor and then editor of *The Voice* from the fall of 1950 till the fall of 1960, except for an eight-month period in 1952 when I lived in Europe.

During those years of the '50s -- golden for the nation and for me personally in fond retrospect-- St. Matthews grew up. Most of the shopping centers including the Shelbyville Road Plaza and The Mall were built, as were most of the schools including Waggener, Stivers and St. Matthews Elementary. Most of the sixth-class cities were formed. As editor I applauded and promoted this development.

My old publisher, Al Schansberg, took a leading role in publicizing and promoting Little League, Pony League and the Babe Ruth League, all of which were formed during the 1950s.

Dick Clay, an old college chum, and I organized the old St. Matthews Community Theatre which during the '50s staged such classics as "You Can't Take It With You," "Ten Little Indians" and "Hedda Gabler." We were aided by many amateur enthusiasts including Wanda Receveur, Gladys Griffin, Rowena Freeman, Lin and Reeda Bivins, Tappy and Van Fell and many, many others.

But the achievement of which I am proudest was building the Eline Memorial Library in St. Matthews near Harvey Browne Church.

This rewarding adventure began on a quiet day in *The Voice* office in late 1957 or early 1958. I was alone, it was a Thursday, the paper was out, there was nothing much to do and I was smoking a cigarette and staring out the window when a little old lady walked in and introduced herself as Harriet Cowman.

We liked each other immediately and I nodded sympathetically when she said she was surprised that a thriving community like St. Matthews had such an inadequate library. The existing facility was a rented one-room affair on St. Matthews Avenue just north of Shelbyville Road, open only 12 hours a week (if memory serves) and operated by the Louisville Public Library.

"If I get a drive started to build a new library, will you give us publicity?" she said.

"Yes, rna'am, you can count on it."

She turned to leave and then changed her mind. She looked me right in the eye. "(think you're the man to build the library," she said.

I refused. I had just been divorced, was feeling very sorry for myself, and had no stomach for any crusades, not even one as worthy as a library.

But she was a woman who could not accept 'no.'" She kept after me until I reluctantly agreed. Shortly afterward, we called our first meeting in *The Voice* office, inviting all the civic clubs and municipalities to send representatives.

It was snowing on the appointed night and only eight people showed up, including myself and Harriet Cowman. We were discouraged but did not give up. Oddly enough, exactly one year from that date the library was completed and dedicated.

I was elected first chairman of the Library Committee, druggist Price Webb (now dead, alas) of the Lions Club was vice chairman, and Harriet was chief cheerleader. We asked the civic clubs and municipalities to each appoint an official representative to the board. Many of them did.

**Tony grumbled:** A. J. . Tony Eline donated the land. He was one of the most successful entrepreneurs in St. Matthews' history, having made a fortune in real estate development and auto sales. He gave us the two lots on which the library now stands and added \$10,000 to the gift. In return we agreed to name the library after his son, Sidney, who was killed in World War II.

Tony was an argumentative man. He suggested we get Augustus and Dumas, architects, to design the building and supervise its construction. Then he grumbled after we did because Ed Augustus and John Dumas — who generously did all the work for nothing — hired union labor to carry out construction. "I could have got it done a lot cheaper," he complained.

"But, Mr. Eline," I protested. "You recommended them to us."

"Well, I didn't know they'd use union labor."

"But I thought you had worked with them before. Why did you recommend them?"

No, I never worked with them. Where'd you get that idea? I just thought since they were St. Matthews architects, they ought to do the work." The library committee was badly split on whether the architecture should be contemporary or whether we should go to the old Kentucky style used in the nearby Speed mansion.

Augustus and Dumas recommended the contemporary style because it was more practical. We debated the question for days and finally put it to a vote. Contemporary won.

Harriet Cowman was heartbroken. Oddly enough, neither she nor I were permitted to vote despite the fact we were officers. Under the rules, only people on the board officially representing a St. Matthews civic club or municipality could cast a ballot, and though Harriet belonged to the Woman's Club and I to the Jaycees, both organizations had designated someone else as official representatives.



The Sidney Elina Memorial Library -- afterwards the editor celebrated with a martini lunch.

**The martini lunch:** We raised \$40,000 for the library building. Part of this came from a one-night, door-to-door drive by several hundred women, organized by Bea (Mrs. John) Henderson, who later opened a dress shop in St. Matthews. The rest we got a few hundred dollars at a time from municipalities, civic clubs and individuals.

Price and I became best friends during the campaign. We were so exhilarated by the library that right after it was built he and his wife invited me to lunch at their house. We drank so many martinis and ate so much that after lunch we all lay down side by side on his living room floor and slept away the afternoon.

I was *The Voice's* second editor, Jimmy Van Arsdale had been publishing and editing the paper a little over a year when my uncle, Paul Bolus, who was Jimmy's barber, talked him into letting me work Saturdays. That was in September, 1950, and Jimmy used to say Uncle Paul put over the deal with a razor in his hand and Jimmy trapped in the chair.

Jimmy had first published *The Voice* on July 14, 1949. It was tabloid size, eight pages, and was called "*St. Matthews, Your Community Newspaper*", and, was circulated free to 6,500 homes. A born promoter, Jimmy staged a contest to name the paper, with \$100 as the prize.

Mrs. James W. May, of 3908 Elfin, immediately mailed in four entries, one for each member of her family. The winning entry, "*The Voice of St. Matthews*," was in the name of her four-year-old daughter, Cissy, who got the \$100.

In his first edition, Jimmy promised to take no sides on issues affecting St. Matthews. "No sides at all?" he was asked. What he meant, he said the following week, was that he would be fair.

On August 25, 1949, he began taking sides. He expressed happiness over the reduction in fire insurance rates and his thundering editorial declared war on: dangerous railroad crossings, slow-moving traffic, unprepared streets, and high water bills. He left out sin and rheumatism. The alarmed County Police immediately stationed two patrolmen in St. Matthews during rush hours.

Jimmy had been operating up till then practically out of his automobile, using his printers, Slater and Gilroy, as a mailing address. He announced September 9 he was moving into the Ford Building, 100 Chenoweth Lane.

It was right after that, in the September 29 issue, that he launched an attack on high rents in St. Matthews in the middle of the greatest boom in U.S. history, he warned landlords to look back to 1932, hinting darkly of a looming depression.

**Republican paper:** The first sign that *The Voice* was to be sucked into the annexation versus incorporation fight came in the October 13, 1949, issue when Jimmy warned the Louisville newspapers to forget about incorporation and annexation and to "try cooperation."

*The Voice* always had Republican leanings. Jimmy first revealed them October 20, 1949, when his editorial noted *The Times* was backing Charles Farnsley for Mayor of Louisville. This convinced Jimmy that Rees Dickson was a "cinch" to win. Dickson was defeated by the largest majority in Louisville history. The following week, Jimmy wrote an editorial warning against "overanxiety."

He fell off the Republican bandwagon in 1951 to support Lawrence Wetherby for Governor.

The local Municipal League began studying incorporation for St. Matthews in January, 1950, when the Court of Appeals blocked Louisville's attempt to annex St. Matthews. in an editorial on incorporation or annexation, Jimmy wrote, "We have tasted the bitter draught of being an orphan." When the League balloted 525 families on the question, Jimmy's editorial urged "careful consideration" as to whether the people "favor or disfavor" annexation. *The Voice* was taking "no editorial stand."

He wanted to be fair. So on February 9 he denounced annexation by Louisville, and the following week outlined arguments in favor of annexation. One thing was certain, he said, ‘something must be done.’

When the Municipal League reported 69 percent of those polled favored incorporation, Jimmy came out in favor of Incorporation.

**Tell-tale size:** The February 16 edition increased one inch in depth, signifying that *The Voice* had changed printers. On March 16, it shrank back an inch. Jimmy had changed printers again, as his credit ran out, it increased an inch and shrank back once more in the next year, until *The Voice* finally went full-size for good.

On May 25, 1950, one of the strangest editorials in Kentucky journalism appeared in *The Voice*, it said in part:

“This newspaper has used a policy unheard of in journalistic circles. We have believed everyone without reservation . . . The time has arrived for clear, unbiased reporting . . . This plan may hurt many individuals and undoubtedly make enemies, but the truth must replace fiction . . . From this day forward, if any reported fraud, deceit, distortion of truth, or dishonesty is uncovered by this office, it will appear in print. . . .”

There wasn’t anything in the paper to explain what he was talking about, and I haven’t any idea.

Jimmy succeeded Howard Hunt as president of the St. Matthews Chamber of Commerce in June, 1950. “No one is helped by the surly witticisms thrown at organizations that are trying to build the community,” wrote Jimmy in July. “Before you judge a group, join it.” The organization collapsed shortly afterwards.

Jimmy was a colorful character, as you may have gathered by now, in a profession that spawns picturesque personalities. Most St. Matthews merchants loved him, and his escapades have become part of the local legend.

He hired me in September, 1950, on the strength of my uncle’s recommendation (or his razor). I was a senior at the University of Louisville, majoring in English, and was managing editor of the Cardinal, the school’s weekly. I worked for Jimmy on Saturday. His office was in the Post Office Building at Breckenridge Lane and Willis, we shared it with a stove salesman.

Sophie Elliott was bookkeeper. Jimmy was editor and publisher. Jimmy paid me \$5 a week, which, after taxes and transportation, boiled down to a cool \$3.35. The first two stories I wrote for him were a feature on the Kentucky Farm Bureau, which was built here in 1948, and a story about Robert Kraft, 3827 Ormond Road, who had broken his leg while painting his house.

I would report to the office at 9 am on Saturday. Usually it was deserted, and first I would read the competition, The St. Matthews Sun, also a tabloid, which started, I believe, in 1933, and went out of business—towards the end of 1953.

The Sun was owned and published by Tom Jones, of Jeffersontown, a good newsman who also published the Jeffersonian, but no businessman. Tom could never remember to bill his advertisers. St. Matthews jeweler Charlie Lester told me he and another businessman, determined to get their bills from Tom, once lay in wait for him at an intersection he passed each morning.

After reading the Sun, I would call several sources for news -- Kenneth Farmer, principal of Greathouse School, the only elementary school in St. Matthews until Stivers was built in 1952 or 1953; Ed Kaiser, secretary of the St. Matthews Y; several churches; and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. We did not go in for investigative reporting. The paper was a throwaway and we just needed enough copy to fill in around the ads. A hard day’s work by me on Saturday would normally fill the front page and several inside pages. Jimmy filled out the rest with social news contributed by Ruth Noe Paine.

Basil Willis, a Greyhound bus driver, was our part-time photographer. Basil charged \$1 a print. But he had a bad habit of always setting the focus on his camera at infinity. Consequently most of his pictures were blurred. Jimmy nicknamed him “Out of Focus” Willis and claimed the only sharp picture he ever took was once when he tripped and fired the camera accidentally, getting a perfect exposure of his shoe.

Jimmy put out a beautiful Christmas edition that year. The Smithers’ Grocery ad was in red and green. Jimmy’s Christmas message read, in part, “Shelbyville Road will continue to be covered in blood until the County Police leave the comparative safety of the St. Matthews White Castle restaurant and begin a real campaign against the murderers of the highway.”

In the next issue, he refused to apologize, and gave the police another salvo. *The Voice* carried a story the Our Lady of Lourdes held first Masses in its new Sanctuary. Jimmy note: “We now have 10 churches in St. Matthews and seven book-makers.”

I shifted to night school for my last semester at the University and Jimmy made me a full-time employee. My starting pay was \$45 a week, an extremely modest wage even then. During college I had been working nights at International Harvester and was earning \$80 to \$90 a week. But, when my name appeared on the masthead over the title, news editor, for the first time on February 1, 1951, I had stars in my eyes, despite a 50 percent cut in income. I was at last a newspaperman.

**Full size:** *The Voice* went full size on March 1, 1951. I wrote the lead sentence myself: “Like a young giant bursting out of

its under-sized clothes. *The Voice of St. Matthews* today mushrooms out of its 1-1 ½ year old tabloid form into a full-grown newspaper.”

I see now it was a little flamboyant, but at the time I was proud of it. I was at the stage where I thought it was clever to imitate the smart-aleck, God-almighty style of Time Magazine.

*The Voice* in that issue continued its feud with the People’s Committee of St. Matthews, which favored annexation by Louisville, and attacked its leaders for saying a 75 cent tax rate would allow St. Matthews only to pay fat salaries and lawyers fees.

I remember that any time we got hard up for interesting news, Jimmy would have me call up Hugh Doyle, a leader of the People’s Committee, and needle him a little. Hugh would react like an enraged bull.

I would then call City Attorney Max Brown; or Mayor Jim Noland or some other St. Matthews official and read them Hugh’s inflammatory statements, and get their reactions.

Sometimes I’d call St. Matthews first, then go to Hugh, or his sidekicks, Clarence Hardin or Frank Stallings.

We used to turn up some vivid copy that way. But we overworked it. Everybody got wise after a while and refused to make any statements, though in an emergency, we could usually count on Hugh.

Jimmy’s new venture, *The Voice of the Highlands*, made its debut on April 19, 1951. It was a full-size paper like *The Voice*. I now had four times as much work to do as when I started less than three months earlier. Jimmy wanted to be fair. He gave me the title of editor and a \$5 raise in pay.

**Back shop:** That first full-sized issue was devilishly hard to put out. We needed twice as much advertising and twice as much news, and Jimmy and I had to do it all alone.

We also had a new printer, the Clark County Press in Jeffersonville which added to the awkwardness. Luckily, our man in the back shop, Lyle Murray, an experienced printer, didn’t give a hang about union rules. The paper was due out on Thursday, so late Wednesday night he and I worked side by side to get the paper out.

Jimmy and I wrote the copy and laid out the ads, Lyle set the type, I proofed it, Lyle corrected it, and we made up the paper right on the stone. In defiance of union rules, I carried hot type for him from lino to stone, and even did some of the make-up.

The press was flat bed, so Lyle and I had to lock up the pages and carry them to the press. Luckily we did not miss a single page. The edition came rolling off the press at 6 am Thursday and wearily we carried them to the Louisville post office and demanded they be delivered that same day.

The man in charge didn’t argue with us. We were all red-eyed from working and drinking and smoking and I guess we were pretty dangerous-looking characters.

**The ‘lady’ episode:** We had one hilarious episode in connection with this first edition. Jimmy wrote a long, sincere editorial that went all the way down the left side of the front page for two columns. He said in essence that we were in the Highlands not for profit but to serve the people.

It was really a sickeningly sweet editorial and he wound up by saying something like this: “Remember, if there is ever anything I can do to serve you or this community, just call me at Belmont 2071.” Lyle and I slipped in a line at the end: “If a lady answers, hang up.”

We had the pressman, MacGregor, run off 10 copies, then stop the press, remove the unauthorized line, and continue the run. There was a tavern next door called Husband’s Retreat, where Jimmy, the printers and I always went for refreshments after the paper was put to bed.

When Lyle and I got there with the papers, Jimmy and the other printers were already drinking. The printers and I always ordered beer. Tom Jones (no relation to the Sun’s publisher), who owned the Clack County Press, ordered bourbon for himself, and so did Jimmy. A shot of whiskey was only 25 cents. They were well along when we casually handed them the papers.

Jimmy sat sipping his bourbon and reading his editorial with pleasure. When he reached the bottom line, his eyes bulged.

He showed the paper to Tom. Pandemonium. Tom desperately needed our business, he was a little drunk, and he could hear the presses next door thundering away.

He jumped up and ran to the shop, shouting “Stop the press.” His partner, Carrie Mean, a very old, little lady, who detested whiskey, tried to stop him, thinking he was just drunk. Tom ran right past her, brushing her with his shoulder so that she was hurled onto her desk, always piled high with papers.

She sailed across the desk on her seat, scattering the papers in the air, and went tumbling off the other side, the papers

falling like snowflakes about her. The next day she had a beautiful shiner, and Tom was so angry and chagrined he would not speak to me or Lyle for a month.

**A new Job:** For a while, Jimmy and I alone were putting out both papers, with Sophie Elliott doing the bookkeeping. Later he hired Roger Gernert away from the Sun to sell ads and Geneva Bossung to handle classifieds and other tasks. This gave him some spare time so he assigned me to put out a third paper, "Sports Highlights," a tabloid. He gave me another \$5 raise.

I told him I was quitting and going to California. Tom Jones cornered him and asked where he expected to get another man who would edit three papers and take most of the photos (I had learned to operate a camera). So Jimmy offered to raise my salary to \$70 a week, and I agreed to stay.

Jimmy was a tiger. He took off whenever he felt like it. Once we did not see him for several days. He arrived in the office at midday Tuesday, five hours before deadline. We had virtually no ads for the paper.

He sat down at the desk, laid his head on the cool surface, and began calling clients. Within five hours he had sold enough advertising for an eight-page issue.

But ????? were piling up. Small newspapers are usually short of capital and *The Voice* was no exception. I noticed the drug store where we ordered film kept making pointed comments to me about paying the bill. Sophie Elliott later confessed that she often ran to the post office early on Friday, opened the mail and rushed to the bank to deposit any checks to cover our pay.

By March of 1952 I was exhausted. Four years of college while working, followed by a year of putting out three newspapers, had left me at the point of collapse. I had saved \$5,000 and decided to take a trip to Europe. Jimmy offered to sell me half the company for \$5,000.

I finally decided against it and made the trip. I sailed on March 22, and at about the same time, Roger was drafted. (Jimmy had assured Roger's wife, "Don't worry. Before they draft Roger, the Russians will be coming up Shelbyville Road.")

Jimmy had nobody to help him, other problems piled up and the news reached me in Paris that on April 1, *The Voice* had been sold to Al Schansberg, longtime publisher of the New Albany Times.

I was married in Paris July 11, 1952, to a Dutch girl I'd met my second day there. Naturally, I began thinking of coming back home and finding a job. Al took a chance, and hired me by mail. I returned to Louisville right after Eisenhower was elected, and went to work four days later.

Al had gone on 100 percent paid circulation in October, 1952, against the advice of many people. In July, 1954, while celebrating our fifth anniversary, we were notified our Audited Bureau of Circulation rating was 4,559 paid, the highest of any audited weekly in Kentucky.

The little *Voice* had come a long way in five years.

Al had consolidated *The Voice of St. Matthews* and *The Voice of the Highlands* in November, 1952. He established The Free Press, an advertising throwaway, to give our advertisers circulation up to 10,000. The Free Press was abolished in April, 1954, when *The Voice's* circulation reached nearly 4,600.

**'Honey':** The key person in getting our circulation up was Mrs. Heitkemper, who lived in the Highlands, and made her sales by phone. She called everyone "honey" and customers tell me they could hear her cuddling and soothing her infant child, who cried a lot, while she was making the sale.

Al was a staunch Republican, so *The Voice* was a Republican newspaper. We continually supported Jim Noland, St. Matthews' first mayor, and he and his ticket won every election. We were among the early supporters of Marlow Cook, who started as a state legislator and is now U.S. Senator, and Gene Snyder, who started as a magistrate, I believe, and has now served several Congressional terms.

Al was an upstanding citizen and a hard worker and together we put *The Voice* on its feet financially. Early in the 1950's, he hired Frank Day as ad manager. Frank had been living in California and came here at the prompting of his wife, who originally hailed from Jeffersonville. Frank and Al were two of the finest men I ever met. They were liked, even loved, by St. Matthews' businessmen. At took me and Frank into partnership sometime in the middle 50's, selling us each 20 percent of *The Voice* for a nominal price.

**Free-lancing:** But *The Voice* simply could not support three men. Business and subscriptions increased steadily until the beginning of 1957, then leveled off. Costs however continued to rise. We were all caught in the squeeze, so in 1960, Frank and I sold out to Al. Frank went to work for *The Jefferson Reporter* and I went free-lancing.

During Jimmy's day, *The Voice* was all roistering creativity and irresponsibility and devilishly hard work and fun. Under Al, we became sober, steady citizens. We hired correspondents and paid them 10 cents a column inch and even got a part-time helper.

I took up golf and occasionally had time to rewrite a story or editorial. But to the very end, I continued my practice of writing my own heads and making up on the stone.

*The Voice* undertook many campaigns and usually emerged winner. Back in 1956, for example, the Mallon Plan was introduced to permit Louisville to annex all its suburbs. The downtown newspapers and businessmen went all out in support of the plan.

*The Voice* opposed it. We pointed out that the plan called for annexation of St. Matthews, but would leave the debt of St. Matthews Sanitation District to be paid by the people of St. Matthews. In other words, they wanted our assets but would leave us our liabilities. The plan went to a public vote and we beat it handily.

During that same period; we came out strongly against permitting Reynolds Metals to build a factory in the East End. We pointed out that the St. Matthews/ Middletown/Anchorage area was the only section of town left devoted solely to residential living.

We won that one too, but I have since had second thoughts. Jefferson County needs all the jobs it can get and I would hesitate before ever again undertaking a campaign to keep out business.

Life on *The Voice* under Al was quite placid. I can scarcely recall any anecdotes. We worked steadily, not too hard, and put out a good paper. Every morning at 10 I had coffee with banker Karl Straub, insurance man Brent Hobday and lawyer Nelson Perry at Barney's, a few doors from Citizens Fidelity Bank. I made great friends such as Mayor Ken Thompson of St. Regis Park and his wife during the battle over the Mallon Plan.

St. Matthews had been incorporated as a sixth class city In 1950. Meetings were held Tuesday evening at Board of Trustees Chairman Jim Noland's home on Kennison. Later the city enlarged and became fourth class and first Jim, then Bernie Bowling, were elected mayor and the city acquired a city hall, a jail and a permanent staff.

For 10 years I attended nearly every meeting. I remember one evening in Jim Noland's living room covering the proceedings with Dick Harwood of *The Louisville Times*. Dick is now national editor of *The Washington Post*. I saw him in the Post newsroom the other day and we compared scars and gray hairs.

**How Kelsay got the job:** But I do remember one episode. In the middle 50s, St. Matthews decided it needed a police-force. A friend, Ron Kelsay, wanted a job as patrolman so he could continue his education at the University of Louisville. He asked me to write a letter for his signature to send to Mayor Jim Noland.

Al agreed I ought to do it for a friend, so I did. A few days later Jim Noland stopped by and asked me about Kelsay. I said I thought he was a fine person and fitted for the job.

"We're thinking about making him chief of police," Jim said.

"But you can't," I said. "He's just a kid and he's still going to school."

"Yeah," said Jim. "But you should see that great letter he wrote me." I miss Jim Noland. I miss St. Matthews. My best years were spent there.

Both Al and Jimmy let me have virtually complete freedom to run the news side as I saw fit. Al in eight years killed only two pieces I wrote, one a silly editorial and the second a feature that might have gotten the paper in some trouble.

He once suppressed a story involving some dishonesty on the part of a St. Matthews official, but only after making sure the man did not profit by his action and would resign the job.

My biggest regret is that we once backed down on an editorial. We attacked a Commonwealth's attorney when he had a couple of *Courier-Journal* reporters indicted after they uncovered corruption on the county police force. On our lawyer's advice we retracted, and I am still ashamed of that episode.

On the whole, we ran a good paper, an honest paper, one of which the community can be proud. In my 10 years in St. Matthews, I never asked for, or received, an official favor or any special treatment at the hands of any public official. Any gifts forced upon me -- and believe me some public officials and businessmen know how to compel you to take them -- I invariably gave away.

With one exception, St. Matthews City Councilman Bernie Gratzer once gave me a bottle of bourbon for Christmas. Bernie, also a reporter for *The Louisville Times*, had received it himself as a gift. I kept it and that was an error. The whiskey was terrible.

Emil Aun now lives in Arlington, Va. After several years as a public information officer in the U.S. Department of Labor, he is now on the staff of Sen. Vance Hartke, Democrat of Indiana.

Under Oglesby, *The Voice* won many state honors, by Joseph Oglesby

I was the editor of *The Voice* and its sister publications from late August of 1965 until February of 1970.

When I first joined the St. Matthews paper, it was called "*The Voice of St. Matthews.*" Its publisher, Alden J. Schansberg, also owned "*The Jeffersonian,*" Jeffersontown's own weekly newspaper, one of the oldest in the state.

In October of '65 the two newspapers merged to become "*The Voice-Jeffersonian.*"

About that time, David Schansberg, who'd been business manager of "*The Jeffersonian,*" joined "*The Voice-Jeffersonian.*" Together, we mapped out many of the changes in format and typography that gave the paper its new look.

My first few weeks on *The Voice* were, in many ways, idyllic. The pace was slow. And human. Not much happening. The only big news was that Anthony J. Eline wanted to rezone some more property. A citizens' group immediately protested.

We had time on the newspaper staff to swap stories and sandwiches.

Al Schansberg used to hang over my desk nearly every Monday morning with some fishing story -- much to my dismay, since Monday and Tuesday were the only really busy days, 'approaching news deadline. And I didn't have much help.

Stella Thomas, who also was the circulation manager, edited church news and correspondents' copy for me. I did the rest, writing all the major stories, taking all the photos -- anything and everybody from Eagle Scouts to tree plantings by the Beautification League -- developing and printing them, as well as writing headlines and doing makeup. But I loved it.

Fred Eads, who must have worn size 13 shoes and heavy, black brogans at that, and suits that always seemed baggy, would shuffle in around noon every day. Fred was the ad manager.

He'd smile broadly if he saw the "boss" -- Al -- and retell a joke. Then he'd shuffle to his desk, making sounds like the Frankenstein monster scraping across the moors - and check with some accounts by phone, while he propped up his heavy feet for a deserved rest. Usually he used the phone for small ads for the church page or some such thing.

Somewhere in mid-afternoon, Roger Gernert, something of a black humorist, and I, would drink a Coke together and discuss books or stamps or take a peek at the new Playboy centerfold.

The soft day around the office was Friday. A slow day. The paper came out on Thursday. Friday was anticlimactically, but, it was payday.

Later on, Paul Jenkins, who'd been "*The Jeffersonian*" editor, became my assistant. Paul, trained on "*The Herald Post,*" was an old-school journalist who wrote dryly but completely accurately, a stickler for getting the facts straight.

*The Voice* office was as democratic as you can get. No cubicles or barriers. The circulation manager (also my assistant) sat three feet away. Also, I could turn my chair around and talk to Al, if he happened to be at his desk, without raising my voice.

If Geneva Bossung, a doll of a woman, the classified advertising manager, got swamped with calls or 'walk-ins' we'd all pitch in and help. Al especially, I think, enjoyed writing classified ads. I didn't mind it either. There's a certain clean simplicity about them.

And since most of the staff hadn't been reporters or even gone to journalism school, for that matter, they didn't always get things right. I didn't always catch their mistakes either. So we ran some boo-boos, occasionally. But we were sincere, and, I believe, honest.

My feeling then, and now for that matter, about a newspaper is that it should be its community's protector and its conscience, its super ego.

It must constantly watch the maneuvers of government and the elected representatives of the people, always seeking full disclosure of public business.

I didn't always have an easy time of it, keeping "*The Voice*" on a crusading path. For one thing, the news staff was never larger than three full-time persons during my editorship, even at the time when we were publishing four newspapers: "*The Voice,*" the Jeffersontown edition of "*The Voice,*" "*The Lyndonarean*" and "*The Middletown Mirror.*"

Back then I felt city government should be covered more thoroughly in St. Matthews and Jeffersontown, in particular, where tremendous growth had imposed many decisions on the city councils of those cities -- decisions that could be critical to the future.



Joseph W. Oglesby Jr.  
on the job in the 1960s.

It always distressed me that St. Matthews never had a two-party system. The George Washington Party, in all its history, had never been effectively opposed. This is not healthy in a democracy. No party is perfect.

I distinctly remember some citizens complaining that the area near the new firehouse had become a dog and cat burial ground -- creating a stench so great that people in the neighborhood couldn't enjoy themselves on their back porches. One guy even said St. Mathews was going to the dogs.

This one incensed Bernie. Gruff and red-faced he came to *The Voice* office at my beckoning. Together, we toured the area. Foot by foot. Yes, dogs and cats had been buried there. Deep.

A land dispute that erupted in Jeffersontown in 1969, as I recall, caused me the most personal trouble. For two days, my phone rang off the wall with complaints from those who hadn't liked the way we'd covered the dispute. One guy even threatened to "box my ears." My editorial answering this pressure later was reprinted in Publishers' Auxiliary, a National journalism journal.

For our story on an open-housing demonstration in the Highlands -- a story entitled "A Profile of Hatred," he received the best news story award if the Kentucky Press Association in 1967. This was an incisive close-up of the marchers and their hecklers.

That same year we won ten other awards, including Best Front Page, Best Feature Story, Best Sports Page, Second Place Editorial Award and the coveted Sweepstakes Award, the top award of the KPA.

But perhaps the most startling story we ran during my editorial tenure was the banner-headlined story on the mysterious death of William Henry Davidson, a Crestwood truck driver, Davidson's smashed body was found early in the morning on Breckenridge Lane. Either a victim of a hit-and-run driver or a murderer. *The Voice* story triggered a massive police investigation involving county, state and St. Mathews police.

But, after six weeks of hard work tracking down leads, the police finally halted their investigation. Davidson's mysterious death is still a riddle. *The Voice's* coverage led to another Kentucky Press Association top news award in 1968.

The way I increased coverage and depth was to add correspondents to the staff — competent writers who were paid by the story or by the inch.

These included Al McCreary, now a staff writer for "*The Record*;" Glee Crutcher, former *Courier-Journal* reporter; Marilyn Frederick, now news bureau chief for the U. of L. Public Relations Department; Barbara Brumley, in Anchorage.

Somewhere along the way, though, as we grew and the communities the paper served grew, we lost our warmth-- our humanity. At least, that's my view.

Partitions went up in the office. An addition separated some key staff members from others. A certain formality began to creep into our affairs, a certain coldness. An efficiency that turned my stomach.

I'm not at all uncertain the same thing wasn't happening outside -- in the communities around us.

Good earth was being smothered by concrete and asphalt. The air was being fouled by car pollution and business exudations. Zoning laws had been bent to an unbelievable point. Government had become less accessible and accountable. The school systems had become gigantic communities of their own, ruled by only a handful of people.

The years 1965 to 1970 had brought progress, if new roads, new buildings, shopping centers and sophisticated traffic lights can be called progress.

After resigning as editor of *The Voice-Jeffersonian* in 1970, Oglesby worked as a staff writer for *The Catholic Record* and then became a free-lance writer. He has since published two books and has completed a third. He lives on Cross Hill Road in Louisville.

### **Schansberg, retired, recalls fruitful years, by Al Shansberg, Publisher 1952—1971**

Now, after three years of delicious retirement, my 19 years of living really close to the finest people in the world --those of St. Matthews, Jeffersontown, and, in fact, a lot of Louisville and Jefferson County -- retrospect takes on a golden hue.

Those were good years, great years but retirement is even greater. I've been frequently asked, 'Don't you miss being in the newspaper business?' From the first time, the answer has been "Yes, delightfully!"

There's no harder job in the world than being publisher of a small news-paper, especially when starting out with far more debt than capital. But no other job holds the personal satisfactions of the big frog in the small pond.

No one is better able to see growth from effort, see and sense the throb of a burgeoning community and



Al J. Schansberg,  
busy in retirement

being forced, but willing, to be a vital part of it. That's living the good life and the full life.

**Life began:** Life really began April 1, 1952, when I acquired *The Voice* of St. Matthews from James K. Van Arsdale III, who had smelled out a newspaper opportunity in St. Matthews in July, 1949. Jimmy did a good advertising selling job in his three years with the paper, and achieved success in selling it at a good price.

The sales contract put me on notice to make a newspaper out of a shopper (with a sometimes front page of local news) in two years, and with good help we did. Subscription selling started in June with a booth at the Potato Festival, and by October 1, *The Voice* boasted a paid circulation of 2,600, which kept growing. It was well over 4,000 in two years, when Jimmy asserted his right to reenter the newspaper business in St. Matthews with the *St. Matthews Pictorial*, later combined with *The St. Matthews Sun*. In seven months both were out of business.

Later, in the purchase of Jefferson County's oldest weekly, *The Jeffersonian*, we acquired the rights to publish *The Sun*, but never did.

**Five-year plans:** Throughout my 19 years as publisher, *The Voice* publications were strongly conservative, independent Republican. It seems a little odd, therefore, that growth seemed to follow the old Russian five-year plans. In the first 15 years, we changed locations every five years to get out of cramped quarters, and expanded into more space within each five-year period.

In 1952 we had two rooms on the second floor of the Colony Way building, expanding into more space there when Bill Jenny moved his Stone Studio into another Eline Realty Co. building across from Bacon's.

In '57 we bought a job printing business and moved to 108 Meridian, back of Plehn's Bakery. In '62 we finally got Shirley Palmer-Ball to build for us on Chenoweth Square, present location of *The Voice* Newspapers and Quik Print. In '67 that building was enlarged 50 percent, and we reserved space alongside for further expansion.

Through these years we were fighting for our very existence in the field the big city dailies felt they owned. All the while we felt the pressures of equally great but less obnoxious competition, radio, television, direct mail, other suburban papers, and other small local competition. Just managing to stay in business, even without growth, was, some years, a major accomplishment. And all of that persists today, in even greater measure.

We were fortunate from the start to have the good will of the entire community. Ever so many people were a great help, and we still feel a golden glow of appreciation for their efforts. Those who were of no help, at least were not against us.

Way back in 1952 and through most of the 1950s, were it not for Fred Bittner, retired owner of Bittner's Office Supplies, Clayton Vanetti, now a Jeffersontown Realtor, the late Dean Delaney of the furniture business, and many more dealers in "white goods," refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, and later, televisions, *The Voice* couldn't have made it. Those mentioned were regular and loyal big-space advertisers, due to the coop advertising allowances of the time.

Many, many others expressed their friendship toward the newspaper in smaller space contracts and were equally appreciated, but they were too numerous, fortunately, to mention by name.

The very fact that the basic philosophy of the *CJ & Times* advertising department was to "get *The Voice*," particularly when *The Voice* first showed signs of growing, resulted in an automatic community desire to help the struggling young paper that seemed to be making some progress by itself.

I can think of no greater pleasure today than to be able to thank each one of the hundreds of people who wrote news and who sold advertising for *The Voice Newspapers* through the years.

So, to all of you, thanks for everything and reading this . . . and *The Voice Newspapers* for 25 years.

Schansberg now lives in an apartment off Chenoweth Lane, runs a small real estate management company and travels a good deal with his wife Margaret.