

# St. Matthews Fire Protection District

## 1971

This is one of many sections that contain information, documents, letters, newspaper articles, pictures, etc. of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District. They have been collected and arranged in chronological order. These items were collected, organized and entered into a computerized database by Al Ring with the help of the St. Matthews Fire Department Alumni Association, Inc. The Association's members are Rick Albers, A. E. "Bill" Andriot, III, E. Gar Davis, Clarke Fenimore, Jack Monohan, Mike Noon, Russ Rakestraw and Al Ring.

The purpose of this "collection" was to create the background and research for the book *St. Matthews Firefighters, 84 Years of Firefighting in St. Matthews, Kentucky*, written by and published by Al Ring in 2004. The collection is continuing today, so if you should have old or new information on the St. Matthews Fire Department, 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. This also applies to other items such as documents, letters, etc. Credit to the source of the documents, 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.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they must get permission from the source.

The Association would like to thank the St. Matthews Fire Protection District and various newspapers including *The Courier-Journal*, *The Louisville Times*, and *The Voice-Tribune*. Our appreciation is also extended to the various citizens and firefighters who contributed to the gathering of this information.



1971

**January 7, 1971: Empty house is damaged in Indian Hills blaze:** An unoccupied colonial-type home in Indian Hills subdivision east of Louisville was extensively damaged by fire yesterday morning.

**Empty house is damaged in Indian Hills blaze**

An unoccupied colonial-type home in Indian Hills subdivision east of Louisville was extensively damaged by fire yesterday morning.

St. Matthews firemen worked from 2 until 5 a.m. putting the fire out at 224 Travois Road, and then were called back to the house at 7:32 a.m. after the blaze had started up again.

The firemen, with the help of the Harrods Creek Fire Department, put the blaze out a second time about 9 a.m. John Monohan Jr., St. Matthews fire chief, said the fire apparently started in the basement of the two-story brick house.

Monohan said the home was recently sold by its former owner, Dr. Rudolph J. Noer, and all the furniture had been moved out. Monohan didn't know who owns the house now.

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**January 7, 1971 House, 224 Travois Road 1:57 & 7:32 a.m.**

**Comments by Al Ring:** This hose was being re-furbished. The fire started in the basement and was through the roof when we got there. Somehow I would up on the roof on this fire also and it was cold as could be. There was not a lot of firefighting skill on this fire. Just surround and drown, but the cold really took its toll. We knew when we left that we would be back and we were at 7:32 in the morning. I believe Babcock and myself were in charge this time and we called Harrods Creek to help. It was day time and we had a very small turnout.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 1065

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 1-7-71 TIME OF ALARM 1:57 A.M. P.M. TIME RETURNED

LOCATION 224 Travois Rd. APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. McMahon VFD

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT ? 2-story Brick

OWNER MR PRICE - House Empty Being

OWNER ADDRESS REMODELED

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  S-6-7-9

REMARKS Working Fire - Basement - through 1st Floor  
2nd Floor into attic - Equip. used 850' 2 1/2"  
800' 1 1/2" - Ladders 16-5-20 Ext. 28' Ext 35' Ext  
6-Packs - axes - 20 men

OFFICER IN CHARGE S-9-7-6 - DeHaut REPORT WRITTEN BY DeHaut

1971

January 7, 1971:

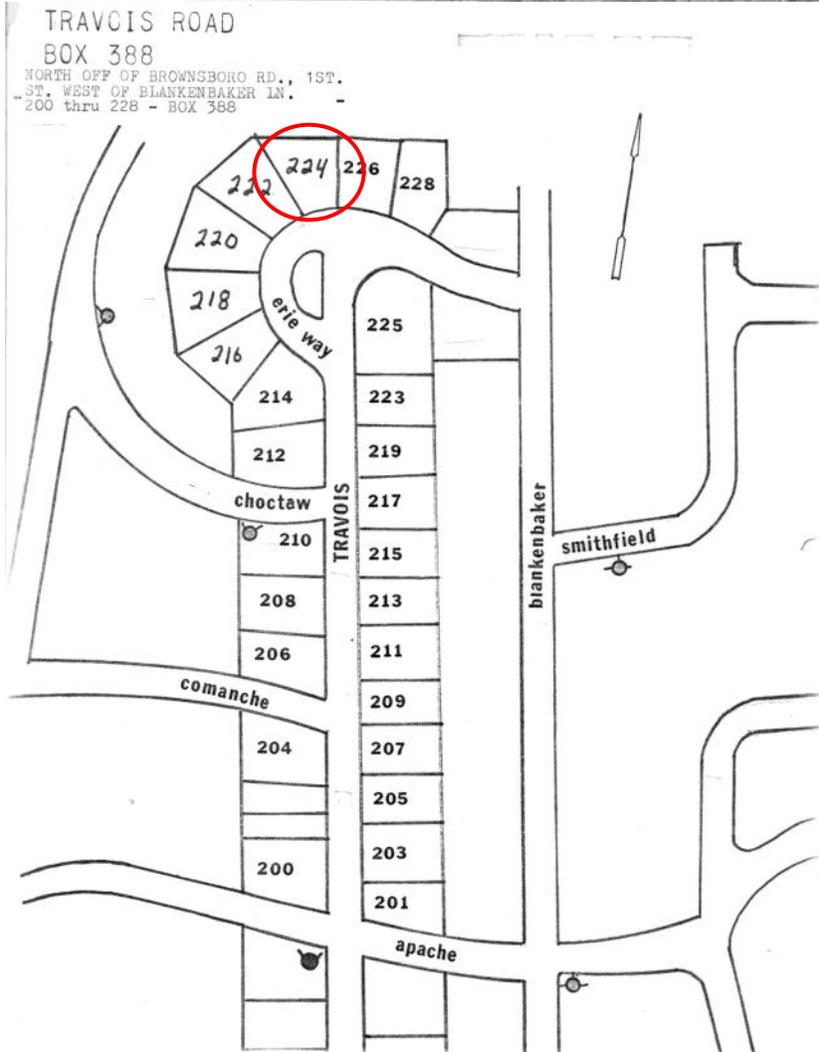


Photo courtesy Al Ring

January 7, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# NOW A LOOK AT THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

## A 'Village' is quietly rising in St. Matthews

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

A "Village" is quietly rising in St. Matthews without the usual courtroom antics over zoning regulations, privacy invasions and traffic problems.

Ninety-five acres of the former J. Graham Brown land between Watterson Expressway and Interstate 64 purchased for \$2.4 million before his death is soon to be, according to developers, a \$58 million commercial and residential site.

The entire site, bordering on the two expressways and Browns Lane and Dutchmans Lane, is completely within St. Matthews city limits.

More than increased tax revenues for city coffers will be generated to benefit St. Matthews residents, according to Joseph B. Fillatreau, agent and spokesman for Village Investment Company, the group of Louisville and Nashville businessmen directing the Village's development.

"When the center is fully developed in three years, over a thousand jobs should be created from the multitude

of business operating there," Fillatreau said.

Louisville-based Extencare, Inc. alone is expected to employ nearly 500 persons when its completion date of August, 1972, comes around. Construction of the 180-bed facility in the lot's north corner has already begun.

The areas C-1, C-2, D-3 and D-4 zoning classification would permit everything short of industrial development, including restaurants, cinemas, cocktail lounges, motels and recreation facilities.

Present plans, said Fillatreau, call only for office and commercial retail outlets, keeping in line with the type of business generally deemed desirable by the city of St. Matthews.

And, he emphasized, "we're making a tremendous effort and hoping to attract local, Louisville-based small retail stores, rather than any large department-store type operation."

Community-oriented residence and business development enhanced by local businesses and marked by individuality are themes adhered to by the realty group.

Realtors Henry Hofmann and Frank Metts are hoping for a "1970 Fourth Street" along a half-mile "strip" from DuPont Road to Browns Lane which after construction, will be dedicated to Jefferson County.

Three stores already open for business on the "strip"—Stiffler's music store, the Village Market and Joseph's Hair-stylists—a beauty salon—display the individuality sought by developers for the 80 speciality shops they are planning.

"Although facade motifs along Dutchmans Lane is actually left to the tenant, we recommend and encourage each to employ an architectural theme unique to his operation," Fillatreau said.

The developers are spending a lot of money and time on landscaping and area-appearance techniques along the strip. The roadside will not be used for parking purposes, allowing passerby an unobstructed view of each store.

Spacious free parking will parallel the rear of south side of the strip, which will have a covered pedestrian walkway on its entire length.

Each store will have dual entrances to provide easy access from the street or parking area, Fillatreau said.

Village Investment still owns 84 of the original 95 acres, 25 of which will be taken up by development of the "strip." Extencare, Inc. has 20, Jacob Levy and Brothers bought four acres along DuPont Road for its first branch store. Three acres across DuPont Road have been developed into DuPont Square, an office complex, by James Irvin.

Rea Leslie, a Louisville realtor, bought a four-acre tract bordering the Watterson Expressway, for a medium-rise office complex. European Health Spas, Inc., plans a health facility there, too.

Village Investment Company officials plan to sell portions of the remaining 49 acres and develop some themselves, including a 240-unit apartment complex.

Many other leases have been or are currently under negotiation, Fillatreau said, although he would not disclose names because he didn't want to establish an "credibility gap" concerning planned opening dates of businesses.

There was too much disillusionment and disappointment over highly publicized plans for this site earlier, Fillatreau said. He cited the case of Indianapolis developer Warren M. Atkinson, who had planned Kentucky's largest shopping center on the site in 1956, only to abandon the idea in 1968. Atkinson cited traffic congestion in the

area as the reason for his move.

However Atkinson was responsible for getting the tract rezoned for office and commercial development, thereby eliminating this hurdle for the present developers.

Fillatreau and his company think differently on the matter of traffic congestion: they believe patrons will shop at the Village to avoid the increasing heavy traffic on Shelbyville Road.

"We think people will get a little tired of fighting all that heavy traffic there (Shelbyville Road) and downtown. Especially downtown, where parking costs them money, and here (the Village) it's free and closer to the shops," Fillatreau said.

He declined to elaborate on the nature of other enterprises likely to be established in the Village, but didn't rule out any possibilities.

"This is going to be a total development, providing every service possible while keeping the community in mind the whole time," he said. "We are fully aware of what St. Matthews wants and will do everything we can to keep in line with those wishes."

### Needed planning experts

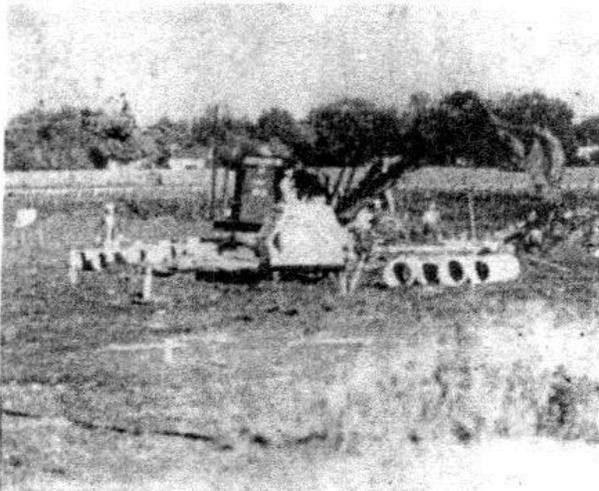
He did say that his firm has turned down a small number of large firms that expressed an interest in locating in the Village because their particular operations, although desirable, were not in line with what Village Investment is trying to set.

"We did everything according to Louisville-Jefferson County Planning Commission specifications and, because we are in the city of St. Matthews, we built under their zoning regulations," Fillatreau emphasized.

"DuPont Road was built after requesting specifications from the planning board, and certainly wasn't like others we have built. This one won't need any maintenance for 30 years. It'll be in good shape when you and I are long gone," Tom Metts quipped during the interview.

When asked if the management of the nearby CES store had expressed opinion on gaining a multitude of neighbors, Fillatreau said only that they had assisted Village Investment with the task of ensuring a free flow of traffic on Dutchmans Lane during construction by sidling in building the existing detour there.

The cooperation has been great so far, according to Fillatreau. An the State Highway Department has even widened Breckinridge Lane to handle traffic for them. "We're doing all right".



Voice photo

THE VITAL drainage work was beginning last fall when this picture was taken of the site of the now-completed Dupont Road. The road links Breckinridge Lane and Dutchmans Lane.

Winter  
takes off  
its gloves

WINTER started playing it rough Dec. 31. Here's a proof on Brownsboro Road near Hubbards Lane. No one was hurt as this car skidded off the slippery road.

Voice photo by David Byrd



January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Fire was January 6, 1967.



Voice photo by Frank Fox

A ST. MATTHEWS fireman works in the smoldering ruins of the parsonage of the Bethel United Church of Christ at 302 Castleview Drive. No one was hurt in the Dec. 6 fire.

## Newly arrived minister loses home in a fire

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

The Rev. Donald W. Sickbert, the new pastor of the Bethel United Church of Christ in St. Matthews, is now without a parsonage, most of his furniture and worst of all, the family's honey-colored dog, Tico. Tico is missing.

The minister and two of his children stayed in Louisville last week to unpack their belongings and set up a new home in the church's parsonage at 303 Castleview, off Westport Road. Fortunately, all three, the minister, his oldest son, Bryan, 21 and his youngest, David, 11, were all away from the home when it burned Jan. 6.

Mr. Sickbert and Bryan were at the church at 115 Meridian Avenue, unpacking books and other things. David was in Stivers Elementary School.

Then Chris Odewahn, a neighbor who at the time hadn't met the Sickberts, called Mr. Sickbert and told him the house was burning.

### Hears unusual sounds

Odewahn lives across the street from the parsonage. He had walked downstairs into his kitchen about noon and he heard sounds unlike normal street activity. He looked through a window and saw flames and smoke billowing from the rear of the Sickbert garage, which is attached to the house.

Odewahn didn't call the pastor immediately—he phoned the St. Matthews Fire Department. Then he raced across the street to alert anyone who might be in the house.

"I thought someone might be asleep inside," he recalled. "I knocked on the door a couple of times, then went in." Odewahn couldn't find anyone in the

house, so he grabbed what furniture he could and carried it out onto the front lawn.

Ed Skine, a neighbor who was returning home at the time, joined Odewahn in salvaging as much furniture as they could get out of the already blazing house.

### Firemen arrived quickly

"The firemen arrived then," Odewahn said, "less than 15 minutes after I called them. By then, we had only pulled out some light things we could carry easily. Then the smoke got too thick for us."

Both Skine and Odewahn pointed out after the fire that the situation was aggravated by a newly installed electric garage-door device that had short-circuited and was opening and closing. They believe, and the minister agrees, that the open door fanned and helped spread the fire.

At press time, it had not been determined whether insurance carried on the house covered any of Mr. Sickbert's belongings.

According to Mr. Sickbert, his homeowner's policy carried on his home in Columbus, Ohio, only covers, up to \$1,000, items off the insured premises. He said his losses were far greater.

The minister estimated that two-thirds of his clothing was ruined and that the only furniture salvaged were pieces that he and his wife, Ruth, had when they were married 25 years ago.

### Praises the people

"The people—church members, neighbors, and all—have really been great about helping us, though," Mr. Sickbert said. "Sanders Cleaners offered to salvage and clean what clothes they

Continued to A 8

### DOG IS MISSING

## New pastor loses home in a fire

Continued from A 1

could, and people have volunteered to give us sleeping rooms until we find a place to stay. Fortunately, my wife decided earlier to stay in Columbus until her teaching semester ends this month."

Mrs. Sickbert teaches languages in an elementary school in Columbus. She hadn't planned to move until Jan. 29, when the fall semester ends. The Sickbert's other two children, Grant, 15, and Carla, 19 returned to school after the entire family spent the holidays in St. Matthews.

Mr. Sickbert and his wife have been Louisville residents previously for two years in 1955-56 when he served as administrator of the Protestant Orphans Home, which now is Brookhaven.

### Some belongings undamaged

"Nothing like this disaster happened then," Mr. Sickbert said. "In fact, nothing like this has ever happened to us. I don't really know what to say about the whole thing. It's terrible, but I'm beginning to see some good things coming out of it, too. The neighbors, church members, everybody, are coming by, to see what they can do to help."

Although the Sickberts lost a lot in the fire, many of their belongings escaped damage because they were still packed and the flames didn't spread to the basement.

More than anything else, the Sickberts, who are now living in a furnished apartment located for them by church members, are concerned over the fate of Tico, their pet dog. She was in the kitchen, blocked by a small gate from entering the living rooms, when Mr. Sickbert and Bryan left that morning. Not a trace of the dog could be found during or after the fire, not even charred remains.

Odewahn didn't see or hear Tico when he went inside the burning house.

"I didn't hear any barking when I knocked on the door," he said, "and didn't see her when I was inside. But that kitchen was hot and full of smoke and the glass doors were still intact. If she had somehow managed to get out the back way, it was fenced in, so she couldn't have gotten away. And I didn't see her go out the front way."

So, the sharpest tragedy of the fire which marred the Sickbert's move to Louisville a week ago, was the loss of Tico.

1971: Moved the siren from St. Mathews Avenue to the new fire house.

1971

**January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Fire was January 6, 1971.**

**January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Dog is Missing—Newly arrived minister loses home in a fire**, by Frank Fox. The Rev. Donald W. Sickbert, the new pastor of the Bethel United Church of Christ in St. Matthews, is now without a parsonage, most of his furniture and worst of all, the family's honey-colored dog, Tico. Tico is missing.

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**January 6, 1971**

**House, 302 Castleview**

**12:45 p.m.**

**Comments from Al Ring:** I believe I was at home (Westport Terrace) when the tone hit. I passed the house on the way to the fire house and saw heavy smoke coming from the garage area and the garage door was going up and down from an "gone crazy garage opener." I believe I was officer on S4. Major Zehnder responded but I think he was late. I am sure we use 4 1 1/2 inch lines on the fire as well as boosters for over-hall. Made a fairly quick stop but lots of damage in garage, kitchen upper bedroom area.

1971

January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



1-6-1971 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 1067

### FIRE REPORT

DATE 1-6-1971 TIME OF ALARM \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. P.M. TIME RETURNED \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 302 Castleview APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER   
 WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER   
 RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

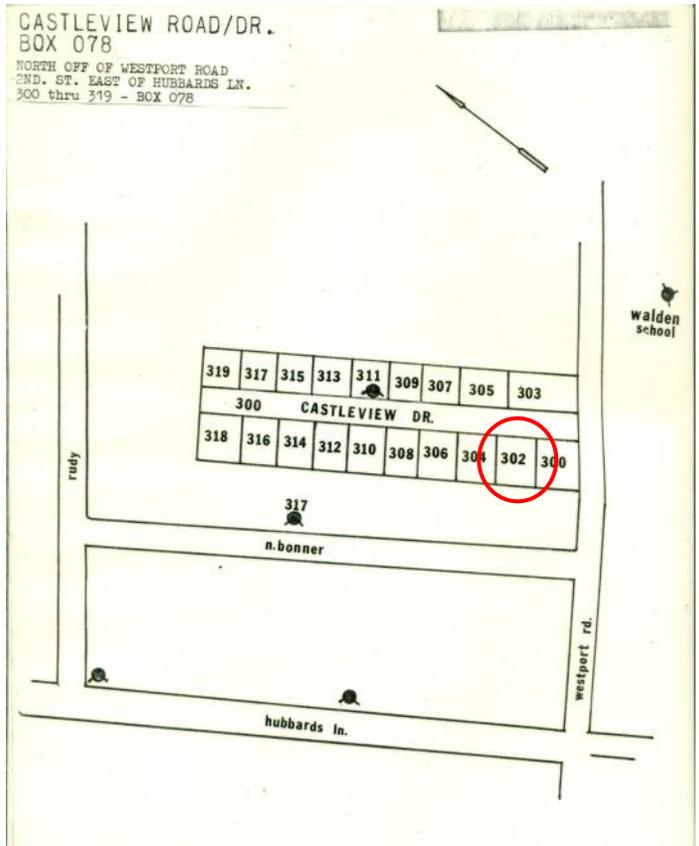
BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
 VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER Becht Church ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT Rev Donald Stehler  
 OWNER Becht Church  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  S-6, \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS: *Ignition reported + truck at scene  
 (50) Me man stand by at fire house  
 used 4-1 1/2" lines also 2 Becht lines - 550' 3/4"  
 used 28' ext ladder 16ft Sligh ladder 1-14ft room ladder  
 Smoke fan used*

OFFICER IN CHARGE *M. G. Zehndel* REPORT WRITTEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

*over*  
*Lt. Al Dinger burned left hand + possible back  
 (wounded abdominal) under way - fell through floor.  
 Russ Bakstrom to much smoke  
 Fire appeared to have started in the  
 middle of hallway on the west wall.  
 M.G.Z.*



1971

January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Future Board member.



STANLEY H.  
JONES, JR.

Promoted  
by bank

formerly was assistant vice-president and manager of that office. Jones, who attended the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville, is a graduate of the School of Consumer Banking at the University of Virginia.

He first started work at the bank in the Time Credit Department in 1956.

William J. Browne of 3525 Norbourne Boulevard in St. Matthews, who has served in the bank's Time Credit Department, has been promoted to assistant vice-president. Browne, a graduate of Providence College, recently joined the bank after 23 years experience in the finance field. He was formerly Louisville district manager for Universal C.I.T.

A NEW VICE-PRESIDENT and assistant vice-president in the Banking Division of Citizens Fidelity Bank & Trust Company have been named, according to Charles J. Kane, president.

Stanley H. Jones, Jr., of 3700 Chateau Lane in Louisville has been promoted to vice-president and manager of the St. Matthews office of the bank. He

THE LOUISVILLE AREA Chamber of accreditation by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, according to James W. Stites, Jr., president of the Louisville Chamber.

Ritter Shumway, president of the U. S. Chamber, presented the official seal of accreditation to Stites in conjunction with

1971

January 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Future Board member.

Minutes of the meeting of the board of directors  
of the St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held Jan 14th 1971

Directors Present.

Henry Monohan	Jno Monohan
Fred C. Boss	Harry Babcock.
John Emrich	Phillip Grauman
W. Leland Wilson	Geo E. Miller

Minutes of the last meeting held Dec. 10th 1970  
read by Chairman John Emrich.

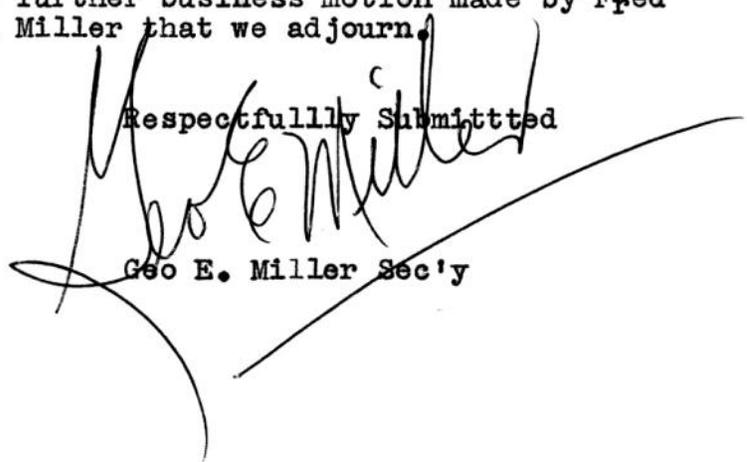
Motion made by Fred C. Boss seconded by W. Leland Wilson  
that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by John Monohan seconded by Jno. Emrich  
that we clean repair or replace any personal clothing damaged  
at a fire or on the way to a fire. All these cases when they happen  
shall be approved by the officer in charge at that time.

Motion made by Phillip Grauman seconded by W. L. Wilson  
that the age of the Volunteer fireman be reduced from 21 years to  
18 years provided however that no one under the age of 21 will be  
allowed to drive equipment because of restrictions imposed by  
insurance carriers. The bylaws and articles of incorporation  
which ever shall be necessary to change to authorize this action.

There being no further business motion made by Fred  
C. Boss seconded by Geo E. Miller that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

  
Geo E. Miller Sec'y

NOTE: Reduced age from 21 years to 18 years for volunteers of STMFD except they may not drive apparatus.

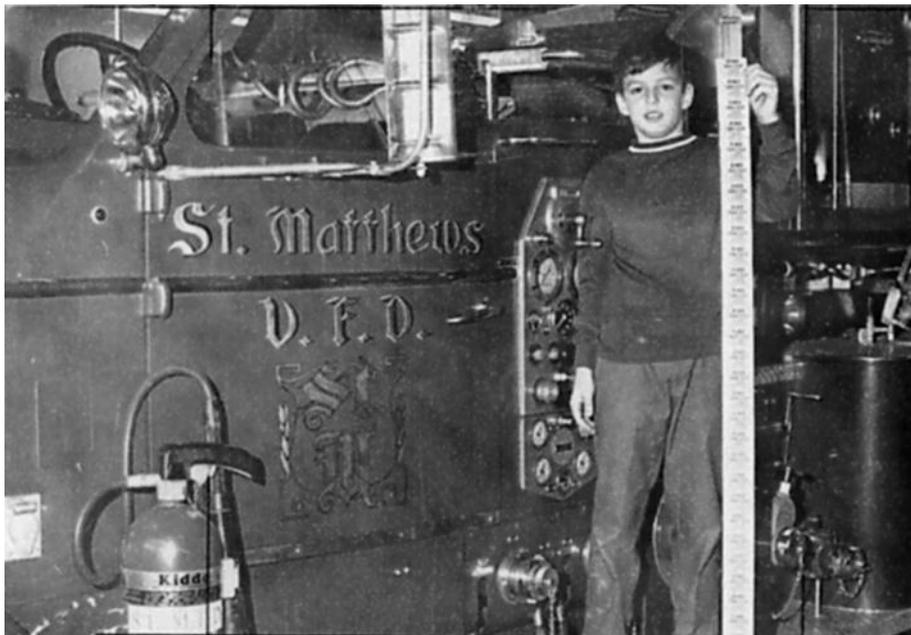
1971

January 21, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



Voice photo

IN JANUARY OF 1970 St. Matthews came under the Jefferson County fire-alarm system. Occasionally, though, callers reporting a fire dig up the old telephone number of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department---and there's a delay in the call. Mel Zehnder, Jr., 10, shows a roll of luminous stickers that, it is hoped, will help solve the problem. They're to be attached to telephones in the homes. They're available free at the St. Matthews firehouse, 4114 Lyndon Way, or at the offices of The Voice Newspapers, 109 Chenoweth Lane.



1971

January 18, 1971, We made a working fire in Dr. Pierce's office at 8:55 a.m.. I must have been officer of S5 until Major Zehnder got there after knockdown. The entire office was cut up into little cubicle rooms and the fire was deep inside in a chair and wall in a small side room. Heavy smoke keep us from finding it. I had a crew open the back door so it would flare up, it did, we hit it, it was out.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assoc' tion, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 1096

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 1-18-1971 TIME OF ALARM 8:55 A.M. P.M. TIME RETURNED \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 105 S HUBBARD Laurel APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FLAMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER Joe Knust ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT Dr. Pierce

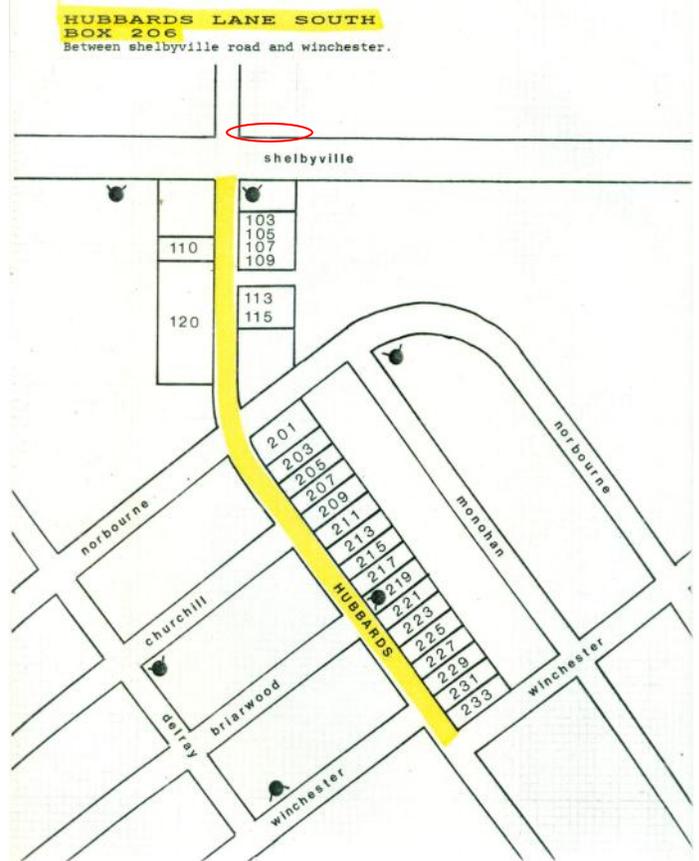
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5e

REMARKS WORKING FIRE IN DR. OFFICE, VICE 2 BOSSICK  
FAY HARD ONLY, LAIR OFF, SCISS.  
FIRE CONTAINED TO ONE ROOM.  
@ 2nd Dr Pierce

OFFICER IN CHARGE H. C. Ryz REPORT WRITTEN BY H. C. Ryz  
Major Zehnder



1971

January 18, 1971, Working fire, 105 Hubbards Lane. Google (2010)



January 21, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## AT FAIRFAX AND NANZ

**\$150,000 beauty college planned, but hits a snag**

Plans to build a \$150,000 beauty college on the northwest corner of Fairfax and Nanz Avenues in St. Matthews have hit a snag--can adequate off-street parking be provided?

The two-story brick structure of Colonial architecture has been planned for that site by Roy's of Louisville, which now operates a beauty academy at 3928 Shelbyville Road and a coiffure shop at 114 Sears Avenue.

The beauty-college owners are seeking a special-use permit to allow construction of the beauty college on the St. Matthews tract. At present, a 2 1/2 story older home owned by Roy's of Louisville, occupies the site. It reportedly has been vacant for at least three years.

About a dozen citizens attended a St. Matthews City Council hearing Jan. 12 on the request for a special-use permit. A number of citizens questioned the effects the operation of a beauty college at the site would have on traffic and parking there.

**Outlines beauty-college plans**

Speaking for the petitioner, Roy's of Louisville, attorney Chris C. Duvall outlined the plans for the beauty college. He said:

"Roy's of Louisville is willing to invest \$150,000, in addition to the purchase price of the site, if the city of St. Matthews will tell us what kind of building should be built and how much parking space should be set up. We

will provide underground parking, if the City Council says so."

In answer to a question by Harry Jones, a City Council member who presided at the public hearing, Duvall said the plans for the beauty college provide 22 parking spaces adjacent to the building. A total of 37 spaces would be available if the site's rights-of-way are utilized, Duvall added. Responding to another question, Duvall said the beauty college now has 57 students and expects eventually to have 75.

The lawyer said Roy's of Louisville has negotiated with two nearby churches for the rental of space on the church parking lots. This would provide off-street parking for beauty-college students, Duvall said, and the cost of the parking would be met by a \$5 cut in the student's tuition.

**Willing to post \$50,000 bond**

"Roy's of Louisville is willing to post \$50,000 cash bond to assure the city of St. Matthews that there will not be any student or anyone else parking on St. Matthews streets while studying at or being served at Roy's of Louisville (beauty college)," Duvall told the Council.

Duvall said there are six persons on the staff of Roy's of Louisville, four instructors and the firm's two owners. He estimated that there would be 50 or 55 students in the new beauty college at any given time during a working day. He said he believed there would be from



Voice photo

THIS IS THE SITE of the proposed \$150,000 beauty college at Fairfax and Nanz Avenues in St. Matthews. The house, which would be razed, has been vacant for three years.

15 to 18 patrons being served in the beauty college at any one time during the day.

In the present beauty academy, Duvall said, there are 32 stations within the school at which students work on patrons. He said that in the new facilities it was planned that four instructors would teach 60 students.

Roy Longhoefer, a partner with Thomas Esrey in the Roy's of Louisville firm, said that approximately the same number of work stations would be provided in the new beauty-college building. However, he added, additional plumbing, such as hair-washing basins, was needed and would be installed.

Esrey appeared with Duvall at the hearing and answered some of the questions posed by the Council and the public.

The beauty college would be open from 9:30 am to 9:30 pm Tuesday through Saturday, Duvall said. However, he emphasized that the activity going on there after 9:30 pm would be "light" and would not involve many people.

**Asks for public comment**

Chairman Jones asked for comments from those attending the public hearing. Will H. Lausman, who lives at 201 Fairfax Avenue, diagonally across from the site of the proposed beauty college, came forward.

Lausman asked Duvall a number of questions about the firm's plans for off-street parking. He said he felt the beauty college would change the nature

Continued to Page 14

## AT FAIRFAX, NANZ

**\$150,000 beauty college planned**

Continued from Page 1

of the neighborhood and would detract from it.

He also showed the Council a series of pictures which he said he took of the Roy's of Louisville shop on Sears Avenue. Lausman emphasized that a parking problem existed there and that the general appearance of the area was shabby.

John Tryon of 125 Fairfax Avenue rose to defend the petition for a special-use permit to allow construction of the beauty college. He said the present

house on the site is an eyesore and predicted that it will deteriorate further.

Tryon said that he feels that the building proposed by Roy's of Louisville would be beautiful and upgrade the appearance of the neighborhood. He said he favored granting the special-use permit.

**Ones pinpoints the program**

Lausman quickly rose and asked Tryon if he was in business in St. Matthews. Tryon said "Yes" and Lausman then asked: "What kind of business?" Tryon replied: "A beauty shop." Lausman had no further questions.

A woman who lives near the proposed beauty-college site said she was concerned about the possibility that nearby

streets would be jammed with parked cars of those working at or visiting the beauty college. She said she was concerned that she and other residents of the neighborhood would be unable to provide parking space for visitors to their homes if the on-street spaces were taken by beauty-college students or patrons.

Duvall reaffirmed his statement that adequate off-street parking would be provided for the staff, students and patrons of the school.

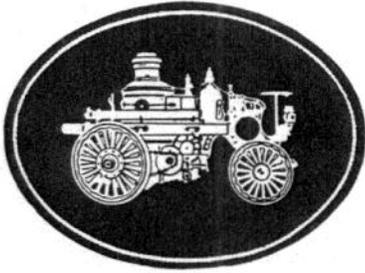
Following the public hearing, Jones told a reporter:

"We told the applicant that when he came in with a suitable plan for off-street parking, then he'd get serious consideration. That would be one of the conditions in granting a special-use permit."

Cookie sale set  
by Girl Scouts

1971

January 22, 1971, Letter:



**HARRODS CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT**

4308 Lime Kiln Lane Louisville, Ky. 40222

1/22/71

Attention Chief Monohan:

Sir:

Enclosed is a map of Extendicare/Northfield, located 6000 Hunting Rd.  
We request one (1) ~~COMPANY~~ COMPANY to respond automatically on first alarm.

If the above request does not meet your Department's approval,  
please notify us at once. County Alarm has been notified , 1/22/71.

Respectfully,

*Terrell Dickey*  
Terrell Dickey, Chief

1971

January 22, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Westminster Terrace Presbyterian Home fire



January 13, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*, by Jessie Halladay, 40 years after blaze, question answers—  
Remains of grandfather who died in fire located—

## courier-journal.com

### 40 years after blaze, question answered

Remains of grandfather who died in fire located

By Jessie Halladay • [jhalladay@courier-journal.com](mailto:jhalladay@courier-journal.com) • January 13, 2011

Kathy Clemons still remembers the phone ringing in the early hours of Jan. 14, 1971, alerting her family there was a fire at the senior citizens home in Buechel where her grandfather lived.

Ten people died and dozens more were injured after the fire broke out in the library at the Westminster Terrace Presbyterian Home for Senior Citizens and filled the four-story building with thick, black smoke, which caused most of the deaths.

Clemons said she's never been able to completely shake the events of that night, wondering whether her grandfather, Leon Grubbs, knew what was happening, or died peacefully of smoke inhalation while in his sleep. She said she knew Mary Ann Wyatt, who had worked in the home, was charged with murder and arson in connection with the fire, but was never convicted.

"I think about it a lot," said Clemons, 55. "Sometimes I wake up in the middle of the night."

As today's 40th anniversary of the fire approached, Clemons decided to do research to try to answer some of the questions she and her family had about

what happened to their grandfather — and why.

But as she dug for details on the fire, she made a shocking discovery: Her grandfather also was a part of another tragic story.

In the process of piecing together details of the fire, Clemons talked to her cousin, Carol Gregory, about their grandparents and they realized neither was certain where their remains were. Their grandmother had died several years before.

Clemons eventually tracked them to the crematorium connected to the troubled Eastern Cemetery, which once was the subject of a state attorney general's investigation because of multiple bodies buried in the same graves, misidentified and unclaimed cremated remains, vandalism and neglect.

Eventually, she found an e-mail address for University of Louisville professor Philip

January 13, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*, by Jessie Halladay, 40 years after blaze, question answers—  
Remains of grandfather who died in fire located—

Diblasi, a forensic archaeologist who had worked to identify remains at Eastern. A few e-mails later, Clemons learned from Diblasi that her grandparents' remains had spent roughly the last 20 years on a shelf at U of L after being removed from the crematory at Eastern, part of a group that has been stored at the university for years.

Now the remains of her grandparents, which likely were saved from theft or vandalism because they weren't in urns made of valuable metal, sit in Gregory's home awaiting a decision by the family on where they should be interred.

"I feel so secure now because I've got them," Gregory said. "I'm embarrassed that I didn't know where they were."

**Other remains unclaimed**

Diblasi said there are still more than 200 unclaimed cremated remains at U of L.

During her search, Clemons also learned that Wyatt, the worker accused in the fire, had undergone a trial in Louisville that eventually was declared a mistrial because a juror went to the nursing home to look around before deliberating.

But the case didn't end there, as Clemons and her family always thought. An Oldham County judge who'd been assigned the case because of the publicity in Jefferson County dismissed it for lack of evidence.

It wasn't the resolution Clemons said she wanted, since no one was ever held

responsible, but she said knowing the case wasn't simply dropped and ignored helped.

"There's still no answer," she said. "But at this point I know more."

She still hopes to track down investigative files on the fire to see if she can find more specifics about the death of her grandfather, whom she and Gregory remember fondly. For example, a family member observed after the fire that mattresses in his room were half off the bed, and she said she's often wondered if that was because he'd tried to escape, or was the work of firefighters who'd removed his body.

Melvin Lentz, who responded to the nursing home with Buechel's fire department, said he finds it hard to believe 40 years have passed since he pulled up to the building and realized how big the fire was.

"It was awful scary," said Lentz, now 81. "The smoke was terrific. At first when you

heard the alarm, you didn't think much of it until we got there and you could see the enormity of it."

Images linger

Bob Young, 83, also responded that night. He said his memory has faded over time, but images of the fire continue to linger in his mind.

"I helped an elderly lady, who was pretty heavy, down a ladder from the second floor," Young remembered this week. "It was a huge fire. It was very hot. We had to get a lot of people out."

Newspaper accounts at the time told of elderly residents out on their balconies, still in their nightclothes, while they waited for firefighters from several suburban departments to arrive.

Stories recounted the calm with which the residents reacted, and how they had practiced with firefighters previously on escape plans.

Two of the people who died in the fire were designated hall monitors, who went from door to door in the home to arouse sleeping residents and help them get out.

Lentz said many of the residents encouraged firefighters to remain calm and were very grateful for their assistance.

On this 40th anniversary of the fire, Clemons and Gregory say they hope people will stop and remember the lives

lost.

Clemons said she often thinks about the people who responded, and how grateful she is that even more did not die.

Of her grandfather, she said he was "a good man and I want to remember most how he lived, not how he died."

"I wish there had been justice for him and the other nine people who lost their lives that day."

Reporter Jessie Halladay can be reached at (502) 582-4081.

1971

January 13, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*, by Jessie Halladay, 40 years after blaze, question answers—  
Remains of grandfather who died in fire located—

## courier-journal.com



Leon Grubbs, 81  
Edith Johnson, 78  
Bessie Mason, 82  
Frank Shobe, 80  
Mary Pressley Smith, 83  
Nora Strong, 94  
Alma Swan, 81

Cousins Kathy Clemons, left, and Carol Gregory, right, with the cremated remains of both their grandmother, Norma Grubbs, and grandfather, Leon Grubbs. Leon Grubbs was killed in a fire in 1971 at a retirement home. (By Michael Clevenger, *The Courier-Journal*) January 13, 2010.



Firemen on the ground floor of the Westminster Terrace Presbyterian Home for Senior Citizens search through the rubble for clues to the fire. Jan 14, 1971. CJ photo by Bud Kamenish

### THE VICTIMS

Victims of the 1971 fire at Westminster Terrace Presbyterian Home for Senior Citizens:  
Effie Bates, 79  
Clara Egbert, 86  
Ida Feierabend, 83

1971

January 28, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

January 29, 1971, Letter:

## Fire runs

The following fire runs were made by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department during the week of Jan. 17 through 25:

Sunday, Jan. 17, pm -- 518 Oxford Place, malicious false alarm.

Wednesday, Jan. 20, pm, -- Ashland Service Station on St. Matthews Avenue, gasoline washoff.

Thursday, Jan. 21, pm -- 359 Ridgeway, furnace fire.

Thursday, Jan. 21, pm -- Mall and Shelbyville Road, malicious false alarm.

Saturday, Jan. 23, am -- 602 Breckinridge Lane, car fire.

Saturday, Jan. 23, am -- 5226 Moccasin Trail, house fire.

Sunday, Jan. 24 and Monday, Jan. 25 -- No. Runs.



## Bethel United Church of Christ

115 Meridian Ave.

Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Minister  
DONALD W. SICKBERT

Church Phone: 895-9437

January 29, 1971.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept.,  
4114 Lyndon Way,  
Louisville, Kentucky. 40207.

Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Church Council and all members of Bethel United Church of Christ, the most sincere thanks are extended to you and your men for answering the fire alarm about 12:30 P.M., Wednesday, January 6, 1971 at 302 Castleview Drive. The men who brought this blaze under control are to be commended for the fire extinguishing methods applied to minimize resulting damage to this home and its contents.

This home is the property of Bethel United Church of Christ and is maintained as a parsonage for our minister who just recently accepted the pastorate at Bethel. He had occupied this home about a week prior to this tragedy. We are very thankful that no injuries resulted from this fire.

Sincerely,

M. R. Pfeffer,  
Recording Secretary  
Church Council

BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.

MRP:ecw

1971

February 4, 1971, Board meeting:

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Vol  
Fire Ass'n held Feb 4 1971 at fire house.

Directors Present

Geo E. Miller	Jno Monohan
W. Leland Wilson	Phillip Grauman
Harry Babcock	J. P. Terry
Fred C. Boss	Jno Emrich.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jno. Emrich  
to consider an offer for the Buliding on St, Matthews Ave the old fire  
house.

Motion made by Phillp Grauman that we are going to have building app-  
raised and tell Mr. Dehartb that is if our appraisal is no higher than  
\$50,000.00 cash terms we will sell to him at \$50,000.00 net that the  
buyer pays the real estate commision and mean while that Jno emrich and  
Geo Miller be appointed to get the appraiser it being left to the  
discretion of the afersaid memberz of this board to pick the appraiser  
. Jno Emrich and Geo miller agreed on I Sidney Jenkins and he be con-  
tracted to make the appraisal .

Seconded by Fred C. Boss and Jno. Monohan .

In as much as Mr. Monohan did not have the minutes of the last  
meeting we deffered the reading until the next monthly meeting.

Motion made By Fred C. Boss seconded by Harry Babcock that we  
suspende with the next Thursday regular monthly meeting as we  
have handled all matters tonight.

Ther being no further business motion made by Fred C. Boss Seconded  
by Jno Monohan that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E. Miller Secy.

1971

February 10, 1971, Board meeting:

*Board Directors of the*  
Minutes of the meeting of the St. Matthews Vol. Fire  
~~Ass'n~~ Ass'n held Feb 10th 1971. 1

Directors Present.

Jno Monohan  
Fred Boss  
John Emrich

Geo E. Miller  
W. L. Wilson.  
Marty Kamer

*Robert C. Walling*

Minutes of last meeting held Jan 13th 1972 read by Chairman  
Emrich. X

Motion Made by Geo E. Miller that they be accepted as read  
seconded by Fred C. Boss .

Motion made by Jno Emrich seconded by Geo E. Miller  
that we buy \$20,000.00 certificates from the Following Bank.

\$5,000.00	Liberty Bank
5,000.00	Citizen Union National
5,000.00	Stock Yards Bank
5,000.00	First National Bank.

Jno Monohan was instructed to have plans for a new  
piece of equipment to be ordered at the next meeting in March  
to be approved by the board.

There being no further business motion made by  
W. Leland Wilson seconded by Marty Kamer That we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*W. Leland Wilson*  
W. Leland Wilson Acting Sec'y.

*Geo E Miller Sec'y*

1971

February 10, 1971, We made a working fire at Frisch's Big Boy (years ago had real bad worker). Lt. Jack DeHart and Lt. Al Ring were officers, Ring called McMahan to scene. The fire was in the basement. We entered from the south end, outside stairway. The fire was in a separate storage room on the north end. It was heavy smoke and very dark, took quite some time to find it. Once we did, it was a quick knockdown. Today the building has been moved back on the lot and maps, etc. do not apply.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. No. 1083

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 2-10-71 TIME OF ALARM \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M. TIME RETURNED \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.

LOCATION 9800 SHELBYVILLE RD APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

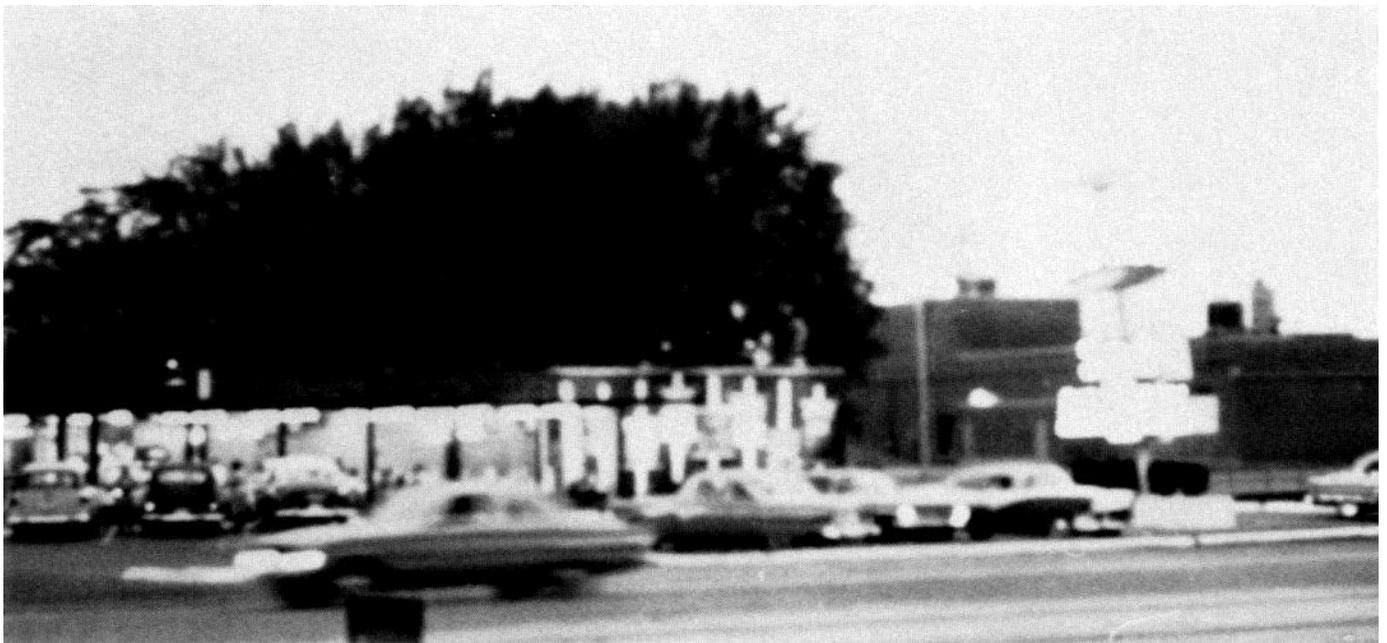
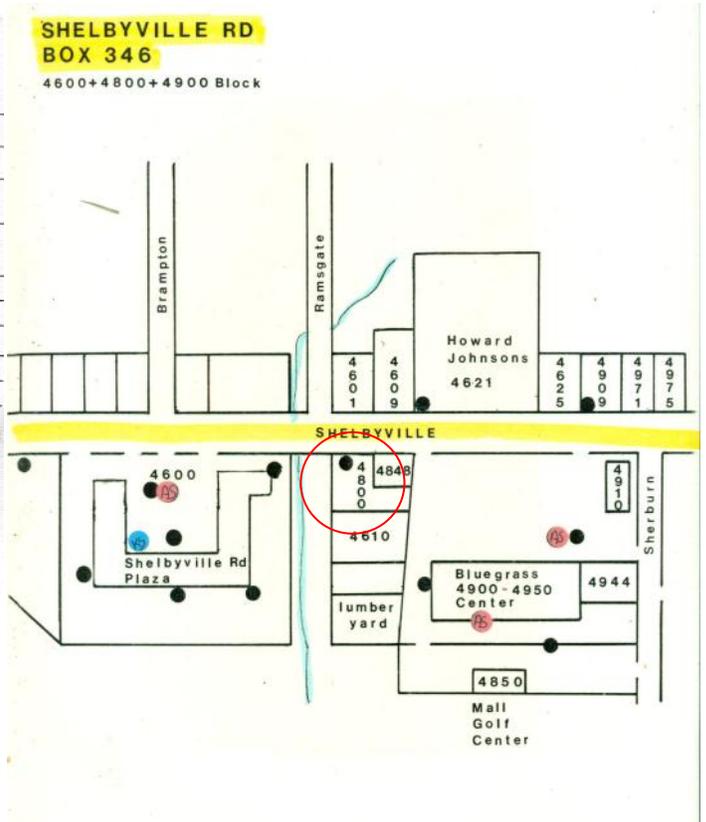
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109

REMARKS FIRE IN BASEMENT VIA 2 ROOSTERS LAD OFF 5 SECTIONS 2 1/2, USED ALL HAND TOOLS ENOUGH McMAHAN TO SCENE OF FIRE

OFFICER IN CHARGE LT. Jack DeHart REPORT WRITTEN BY LT. Al Ring



February 15, 1971, *The Time Louisville*:Letters to The Times

2/71

# The Volunteer Firemen's Side

When I read the Feb. 5 letter of Mr. George Metcalf Sr., concerning volunteer firemen, I felt I had to reply.

As the wife of a volunteer, I cannot remain silent when someone tries to give these men a bad name. The volunteer fireman is basically a man who is trying to help his neighbor, without asking for pay or even thanks.

Even though their work may not be quite as professional as the Louisville Fire Department's, what does one expect for nothing? The volunteers put in long hours of training, caring for equipment, as well as fighting fires. The taxes the county residents pay go for better equipment, not to the men.

Those men who are so quick to criticize should ask themselves if they would give up their time, sleep and family life, all at the sound of an alarm, to give their neighbors fire protection, lower insurance rates, as well as a good, old-fashioned helping hand.

Maybe Mr. Metcalf would rather go back to the days of the bucket brigades.

Mrs. HARRY MONTGOMERY Jr.  
3506 Nellie Bly Dr., Louisville

## Defends the Volunteers

George's Metcalf Sr.'s letter seems to say that volunteer firemen are very incompetent men, and that back before 1949 a paid county fire department did a real fine job. Since I am a volunteer fireman, I don't like to be rated as incompetent.

I think Mr. Metcalf should grow up and realize that this is 1971, and the population and dollar value in the county is much larger than it used to be, and three firehouses and a handful of men couldn't do the job that we are doing. The citizens of Jefferson County have over 20 volunteer fire departments, some of the finest fire-fighting equipment and some of the finest-trained fire fighters in the country. They get this at a cost of hardly anything, but then I guess people like Mr. Metcalf would love to pay the price for a paid fire department.

If anything, I feel Mr. Metcalf and all the citizens of Jefferson County should praise the volunteers and be thankful we have them.

ALAN D. RING  
25 Westport Terr., Louisville  
(Lieutenant, St. Matthews Volunteer  
Fire Department)

## Jefferson County's Firemen

In answer to a very prominent member of one of our outstanding TV broadcasting companies, I will advise him when the Jefferson County Fire Department was born.

When Horace M. Barker, a Republican, was elected judge of Jefferson County, he built three fire houses and equipped them with the best fire-fighting equipment that could be bought at that time. These engine houses were staffed by competent men around the clock. They were paid salaries by the Jefferson County Fiscal Court.

In 1949, Judge Boman L. Shamburger, a Democrat, fired every man in the Jefferson County fire department and turned these engine houses and everything with them over to a bunch of the most incompetent men that ever walked into a firehouse. These men called themselves volunteer firemen.

GEORGE D. METCALF Sr.  
4010 Franklin Dr., Louisville

February 18, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Ayr-Way store in St. Matthews to open Feb. 24

L.S. Ayres and Company, Inc., the Indianapolis-based department-discount-grocery chain now operating the former Kaufman's retail-clothing outlets in Louisville, will open its first Kentucky discount-store operation, Ayr-Way, on Feb. 24 in the newly constructed center near Hubbards Lane and Westport Road.

Covering 125,000 square feet of space, the center will contain a grocery section, a retail-clothing and home-appliances section, and an Automobile and garden center.

The Ayres company, which operates department, discount and grocery stores in Indianapolis, Ft. Wayne, Kokomo, Anderson and South Bend, Ind., will run the center along the "quality goods at budget-prices" line, according to Charles Ordel, store manager.

Ordel, who has been with Ayres since 1945, arrived in Louisville Jan. 25 and began the hiring of the 125 employees needed to stock and sell goods.

Ordel also said that the Ayr-Way store is the chain's first outside Indiana. He said there were no major problems delaying opening of the store on schedule.



LEFT: This gasoline pump was damaged in a mishap last week at a station on Chenoweth Lane. The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department was called, but no fire broke out.

Voice Photo



February 25, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



Voice photo by William L. Shipley

THE NEWEST MAJOR BUSINESS in St. Matthews, the new Ayr-Way store at Hubbards Lane and Westport Road, held its grand opening yesterday. Here's a recent picture of the area in front of the store as its huge sign was installed. The store, which employs 125, will sell groceries, clothing, appliances and other department-store goods. It also has automobile and garden centers. Kenneth Ordel is manager of the new store.

A NEW **Porter Paints**

Opening around  
**APRIL 1**

**SERVICE CENTER**  
117 Hubbards Lane

- Free Decorating Service
- Free Wallpaper
- Free Parking

1971

March 4, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



Voice photo by Frank Fox

ABOUT 130 CHILDREN from Chenoweth Elementary School got a look at the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department headquarters and its shiny equipment recently during a visit there. Explaining some of the equipment is Russ Rakestraw, left, and Bob Zaepfel,

### Fire runs...

The following fire runs were made by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department from Feb. 28 to March 2:

Friday, Feb. 26 am: Watterson Expressway and Brownsboro Road, auto fire.

Sunday, Feb. 28 pm: 3603 Basswood Lane, auto fire.

1971

1971, Al Ring by S3----Sam Wolfe and S4: Al Ring collection.



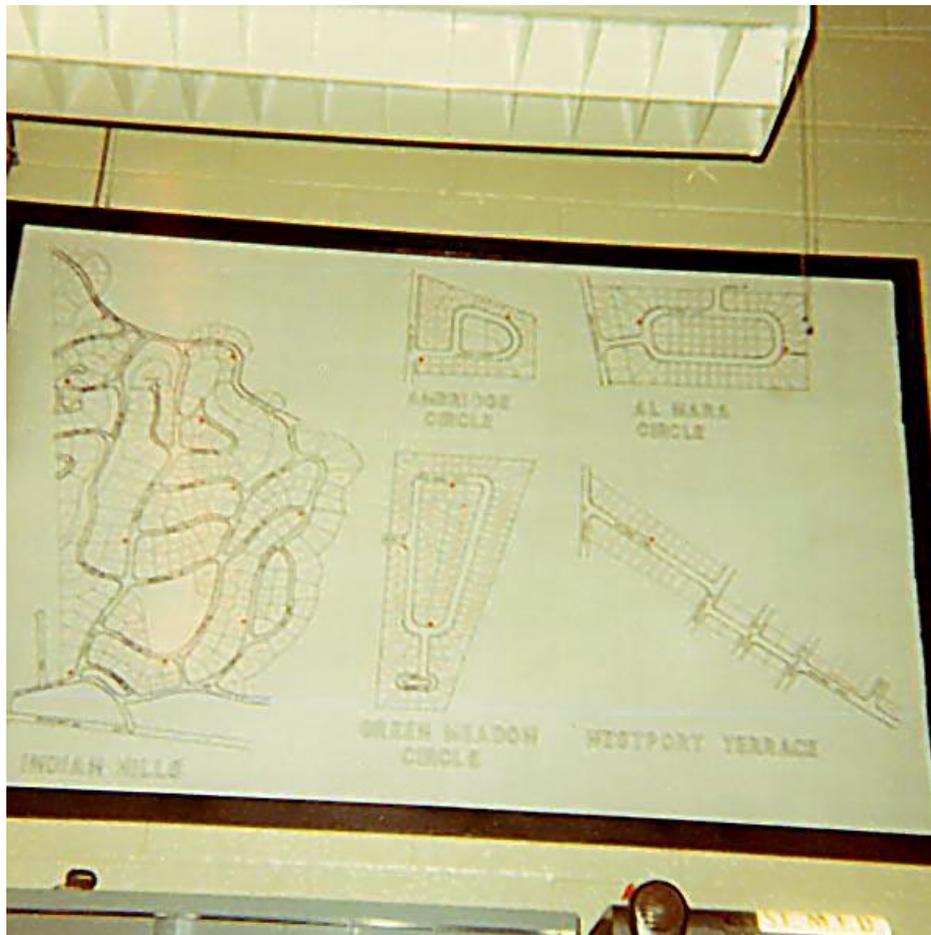
1971

Courtesy Al Ring, who used an opaque projector he had and with the help of many others on the department made the following map boards for STMFD. The big map was 8' x 16.' You can also see the alarm stand and status boards.



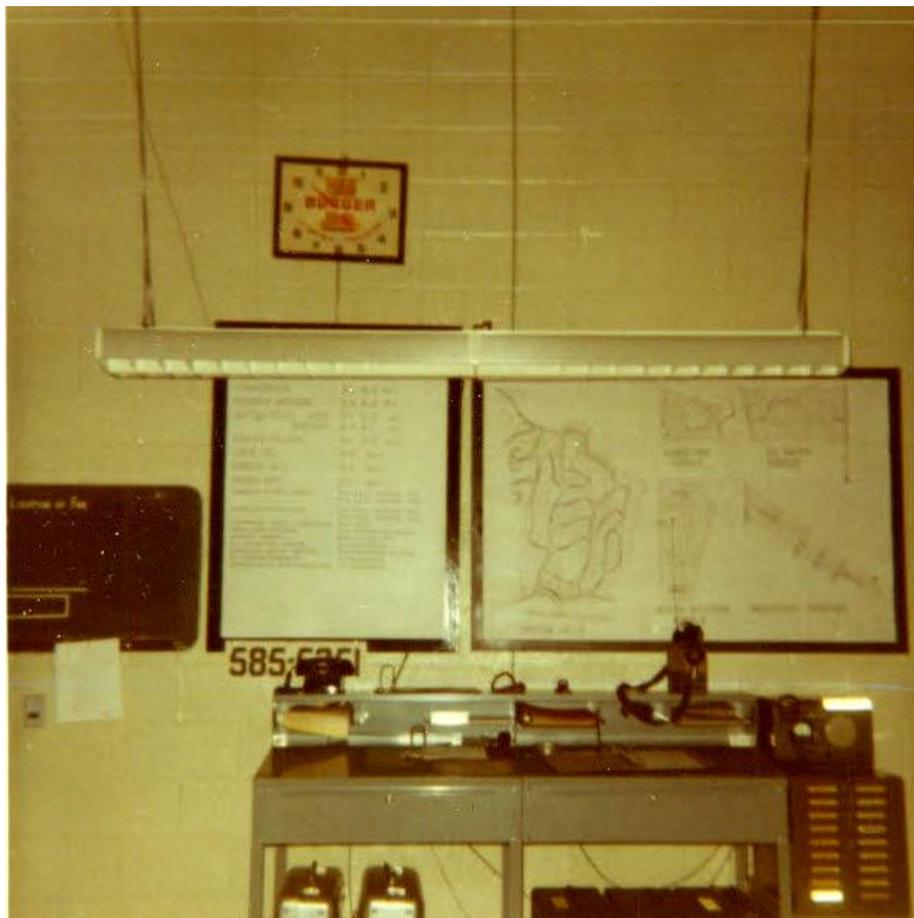
1971

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1971

Courtesy Al Ring, who used an opaque projector he had and with the help of many others on the department made the following map boards for STMFD. The big map was 8' x 16.' You can also see the alarm stand and status boards.



1971

Courtesy Al Ring, 1971: Al with the help of others made the following frames for STMFD pictures for the recreation room on the first floor.



1971

Courtesy pictures from Sam Wolfe Collection: Lt. Ring with S1 responding to dumpster fire behind old fire station on St. Matthews Avenue.



1971

Courtesy pictures from Sam Wolfe Collection: Believe all taken at training fire: --- Center, -----Below,



**Ken Reising and Ken Strange**



**Dennis Bryant and Roger Herdt**



**Jack Dehart, Doug Monohan, Bob Walling**



**Al Haeberlin and Walt Frank.**

March 11, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Pulp plant equipment being sold

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

Two flatbed railroad cars, each carrying a ball-shaped 12-ton cardboard converter, yesterday left the bankrupt St. Matthews Pulp Co. plant, bound for Wisconsin.

And Louisville firms that performed work for the pulp company at 146 St. Matthews Avenue still have not received payment for their work which helped get the pulp company started in business.

The St. Matthews Pulp Company, which declared bankruptcy and went into receivership Oct. 22, bought and installed the two huge drum-like converters to process cardboard into re-usable and re-salable products. At that time, the drums were expected to process about 75 tons of reusable cardboard a day. However, they only produced about 30 tons a day.

The two converters and three semi-trailer truck loads of accessories have been sold at undisclosed terms by the Riverside Paper Corporation of Appleton, Wis. The firm is one of the nation's largest manufacturers and suppliers of colored construction paper and other paper products.

### How machines are used

The machines, which can separate the plastic-like clear coating on milk cartons from the cardboard cartons, will be used in the company's existing operation in Appleton.

Riverside patented the chemical-washing, substance-separating process in 1958. Once installed, according to Riverside's on-site chief engineer, Randy Farum, the processed material will not be sold on the market, but will be used by Riverside Paper in its own operations. "It will save about 275,000 trees a year", Farum said.

The only remaining Louisville employee of the now-defunct St. Matthews Pulp Company, headed by president Howard Zuker of Chicago, is general manager H. T. Berns. The 42-year-old engineer, who came to work for the company last April, faces, along with his wife and two sons, a rather uncertain future.

"It's a real shame," he said Monday afternoon. "It could have been a real going operation if those machines worked like they were supposed to. At one time, we had about 80 persons working in the plant."

Now Berns performs a sort of caretaker role, finding work in drawing plans

of the nearby vacant plant which he said "haven't existed before". He also keeps up security and maintenance operations in the building.

Because of still-pending court action in the bankruptcy case, Berns, who said he doesn't consider himself a company spokesman, declined to make any statements about the future of the company.

"Mr. Zuker's the boss. It's his company and you have to talk to him about those things," he said. "I'm an engineer and I only run the plant."

Although Zuker couldn't be reached Monday in his Chicago office, Sherwin O. Simon, receivership trustee was contacted in his Chicago office.

He wouldn't confirm Riverside's purchase of the equipment, but he said that a company purchased -- for \$10,000 -- the rights, title and interest on the equipment.

"It sounds like the bank (Lake Shore of Chicago) is attempting to recoup some of its losses by negotiating to sell or selling assets," Simon said, "to li-

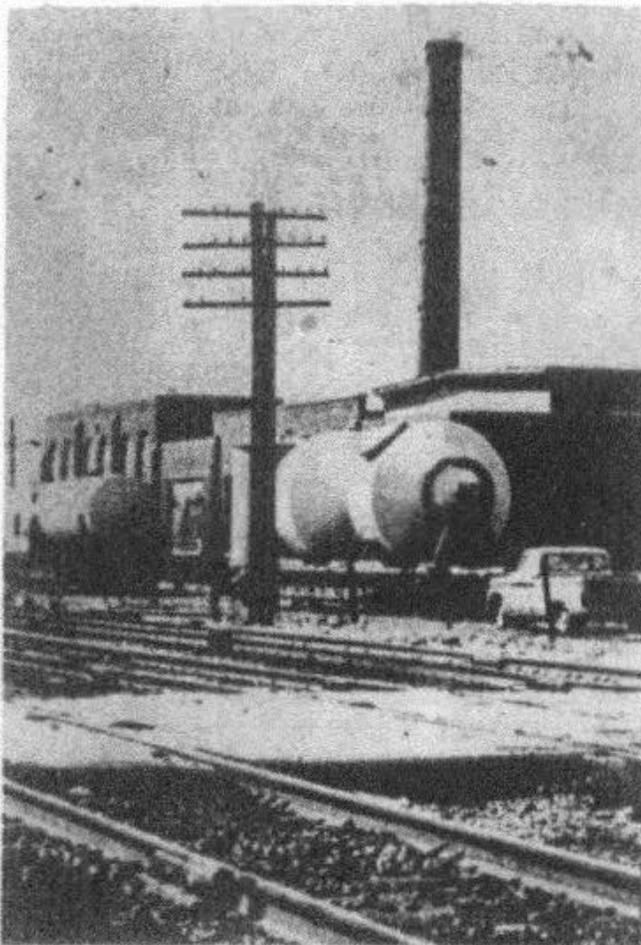
quidate the \$450,000 lien against the equipment."

When asked about the responsibilities of the Ohio firm which produced and guaranteed the equipment, Simon could not confirm reports of a million-dollar lawsuit that is said to be pending against Black & Clawson, a machine and tool firm.

"None has been filed," Simon said. "Call me back in two weeks and I'll let you know what's happened."

Carl Henlein, a St. Matthews attorney representing a number of Louisville firms listed as creditors in the bankruptcy, said Monday that if a million-dollar suit were filed, it wasn't enough. He said it would probably take 5 to 8 years before the case was settled.

Henlein also said that it looked like his clients had two chances of recovering the total amounts owed them, none and none. Simon, however, did say that there might be a chance for some creditors to receive some dividends. Liquidation income exceeded lien debts.



Voice photo

THE EQUIPMENT of the St. Matthews Pulp Co., awaits shipment to an Appleton, Wis., firm.

March 11, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Fire runs

The following were runs made by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department from March 3 to 8.

March 3 -- automobile, Watterson Expressway and Shelbyville Road.

March 4 -- trees, Browns Lane.

March 5 -- house, false alarm, 401 Chenoweth Lane.

March 5 -- automobile, 115 Baner Avenue.

March 5 -- commercial building, 4661 Shelbyville Road.

March 7 -- house, 4022 Norbourne Boulevard

March 8 -- field fire, 5000 Shelbyville Road.

## Cub Scouts get a look at fire action

A Cub Scout pack, listening to a lecture on volunteer firemen Monday afternoon at the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department firehouse, got a first-hand view of what happens when a fire alarm is sounded.

Dens 2, 4 and 5 of the St. Matthews Cub Scout Pack 325 from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church were listening to fireman Pat Maloney explain volunteer fireman's duties. Then a grass fire broke out on Watterson Expressway behind the Shelbyville Road Almart store. Pack members saw two trucks loaded with 10 firemen rush to the fire minutes after the shrill siren summoned the volunteers to the firehouse from their normal occupations.

The lecture, which has been in progress about 15 minutes was resumed after a few minutes of work at the fire scene.

1971

March 11, 1971, Board meeting:

Meeting of the board of directors of the St. Matthews  
Vol fire Ass'n held March 11 1971 at the fire house.

Directors Present

Fred C. Boss    Geo Miller  
Jno Monohan    W. L. Wilson.  
Harry Babcock    Jno Emrich



Minutes of the last meeting held Feb 4 1971 read  
chairman Jno Emrich

Motion made by Fred C. Boss seconded by Geo Miller  
that they be accepted as read.

Proposition for sale of building at 117 St. Matthews  
Ave at \$51,000.00 with \$10,000.00 cash and balance on mortgage  
was ~~regreted~~. *refused.*

Motion made by J. P. Terry that we offer building  
for \$50,000.00 cash and buyer to pay all commissions and costs.  
seconded by Leland Wilson.

Motion made by Harry Babcock and seconded by J. P. Terry  
that we change real estate dealers and give property at 117 St.  
Matthews Ave to Lane and Teiser for ninety days to sell, at 6%  
commission and their asking price shall be \$57,500.00

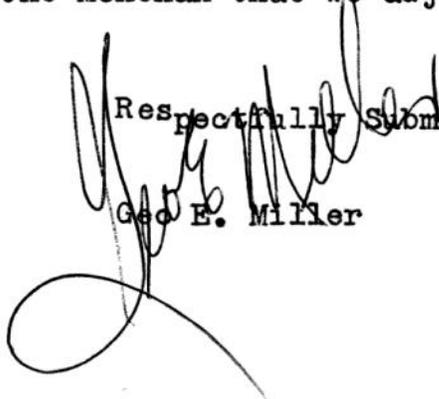
Motion made by Jno Monohan and seconded by Geo Miller  
that we employ Frank C McCaslin to inspect commercial property  
in unincorporated areas for us.

Motion made by Jno Monohan seconded by Fred C. Boss  
that we underwrite dinner and dance music and other expense  
for a total of approx. \$1,000.00

Motion made by Geo Miller seconded by Jno Emrich  
that we ask Augustus & Dumas to meet at the next board of directors  
meeting to adjust final settlement of their fee .

There being no further business motion made by  
Harry Babcock seconded by Jno Monohan that we adjourn .

Respectfully Submitted



Geo E. Miller

Sec'y

March 18, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## FROM THE ASHES...NEW HOPE, STRENGTH

### Bethel United's new pastor awaits repair of fire-gutted manse

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

From the ashes of misfortune have arisen golden opportunities for the Rev. Donald W. Sickbert, pastor of Bethel United Church of Christ at 113 Meridian Avenue in St. Matthews.

Before he could complete moving into his new parsonage at 302 Castleview Drive, it was gutted by fire Jan. 6. No lives were lost, but the Sickbert family dog, Tico disappeared.

In fact, the only furniture saved was that which the pastor and his wife had owned since they were married 25 years ago.

But all that has changed now, and they are looking forward to moving soon, possibly in June.

Meanwhile, the Sickberts will carry on as they have been since the fire -- living and working out of a temporary apartment that members of the congregation found for them. And they continue tending to the needs of the church.

#### Mixture of sorrow, relief

In retrospect, the 25-year-old veteran of church work from Ohio to California can only feel a mixture of sorrow and relief.

"The fire has opened the congregation and myself to each other more rapidly than usually happens with a new minister and his church," Mr. Sickbert said, "and it's given us a cause to work for. And I'm extremely thankful to them."

The minister continued:

"I can already begin to see things which will help me and the people, but I can't help but think how fortunate me and my family have been in this matter. Some, perhaps many that have undergone a similar misfortune never recuperate fully. And, try as they might, can't get going again - because the loss was too great.

"The members of the congregation never stopped offering to help in any way they could," Mr. Sickbert said. "In fact, I was becoming to feel a bit guilty. There was only so much to be done, and they were already doing it, I had to start

turning down some offers of help, because it was just too much."

When Mr. Sickbert reached this point, he decided to let the congregation know that he was indeed grateful and that he had needed help and received it.

"But it was time to start on the business of administering the church and tending to the people."

So, while various people and committees who had risen to his need began the restoration of the parsonage, he started to do what he had always done -- visit his congregation, look out for the ill, advise and direct church-group activities and begin to lead the congregation.

His days are busy, so the task of cleaning up soiled and damaged possessions

have been left to his wife. The job of restoring the house is being done by the same workmen who only three weeks ago finished construction of the church's administration facilities, which include a tastefully furnished office for the minister and his secretary.

#### Pool for relaxation

Mr. Sickbert has great plans for his "new residence." Small alterations are being made during construction in accord with his wishes and those of the church's council.

"There were a few things they would have done differently before," Mr. Sickbert said, "and now is the time to get them done."

He hopes to have the house "wired for sound" among other improvements and to have the basement paneled so he can follow his doctor's advice and take up a relaxing hobby. His three sons and daughter decided that playing pool on a regulation table, which was undamaged by the fire, would be best for him.

The pastor said he isn't quite sure that playing pool was what the doctor had in mind, but he said he doesn't have the slightest doubt as to whom the table is benefiting. "The church youth group even has one now," he added.

Because he is God's man and the church's man, and derived his support from the latter, Mr. Sickbert and his wife often find themselves in perplexing situations when they go shopping to replace their lost furniture.

#### More valuable than dollars

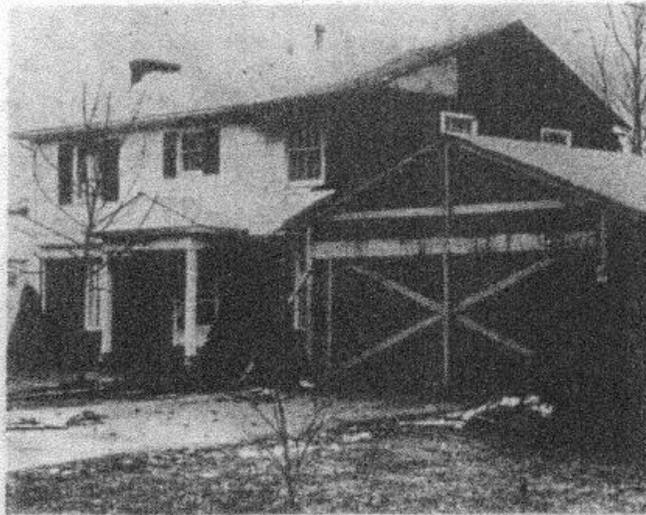
"You wonder how it's going to be taken," he said, "when you buy something that's a little more expensive, mainly because you know it will last longer, instead of getting second-hand stuff which will probably have to be replaced later. So, we look around for the best possible arrangements."

Even more important than the dollar value of the assistance that the Sickberts have received from the congregation, they think is the message of love which proves their conviction that in all circumstances God is working for good through those who love him and keep his commandments.

Sickbert says he feels his position is one of a wonderful opportunity for true good, because of the love, compassion, interest and concern of the congregation.

"We are terribly fortunate," he said, "because through their efforts and God's we are being well taken care of. When the parsonage is restored, we will be able to make a new start and will live the rest of our lives in the midst of furnishings which will be a constant reminder of God's grace and love made known through them."

So, while the congregation tends to the Sickberts' material comfort, he tends to their spiritual comforts and needs.



Voice photo by David Byrd

THIS IS the fire-damaged parsonage at 302 Castleview Drive in St. Matthews. The restoration work has advanced rapidly.

March 18, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Competition for Crusade opens April 4

The 16th annual WHAS CRUSADE Talent Contest, to select a teen-age Talent King and a Talent Queen who'll reign over the 1971 WHAS Crusade For Children, has opened.

Auditions are now being held to find two young performers who'll represent all who participate in the May 22-23 Crusade.

The first of five elimination contests will be televised in color on Channel 11 at 1:30 pm Sunday, April 4. The remaining four are scheduled at 1:30 pm Sunday, April 4. The remaining four are scheduled at 1:30 pm Sunday April 11; 1:30 pm Sunday April 18; 2:30 pm Saturday, April 24 and at 1:30 pm Sunday, May 9. The finals will be on the air at 1:30 pm Sunday, May 16, the weekend before the Crusade itself.

Crusade Executive Producer Jim Walton urges teen-agers to write for auditions immediately.

Talented teen-agers throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana are invited to enter the contest. In the past 15 years, the winners have included 14 vocalists, 4 dancers, 4 pianists, 2 accordionists and 2 drummers. A ventriloquist, trumpet player and an organist were other winners.

Any solo act is eligible to compete. Each year's winners take part in the WHAS Crusade For Children, held annually to raise funds for physically and mentally handicapped children in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. The teenage royalty are stars of the Crusade, performing along with well-known personalities and entertainers on the stage of Louisville's Memorial Auditorium.

More than \$576,000 was contributed to the 1970 Crusade, and 59 agencies received grants from these funds.

The Crusade Talent King and Talent Queen contest is open to unmarried residents of Kentucky and Southern Indiana who are 13 by May 22, 1971, and will not be over 18 by May 22, 1971. Only solo acts may compete. Relatives of employees of WHAS, Inc., are not eligible.

Entries must be submitted in writing, on post cards only. They should be sent to: "WHAS Crusade For Children Talent Contest, WHAS - TV, Louisville, Kentucky 40202." The card should include the contestant's name, address, age, sex, telephone number and a description of the solo act.



ST. MATTHEWS Volunteer Fireman Pat Maloney, left, explains a fireman's protective clothing to Cub Scout Pack 325 at the firehouse. Sam Wolfe, also a volunteer fireman, models the clothing. The Cubs are from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in St. Matthews.

## Fire runs

The following runs were made by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department through Tuesday, March 16:

Thursday, March 12 -- house, 512 Cornell Place.

Monday, March 15 -- auto, Sears store at Thierman Lane.

Tuesday, March 16 -- auto, U.S. 42 and Westport Road.

Tuesday, March 16 -- auto, Watterson Expressway and Brownsboro Road.

March 25, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Fire runs

The following runs were made last week by the St. Matthews Fire Department:

March 19 -- house, 4418 Commanche Trail.

March 21 -- house, 119 Wilshire Avenue.

March 22 -- trash, corner of Grandview and Fairfax avenues.

1971

April 8, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthew Vol Fire Assn held April 8th 1971. at fire house.

Directors Present

Jno Emrich	Jno. Monohan
W. L. Wilson	Phil G. auman
Fred C. Boss	J. P. Terry
Geo E. Miller	

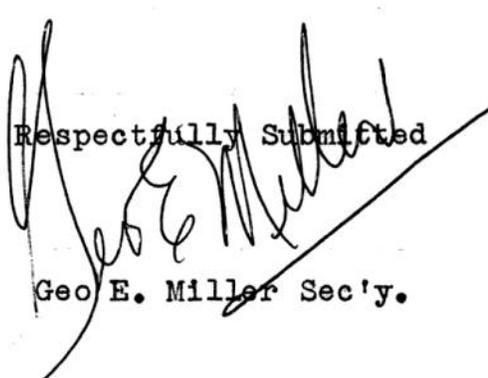
Minutes of last meeting held March 11 1971 read by Chairman Jno Emrich

Minutes read and approved by all.

Motion made by Geo E. Miller seconded by J. P. Terry that Jno Monohan and Phillip GRAuman to close deal on old firehouse. Jno Monohan was authorized by the board to sign as President of the Ass'n.

There being no further business Motion made by Jno Monohan seconded by Fred C. Boss that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

  
Geo E. Miller Sec'y.

GEM/Ls



April 22, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# BIRTH OF A HOSPITAL

## 'Gestation period' is 8 years for new Baptist facility here

By Moyra Schroeder  
Staff Writer

The gestation period for the new Baptist Hospital in St. Matthews is about eight years. That's going back to 1957 when Baptist Hospitals, Inc., bought 52.3 acres between Brocklidge Lane and Browns Lane in which to build a general hospital, and looking ahead to 1974 when phase one of the facility will be completed and ready for business.

The architect's drawing, showing Phases 1 and 2 of the medical complex, has just been released.

Phase 1 includes the 230-bed hospital and service buildings in the center of the property, and a doctors' office building for 30 to 35 physicians near the hospital.

When the hospital opens, about 4,000 cars a day will be in and out of the complex, which will have its main entrance onto Brocklidge Lane, estimates State Highway Department spokesman Cecil Lea.

### No endless corridors

The second phase contains 230 additional patient beds, an extended-care facility, a motel, a heliport and an addition to the office building for another 30 physicians.

The hospital's architectural plans, which are in the final stages, incorporate the radical concept which allows for maximum patient care by a minimal number of personnel. There will be no seemingly endless corridors which locate some patients great distances from nursing stations. Further, nursing stations on each floor will be centered and patients' rooms grouped about them.

Services offered at the new hospital will be medical, surgical and obstetrical gynecological. Emphasis will be on the last because, says a hospital spokesman, of the preponderance of young families living in the suburbs of Jefferson County.

"No plans are being made for a pediatrics department because of adequate pediatrics facilities available in other hospitals," reported H. L. Dobbs, president of Baptist Hospitals, Inc.

### Cost: \$12 million

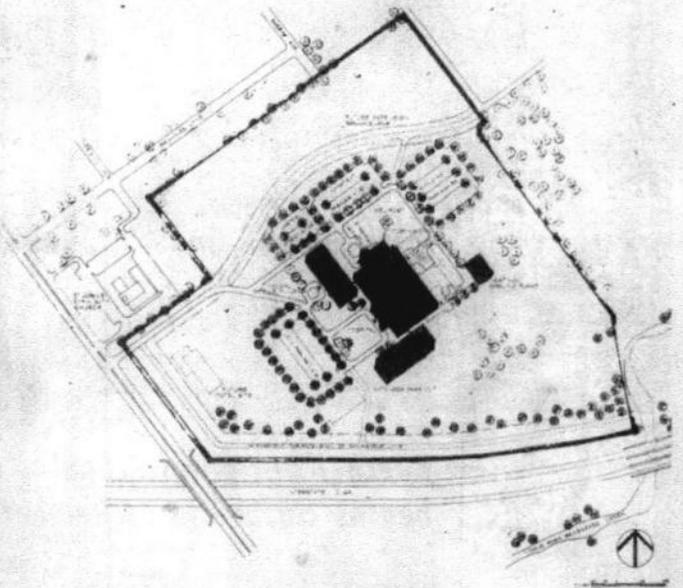
One section of the hospital will be operated as a self-care unit. This will be for patients who do not require bedside care. In this unit, cost-per-day expenses will be less than in intensive-care or critical units where constant medical and nursing attention is vital.

"The cost to the patient will be commensurate with the care he needs," said Stephen Hirt, director of community relations for the hospital.

Phase 1 of the complex is expected to cost about \$11,000,000. About half of this will be derived from long-term financing, a quarter from investments, savings and depreciation. Hospital officials expect to raise the remainder in a community-wide, capital-funds campaign to be conducted this fall. Building is scheduled to begin in 1972.

The hospital has been endorsed by the Falls Region Health Council. Moving away from the downtown medical facilities is "taking a hospital to where the people are," said Homer Coggins, executive vice-president of the Kentucky Baptist Hospital. Statistics show that the population of the county has grown 26.5 percent in the last decade. Coggins pointed out that accessibility by expressways to St. Matthews will place the new hospital within easy reach of residents from all sections of the county.

The new hospital will become the fourth health-care facility to be operated by Baptist Hospitals, Inc., under the authority of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The others are in Paducah, Lexington and the one on Barret Avenue in Louisville, where "all service facilities will be maintained," Coggins said.



ARCHITECT'S SKETCH of the site of the proposed Baptist Hospital in St. Matthews.

# Firemens Olympics at Mall Sunday

A "Firefighters Olympics" will be sponsored by the Buschel-Fern Creek Jaycees beginning at 10 am Sunday, April 25 at the Shelbyville Road Mall.

Volunteer firemen from Louisville and Jefferson County will participate in five events ranging from filling a barrel with water fifty feet away using a hose to laying hose in the shortest time possible.

The event is being staged to raise funds for the Kentuckians Burn Center and is reportedly the first to be held in Kentucky, and one of the few such events in the nation.

1971

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters Olympics:

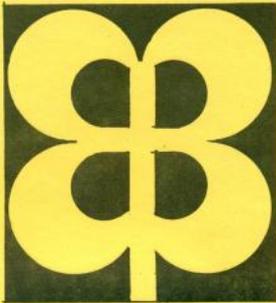
FIRST ANNUAL



**Fire Fighters' Olympics**

SPONSORED BY

*Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees*



THE MALL

WHERE ITS SPRINGTIME  
ALL THE TIME

OVER 60 STORES  
AND SHOPS

SHELBYVILLE ROAD



OFFICE OF THE JUDGE  
**JEFFERSON COUNTY**  
COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
580-3000

L. J. HOLLENBACH, III  
COUNTY JUDGE

April 1971

Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees  
Fire Fighters Fair

Greetings:

As County Judge, I want to personally welcome you to the First Annual Fire Fighters Fair sponsored by the Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees.

Words cannot adequately express my appreciation for the work and service rendered by the many volunteer fire fighters across Jefferson County. These men stand on constant alert to respond quickly for the protection of lives and property in our community. Their individual and collective contribution is immeasurable.

I salute the efforts of the Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees as they honor the volunteer fire fighters of Jefferson County.

Very truly yours,



L. J. Hollenbach, III  
Jefferson County Judge

LJH/rls

**BUECHEL-FERN CREEK JAYCEES**  
Our Organization



ROGER THOMAS  
President

CARLETON GODSEY  
Vice President

JIM BARR  
Vice President

BILL RAPP  
Vice President

MARTY HOLAHAN  
Director

DAVE BOONE  
Director

TOM HUTTON  
Director

TOM STROUD  
Past President

RON COULTER  
Director

AL HUBER  
Director

HOMER MOELLER  
State Director

BOB OSER  
Secretary

FRED COGNWELL  
Director

DICK CORDILL  
State Director

GENE YATES  
Treasurer

1971

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters Olympics:



BUECHEL - FERN CREEK - JAYCEES  
P. O. BOX 18004 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40218

Welcome Concerned Citizens

It is indeed a pleasure as President of the Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees to welcome you to the first Annual Firefighters Fair. This unique event is intended to acquaint you with the dedication, training and skill of the Volunteer Fire Departments of our area. It is our further hope you will gain a greater appreciation for the countless hours and tireless effort these valued citizens spend in preparing for the emergency we hope will never occur.

The five competitive events you will see represent only a small portion of the many skills the Volunteer Firemen have mastered and the final standings in no way reflects the ability of a department to handle an emergency situation.

To the stars of today's show, the Volunteer Firemen, we say thanks, thanks for the spirit and enthusiasm of this event and a special thanks for being always ready to protect the lives and property of our friends and loved ones.

Thank you for attending and for supporting your Volunteer Fire Departments. We hope you will find our 1971 Firefighters Fair an interesting and exciting event. See you next year.

*Roger C. Thomas*  
Roger C. Thomas, President  
Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees

RCT:bb

"SERVICE TO HUMANITY IS THE BEST WORK OF LIFE"

# HUBER'S LINOLEUM & CARPET

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INSTALLATION

AL HUBER  
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COACHES  
HAVE  
STEEL  
ROOFS

*National*  
CUSTOM COACHES, INC. KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIAN.

## WHAT IS A FIREMAN-?

He's the guy next door.  
He's a man's man with the sharp memory of a little boy who never got over the excitement of engines and sirens and smoke and danger.  
He's a guy like you and me with warts and worries and unfulfilled dreams.  
Yet he stands taller than most of us.  
He's a fireman.  
He puts it all on the line when the bell rings.  
A fireman is at once the most fortunate and the least fortunate of men.  
He's a man who savors life because he has seen too much death. He's a gentle man because he has seen too much of the awesome power of violent forces out of control. He's a man responsive to a child's laughter because his arms have held too many small bodies that will never laugh again.  
He's a man who appreciates the simple pleasures of life . . . hot coffee held in numbed, unbending fingers . . . the flush of fresh air pumping through smoke and fire convulsed lungs . . . a warm bed for bone and muscle compelled beyond feeling . . . the comraderie of brave men . . . the divine peace of selfless service and a job well done in the name of all men.  
He doesn't wear buttons or wave flags or shout obscenities and when he marches, it is to honor a fallen comrade.  
He doesn't preach the brotherhood of man.  
He lives it.

5  
THIS PAGE IS  
DEDICATED  
TO THE FIREMEN  
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY  
WHO HAVE GIVEN  
THEIR LIVES IN THE  
FIREFIGHTING SERVICE.



7

1971

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters Olympics:

St. Matthews Vol. Fire Department

SOUTH DIXIE  
P. O. BOX 182  
6411 CHISM ROAD



FIRE DISTRICT  
VALLEY STATION, KY.



As President of the Jefferson County Firefighter's Association, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you, the citizens of Jefferson County, to the first annual Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees sponsored "Firefighter's Fair". This will give many of you your first opportunity to view your volunteer fire department in action. And after you see them, I am sure that you will agree that they are all a superbly trained bunch of fellows.

On behalf of the officers of the Jefferson County Firefighter's Association, we hope you enjoy the many events of firefighting skill and that you will return next year.

Yours in fire protection,  
*Olean Sherrard*  
Olean Sherrard

FERN CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT



**C & C**  
**ENTERPRISES**

Marking devices of

ALL kinds.

EVENINGS

**459-1518**

9

THE FIRST ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER'S FAIR  
SPONSORED BY THE BUECHEL-FERN CREEK JAYCEES  
TO BE HELD APRIL 25, 1971  
AT THE SHELBYVILLE ROAD MALL

General Information:

The first annual "Firefighter's Fair" will be held on April 25, 1971, at the Shelbyville Road Mall. The events will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 25, 1971, and will continue till completion. All Volunteer Fire Departments in Jefferson County are eligible to participate and each Fire Department participating may enter one truck and crew from each of its houses or they may enter one truck and two crews can use the same truck, just so long as the Department has two houses. The entries will be limited to pumpers only. The crew of each participating Fire Department must consist of the following: one officer (Sgt., Lieut., or Capt.), one engineer (limited to a Private or Sgt.), and three tailboard men (Privates only). Tailboard wear full gear with the exception that gloves are optional; engineer, entire equipment optional. A circle, one hundred feet in diameter, will be marked off, and a 55 gallon capacity drum will be placed in the exact middle of the circle. This will provide the basic grounds for the events. The starting line for all events will be 300 feet behind the hydrant, and the nearest edge of the circle will be 300 feet from the hydrant, giving an overall run from starting line to hydrant of 300 feet, and from hydrant to circle 300 feet for a total of 600 feet. A trophy will be awarded to the winning company in each event and none of the winners will be announced until the end of all competition. The first annual "Firefighter's Fair" will be held at the Shelbyville Road Mall, Watterson X-way and Shelbyville Road. Any equipment to be commonly used by all companies during the competition will be selected before the events begin and each company will use the same equipment. All equipment used should be clearly marked as to its owner so as to prevent loss. The judging and timing of the events will be done by judges from outside the Louisville and Jefferson County area. All trucks entered should not be modified in any way and should be equipped just as they would be on a normal fire run. Any use of warning equipment, such as blowing sirens is strictly prohibited and will result in the immediate disqualification of that company from participating in any events. Should a tie situation arise between two or more companies, then the event will be rerun to determine the winner. The first annual "Firefighter's Fair" will be held rain or shine on April 25.

Events:

Barrel Fill 1  
The participating company will start from the starting line, and will proceed to any point outside the circle, pull off an inch and a half line and commence to shoot water into the barrel. The participating company will be timed from the starting line and the time limit will be two minutes. Should the barrel tip over and fall, the company is disqualified from that event only. Should the man or men handling the nozzle touch or go into the circle physically, then the company is disqualified from that event only. Should the truck go into or touch the circle, then the company is disqualified from that event only. The company having the largest amount of water in the barrel at the end of the time limit is the winner. The nozzle to be used on the inch and a half line will be a PDQ type and will be adjusted to a straight stream setting before the event begins. This same nozzle will be used by all companies. The inch and a half line should be normally carried in the same position on the truck as in the event.

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters

**FERN CREEK  
MEAT MARKET**

**6125 BARDSTOWN ROAD  
Choice Grade Beef  
Freezer Beef**

**"we bake hams"**

FIREFIGHTERS' OLYMPICS' COMMITTEE

General Chairman - Michael A. Holliday

Concessions Chairman - Dee Coates  
Grounds Control Chairman - Larry Corley  
Jaycee Co-ordinator - Larry Dean  
Promotional Chairman - Jim Howard  
Program Chairman - Bill Schwager

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Chairmen - Harold Adkins, Camp Taylor Fire Dept.  
Courtney Deuser, Lyndon Fire Dept.  
Don Smith, South Dixie Fire Dept.

14

**EDGEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT**



Front Row, Left to Right—Fireman Gordon Craig, Lieutenant Glen Milburn, Sergeant Robert Brummett, Major Norman Malkranz, Fireman Steve Harrison, Fireman Tom Kennedy, Fireman Arthur Wieber. Back Row—Fireman Raymond Hicks, Fireman Kentchristensen, Sergeant Wendell Brown, Fireman Charles Watts, Sergeant Allen Bowman, Chief John Barfield, Lieutenant David Tierney, Sergeant James Armstrong, Fireman Roy Wieber.

Edgewood Fire Dept. was organized in September of 1957 with which it had one (1) 1939 Ford pumper and 10 men. To date the Fire Dept. has two new trucks and one 1947 Seagraves. The strength of the department is 30 men, headed by Chief John Baifield.

**Barrel Fill 2**

The participating company will start from the starting line, proceed to the hydrant, make a hookup, lay two and a half inch hose to any point outside the circle, pull off an inch and a half line and a two and a half inch line and commence to shoot water into the barrel. Should the barrel tip over, and fall, the company is disqualified from that event only. The two and a half inch line used to fill the barrel must be at least 100 feet long. Should the men of the participating company step on or into the circle physically, then that company is disqualified from that event only. Should the truck touch or go into the circle, then the company is disqualified from that event only. The timing will be started at the starting line and the time limit will be five minutes. The nozzle used on the inch and a half line will be a PDQ type nozzle of a 95 GPM capacity and the nozzle used on the two and a half inch line will be a PDQ type nozzle with a 250 GPM capacity. Both nozzles will be checked for straight stream setting before the event begins and both nozzles will be used by all companies.

**Monitor Test - Both Lines Must be Charged**

The participating company will start from the starting line and will proceed to a portable monitor which will be placed in the exact center of the circle, and will lay two lines from the monitor to the hydrant and make a hookup and pump water through both lines to the monitor. The company may, if it chooses, lay from the hydrant to the monitor. The company putting water through the nozzle in the shortest time will be the winner. The same monitor will be used by all companies.

**"You're Putting Me On"**

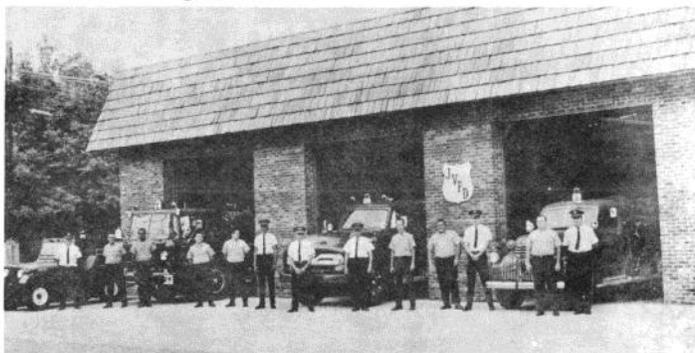
The participating company will start from the starting line and will proceed to any point outside the circle, one man will come off the truck and put a Scott Pak on and run to the middle of the circle. Any men can assist outside circle. The company having the man in the middle of the circle in the shortest time will be the winner.

**Efficiency Counts**

The winner of this event will be the company who, in the judges opinion, was the most efficient company participating. This award may go to the slowest company or it might go to the fastest company; however, the team that works together the best and performs the most efficiently will be the winner.

There will be a drawing before each event to determine the team's position in the event. All trucks will remain parked until the participating company has completely finished the event and cleared the area.

**J-TOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT**



Left to Right—Capt. Larry Dearmond, Ray Ward, James Spaulding, Sgt. Emmett Graff Jr., Mike Ruckriegel, Asst. Chief Don Buchermobile, Chief Robert H. Gaddie, Asst. Chief Joseph J. Zimmerman, Brian Angel, Sgt. Al Zehner, Capt. William Moltzop, Alvin Albert, Capt. Walter Jakoby.

Our Fore-fathers, who volunteered to fight fires in the Jeffersonstown area, were rugged workers, farmers; and not the type of men who kept records of what they did. Tracing the history of the fire department is quite a chore. We talked to some of the oldest of the old timers and have come up with some information.

One person remembers helping to pull a "hand drawn pump" to a fire on Taylorsville Road prior to 1900. Others remember the first "Model T" fire truck in Jeffersonstown. The earliest proof we ran across was the front page of the Jeffersonian Newspaper, dated November 17, 1921. The paper described a large fire in which half of the business district burned. The article stated that one of the first buildings engulfed in flames was the Cumberland Telephone Exchange. All telephone service was knocked out. One of the firemen made a fast trip to the City of Louisville to summons aid from the Louisville Fire Department. The old station was located on the corner of Taylorsville Road and Watterson Trail. The site is now a covered bus stop.

The next fire station was built in 1943 just to the West of the old station. This was a more "modern" fire house. Having two bays wide and able to park only two trucks deep; the fire house was adequate. The City of Jeffersonstown also

As more modern equipment became necessary

located its City Office in what was originally used as the fire house coal bin. One of the original pieces of equipment in this house was an old 1941 Chevrolet Pumper of which the City Fathers and Members of the Volunteer Fire Department paid for out of their personal funds to the then disbanded County Fire Department. Incidentally, this same piece of equipment is still in use and pumps rings around the more modern equipment, while not recognized as a first line pumper.

and took up more room, the quarters became very crowded and cramped. The members tolerated these cramped conditions until a new fire house was built on the corner of Old Taylorsville Road and Watterson Trail. This building was dedicated in 1969. It has an equipment floor-area about five times the usable floor space as the previous fire house. In addition, it has a chief's office, a fire prevention and secretary's office, a shower room, and a storage room with space for hose storage and beverage machines. The basement has a complete kitchen facility, a ladie's powder room, and a large meeting and training room. The second floor is a complete recreation room equipped with card tables, shuffle board, radio-record player combination, a color television set, a pool table, and for lounging, beautiful whiskey barrel furniture.

The present membership is 35 men of which 95 percent are active.

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters Olympics:

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3707 KLONDIKE LANE

4222 BISHOP'S LANE

With this ad, receive free one 1 ounce can Durkee's Black Pepper and

Free key chain  
17

"VOLUNTEER FIREMEN IN SERVICE TO HUMANITY"

"Volunteer" is a very magical word to the many people who live in the suburban regions of Jefferson County. To some it means lower insurance rates on their homes, to others it means listening to that darned siren going off in the middle of the night. To others it means watching the guy next door leave during the middle of a blizzard and freezing temperatures, his red light and siren going and thinking what a nut. But to a few elite men, it means a lifetime of dedication and service to their community and fellow citizens. It is these men of whom I speak.

What makes a volunteer fireman? Is he a kid who chased fire trucks and kept this trait as he grew into a man? Is he a man who enjoys listening to sirens scream and red lights flash? Is he a man who just waits for a fire alarm so that he can go screaming down the road, bothering "that old grouch next door"? We of the Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees don't believe so. We believe that a volunteer fireman is an individual who has likes and dislikes. We believe that a volunteer fireman is a fellow who likes to sleep late, drink a beer, play with the kids, work in the yard, go to church, and sometimes just goof-off. So far, he sounds just about like you and me, doesn't he? But we also believe that this man is a very special man.

Why do we believe that a volunteer fireman is special? Well, a volunteer fireman is special because he is willing. Willing to do what? He is willing to leave his home at any time of the day or night in any type of weather whether he is tired or not, whether he has guests or doesn't to answer a fire alarm. He is willing to put his life and his family's future on the line to save a life or to protect property. He is willing to give up sleep, so others might sleep safely. He is willing to give up a paid day at work, to help clean up after a fire. He is willing to give up time with his family so that he might train and learn the many skills of a volunteer fireman. He is willing to give up days of his vacation to attend a specialized school. He is also willing to give the supreme sacrifice, service and dedication to his community for the betterment of all of those who share his community with him, without pay or reward of any kind. Part of the Jaycee Creed says, "Service to Humanity is the best work of Life." And this in itself exemplifies the volunteer fireman and this is why we say a volunteer fireman is special and why the word volunteer truly is a "magic" word.

### CAMP TAYLOR FIRE DEPARTMENT



Left to Right--Chief H. Adkins, A. Hodson, Comm: L. Jones, Comm: L. Gribbins, B. Lawson, C. Powell, M. Moore, T. Luckett, B. Roberts, A. Kalus, D. Hodgson, Lt. R. Buehner, Sgt. J. Nichols, R. Nichols, G. Fields, E. Smith, N. Liebert, Sgt. E. Palmer, Capt. D. Shuff, Asst. Chief R. Hurley, R. Springmier, D. Stanfield, B. Clark, B. White, C. Hart, J. McAfee, B. Higdon, H. Westphal.

The Camp Taylor Fire Department was organized on November 20, 1944 with a trailer pump and 400 feet of hose furnished by the Civil Defense Department. The pump was housed in Dutch's Garage and pulled by firemen's cars with gas money furnished from pocket change collected from firemen.

Early in 1946 Cooke Chevrolet donated a 1937 Chevrolet one and a half ton truck. The pump was installed and the body was built on the truck by firemen. Dutch built a 20 by 30 foot firehouse rent free to house our first fire truck. One year later the department bought a 1941 Ford one and a half ton truck. With fireman know how a midship pump was purchased and a streamlined body was built on the truck. With two trucks now in operation a crew of proud firemen paraded the community.

In 1948 the fire department moved into a fireman's garage where they remained until 1951 when larger quarters were needed. A lot was donated by fireman M. Grant. On limited funds a new firehouse was built with work completed by firemen. The Ladies Auxiliary furnished dinner on Saturday and Sunday and the work was completed in 45 days.

The fire department now owns a firehouse built in 1961 at a cost of \$100,000. The building contains a four bay firehouse, an office, a lounge, an auditorium and a recreation room. The department now owns three trucks and a station wagon with the newest piece of equipment being an Oren Quint ladder truck.

Today there are five fire departments and the City of Louisville Fire Department covering the area once covered by the Camp Taylor Fire Department. In twenty-five years of operation the department has seen fire insurance rates go from tenth-class to sixth-class. There are only two firemen still with the department that helped to organize it, Mr. C. E. Powell, eighty-three years old, and Mr. Louis Jones. Each man has twenty-five years of service and is still active.

18

### LYNDON FIRE DEPARTMENT

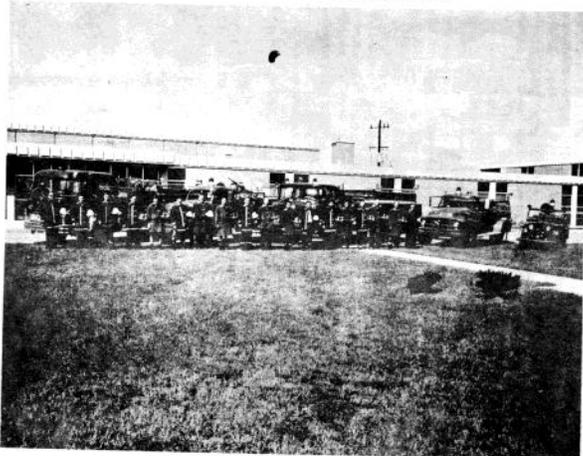


Left to Right: Bill Pierce, Brad Clark, Doug Cornelius, John Carr, Andy Fuchs, Walter Jones, George Pfeister, Tony Blandford, Henry Cornelius, Charles Mix, Al Razor, Fred Hausman, Hyatt Hahn, Don White, Bruce Clark, Buzz Pierce, Chadie Bowers, Rick Creek, Dennis Tegethoff, Carl Schneider, George Hornback, Bruce McMillian, Al Roman, Dennis Merrifield, Fred Baringer. Not Present When Picture Made: Courtney Deuser, Bob Smith, James Baker, Bob Barringer, A. W. Borie, Dom Burgin, Don Clark, Jim Daugherty, Charles Driesman, Jack Deuser, Jim Dunlap, Omer Green, Shirley Hemp, Mike Holliday, Earl Kelley, Bill Kopatz, Larry Lewis, Leo Randazzo, Scott Robinson, Howard Rogers, Jim Strouse, James Tabler, James Webb, David Weller, Dick Weller, H. Whitehead, Bob Williams, Harold Witten.

The Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department was incorporated under the laws of the State of Kentucky on March 23, 1950 as a non-profit corporation for the purpose of providing fire protection to the residents of Lyndon and vicinity on a volunteer basis. Four fully equipped fire trucks have been purchased, operating out of two fire stations located as follows: 8126 Violet Avenue, 8416 Westport road.

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue, Fire Fighters Olympics:

HIGHVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT



BUECHEL FIRE DEPARTMENT



21



Following from left to right are the men's name shown in the picture John Nelson, James Stephens, Richard Pressmyer, Letcher Asher, Carl Fisher, Donald James, Lureon White, Ronnie Humm Mike Becker, Kenneth Altridge.

In 1941, an O.C.D. Pumper was purchased and was pulled with hitches on cars and truck.

In 1947 the Department bought a new Ford Truck and mounted a pump and tank on it. This truck is still being used today for field fires and as a reserve pumper.

The Department purchased another new truck in 1953. A new Willis Jeep was purchased in 1958 and equipped for fighting field fires. Another new truck was purchased in 1963. The Department added a 1967 Ford Ranch Wagon, being used by the Fire Prevention Bureau.

On January 25, 1966, the Okolona area was changed from a 7th class fire insurance rate to 6th class rating.



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The Buechel-Fern Creek Jaycees Wish  
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RAPID PRINT OF KENTUCKIANA

NANCY REESE

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CAIRNS HELMETS  
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PROTECTIVE CLOTHING  
BOARDMAN FIRE APPARATUS  
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Louisville, KY 40218

on Thursday 8:00 p.m.  
1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
(Dinner)  
ROGER C. THOMAS  
President  
Box 452-6074  
Box 452-5022

1971

April 29, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Daughter of former STMFD firefighter, and eventually worked for STMFD as secretary.



BARBARA KEMPF

Church wedding June 5

*Kempf - Boles*

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Kempf of 527 Virginia Avenue announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Barbara Anne Kampf, to Mr. Robert Glen Boles Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Glen Boles. Mr. Boles attended the University of Louisville. The wedding will be June 5 at 1 pm in St. Margaret Mary Church.

PATRICK M. OWENS

new assignment



Future STMFD firefighter.

AIRMAN Patrick M. Owens, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Garr of 101 Staebler Avenue in St. Matthews graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas recently and was assigned to Chanute AFB, Ill, for 19 weeks of electronics school.

Owens is a 1969 graduate of Waggener High School and entered the Air Force in February 1971.

May 6, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: The new Voice Publisher treated STMFD very fairly and took and interest.

**VAN DUSEN BECOMES PUBLISHER**

**Voice Newspapers sold to Anchorage man**

A month after starting his 28th year as a newspaper publisher, Al J. Schansberg this week sold the Voice of St. Matthews, Inc., to Bruce B. VanDusen of Anchorage.

The corporation consists of two suburban weekly newspapers, The Voice-Jeffersonian and The Suburban Mirror (also known as The Voice Newspaper), the St. Matthews Printing Co., and the year-old Quik Print fast-serving printing division, all at 109 Cheswath Lane.

Retiring from the newspaper and retail printing business, Schansberg retained his Sonco Publishers' business, a wholesale specialty printing and packaging firm. He has also been retained by VanDusen as a consultant.

David A. Schansberg, employed in the business with his father for 18 years, will continue as vice-president and general manager, the position he has held for the past five years.

VanDusen acquired all of the stock held by the publisher and president of the corporation, by his son David, vice-president, and daughter Mary, a nursing supervisor at Louisville General Hospital.

The change of ownership was assisted by George Romano of New York as consultant to the buyer. Legal work was handled by Howard H. Hunt and Henry F. Heyburn.

James Noland served as mayor until ill health forced his retirement and Bernard F. Howling was appointed mayor.

Knowing that he had only two years to convert a small shopping guide with news into a genuine newspaper, according to the purchase contract, the new publisher put the paper on a paid-circulation basis by Oct. 1, 1952. He also established another shopping guide, The Greater St. Matthews Free Press, which continued until the paid circulation had become big enough to justify the advertising rates.

Other publications form

With the continued community growth, other shoppers were established and operated several years until they outlived the commercial pattern. They were converted into larger units.

The East Side Shopper served the downtown St. Matthews core area for several years in the 1950s. The Middle-

Mirror became a weekly, with a Moody publication date.

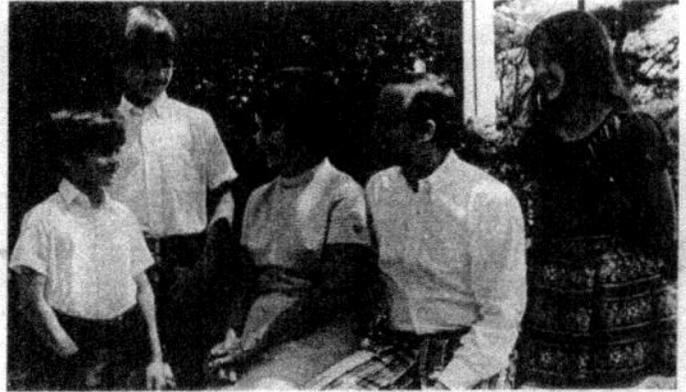
With an eye for further growth, in 1959 Schansberg bought the county's oldest weekly newspaper, The Jeffersonian, founded in June 1907, from Thomas R. Jones. With David Schansberg in charge, it was published in its own plant in Jeffersontown until being merged to become The Voice-Jeffersonian. The letterpress printing plant there was sold piecemeal to other Kentucky publishers.

Politically independent

While the commercial side of the business was growing, the newspaper's editorial, esthetic and community involvement aspects received more prominence, too. As the county's only Republican newspaper, its political influence became widespread and important to both parties. Never a political-party newspaper, it earned respect for its independence and political fairness.

With an active interest in many community organizations, Schansberg was a member of the long-defunct St. Matthews Chamber of Commerce. He later became one of the founders of the present St. Matthews Business Association. He served as its president in 1961-62, and received its coveted Community Service Award on Oct. 5, 1964.

Another award came his way a year earlier, when he was honored with the privilege of making the first official cast to open the county fishing lake in Long Run Park. That first cast produced a one-pound bass and nationwide publicity over the Associated Press wires.



MEET THE VAN DUSENS---From left are Andrew, 7; Phillip, 11; Mrs. VanDusen; Bruce VanDusen and Carolyn, 13. The new publisher of The Voice Newspapers and his family live in Anchorage.

Photo by Douglas D. Fowley

**A profile of the new publisher**

An editorial is on Page A-6.

Bought firm in 1952

Schansberg bought the corporation on April 1, 1952, from James K. VanArsdale III, who founded the paper in July 1949 as a shopping guide with some community news. First named simply "St. Matthews," the weekly tabloid newspaper sponsored a naming contest, and thus received its official name, The Voice of St. Matthews, and retained that name until 1965, when The Jeffersonian was merged with it to become The Voice-Jeffersonian, Kentucky's largest circulation weekly newspaper.

Through the years The Voice struggled to keep up with its burgeoning community. The City of St. Matthews had been officially formed in 1950, and the late



AL J. SCHANSBERG  
Retires, sells his newspapers



DAVID SCHANSBERG  
Retains key posts

Has won honors

Numerous awards of plaques and certificates have been earned through the years by The Voice of St. Matthews, The Jeffersonian and The Voice-Jeffersonian, including several "Best All Around" and "General Excellence" plaques from the Kentucky Press Association annual contests, and a National Newspaper Association award for community service. Similar awards have been received from the Jaycees and

Continued on Page A2

The new publisher of The Voice Newspapers is Bruce B. VanDusen, a 40-year-old newspaperman and an Anchorage resident.

Mr. VanDusen and his wife Carolyn are the parents of three children: Carolyn, 13, Phillip, 11, and Andrew, 7. The family has lived on Osage Road in Anchorage since 1968. He came to Jefferson County from Bloomfield Hills, Mich., where he had lived while working as an editorial writer for The Detroit News, Michigan's largest daily.

After graduation from Williams College

in Massachusetts in 1955, he served as an investigator for the Army's Counter Intelligence Corps. From 1956-58 he was an English teacher and coach at Deerfield Academy, Deerfield, Mass.

Mr. VanDusen's newspaper career began with the Providence (R.I.) Journal-Bulletin in 1954. After three years in Rhode Island he was awarded a fellowship by the American Political Science Association which permitted him to work for a year in Congress. During that period he worked for two men who are still in Capitol Hill: House Republican

Leader Gerald R. Ford and Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr., a New Jersey Democrat. (Mr. VanDusen regards himself as politically independent.)

Joined Courier-Journal

Following this Congressional experience, he served as Washington correspondent for the Providence Journal-Bulletin and then joined the Detroit News. After three years in

Continued on Page A2

**Schansberg sells Voice Newspapers to Anchorage man**

Continued from Page 1

other state and county organizations.

After serving on the Executive Board of the Kentucky Press Association for several years and as chairman of the Central Office Committee, Schansberg became chairman of the board, then vice-president in 1970. He became president in January, 1971. In 1968 he received the President's Cup award as the association's most valuable member.

A native of Blair, Wis., Schansberg was president of his high-school graduating class, which will hold its 45th reunion in July. He was graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a bachelor-of-arts degree in journalism, and was employed on several Wisconsin newspapers before moving to Salem, Ind. After a year there, he joined the staff of the daily New Albany Tribune and served as advertising manager and assistant to the publisher for 16 years.

**Here's a profile of the new publisher**

Continued from Page 1

Detroit and a brief period as editor of the Niles (Mich.) Daily Star, he came to Kentucky as an editorial writer for The Louisville Courier-Journal.

After a year with The Courier, Mr. VanDusen became administrative director of Louisville's Planned Parenthood Center, supervising a federally funded clinic project in poverty-affected areas. In recent months he has been on the staff of the Falls Region Health Council, a planning agency serving 14 counties of Kentucky and Indiana.

**Active in community**

Both Mr. and Mrs. VanDusen have been active in community affairs since arriving in Anchorage. Mrs. VanDusen is a member of the Board of Visitors of Central State Hospital, the Junior League and is on the board of the Anchorage Children's Theatre.

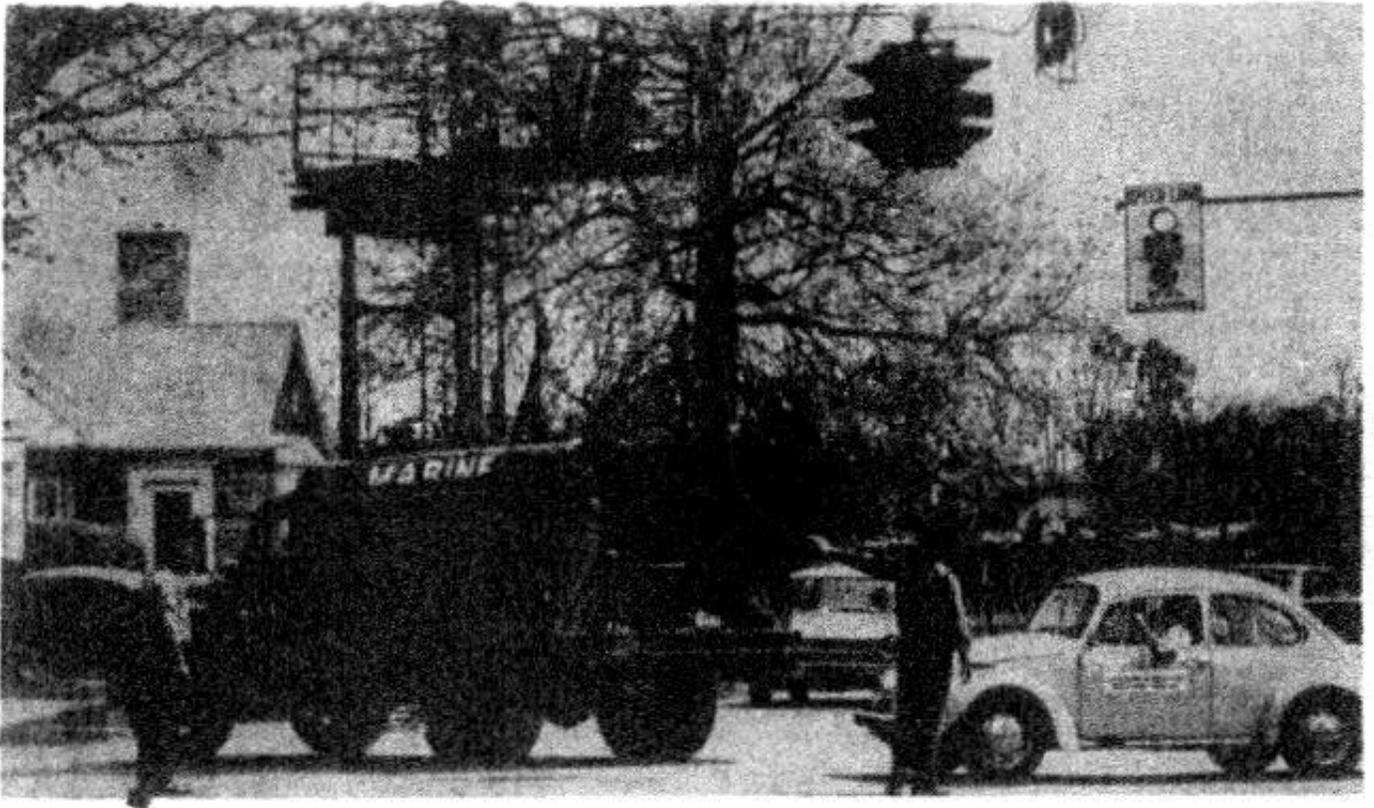
All three VanDusen children played in last winter's Children's Theatre production of "Peter Pan."

During the past year, Mr. VanDusen has been president of the First Unitarian

Church of Louisville, and chairman of the board of Housing Opportunity Centers, Inc., a non-profit housing corporation serving both Louisville and Lexington. In addition, he is a board member of Action for Clean Air, Old Louisville's Neighborhood Development Corporation and is a delegate to MAZCO, the Metropolitan Area Zoning Committee.

1971

May 6, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



ST. MATTHEWS PATROLMAN BOB HAMMOND, center, spent a busy Wednesday, April 21 directing traffic through the Browns Lane and Winchester Road intersection while planned traffic lights were installed by Marine Electricity Company employees Ray Rommel, left, and Phil Davenport, working in the trees above.

1971

May 13, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of  
The St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held May 13 1971

Directors Present

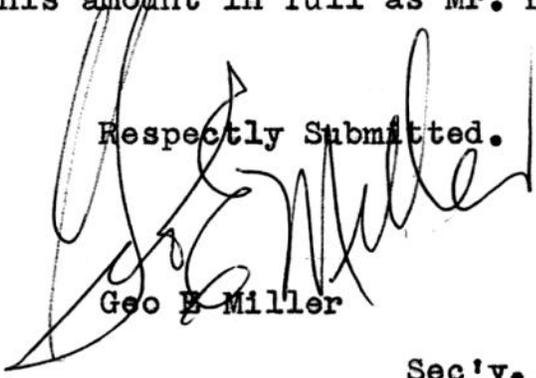
Geo E. Miller                      Jno. Monohan  
~~Fred~~                                  Phillip Grauman  
W. Leland Wilson.

There not being enough members for a quorum and there  
was no special meeting business to come up the meeting  
was passed.

The members of the board present met with Jno. Dumas  
to adjust the final bill for for his services as architect  
for the buliding and they finally reached a settlement for  
his balance or bill of \$4960.00 for \$3800.00

Mr. Miller was instructed to advice Mr. Fred C. Boss  
to send check with letter for this amount in full as Mr. Boss was  
unable to be present.

Respectly Submitted.

  
Geo E Miller

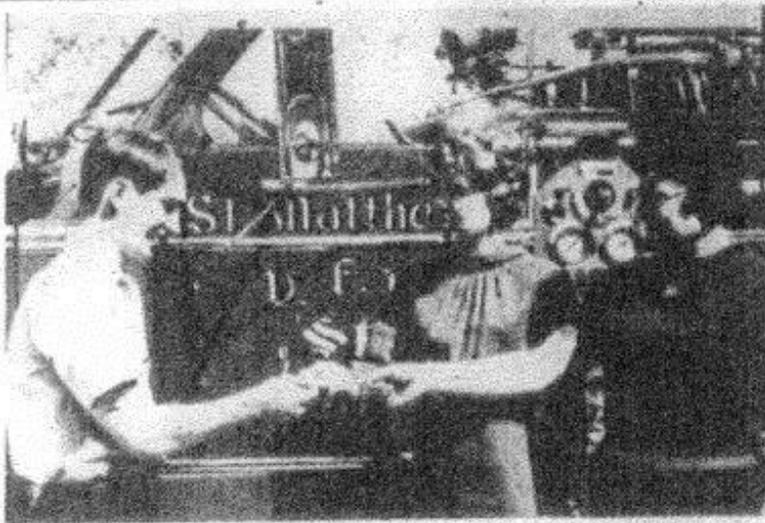
Sec'y.

May 20, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



*Voice photo by James M. Yuhr*

A GREAT DAY for a lake-naming contest! The driver of this car seemed sure that its rear-mounted engine wouldn't drown out, so he zipped through the "lake." The four-wheeled surfing exhibition, after a recent rain, was on Cannons Lane between Wilmington and Willis. But don't call St. Matthews City Hall---that block's in Louisville.



*Voice photo*

A CHECK for over \$500 was presented May 13 to Lt. Jack DeHart, left, of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department by representatives of the St. Matthews Business and Professional Women's Club, Gretchen Kaiser, center, and Doris Yeiser. The money was raised for Crusade for Children by a smorgasbord held by the Women's Club April 24. The 18th annual Crusade for Children will begin at 10 pm Saturday, May 22.

1971

May 22, 23, 1971 Crusade: \$22,073.00

S1, \$3,063.15 S2, \$629.10 S3, \$3,591.91 S4, \$3836.04 \$6,199.01, Business, \$2,190.00 Miscellaneous, \$3,192.89

Held raffle, made \$505.00.

**WHAS CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN**

Sponsored By  
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

**PORTABLE TAPE PLAYER - Value \$99.95**

Furnished By  
**ACTION LAWN & GARDEN**  
130 ST. MATTHEWS AVE. PHONE 897-1463

Drawing May 18, 1971  
7:30 P.M.      **Nº 689**

Shares \$1.00 Each

Nº 689

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

1971, Courtesy Marty Kamer:

1971 Crusade

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| St. Matthews - 22,072   | Eastwood - 948        |
| Pleasure Ridge - 25,071 | S. Dixie - 6549       |
| M. Mahan - 11,785       | LaGrange - 3330       |
| Lyndon - 10,430         | Eminence - 1714       |
| Middletown - 5418       | Simpsonville - 2088   |
| Narrows Creek - 5555    | Pleasureville - 1462  |
| Worthington - 2444      | Zoneton -             |
| J. Town - 6641          | N. Oldham - 1322      |
| Pearce Valley - 1909    | Edgewood - 4446       |
| S. Oldham -             | Mt Washington - 2220  |
| Black Madd - 6482       | Highview 4695         |
| Buechel - 10,035        | G.E. - 40,000         |
| Fern Creek -            | Louades - 1069        |
| Okalona - 11,518        | Holy Spirit - 1700    |
| Fairdale - 7714         | St. Albert - 634      |
| Shelbyville - 3174      | Holy Trinity - 750    |
| Jessepersonville - 1022 | Barndas - 760         |
| Camp Taylor - 9667      | St. Joseph - 451      |
| Shirley - 14,229        | Margaret Mary - 637   |
| Lake Dreamland - 6832   | St. Raphael -         |
|                         | Emma - LaGrange - 111 |

Red men - 21,747

Shelby Co. 40,322

1971

May 22, 23, 1971 Crusade: \$22,073.00

S1, \$3,063.15 S2, \$629.10 S3, \$3,591.91 S4, \$3836.04 \$6,199.01, Business, \$2,190.00 Miscellaneous, \$3,192.89

ST. MATTHEW'S FIRE ASSOCIATION		CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN 1971							
	BEFORE	FRI	SAT MORN	SAT AFTERNOON	SAT NIGHT	SUNDAY	SUNDAY		
S-1		465.78 ✓	556.75 ✓	718.29 ✓	466.62 ✓		855.74 ✓		3063.15
		465.78	1022.53	1740.82	2207.44				
S-2		522.67 ✓					R.B. 106.43 ✓		629.10
		522.67				DOWN TOWN	550.77 ✓		
S-3		900.78 ✓	679.88 ✓	433.24 ✓	456.34 ✓	R.B. 263.53 ✓			
		900.78		233.52 ✓	77.05 ✓	R.B. 156.26 ✓			3591.91
					155.97 ✓	R.B. 234.79 ✓			
P.B.	81.60 ✓	900.78	1580.66	2247.97	2937.33				
NOV. MC.	468.18 ✓		524.18 ✓	966.63 ✓		R.B. 356.26 ✓			
P.B.	142.40 ✓	617.11 ✓		153.55 ✓		R.B. 548.10 ✓			3836.04
A.B.	62.63 ✓								
		617.11	1141.29	2281.97					
NOV. MC.	391.88 ✓		986.74 ✓	1232.20 ✓	369.14 ✓	R.B. 313.52 ✓			
NOV. MC.	505.00 ✓	1721.05 ✓				R.B. 134.12 ✓			6199.01
NOV. MC.	567.48 ✓					R.B. 376.68 ✓			
		1321.05	2302.79	3540.49	3909.63				
Misc.		61.77 ✓		47.69 ✓	4225.76 ✓		R.B. 596.28 ✓		
		R.B. 211.20 ✓		94.08 ✓					
				WHS 98.00 ✓	Business	2190.00 ✓			
				Boy Scouts - 225.87 ✓	CLUBS	579.00 ✓			
				WARRIORS					
		4100.46	2747.55	4190.20	1601.48	5810.16	1392.49		
Total	2226.17	6326.63	9074.18	13264.38	14865.86	20676.22	22068.41		51
		2230.17	-400.00	-10.00	+210.16	-193.61	4		22072

May 27, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



We are proud of the fact that for over 50 years we have played a part in the tremendous growth of the St. Matthews area. Our efforts have been in the development of subdivisions, the building of homes, apartments, commercial stores, office buildings in addition to the listing and selling of individual homes.

See us for —

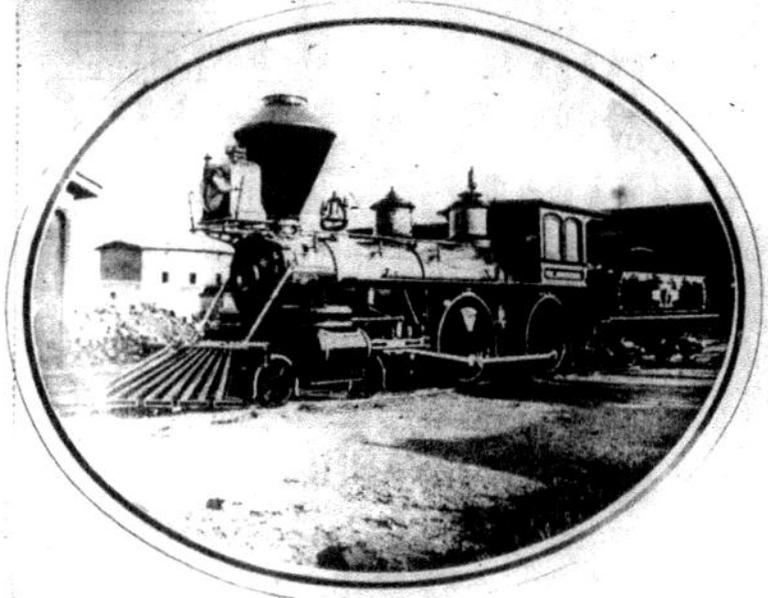
- Listing your house For Sale
- Looking for an apartment
- Need office space
- Opening a retail store
- Building a warehouse

**ELINE REALTY CO.**  
REALTORS

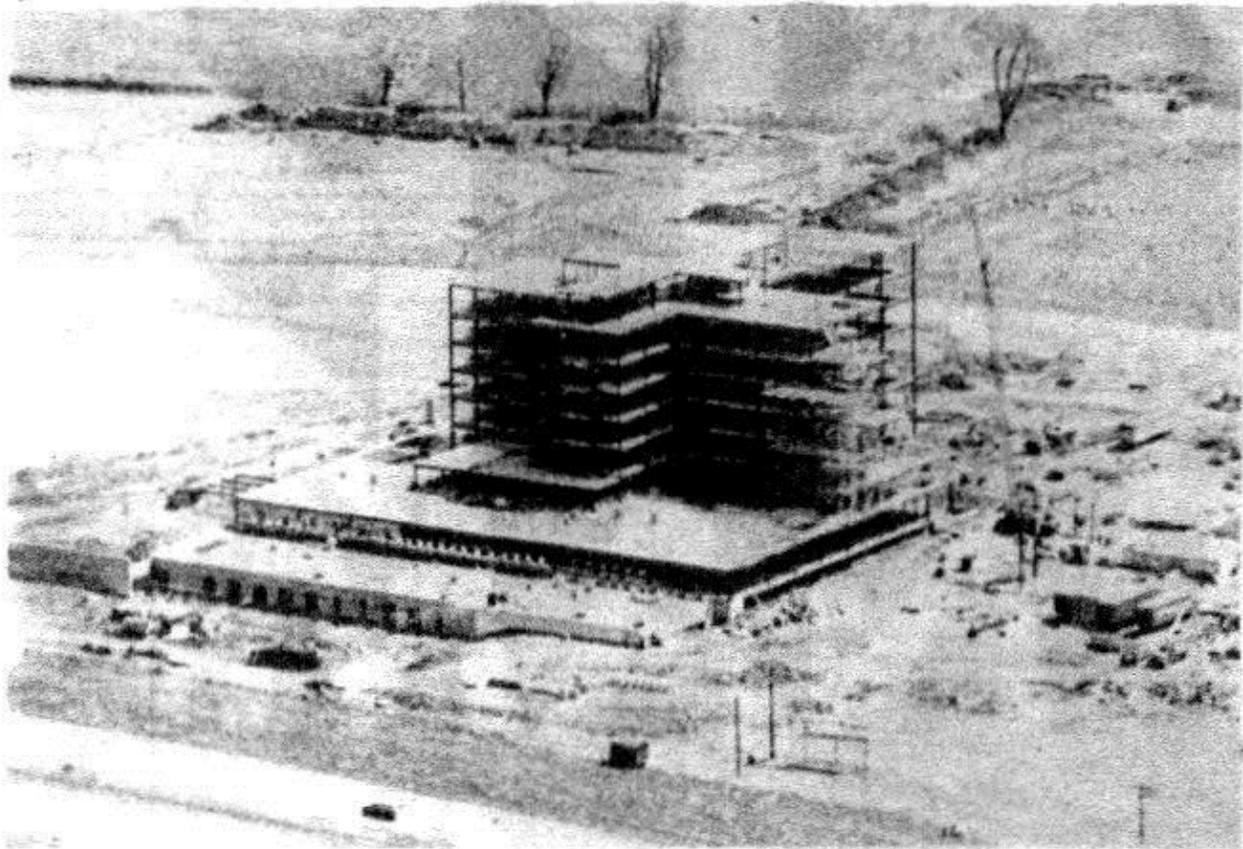
2912 Shelbyville Rd. 895-2463

*Over 50 Years in St. Matthews*

PROGRESS EDITION



ONE OF the L&N's early-day steam locomotives, No. 77, was built in 1870 by the railroad at its shops in Louisville. This engine, a wood burner, and numerous others of its type, made many trips through the area that is now St. Matthews after the L&N took over the line in 1881.



Staff photo courtesy Kentucky Flying Service

THE NEW SUBURBAN Hospital, being built by Extendicare, Inc., is but one of the many new structures both private and public going up in Jefferson County this year. The 380-bed hospital is located on 12 acres bordered by Dutchmans Lane, I-64 and Browns Lane.

May 27, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Two new stores begin operation in St. Matthews

A discount fishing-tackle store and a fire-extinguisher service have joined the St. Matthews business community.

The *Bait Barn*, which opened May 17 at 3924 Shelbyville Road, is owned by George Eaton III. It deals in a variety of fishing equipment.

The Lasher Fire Extinguisher Sales provides fire-extinguisher and protection equipment for residential, commercial and industrial properties. The company, employing eight persons, formerly was at 644 Baxter Avenue.

The firm now is at 117 St. Matthews Avenue, which had formerly served as a firehouse for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. The president of the company is J. B. Lasher.



ST. MATTHEWS Volunteer firemen take time off from collecting for the Crusade for Children last Friday evening to fight a small shed fire in the 300 block of Ridgeway.

**June 1970:** About 250 firefighters from Kentucky and Southern Indiana were expected to visit St. Matthews to see the equipment by the Mid-West Fire and Safety Company. The Squirt is a 50 foot "water tower" and aerial ladder with a water outlet at the end and can be installed on existing fire vehicles. The equipment provides additional firefighting capability without requiring the complete purchase of new trucks.

June 3, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Discordant siren song . . . Fire-warning device irks citizens

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

The saying that "you can please some of the people all the time but not all the people all the time" may be aptly applied to the current situation facing the St. Matthews City Council.

The problem centers around a fire siren that was moved from the old St. Matthews firehouse to the new one on London Way. Brown Avenue residents consider it too loud and want it moved or taken out of use altogether and a different method of alerting firemen utilized.

The problem became an issue when a citizens' delegation of 40 persons voiced their complaints before the regular meeting of the city council May 25. However, the council wasn't

totally unprepared and Mayor Bernard F. Downing made the following statements before opening the meeting to the Brown Avenue delegation:

- The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department is a separate corporate entity, governed by state laws.

The City of St. Matthews has a contract with the department only to provide fire protection and services in the corporate city limits. The department also has separate contracts and reciprocal agreements with other cities, including the city of Louisville, to provide fire protection on an "if-needed" basis. The department also has responsibility for fire protection in the old St. Matthews-builmaer section, now part of the city of Louisville.

- The only definite control the city has over the department is of the

"landlord-tenant" nature. The department is a property owner in the city and subject to its rules and regulations.

- An appropriate siren is required by the Kentucky Inspection Bureau, which is responsible for setting fire rates. They do not specify a site, but consider the present location on top of the fire station satisfactory.

- The fire department does not have a permit to erect a fire siren on the building. It was erected however with the knowledge of the city council because community safety, not noise, was considered the over-riding factor.

- The present location is being used on an emergency, temporary basis. Property owners of the former site wanted it off, and neither the city nor department could require them to keep it.

- Efforts are being made to relocate it.

This final action concerning negotiations over another site doesn't please the Brown Avenue delegation. One of the group spokesmen, David Mangum of 233 Brown Avenue, says that it shouldn't have been erected in the first place because an agreement was made when the station was built that the siren would never be placed on top of the station.

"Not exactly," according to Mayor Bowling. "Myself and the council were aware of some sort of agreement through the minutes of a public hearing held in October, 1956, by the zoning board. But if there was in fact an agreement, it was made between the department and the zoning board, not myself."

During the May 25 council meeting, one point of contention led to another and led the earmarks of a heated congressional debate until, by mutual agree-

ment between the delegation and council, a liaison committee was appointed to work with the council and department to solve the problem.

One delegation member, John Ford of 229 Brown Avenue, was appointed to the committee along with David Mangum. During the meeting he said that merely relocating the siren would only cause another group of citizens to complain and "shouldn't we consider alternate methods of alerting firemen and discontinue its use?"

When this list of alternate methods, which included radios being installed in firemen's cars, was presented to the Louisville and Jefferson County civil defense warning officer, it became an economic issue.

"A good radio of this kind would cost about \$200, and because of possible

electrical malfunctions, probably wouldn't be as effective," said Eldon Durand, Jr.

"But if a two-use siren should be utilized, (two-use defined as serving as a warning for national emergencies and fire alert) the Department of Defense will pay up to 50 percent of the cost of purchasing and installing a siren," said Durand.

As soon as the issue is resolved, Durand and his organization plan to install a 110-decibel siren adjacent to the St. Matthews fire siren. Durand says there are 38 other such sirens located throughout the city and no one has complained about them.

"Sound is not a concrete science yet," according to Durand, but it is known

Continued on Page 14

Next page

June 3, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# The siren song strikes discord

Continued from page 1

that "just about anything in the environment affects it, weather, natural obstacles, even the curtains in a home.

"The tone decay rate is logarithmic. If a stiff wind is blowing toward the siren from the east," Durand said, "our hope for coverage is affected. People in the east wouldn't hear it and people to the west could hear it from farther away."

This claim is substantiated by both Mayor Bowling and John Ford. "If the weather is right, it sounds as though the siren is next to my house. If it's not, I can barely hear it," said Bowling.

"My brother, who lives on Grinstead Drive," said Ford, "told me that if the weather is right he could hear the siren plainly."

David Mangum points out another aspect of the problem. "According to a report in the paper, (Louisville Times, Monday, May 24, edition) anything over 85 decibels is injurious to your health."

Partially true. The key wording seems to be in the use and definition of the word "prolonged" in the "Times" chart.

Durand thinks the sound level limits were originally designed to avoid hearing loss by persons employed in factories or occupations where the sound would be consistent and constant at levels above 85 decibels. (According to the chart and the AMA, which presumably stands for the American Medical Association who researched and prepared it, a food blender emits about 85 decibels, and a rock and roll band is rated at 110.)

In a written statement prepared for presentation to the city council, Mangum says that on Wednesday night, May 19, 1971, at 8 pm, a testing of the siren without a fire call was made. It was so loud that it caused the dogs to run wild, butting their heads in the ground. The neighbors complained of severe headaches even the next day and the retired and sick that have heart trouble are concerned about the siren and their future living in St. Matthews.

The siren is tested, in accordance with insurance underwriters regulations, once each day to ensure its working order. A number of designated times have been tried, the last being at 6 pm.

This time, however, was objected to by the delegation who requested and received a change to noon daily. But according to the mayor, this time was objected to in the past by the schools, who said it disturbed teaching in classrooms.

Some action has been taken under the legal conditions existing. The duration of the siren has been reduced from three minutes and ten seconds to two minutes for each alert.

This hasn't resolved the issue though. With the coming hot, summer days, Brown Avenue residents aren't looking forward to the many grass and field fires that will require the services of the fire department.

They want something done, and quickly, but Mayor Bowling doesn't think current negotiations will permit relocation for at least "90 to 180 days."

He summed up the city's predicament: "It was moved because no one wanted it. We still haven't found anyone who does want it. But according to some rules and regulations we have to have it."

"We will find a permanent location for it, he said, and hope for the best."

June 10, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

A health peril?

## Noisy old fire siren may get a new roost

It's almost official. The fire siren which has been the basis of the Brown Avenue residents' existence since it was relocated to the new fire house is going to be relocated once more. This time, to the city's business area.

According to St. Matthews City Mayor Bernard F. Bowling, Councilman Harry Jones has received a verbal answer from Merchants Ice and Cold Storage Company, which owns the triangular plot of land off Westport Road, to relocate the siren on their property.

"But we don't have anything on paper," Bowling said Monday, "and a number of other details must be worked out before the actual relocation takes place. The mayor said last week that it would take about 90 to 180 days to relocate the siren."

That estimation still applies because, "The fire department must meet with Louisville Gas and Electric Company officials to see if the needed power source is available. The siren requires a three-phase 440 volt current."

"The third step which must be taken," said Bowling, "is for the department to open negotiations with the Louisville Jefferson County Civil Defense officials. They want to incorporate the siren into their county-wide national emergency warning system."

Civil defense warning officer, Elden Dorand, Jr., said in an interview last week, that if a city consented to a two-way siren policy (two-use diffused as a warning for both national emergencies and fire alert), the department of defense will pay up to 50 percent of the

cost of purchasing and installing a siren."

"But," said Bowling, "the negotiations will be between the fire department and civil defense. The city will only coordinate activities as an interested party, with no authority."

The relationship of the fire department and the city was explained last week by Bowling. It is of a landlord-tenant nature because the department is a separate corporate entity of government governed only by state laws. They have a contract to provide fire service and protection with the city.

Mayor Bowling also said that the hours during which the siren would be used will be curtailed, although it will still be sounded at least once a day in accordance with fire insurance underwriters' regulations.

"It will be used only during daylight

Continued on page A-8

A health peril?

## Noisy old fire siren may get a new roost

Continued from page A-1

hours," Bowling said, "because a majority of the department's volunteers are away from their homes working. It will not be used after dark because the men have monitors in their homes and can be alerted through them."

In another siren-related development, L. Frank Cohn, an engineering graduate student at the University of Louisville's Speed Scientific School, was contacted by the Voice-Jeffersonian staff to get a decibel rating on the sirens' blast. He is using his degree work to provide technical information supporting a bill which Rep. Bruce Blythe will introduce in the legislature to reduce noise pollution.

Cohn, and J. M. Gannon, a Burger Queen executive, are both members of the National Foundation for Noise Pollution Abatement, Inc., a lobbying group founded last fall by Rep. Bruce Blythe and Gannon.

Both Cohn and Gannon were present for the decibel rating held at noon, Saturday, June 5. From approximately 400 feet for about 10 seconds, the siren flunked the test.

The reading was taken from the rear of a residence at 213 Brown Avenue. The needle registered 98 decibels, two decibels shy of what the AMA considers a physical discomfort level.

In the opinion of Gannon and Cohn, "if that siren blast was continued for a prolonged period of time, (five to ten minutes in their estimation) it would begin tearing at nerves and causing stress, which in turn could cause any number of illnesses."

The two also made some calculations designed to rate the sirens blast at closer distances. At 200 feet they estimated that the blast reading would increase to about 104 decibels; at 100 feet it would reach 110 decibels; and at 50 feet the decibel rating would jump to 116, six decibels above what the AMA rates as "loss of hearing if prolonged."

"The siren emits a hi-frequency irritating impact sound," Gannon said,

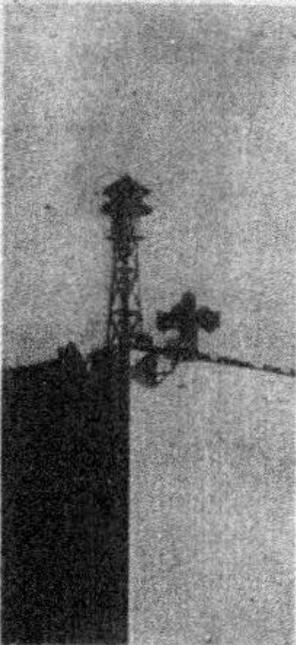
"Another method should be used to alert firemen."

Cohn concurred with Gannon's statement and explained that sound was measured on a logarithmic scale (meaning that the sound was twice as loud at 50 feet as at 100 feet). A person's eardrums are putting up with twice as much sound pressure at 100 feet than at 200 feet."

Both recommended that another method be used to alert firemen and indicated that they would like to return at a future date when the blast could be measured during its two-minute duration, which was the time limit imposed on the department earlier. Previously, it was sounded for three minutes and ten seconds during an emergency.

When Mayor Bowling was informed of the sirens decibel rating, he accepted the test results, but cited the necessity of alerting firemen while they are working during the day.

He also indicated that he, the council and the department would do everything possible to reduce complaints related to the siren, but that community safety would be the overriding factor in any situation that arose.



Voice photo

THIS IS the controversial siren atop the headquarters of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

June 10, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

At old pulp plant

## Roofing company coming to St. Matthews site

By Frank Fox

The Logan-Long Roofing Company, a manufacturer of asphalt-roofing materials, is taking over the premises left vacant by the defunct St. Matthews Pulp Company at 146 St. Matthews Avenue.

Although a contract has not yet been signed between the roofing company and the property owners, the Palmer Asbestos and Hubber Corporation, extensive interior alterations have begun. Applications are being taken for employment.

The plant will be managed by H. T. Berns, a former employee of the bankrupt pulp company. It will employ about 30 persons, according to Donald G. Brown, general manager of the roofing firm's plant in Franklin, Ohio.

Brown said in an interview that his company's plans for the site are to manufacture the dry felt required in the production of asphalt-roofing materials.

"But, and I want you to make this clear to your readers," he said, "that no asphalt manufacturing will be done

in the plant and none of the odor or noise connected with operations here in the past will be here when we start work."

Brown also said that the company will purchase raw materials needed for the dry felt from local sources. The raw materials will be newspapers, cardboard and magazines.

Brown indicated that the Franklin, Ohio plant made a practice of buying newspapers collected by community groups to raise funds for various projects. He added that the Louisville plant will follow the same practice.

"We intend to process about 10 tons of waste paper per day when the plant goes into operation," Brown said, "and hopefully to increase this to 30 tons daily as business picks up."

The company selected Louisville as the site for its second manufacturing plant, according to Brown, "because they consider it a good labor market and the existing plant is capable of manufacturing their material."



*Voice photo*

OFFICIALS OF a new St. Matthews firm at 146 St. Matthews Avenue pause for a picture beside the company's sign. They are H. T. Berns, left, and Donald G. Brown,

June 10, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# \$2.5-million medical offices to be built

## Physicians' suites to adjoin the new Suburban Hospital

A seven-story, \$2,500,000 professional office building will be built adjacent to Suburban Hospital, which is now under construction in St. Matthews, it was announced today.

The office building, Suburban Medical Plaza, is expected to be completed in time for the opening of the 350-bed Suburban Hospital, which is scheduled for the fall of 1972, according to Extensicare, Inc.

The building permit for the new structure will show a value of about \$1,500,000 according to Charles Teple, director of communications for Extensicare. Teple pointed out that this figure would merely include the cost of the shell of the building and that its cost would rise to \$2,500,000 by the time it was ready for occupancy.

The hospital and the office building will be in the 4000 block of Dutchmans Lane, near Browns Lane and Interstate 64. The office building will be south-west of the hospital and the two buildings will be connected by an underground tunnel.

Extensicare is planning a number of unusual features in the building. Physicians leasing space there will be able to subscribe to a variety of services that will handle much of their routine office activity. The building also will include a health club in which the doctors will be able to play squash or handball, exercise, use a sauna, or relax in a lounge.

The services will include data processing to handle payroll, billing, paying bills and financial reporting, where by a doctor may dial a telephone from anywhere at any hour to be connected to a dictating machine, and a centralized purchasing service that is expected to obtain lower costs through volume buying.

Present plans call for a building with 45,000 square feet of rentable space.

### Six floors of offices

The first floor will be devoted to hospital-related activities, such as a

pharmacy, a gift shop, an optical firm, a bank, an orthopedic shoe store, a barber shop and a florist. Food service will be at the hospital's cafeteria.

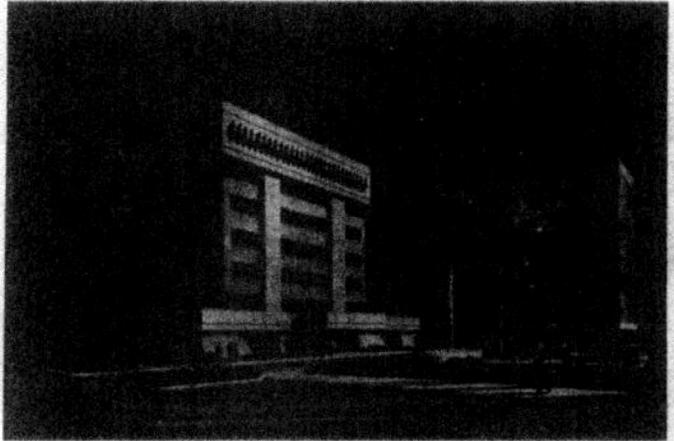
Six floors of doctor's offices presently are planned. The health club will be located in the basement level.

"From the interest expressed to date, it is anticipated that the full space will be leased before the building is completed," said Wendell Cherry, president of Extensicare.

Physicians who rent space in Suburban Medical Plaza may direct the placement of partitions in their offices and will choose their own decorating schemes, if they wish, Teple said.

### Its first office building

Extensicare, which has headquarters in the Fortland Federal Building in Louisville is a hospital-management company that operates 33 hospitals, including the 507-bed St. Joseph Infirmary in Louisville. It also operates 48 nursing centers, including three in the Louisville



SUBURBAN MEDICAL PLAZA will look like this. At right is Suburban Hospital, which is now under construction. The facilities will be near Browns Lane and Interstate 64.

area. The company owns office space leased by doctors to a number of communities in which it has hospitals. However, Suburban Medical Plaza will be its first office building in Louisville.

June 17, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## On Dupont Road near Suburban Hospital

# \$4-million medical complex planned

## 135,000-square-foot building will house professional offices

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

"In my spare time," Mrs. Beatrice Leslie explains that she plans to build a medical and professional building which she estimates will cost about \$4 million when completed.

"In her spare time" because, in addition to being the mother of seven children, she is the president of the St. Matthews Company, a realty and construction firm.

Mrs. Leslie will build Professional Towers to what is becoming known as eastern Jefferson County's medical mecca. Her company purchased 4.2 acres of land on Dupont Road in the Village real estate development complex off Breckinridge and Dutchmans lanes in St. Matthews earlier this year.

The land is part of the former J. Graham Brown estate which is owned and being developed by the Metts Realtor Company. Extensicare, Inc., who is building a suburban hospital in the complex, announced plans last week to construct a \$2.5 million medical office nearby. A new Baptist hospital is also planned for the area, although no official construction date has been announced.

Professional Towers will consist of 135,000 square feet within one seven-story tower and two five-story wings. "It will be," according to Mrs. Leslie,

"larger than Medical Towers North and South combined. In fact, it may be the largest in this area, but I have no statistics to prove that."

Construction of the building will begin sometime next week. It will be built by Professional Towers Company, which

MRS. BEATRICE  
LESLIE  
Her firm  
plans offices



will also handle leasing arrangements when construction is completed in 12 to 18 months. Professional Towers Company is a division of the St. Matthews Company.

Some features of the new professional offices that Mrs. Leslie considers unique are a roof garden equipped with wrought iron tables and chairs that will be accessible to the building's occupants. The garden will also be used by the patroness of a "first-class quality" restaurant and lounge. Astro-turf will be used in the decorating scheme.

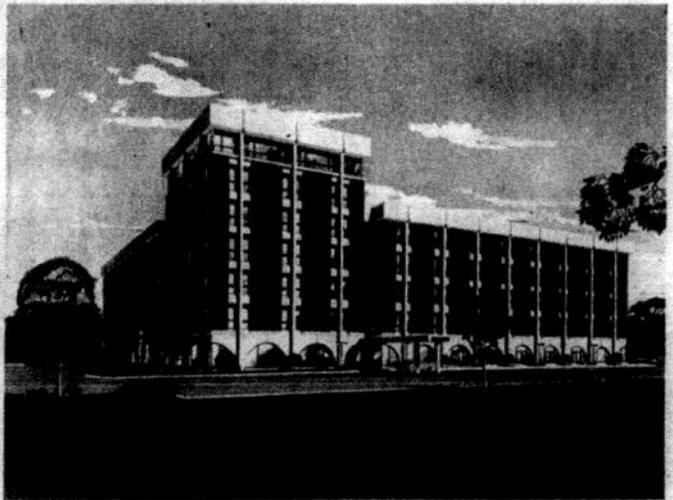
Three high-speed 15-passenger elevators will take occupants and visitors from the first floor up. Walk-in shops and service organizations, such as an optical company and a laboratory, will be located on the first floor, as will be a major Louisville area bank branch.

"We will also have in-building services to provide faster services for the occupants and clients," Mrs. Leslie said. "One feature I'm sure doctors will like will be the display and meeting rooms on the lower level. Salesmen can make arrangements to rent space in them on a short term basis to show their products. This way occupants will be able to browse through during lunch or free time and won't have their office routine interrupted by salesmen calling."

The concrete structure was designed by the Louisville architectural firm of Tatal and Schickel. It will be equipped with a combined central and zonal heating and cooling system, an emergency lighting system which will become effective immediately in case of power failure, and a lower level fully-stocked fail-out shelter.

Mrs. Leslie said that the building will have a full time manager and staff, possibly about 16 full-time employees occupying janitorial, administrative, secretarial and clerical positions.

"A computer billing service will also be available to occupants," she said,



HERE'S AN ARCHITECT'S DRAWING of the 7-story tower and two adjoining 5-story sections of the Professional Towers, to be built on Dupont Road in The Village development complex in St. Matthews, near the new Suburban Hospital.

"and any other service that a major bank can provide."

Financing for the \$4 million building was arranged by the Kentucky Mortgage Company through the B. F. Seal Company,

located in Washington, D. C. James Buntin is being retained by the parent St. Matthews Company to take charge of the project.

With the announcement of her plans to

build Professional Towers, Mrs. Leslie also said that her company is divesting itself from the residential development property, two subdivisions of which were a joint project with the Metts Realtor Company.

1971

June 10, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Val Fire Dept. held Thursday June 10 1971 at the fire house.

Directors Present.

Fred C. Boss	Jno. Emrich
W. Leland Wilson	Geo E. Miller
Jno Monohan.	

Minutes of last meeting held May 13th 1971 read by chairman Jno. Emrich

Motion made by Leland Wilson seconded by Fred C. Boss that they be accepted as read.

The Fireman has elected as their board member for the year of 1971 and 1972. Mr. Robt Walling to replace Mr. Harry Babcock.

There being no objections by the board member on this appointment Therefore Mr. Robt Walling was approved as a board member starting at the July annual meeting. for a period of one year.

There being no further business motion made by Jno Emrich seconded by Geo Miller that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

Geo E. Miller Sec'y

1971

June 10, 1971, New Board member:

Robert C. "Bob" Walling

Firefighter June 25, 1957 to July 1974, Lieutenant 1959 to 1961, Captain 1961 to 1973, Assistant Chief 1973 to 1974, Director 1970 to 1972



ROBERT WALLING



June 4, 1926 to November 1, 1993

Born in Louisville June 4, 1926. He attended Christ The King grade school and Manual High school. He joined the Air Force, December 8, 1943 and became a Test Engineer on B32's and an Air Flight Inspector for Air Transport. Completing his obligation to the Air Force June of 1946 he went to work for Breaux Ballard, a Dodge dealership in Louisville. While there he learned the parts business and then moved to L. J. Hannah, Dodge Dealership in the parts department. He then joined the Gill Mueller Auto Sales and Service where he stayed 19 years until being bought out by General Auto Sales who he stayed with. He joined the department as a firefighter in 1957, served as a firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief in 1973, before leaving the department in 1974. Mr. Walling served on the Board from 1970 until 1972. Bob died at age 67 in Lee, Florida November 1, 1993.

Fireman, airman, and policeman

Serving others is his hobby

Like so many of the members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, Robert Walling devotes a great deal of time to service to others.

automotive supply firm in St. Matthews. A native of Louisville, he attended Manual High. He goes to Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

He and his wife, the former Margaret Hill of Harrodsburg, have four children, Ann Michele, 10, Robert, Jr., 6, John, 4, and Emily 2.

The 34-year-old salesman has a background which includes service with two volunteer fire departments, a sixth class city and the Air Force.

The Volunteers, as a group, perform a great service to the community, of course. They protect the lives and property of the residents of the St. Matthews area, and receive not one cent of pay for their work.

In addition, the St. Matthews firemen work for other worthy causes. They will, for instance, visit every home in their fire district Sept. 24 and 25 to collect money for the Crusade for Children.

Mr. Walling is the kind of man the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department needs more of at this time. He works out here, and consequently can answer fire calls during the daytime.

The Department has enough men to answer the night calls, but is short of men to answer the day calls. Any able-bodied man can apply.

Mr. Walling, of 122 Fairmeade, has been with the St. Matthews Volunteers for three years. He is a lieutenant. Before that he served two years with the McMahan Volunteers.

"They were short of men at McMahan and they were just getting started," he said. "I knew most of the fellows, so I joined. After I got in, I liked it. Then when I knew I was moving to Fairmeade, I joined over here.

"I enjoy the work. The best thing about being a fireman is the satisfaction of saving someone's property."

Mr. Walling also serves the City of Fairmeade. He is town marshal, without pay, of course.

"I live at Winchester and Fairmeade," he said. "That's a hot corner. There's a lot of speeding there, and somebody has to take care of it, so I patrol one night a week."

His service with the Air Force was during World War II. He served 28 months.

Mr. Walling is a salesman for Gil Mueller Sales & Service, an

June 17, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Thierman Lane to be widened

Although no bids have been let as yet, the widening of Thierman Lane from Shelbyville Road to Westport Road will begin this year. The project will be done in two stages, the first stage of which will be a joint city-Sears Roebuck and Company venture.

"We will be advertising for bids in about 45 days," said Mayor Bowling Friday. "To begin and complete construction of the first leg, from Shelbyville Road to Ockhill Avenue, in this construction season."

Present plans call for widening Thierman Lane, which varies from 40 to 50 feet wide along its four-teenths of a mile length, to a four-lane road. The road has already been expanded to four lanes from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad tracks to Westport Road.

The expansion will take place on the east side of Thierman Lane, leaving at least one lane of traffic open at all times during the construction. This accommodates requests made by Sears that shoppers have easy access to their parking facilities off Shelbyville and Thierman Lane.

The project will be facilitated by the fact that the hoped-for widening has been in the planning stages for a couple of years. Storm sewers were installed when Sears Avenue, a parallel street to Thierman Lane, was built.

Also, the board of directors of the Second Church of Christ Scientist have deeded 10 feet of their land, five for public use and five for utility easement purposes, to the widening project.

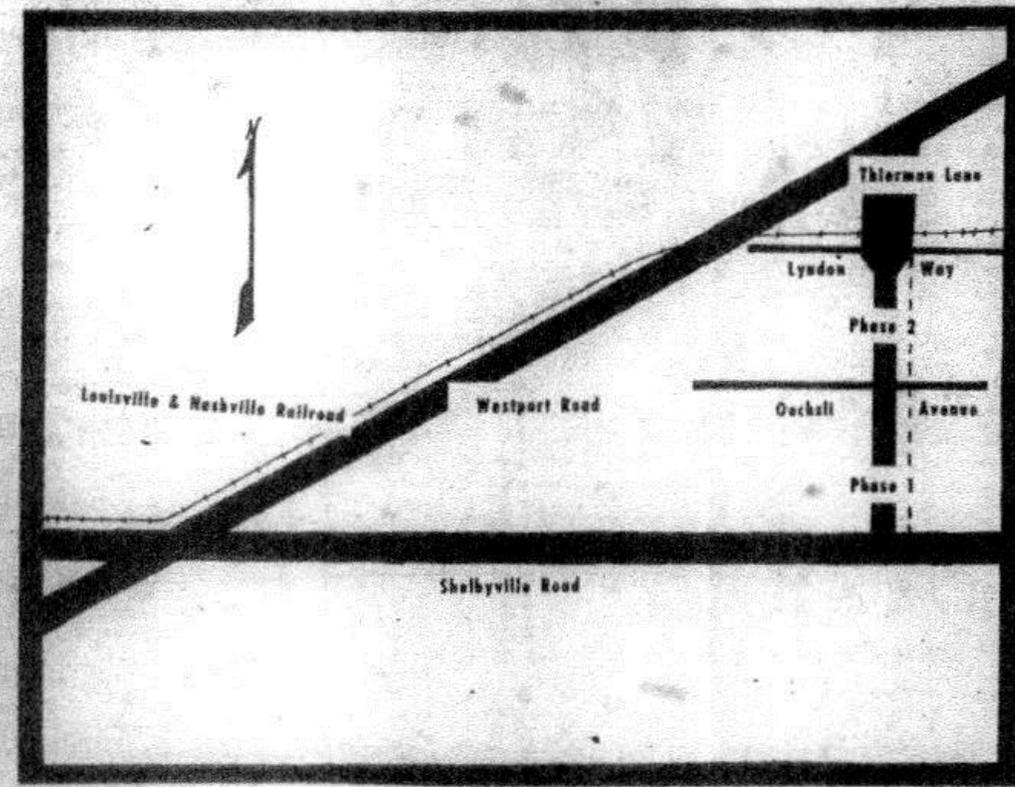
Although there is a large tree, in a prominent place on the southeast corner of the Thierman Lane-Shelbyville Road intersection, which will be cut down, no conservationists have attacked the project. According to Mayor Bowling, the property owners consider the tree a hazard to their building and property.

"The remaining trees alongside Thierman will also be removed," Bowling said, "but they will be replaced with other trees, blooming flowers and shrubbery when construction is completed."

Sears will participate in the first half of the project, according to store manager Don E. Wittkeind, "not only because it will benefit their operation, but because we like the idea of being corporate citizens."

Wittkeind explained that he had been contacted by Bowling earlier this year on a possible joint venture with the city. "I considered the proposal and passed it onto our headquarters in Chicago," Wittkeind said. "They sent our real estate people down to survey the situation and we received approval to go ahead on it."

Sears will participate by investing about



Voice map by David Bryd

DOTTED LINE indicates section of Thierman Lane that will become a four-lane street.

\$10,500 and granting use of their property on Thierman Lane. They will also dedicate the street when construction is complete.

"We like the widening because it will increase the flow of traffic on Thierman Lane between Westport and Shelbyville Roads," Wittkeind said, "and we would like for it to be a smooth flow. The growth of the east end and its attendant traffic problems concern us and we would like to help out when we can."

Rodolfo Realty Company's president, Rodolfo Pantoja, is behind the widening project also. His realty and building company offices are located on Thierman Lane's east side, as is a condominium and rental apartment complex.

He has given 15 feet of property frontage to the city from his three lots, and considers progress comparable to a growing child, "which gets bigger every year and must be taken care of accordingly."

"I have been aware of plans for the widening since I was issued my first building permit," Pantoja said, "That is why my buildings are removed from the road and sound-proofed."

Pantoja also said that his three buildings have been built as "beautiful things to look at" in anticipation of the heavy traffic he expects to use the widened road.



Voice photo by Frank Fox

TREES AT THE RIGHT will be cut to permit widening of Thierman Lane. Shelbyville Road is in foreground.

1971

June 17, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: STMFd responded with Major Haeberlin in charge, with S-1 and S4



*Photo by Doug Fowley*

AN OLD UNOCCUPIED HOME on the grounds of the A. B. Sawyer Park on Whippa Mill Road caught fire last Friday. The cause of the blaze was not determined. Here a portion of the front roof toppled into the fiery interior. The home was heavily damaged.

1971

June 17, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

SECTION B, PAGE 6, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1971

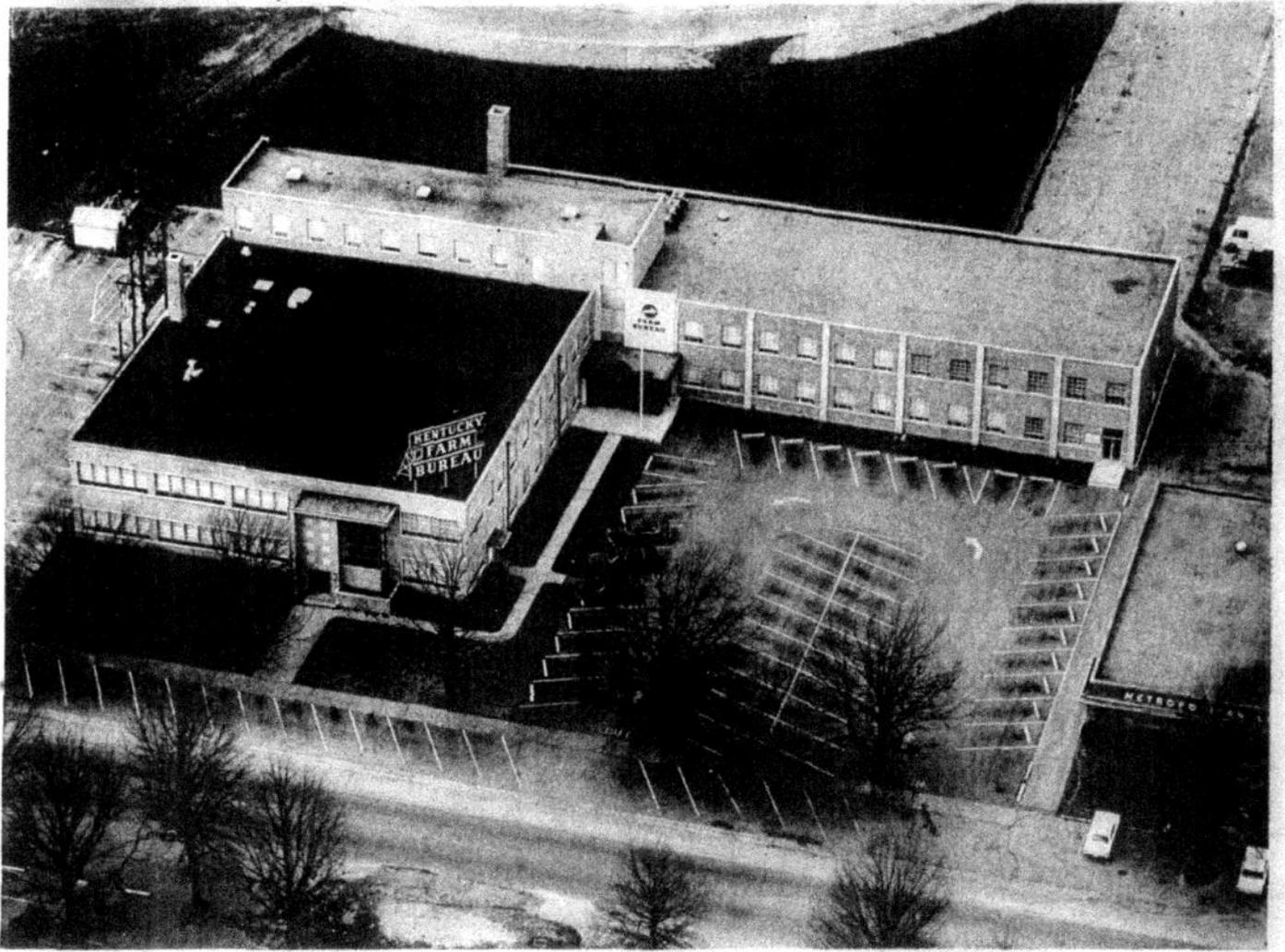


Photo by Robert Steinau

SERVICES AND MEMBERSHIP of the Kentucky Farm Bureau have grown in recent years, and the state office at 120 S. Hubbards Lane in St. Matthews has been expanded to keep pace with the greater demands. The Bureau office has been on Hubbards Lane since 1949, and there have been three additions to the original facility. The latest addition (which extends from center to the right of the picture) contains 17,000 square feet and has brought total office space to 48,000 square feet.

1971

June 17, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Not sure Voice—

## A reasonable fire siren decision

As troublesome as St. Matthews' fire siren has been recently, it looks as if Mayor Bernard Bowling's plan to relocate it to the business section is about as reasonable a compromise as possible -- for now.

Where it stands today, atop the fire station at Sears Avenue and Lyndon Way, the siren is as much a public nuisance as anything.

Complaints from nearby residents prompted the mayor and fire department to make two concessions. First, the siren will be relocated away from a residential area; second, it will be sounded only during the day and for brief periods, unless the siren is needed for alerting the volunteer fire department.

The problem is that as long as

St. Matthews is satisfied with a volunteer fire department, it probably must rely on some type of siren to call in the volunteers during the day.

It will not be too many years, however, before the natural growth of this community will force a change to a full-time, professional fire department.

Until then, it seems we shall have to live with the siren. Relocating it downtown will not reduce the painful blast it throws forth when a genuine alert sounds. But the mayor's promise to have its daily tests run for brief moments and only during the daylight hours shows he is trying to do the right thing.

June 18, 1971,  
Letter:

**KENTUCKY FIRE SCHOOL**

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
640 STARKS BUILDING  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202

June 18, 1971

Chief John M. Monohan  
St. Matthews Fire Department  
St. Matthews, Kentucky 40207

Dear Chief:

1971 KENTUCKY FIRE SCHOOL

On behalf of the Fire School Committee, I should like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the assistance given us by your Department in making this year's Fire School a success.

You and the members of your Department who have participated as instructors are to be congratulated on an excellent job. Without the invaluable assistance of the many Fire Departments each year, we could not hope to maintain the high standard of the School's contribution to the advancement of the Fire Service throughout our State. We hope that we can depend upon your assistance in the future.

Please extend our thanks to those in your Department who assisted in this School last week.

Again thanking you, and with best personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,  
*Jack L. Smith*  
CHAIRMAN  
FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

JDS:vk

SPONSORED BY

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
FEDERAL FIREWORK ASSOCIATION  
KENTUCKY MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

LEITCHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION  
KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL FIRE PROTECTION BOARD  
KENTUCKY JURISDICTION BOARD

1971

June 22, 1971, Cash Receipts:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
JUNE 18, 1970 THRU JUNE 22, 1971

BALANCE JUNE 18, 1970		\$ 10,727.79	
RECEIPTS			
Subscriptions	\$ 84,220.99		
Contributions - Jefferson County	1,800.00		
Sale of Old Firehouse	49,767.00		
Interest	338.18		
Miscellaneous	<u>142.00</u>	<u>136,268.17</u>	\$146,995.96
DISBURSEMENTS			
CAPITAL			
Payment on New Building	\$ 85,833.54		
Equipment	6,722.69		
Relocating Siren	<u>1,655.39</u>	\$ 94,211.62	
ASSESSMENTS - Road and Sewer		3,552.23	
EXPENSES			
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 122.50		
Firemens Training School	360.00		
General Expenses	4,062.83		
Insurance	3,323.46		
Payroll Taxes	561.60		
Legal & Accounting	625.00		
Office Supplies & Expense	712.11		
Radio System Expense	2,057.07		
Salaries - Net	3,057.37		
Supplies	991.95		
Truck Expenses	23,072.98		
Utilities	<u>4,328.71</u>	<u>43,275.58</u>	
Total Disbursements			<u>141,039.43</u>
CASH BALANCE - JUNE 22, 1971			\$ <u>5,956.53</u>

1971

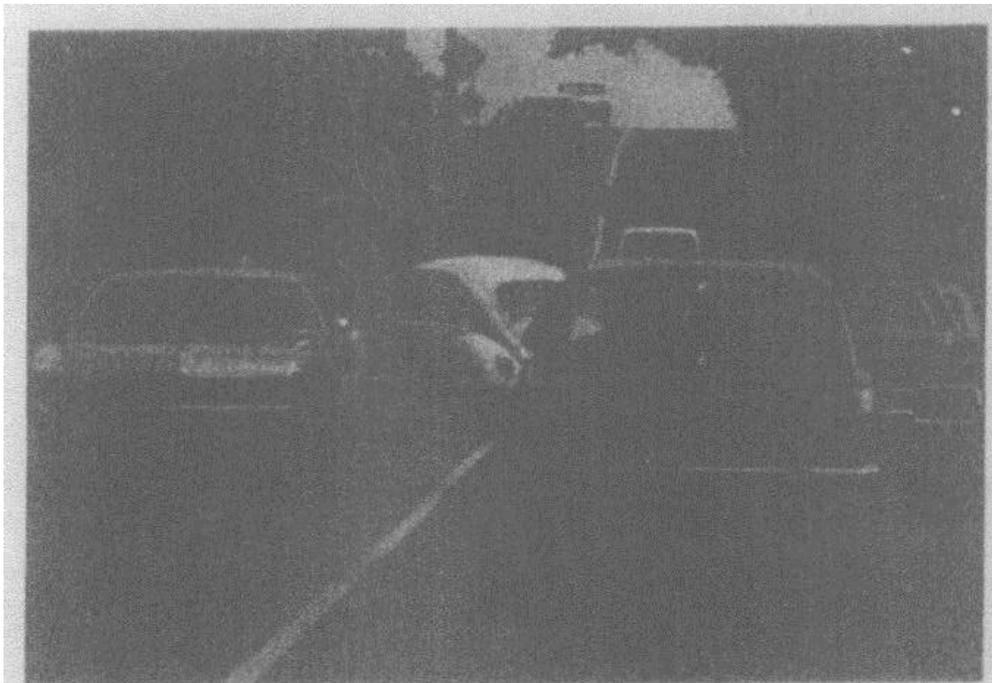
June 24, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

SECTION A, PAGE 2, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1971



CAUSE . . . AND EFFECT . . . Some people sat in their cars, some stood, but all impatiently waited for a train that was blocking at least three intersections recently on a particularly sweltering recent day in St. Matthews. The pictures were taken at the Chenoweth Lane crossing of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad tracks. Estimates by observers of the time that drivers and pedestrians had to wait for the train to clear the intersection ranged from 15 to 30 minutes.

July 1, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



HERE'S WHY ST. MATTHEWS is asking the Kentucky State Highway Department for \$65,000 for improvements to Breckinridge Lane. Left turns from Breckinridge to streets like Hillsboro Road, where this picture was taken, are a traffic-jamming, fender-bending, frustrating experience every day of the week. What's needed are left turn lanes and traffic signals at Grandview Avenue, Hycliffe Avenue, Norbourne Boulevard and Hillsboro Road. Now that the new fiscal year has begun, it's time the state shook loose the funds for this top-priority project in St. Matthews.

July 8, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Men volunteering for fire or police duty

### Firemen: The key to effort: they care

By Susan Manne  
Women's Editor

The City of Louisville is locked in a pay dispute with its fire fighters.

If the residents of Jefferson County were to get the same protection from a full-time professional team, it would cost about \$6,000,000 for fire fighters paid at the current rate, without anticipated increases. This sum would represent a 50 percent increase in the county budget and a corresponding 30 percent tax increase.

This projected sum for operating expenses does not include the equipment and firehouses now owned by the individual departments which the county would have to purchase or replace if they switched to paid fire fighters.

Richard M. Trautwein, director of the Jefferson County Fire Protection Program, estimates that this "getting started" cost would be "at least 20 million dollars." The total county budget is about \$23,000,000.

This hypothetical situation assumes that the county's 340 square miles now protected by volunteers could be serviced by a department the size of the City of Louisville's.

The taxpayer in Jefferson County is getting a bargain in fire protection for his money, "a tremendous bargain," agreed Trautwein.

Pat Maloney, public-relations volunteer for the St. Matthews Volunteer Department, labels the service "very, very cheap."

#### Good fire protection

But does this bargain priced fire service in the county also mean inferior service?

"Not at all," said Maloney. "In any given situation, with a given crew, we can do as well as the City of Louisville. We won't take a back seat."

The "protection for the county is for the most part of superior quality," said Trautwein. He pointed out that 14 of the 20 volunteer fire districts have qualified for sixth-class insurance--the lowest premiums available for homeowners. The insurance is directly affected by the quality of fire protection.

section.

Trautwein also said that it is "apparent that a volunteer department will have a minute or two less time in responding" to a call. But Carl Haunz, Jr., chief of the Worthington Volunteer Fire Department, points out that "what we lack in time, we make up in equipment and men."

Haunz explained that, on the first roll, the city may respond with one piece of equipment with four men and follow with five to 10 men. His department will move 10 to 30 men on the first roll, Haunz said.

#### Respond in minutes -- or less

But even if a department is volunteer, we are talking about a response time of minutes.

"No kidding," said Maloney, "they seem to come out of the sidewalks. It's unbelievable how fast the men respond, especially when someone may be in danger."

For the St. Matthews department, he says its fastest time for being "on the ramp and rolling" is 45 seconds to one minute. This is at night, when more men are available. The high time, recorded during the day when men may have to come from their businesses, is two to three minutes.

Maloney also explained that the radio call sounds for three minutes. From his home on Westport Road, one of the longest distances for men in St. Matthews department to travel, he can be dressed and in the station before the tone stops.

In fact, Haunz says that "sometimes people wonder if we have ESP, because they see us rushing to the firehouse before the alarm sounds."

All fire calls go into the central county alarm office, where the location is identified according to the fire district. Then the volunteers in that district are notified by radio.

"The volunteer fire fighter is equipped differently in the county," Haunz said. "We don't sit in the firehouse waiting for the bell to ring. We have radio contact -- each fire fighter has the radio at home."

In St. Matthews, the men are expected to attend training sessions for several hours every Tuesday night. More than two absences in a row must be explained.

Chief Haunz explained that it takes "six months to a year of weekly two-hour training session to produce an effective team. We don't think of our fire fighters in any other terms -- they are a team and it's teamwork that puts out fires."

The biggest problem in running a volunteer fire department is getting the volunteers. "We always have trouble," said

Continued to Page A-10

July 8, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Men volunteering for fire or police duty

# Responsibility is 'why' volunteer firemen serve

Continued from Page 1

Maloney. "We have about one-third of what we should have," explained Haunz.

Both departments have trouble with "transients," people who move into the community and then, frequently, are transferred by their businesses.

For example, Maloney pointed out that they may have men who stay on the force four or five years and then move. But if they do stay in the community and serve for more than five years, "they are frequently here for the duration." Consequently, a high turnover rate is not responsible for the lack of volunteers, he said.

Chief Haunz describes his fire district as "very unique", shifting from an agricultural to a residential community with the rural residents growing older and moving out. "I personally feel that many of the new residents feel they are above being a volunteer," says Haunz. But the volunteers they do get, he feels, are exceptional men of high caliber.

Both departments have recently liberalized policies which have opened the doors for new volunteers. St. Matthews lowered its lower age limit from 21 to 18 and have put on 10 new men since the first of the year. Worthington has four women and 11 teens, over 16. Haunz explained a department only has to answer to its own insurance carrier.

St. Matthews has 55 volunteers who

make about 250 runs each year and Worthington has 35 to 40 volunteers making 45 to 50 runs a year. In the county, about 4,500 runs are made yearly, as opposed to 3,003 in Louisville.

But why should a man volunteer to be constantly on call, to put his life on the line? Haunz calls it "responsibility."

"This is their department, a community effort that we have to support. I think the men develop a tremendous pride in service to their community. The fellow who volunteers for the excitement of riding on the truck doesn't stay long."

Walking around St. Matthews' new, \$250,000 firehouse, Maloney explained that we have "a little pride here" about their service and equipment. However, this is not meant "to slight our brothers downtown."

"A fire fighter is a fire fighter," he said, "and I don't care if he is a volunteer or paid. We belong to each other and work alongside them."

But a volunteer department is not always workable, such as in the city of Louisville.

Haunz has nothing but admiration for the city professionals, noting that they are dedicated and face obstacles of traffic and crowded conditions that make a run more difficult.

Maloney commented that the mercantile and industrial buildings downtown require greater protection. The city buildings are older, more crowded and have greater potential fire hazards.

But, eventually, Trautwein foresees a time when the volunteer system may evolve into a "hybrid" situation in the county, with some volunteers and some paid fire fighters.

Trautwein explained that we are constantly adding to the responsibilities of a fire fighter. For example, mercantile establishments have to be inspected twice a year. Keeping the insurance rates down means more administration and more prevention.

"It is different volunteering for an emergency position and an administrative function," he explained.

### Future STMFDF firefighter:

ARMY PRIVATE JOHN R. O'TOLLE JR. of St. Matthews has completed basic training at Ft. Knox.

1971

July 8, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: **Men volunteering for fire or police duty**

**The Key to effort: they care: by Susan Manne**, Women's Editor. The City of Louisville is locked in a pay dispute with its firefighters.

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1971

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July 8, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Men volunteering for fire or police duty

### Policemen:

# Little city shares its 6 officers

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

Beechwood Village is quite small—1,788 residents.

And its police force also is small—six men, all volunteers.

But Beechwood Village "thinks big" when it comes to helping its neighbors. It shares its six-man force with nearby Woodlawn Park. Woodlawn Park also is small—1,350 residents.

Beechwood Village is a fifth-class city in northeastern Jefferson County, just north of Shelbyville Road and the Shelbyville Road Plaza.

North of the corporate limits of Beechwood Village, across the Louisville & Nashville Railroad tracks, lies Woodlawn Park.

Besides fifth-class-city status, both have something in common. Beginning May 15, the two cities agreed to share the same police force. Woodlawn Park has had to depend solely upon the Jefferson County Police Department.

Beechwood Village, on the other hand, has attempted a number of methods to provide the additional protection its officials think it has needed since it became a city in 1950. Until about 5 years ago Beechwood Village had marshals and deputies. Now it has an active volunteer force of six men -- and a marked police patrol car.

#### They're not 'pros'

Although they bear sidearms, wear uniforms and operate a police cruiser with a two-way radio hookup, the city's officers do not consider themselves professional policemen nor as efficient as the Jefferson County police or the neighboring St. Matthews police.

"But," said former Police Chief Dick Hall, "we are about as professional as a part-time force can be. Most of our men are college-educated and all have jobs which require their primary consideration first."

Hall resigned his position June 1, but not because of disillusionment with the force. He became, he said, "too much involved with increasing the efficiency and professionalism of the force" and had to resign because of business reasons. He is in the inventory-control department of the Celanese Piping Systems, Inc. J. Brown, a long-time resident of Beechwood Village, is the new police chief. Hall has stayed on the force as a regular patrolman.

### Patrol area doubled

Prior to May 15 of this year, Beechwood's police patrolled the five miles of streets and 500 residences in the city about six nights a week. After legal arrangements between the cities were completed to insure compliance with state regulations, their patrol area has been doubled.

The increase in the area they are responsible for hasn't presented difficulties, Hall said. However, because of the absence of a railroad crossing along their mutual borders, effective patrolling cannot be accomplished in a normal criss-cross manner.

"This didn't turn out to be any problem," Hall said. "It takes just a few minutes to go west on Blenheim Road to Hubbards Lane. From there, we go north to Westport Road, then east into Woodlawn Park."

The possibility that the route would be blocked by a train during an emergency has been considered by the police and city officials. "But that problem hasn't as yet been a problem," said Hall, "but we are aware of it."

### See no duplication

Police consider their primary responsibility traffic-control and speed-deterrent action, neither they nor the city officials see their efforts as duplicating the work of the Jefferson County police.

"Although we are entitled under state law as a fifth-class city police force to patrol the entire county if we wished," Hall added.

But the city didn't institute a police force for that reason, Hall said, and "by a gentlemen's agreement" with the county and city of St. Matthews police, we don't."

The Beechwood patrol car, which is equipped with radar device, now follows no set patrol plan, "the idea being to remain flexible and make people aware of our presence when traveling through our city," Hall said.

"The county police have enough to do," Hall said, "and by helping ourselves we can relieve them from traffic control duties to concentrate on other problems. We work with them real well. In fact, many of our men ride with them to gain experience and familiarity with their method of operation."

Because it is not a full-time, 24-hour police force, the Beechwood police are not directly linked by radio to the county network. They do have a county-radio

Continued to Page A-10



Vokey photo

FORMER CHIEF Richard (Dick) Hall of the Beechwood Village Police Department still serves as a patrolman.

July 8, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Men volunteering for fire or police duty

# Little city shares its 6 officers

Continued from Page 1

monitor in the car, through which a patrolling Beechwood officer can keep informed of county-police movements.

To contact the county police, the city has contracted with a private security agency that maintains a 24-hour dispatching service for cities such as Beechwood. If an officer needs assistance, he contacts the dispatcher on his two-way radio. The dispatcher, in turn alerts the county police.

The system works two ways. If a Beechwood resident, (and now a Woodlawn Park one) needs the patrolling officer, he simply calls 367-3444. Then gives the caller a line to the dispatcher, who relays the message to the patrolling officer. The dispatcher is also notified when an officer goes on or off duty.

### Tied to St. Regis Park

"This same system is used by a number of fifth-class cities," Hall said. "St. Regis Park is one we have direct communication with, their car number is 25 and ours is 28."

Woodlawn Park city officials approached Beechwood Village in March on the possibility of advising them on setting up their own police force. The negotiations were carried on mostly by phone, but the idea was dropped when the cost to Woodlawn Park was deemed prohibitive.

Later, Woodlawn Park, still desiring some sort of additional protection, broached the subject to the Beechwood police department. Both councils approved the plan on a 90-day trial basis.

Last week, according to Woodlawn Park Mayor John D. Lynch, the council approved the payment of \$150 for one month of police protection. Lynch, during a telephone interview, indicated that the council was enthusiastic about the program. To the best of his knowledge he said, it would continue at least until the trial expiration date.

### They're volunteers

As far as Beechwood Village is concerned, Hall said, motorists have begun slowing down when passing through the city. And, according to some statistics quoted by the City Council, the break-in and theft rate over the past three years has been reduced about 90 per cent.

"As I understand it," Hall added, "the study was made to justify the money outlay for police equipment. And I think we are probably the best-equipped volunteer force in the county."

### Motorists slow down

"They are leasing only the car and equipment," Hall said. "The officers are from Beechwood Village and still serve on a volunteer basis."

To satisfy certain legal technicalities of the cooperative agreement, Samuel Durham was appointed Woodlawn Park police chief. "He will not do any patrolling, though," Hall said. "His main function will be to act as a liaison between us and the Woodlawn Park city council."

The consolidation of police protection services between the cities isn't the first time they have entered into joint ventures. According to Hall, both cities have been holding joint police court for the past couple of years.

"We both have been holding court once a month, on the second Wednesday of each month, in the St. Matthews City Hall on Thierman Lane," said Hall.

Has the additional protection been worth it for both cities? Hall was asked.

"We're just making our presence felt in Woodlawn, using discretion and issuing speeding warning tickets, instead of citations. But we have given some citations and, surprisingly, the motorists ticketed actually thanked us because they were glad we were on the job."

1971

July 9, 1971: Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

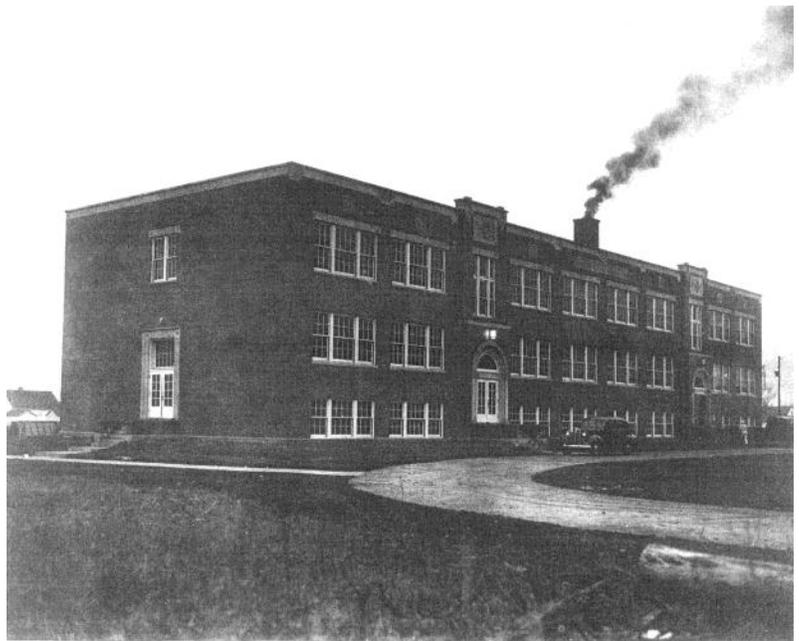
## Editorial by Al Ring (2010)

The Greathouse fire is considered by many as one of the biggest fire fought by the STMFD. It also was one of the most criticized efforts by certain media such as WHAS (Bob Johnson) and others.

I made that fire run and was injured fighting the fire. Big — yes, confusion — yes, tactics—for the most part very good, short of water—not a gallon to spare, no where else to go, hallways blocked making our job much harder—yes, crowd—sometimes in the way—

**RESULTS**—Considering 2 sister schools that caught fire, one in LaGrange and one in southern Kentucky and both burned to the ground. Considering that just a short few months later the kids were back in school and everything was fine. Considering today (2010) it is one beautiful building serving as St. Matthews City Hall—**SPECKTACKULAR**.

Courtesy December 7, 1939, *The Jeffersonian*:



City Of St. Matthews 50 Years—1950 — 2000:



1971

July 9, 1971:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 406

FIRE REPORT

DATE 7/9 TIME OF ALARM 5:15 P.M. TIME RETURNED 10:30 P.M.

LOCATION Great House School APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE [ ] APARTMENT [ ] COMMERCIAL [ ] OFFICE [ ] School

SMOKE [ ] FUMES [ ] LOCK OUT [ ] DRYER [ ] WASHER [ ]

WEEDS [ ] TRASH [ ] OTHER [ ]

RESUSCITATOR [ ] RESCUE [ ] WASH OFF [ ]

BACKUP [ ] DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE [ ] MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 [ ] 102 [ ] 103 [ ] 104 [ ] 105 [ ] 108 [ ] 109 [ ] 5-7

REMARKS McMAHON HAD ONE UNIT AT SCENE & (1) on house

OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Monohan REPORT WRITTEN BY J. Harburtin

11/7/71	8m	Summ 5-1-5-4	75			RAKOSTRAW Sgt.	4037 ORMOND RD.	E. Kenneth Meeker	Same
7/9/71	5:31	Chom 55-5-3-31-	96			Chief Kenneth Monohan	Great House School	Jeff Co	Same
7/9/71	1:09 AM	Chom 5-7	97			Chief Monohan	Great House School	Jeff Co	Same
7/10/71	4:39		100			Chief Monohan	3930 Grandview School	School Board	Same

713	✓	1:10 SET FIGHTING HIT TREE NO APARTMENT STRUCTURE DAMAGE							10
412	✓	Re Kenneth 2nd floor lockers checked off.							20
406	✓	McMAHON Had one unit at scene (1) on house							49

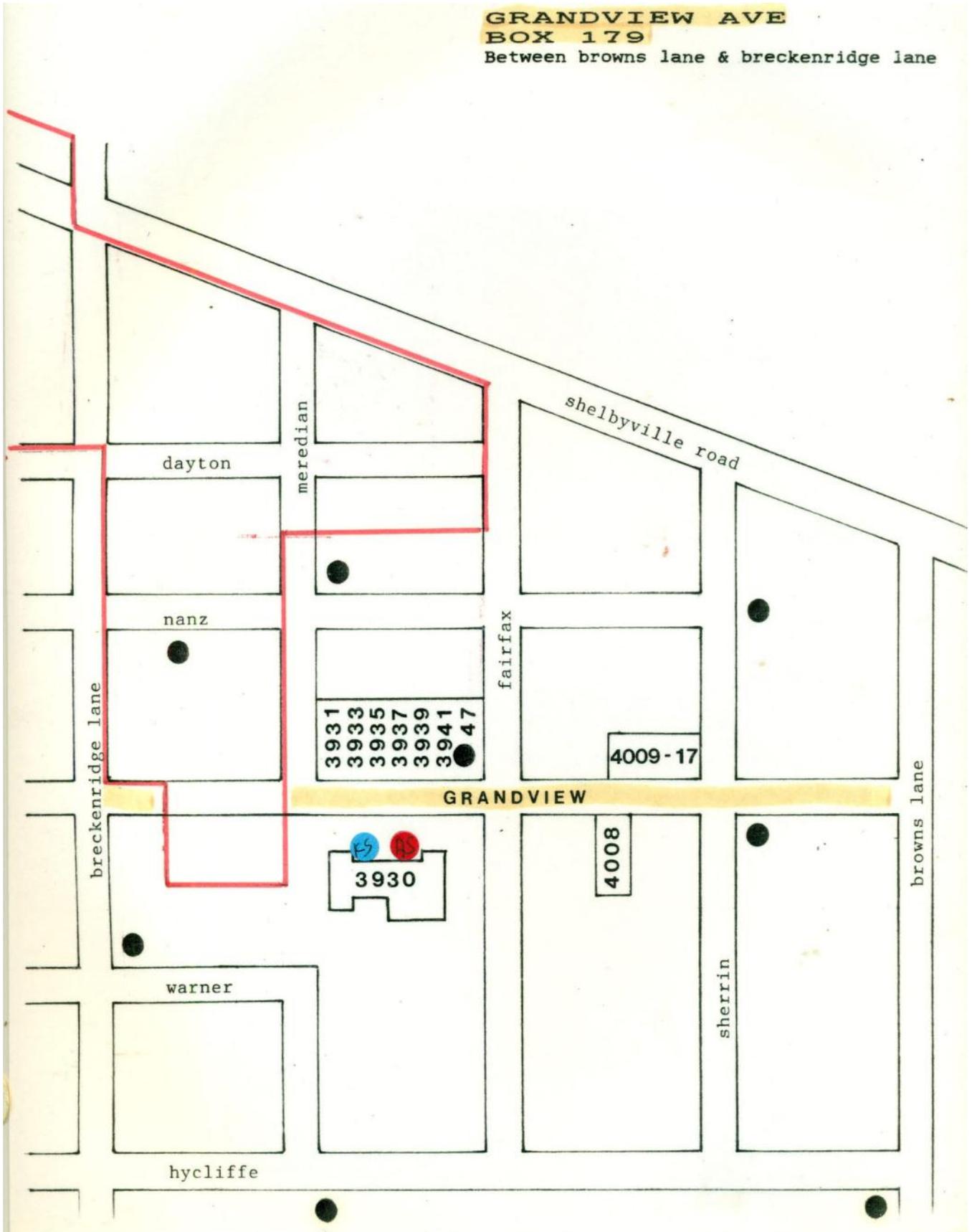
July 9, 1971 Greathouse Elementary School by Jerry Schreck

I had just graduated from KLEC Basic Training (police recruit school) at WKU in Bowling Green, Ky. and just arrived home starving for dinner when we got the call. I rode S-5 tailboard and spent most of the night playing snorkel. I hit myself in the eye with a portable radio antenna, knocking out a contact lens 75 feet in the air. I came crawling home about 3 am, and fell asleep in the bathtub. In the morning my dad and I left for NY. to visit relatives. My dad drove my car while I slept. We got as far as Cinn. And my dad got lost and woke me up to drive.

1971

July 9, 1971:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



1971

July 10, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

**Apparently caused by lightning:** by Tinsley Stewart *The Courier-Journal*:

### **Greathouse School in St. Matthews is extensively damaged by fire**

Greathouse Elementary School, a St. Matthews landmark for more than 30 years, was extensively damaged by fire early yesterday evening.

County School Supt. Richard VanHoose, who was at the scene, said he hopes the area's churches "will look at their facilities and invite us in for the coming school year." More than 500 children attended the school at 3930 Grandview Ave.

Half of the upper floor of the two-story brick building was completely gutted by the fire, which broke out between 5:15 and 5:30 p.m. The other half of the upper floor was badly damaged by flames and the first floor was damaged by flames, smoke and water.

Two witnesses, Herman Heck and Mrs. N. F. Becker, said they saw lightning strike the building's chimney. Mrs. Becker said she saw flames around the chimney immediately after the thunderbolt and called the St. Matthews Fire Department, got no answer, and then called county police. Firemen arrived within five minutes, she said.

Heck said he did not see any flames immediately but saw "something scatter like bricks...after a violent crash of thunder." St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan verified that lightning caused the fire, and that it began at the chimney.

"Half of that chimney was gone when we got there," he said. The fire blazed out of control for more than an hour.

At 6:30 p.m. it appeared that firemen had contained the fire to the western half of the upper floor, but as the flames tumbled and roared, the fire quickly spread to the middle of the old structure and then to the eastern half.

The heat was so intense at that time that persons 100 yards from the building began moving away.

A fireman at the scene, who declined to give his name, said the blaze went out of control for a number of reasons. The school, he said, had a light tar and pebble roof that was too weak to support firemen, making it impossible to get close to the flames to extinguish them. The tar burned quickly but was difficult to extinguish.

He said much of the school's furniture had been placed in hallways, making it difficult to reach the center of the blaze after the firemen went inside.

"They have to crawl anyway," he said, to avoid inhaling too much smoke....and with those desks and things in the way, it was nearly impossible to get in there."

By 7 p.m., flames in the eastern half of the building were under control, but the fire was still out of control at the western half. The heat there caused the outside wall to crack in one place.

Six fire trucks from two volunteer fire departments....St Matthews and McMahan—battled the blaze. Some Lyndon volunteers, but no trucks, helped.

Some neighborhood residents criticized the St. Matthews firemen and Chief Monohan for not getting their equipment pieced together quickly and for not calling in Louisville firemen. Monohan's only comment was, "I think we did a damn good job."

Four firemen were slightly injured— three of them were overcome by smoke and a fourth suffered a cut foot when he stepped on broken glass. Lt. Al Ring, of 25 Westport Terrace, was treated for smoke inhalation and released from Kentucky Baptist Hospital. John Noon, of 101 Colonial Drive, was treated and released from General Hospital with a cut foot. Two other firemen who were overcome by smoke did not require hospital treatment. All four were St. Matthews firemen.

Most of the school's records were saved, said Supt. VanHoose. A truck was loaned to the school to haul away file cabinets and some office machinery.

The building was completed in December, 1939, at a cost of just over \$75,000, but VanHoose said it would cost at least \$1.25 million to replace the building. He was unable to estimate the damage to the building or whether any part of it could be saved.

A few adults, who had attended Greathouse as children, cried as they saw the school go up in flames.

One young mother, a Greathouse alumni whose daughter was a student there last year, was upset because of the "loss of a high quality school." She said classes at Greathouse were small (25 to 29 pupils each) and the teachers were "first class."

By 8 p.m., the school was a smoldering mess but the fire was out for the most part. Neighborhood children helped firemen roll up hoses, and neighborhood women with pitchers of water offered drinks to the exhausted firemen.

Apparently caused by lightning

# Greathouse School in St. Matthews is extensively damaged by fire

By TINSLEY STEWART  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Greathouse Elementary School, a St. Matthews landmark for more than 30 years, was extensively damaged by fire early yesterday evening.

County School Supt. Richard VanHoose, who was at the scene, said he hopes the area's churches "will look at their facilities and invite us in for the coming school year." More than 500 children attended the school at 3930 Grandview Ave.

Half of the upper floor of the two-story brick building was completely gutted by the fire, which broke out between 5:15 and 5:30 p.m. The other half of the upper floor was badly damaged by flames and the first floor was damaged by flames, smoke and water.

Two witnesses, Herman Heck and Mrs. N.F. Becker, said they saw lightning strike the building's chimney. Mrs. Becker said she saw flames around the chimney immediately after the thunderbolt and called the St. Matthews Fire Department, got no answer, and then called county police. Firemen arrived within five minutes, she said.

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Staff Photo by Michael Coers

ST. MATTHEWS FIREMEN AIM HOSE AT GREATHOUSE SCHOOL

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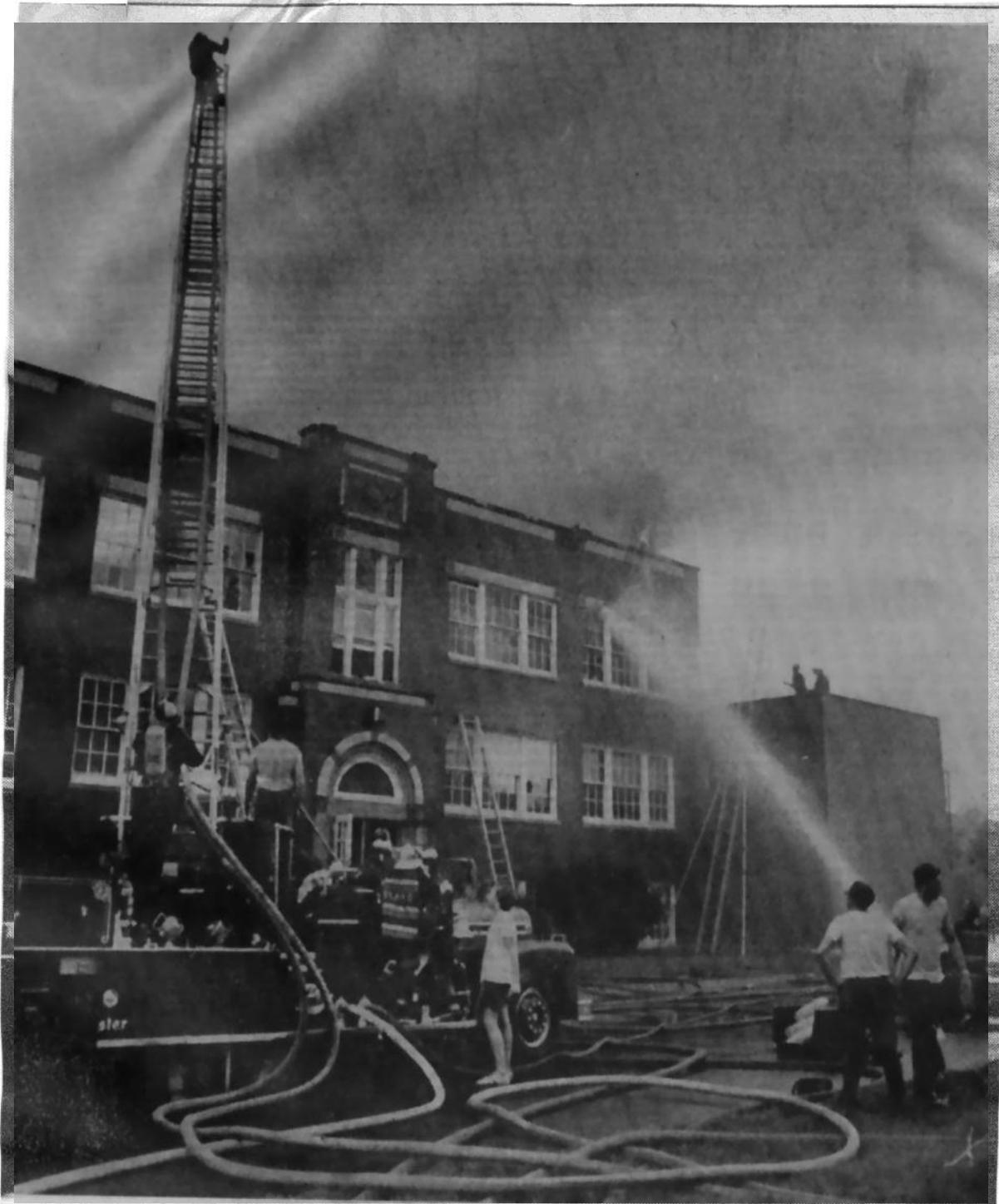
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1971

July 10, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

JULY 10, 1971



Staff Photo by Michael Coers

### *School ruined by fire*

GREATHOUSE Elementary School, a 31-year-old structure in St. Matthews, Ky., was heavily damaged by a fire that broke out early last night when lightning struck the building's chimney.

Built in 1939, the school would cost \$1.25 million to replace, according to Jefferson County School Supt. Richard VanHoose. Four firemen suffered minor injuries. (Story, Page B 1.)

1971

July 11, 1971, *The Louisville Times*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

**METRO NEWS**  
**IN BRIEF** / by *harry amon*

## School Burns in St. Matthews

The 31-year-old Greathouse Elementary School in St. Matthews was damaged extensively by a fire that started when lightning struck a chimney about 5:15 p.m. yesterday.

The upper floor of the school at 3930 Grandview was gutted by the flames, and

the first floor was charred by heat and received water and smoke damage.

Volunteer fire units from St. Matthews and McMahan fought the blaze for almost three hours before bringing it under control.

County School Supt. Richard VanHoose was unable to place a monetary estimate on the damage. He said the school was built for \$75,000 in 1939, but it would cost \$1.25 million to replace it.

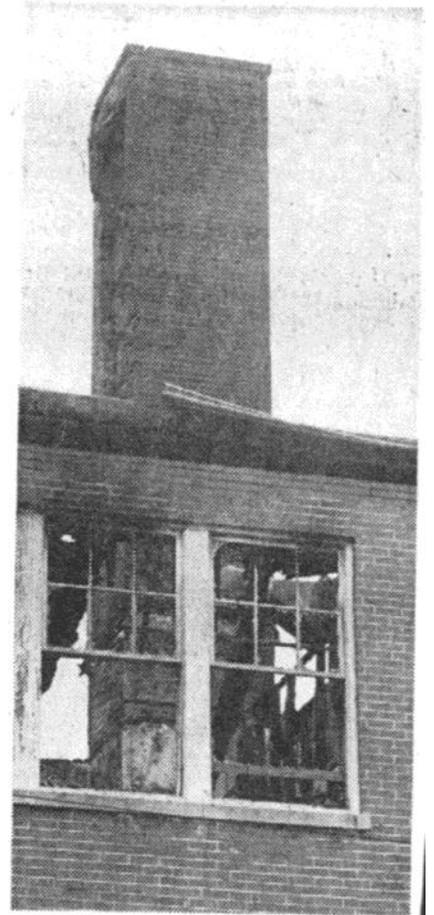
The school's enrollment is about 500 students.

VanHoose said he hoped the area's churches will look at their facilities and "invite us in for the coming school year."

Most of the school records and some office equipment were saved, VanHoose said.

Five firemen were overcome by smoke and heat, and one received a foot injury when he stepped on some broken glass.

Lt. Al Ring, of 25 Westport Terrace, was treated for smoke inhalation at the Kentucky Baptist Hospital, and John Noon, of 101 Colonial Drive, was treated for a cut foot at General Hospital. Both are members of the St. Matthews fire unit. They were released after receiving emergency care.



Staff Photo

A lightning bolt striking this chimney caused last night's fire at Greathouse School.

**July 10, 1971:** *The Louisville Times*. Metro News In Brief by Harry Amon School Burns in St. Matthews

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County School Supt. Richard VanHoose was unable to place a monetary estimate on the damage. He said the school was built for \$75,000. in 1939 but it would \$1.25 pillion to replace it. The school's enrollment is about 500 students.

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1971

July 11, 1971, *The Louisville Times*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



Staff Photo by Michael Coers

## Landmark School Heavily Damaged by Fire

Smoke billowed from Greathouse Elementary School, at 3930 Grandview Ave., in St. Matthews, as firemen battled a blaze that extensively damaged the 31-year-old structure early yesterday evening. Six trucks from the St. Matthews and McMahan volunteer fire depart-

ments battled the fire for almost three hours before controlling it. St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan verified witnesses' reports that lightning striking the chimney caused the fire. Four firemen were slightly injured while fighting the blaze. Story on Page A3.

1971

July 11, 1971, *The Courier-Journal*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

THE COURIER-JOURNAL & TIMES, LOUISVILLE, KY.

SUNDAY MORNING, JUL

# Fire-damaged school may be repaired,

By CHARLES R. BABCOCK  
*Courier-Journal Staff Writer*

There's a "better than even chance" that Greathouse Elementary School, damaged by fire Friday night, can be used again this fall, Jefferson County School Supt. Richard VanHoose said yesterday.

"It looks a lot better now than it did with all that smoke pouring out of it last night," VanHoose said after he returned from inspecting the school at 3930 Grandview Ave. in St. Matthews.

"I'm pleased with the way the building took all that punishment. It's a good solid structure," he said.

The fire apparently started when the school's chimney was hit by a lightning bolt, but neither VanHoose nor Donald Schnell, the Jefferson County Board of Education's architect, could say for certain yesterday whether a lightning rod was attached to the chimney.

"I'm really not sure," VanHoose said. "No one seems to know," Schnell said. "I just kind of assumed there wasn't one."

There is no state regulation requiring that school buildings be equipped with lightning rods, said Maj. Merle Brown, Louisville fire marshal, last night. "But they're sure recommended," he said.

Schnell noted that all county schools built in the past 20 years have lightning rods. "And there's no question that if there wasn't one at Greathouse there ought to be," he said.

VanHoose said that providing lightning rods to protect every county school was "a good point, one that certainly ought to be considered."

The fire gutted four classrooms and damaged the roof badly in several places. Other parts of the building suffered smoke and water damage.

And although VanHoose admitted he

might be "talking more out of hope than knowledge," he said, "we could get the roof back on by September and perhaps use the gym for temporary classrooms while the other repair work is continuing. That way we might not need much outside help from the churches to run a pretty normal situation."

VanHoose had said after the fire Friday night that he might have to call on area churches to house the school's 500 students this fall.

Architect Schnell was also optimistic about the school's future. "I don't think there's any question that it can be repaired," he said. "It's in much better shape than we thought."

Though the final go ahead for the repair of the 32-year-old brick building must wait until insurance adjusters are consulted, work could begin as early as tomorrow, VanHoose said.

"We could get a contractor in there to clean the place up while we're working on plans and blueprints," he said.

Yesterday, Board of Education

11, 1971

B 5

## in use by fall

maintenance crews were at Greathouse "trying to get the water off the floors. Those firemen sure spread a lot of hose and a lot of water," VanHoose said.

VanHoose, who was at the scene during the fire, refused to join the criticism some bystanders had for the work of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

"I just couldn't fault those people—

the way they stood in there, taking a chance, not backing off an inch," he said.

"I'm sure people standing around feeling helpless might have thought things were slow. But I'm just not competent to judge what's good or bad about fighting a fire. From what I saw, I thought the firemen did a good job, a better job than we thought at the time."

July 14, 1971, Letter sent to all injured firefighters:

ROMANO L. MAZZOLI  
THIRD DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
ROBERT J. BAUGHMAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
PHONE: (202) 225-5401

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 14, 1971

COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION AND LABOR

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
CECIL H. NOEL  
JOHN L. KILROY, JR.  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
600 FEDERAL PLACE  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
PHONE: (502) 582-5129

Lt. Al Ring  
25 Westport Terrace  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Lt. Ring:

I was sorry to see in the Courier-Journal that you were injured fighting the fire at Greathouse.

Two members of my staff attended Greathouse, so I share the sense of loss that many St. Matthews residents feel.

I also share their pride in the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. You deserve high praise for your voluntary efforts, at the risk of your own lives, protecting your community.

I extend my best wishes to you for a speedy recovery.

Sincerely,

  
ROMANO L. MAZZOLI  
Member of Congress

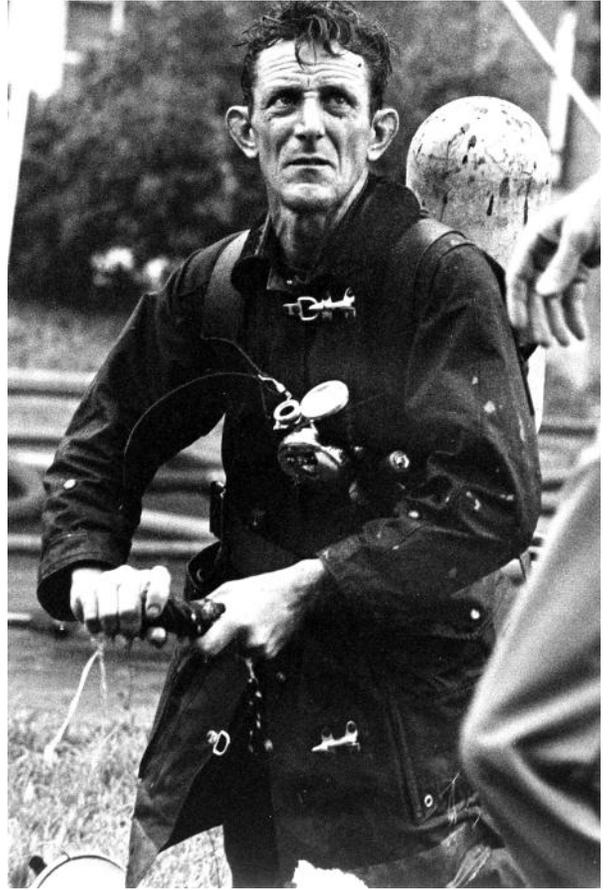
RLM:cd

1971

July 9 1971, *The Courier-Journal*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

Pictures from George W. Davidson Jr., 4028 St. Germaine Ct., Louisville, KY 40207 given to Gar Davis then Al Ring August 2004 after publication of Al's book.



1971

July 14, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the Annual meeting of the board of directors of the St Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held July 14th 1971

Directors present

Jno Emrich	Jno Monohan
Geo E Miller	W. Leland Wilson
Fred C. Boss	J. P. Terry
Phillip Grauman	

Minutes of last meeting held June 10th 1971 read by Chairman Emrich

Motion made by J. P. Terry and seconded by Fred C. Boss that they be accepted as read.

Directors at present

Jno M Monohan	term expires	1974.
Fred C. Boss	" "	1974
Jno Emrich	" "	1975
Jp. Terry	" "	1973
Geo E. Miller	" "	1972
W. L. Wilson	" "	1972.
Phillip Grauman	" "	1971
Henry Monohan	" "	1971

Harry Babcock term expires 1971 .

Motion Made by Jno Emrich that Henry Monohan and Phillip Grauman to be elected to serve four years as directors terms expiring 1975.

Robt W. Walling be elected to serve one year term expiring July 1972. Seconded by Geo Miller Sec'y that they be accepted.

Motion made by J. P. Terry seconded by Fred C. Boss that Jno Emrich be reelected to chairman of the board of directors.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss seconded by J. P. Terry that the following officers be elected for one year terms.

Jno Monohan Pres  
W. L. Wilson Vice Pres  
Fred C. Boss Reas  
Geo E Miller Sec'y

Motion made by Fred Boss seconded by Geo Miller that the following officers of the fire dept be elected for one year term

Jno Monohan Chief  
Albert Haerberlin Assst Chief  
Melchior Zahnder "C "

J. P Terry was appointed process agent for one year,expiring 1972.

Motion made by Jno Emrich seconded by J. P. Terry that we set up for Cecil Lunsford Ass't Sec'y a revolving petty cash fund of \$10.00

Motion made by Phillip Grauman seconded by W. L. Wilson that we commend the fireman for the fine job they did on the fire at Greathouse school.

Present directors after this election or meeting or as follows

Jno M Monohan	till	1974.
F ed C. Boss	" "	1974
Jno Emrich	" "	1973
J. P. Terry	" "	1973
Geo E. Miller	" "	1972
W. L. Wilson	" "	1972
Phillip Grauman	" "	1975
Henry Mponohan	" "	1975.
Robt Walling	" "	1972.

*OK JEM*

There being no further business motion made by Geo Miller seconded by Jno Monohan that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E. Miller Sec'y

2 Sections - 70 Pages  
Volume 22, Number 16  
JULY 15, 1971  
St. Matthews, Ky., 40207

# The Voice-Jeffersonian

15c  
PER COPY

## The fire at Greathouse Her alarm hit snags, caller says

By Richard Anderson  
Staff Writer

Greathouse Elementary School, a 31-year-old St. Matthews institution, suffered severe fire damage Friday evening after being struck by lightning.

According to Mrs. N. F. Becker, who lives directly across from the school on Grandview Avenue, the chimney of the building was struck about 5:25 p.m. "I saw the lightning flash my window. Then I could see that, like you see on a hot day over asphalt, around the chimney. Then flames broke out."

Mrs. Becker then called the old telephone number of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, 584-4211. Receiving no answer, she called the St. Matthews police, and let the phone ring twice.

She then called the telephone operator and was told the fire department would be contacted.

Approximately the same time, Jackie Forsting, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Forsting, of 225 Fairfax, had noticed smoke near the chimney of the school. She also called the operator and notified an emergency answering service of the fire.

Both Miss Forsting and Mrs. Becker agree that it was approximately five to ten minutes before the St. Matthews units arrived.

However, Miss Forsting stated that she believed the lightning struck 45 minutes prior to the arrival of the first fire truck.

All five St. Matthews' trucks went to the scene, including a ladder truck which was used to get water down through the roof of the building.

In addition, one truck from the McClintock Cancer Volunteer Fire Department under the command of Chief Jim Trantwein joined the St. Matthews' units at the fire. Another McClintock truck was dispatched to the St. Matthews' fire house on standby alert — and while there, answered a malicious false alarm.

According to Mrs. Matthews' Assistant Chief Albert L. Hasberrin, the fire raged through the west wing of the building in the two or three minutes they spent between the flat, tar-covered roof and the ceiling of the top floor.

By the time the fire units had arrived,

**FIRE  
584-1231**

ST. MATTHEWS  
VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

YOU CAN GO AND STICK ON  
STICKERS LIKE THESE ARE AVAILABLE AT THE VOICE-NEWSPAPERS OFFICES AND AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ST. MATTHEWS FIRE DEPARTMENT ON LYNDON WAY. THE STICKERS ARE TO BE ATTACHED TO TELEPHONE CRADLES IN THE HOME.

Continued to Page A10



DENSE SMOKE engulfed firemen as they directed streams of high-pressure water onto the blazing Greathouse Elementary School last Friday. Lightning is believed to have caused the fire.

Flames were shooting from the third floor of the building. The fire burned out of control for approximately an hour. By 7 p.m., although the flames in half of the building near the chimney were still out of control, the fire had been subdued in other parts of the building. Shortly after 8 p.m. the fire was extinguished.

Security police employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education, were called and arrived at the scene about 6 p.m.

The area between Fairfax and Meridian in Louisville Courier-Journal stated that neighborhood residents were critical of the way the fire departments handled the fire. Volunteer reporters furnished such comment.

Although reporters from WHAS-TV and the Louisville Courier-Journal stated that neighborhood residents were critical of the way the fire departments handled the fire, volunteer reporters furnished such comment.

Mrs. Becker praised the volunteers, "I think the firemen did a wonderful job. They saved the building."

She also stated that she now knows the number for the St. Matthews Fire Department which she called was the wrong one. Emergency fire calls should go to the county dispatching center. The number there is 584-1231.

Mr. Steve Thomas of the Industrial Police of Kentucky, tried to serve the school, also speak in praise of the department's efforts. "I don't think the Louisville Fire Department could have done a better job," I think St. Matthews did a fine job."

Two firemen, both from St. Matthews were taken to hospitals for treatment of injuries suffered while fighting the fire.

At 11:30 p.m., at 25 Westport Terrace, was taken to Kentucky Reginal Hospital where he was treated for exhaustion and bruises.



Volunteer firemen move in close to pour water into the 31-year-old school at 3930 Grandview Avenue in St. Matthews.

## A letter to you

Dear Reader,

Inserted in this issue of The Voice-Jeffersonian you will find a one-page questionnaire. It is designed to help us learn what you think about this newspaper. A paper can be important to its readers only if it is sensitive to their views. We want to know what you like about the paper and what you don't like about it. In that way we can do a better job for you.

It will take only a few minutes to complete the enclosed sheet. We want to know a little about the person who fills it out, but this is a completely anonymous survey — you are asked not to identify yourself. The professional research firm of Raymond A. Kemper & Associates will compile the responses and tell us what our readers think.

So please help us improve your paper. We care what you think and we want your advice. Please fill out the questionnaire today and mail it soon.

Thank you,  
*Bruce B. Vandusen*  
Bruce B. Vandusen  
Editor and Publisher

## In today's paper Voice Newspapers surveying readers

The first readership survey in the history of The Voice Newspapers was begun today, according to Bruce B. Vandusen, publisher.

The survey is designed to help the newspaper management better understand the attitudes of their readers toward the two weeklies, published in eastern Jefferson County: The Voice-Jeffersonian and The Suburban Mirror.

The research firm of Raymond A. Kemper Associates of Louisville has been engaged to conduct the survey. Professor Kemper, president of the firm, is a resident of Middletown and a faculty member of the University of Louisville.

The first step in the project is the survey inserted in this week's Voice-Jeffersonian and next week's Suburban Mirror.

In addition, Mr. Kemper's staff will be conducting a series of personal interviews throughout the circulation area served by the newspapers. These will be done in a random sample basis and will be designed to check out engagement the results of the newspaper questionnaire.

The entire survey will be confidential. Respondents have been asked not to identify themselves, and are encouraged to offer frank evaluations of the newspaper's news and advertising content. All these comments and suggestions will be carefully reviewed and taken into account in making future decisions about the papers, Vandusen said.

Although the same questionnaire is being used for readers of both the Suburban Mirror and two different editions of The Voice-Jeffersonian, care has been taken to keep the responses separate. A small amount of anonymous personal information is sought through the survey process. Questions concerning the age, sex and household of the person filling out the questionnaire are included to enable the management to learn more about those who read these newspapers, so that editorial and advertising matter may be tailored to their needs.

## Was the fire fought skillfully? Chief says 'yes'; some news media scoffed

Officers of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department took week vigorously defended the way they fought the Greathouse school fire Friday night.

According to the Louisville Courier-Journal account Saturday, "Some neighborhood residents criticized the St. Matthews firemen and Chief (John) Moonhan for not getting their equipment placed together quickly and for not calling in Louisville firemen. The story failed to cite any evidence of contention and did not identify any of the complaining residents."

On the Friday evening WHAS-TV (Channel 17) news reporter, Bob Johnson stated that the firemen appeared to be in contention, quarrel at each other and threw equipment in the process, he reported. Johnson interviewed an unidentified man who charged the firemen with incompetent work. His report implied that the fire had been allowed to get out of control. Johnson questioned Chief Moonhan about not calling in Louisville for help.

"A damn good job"

On that broadcast, Moonhan refused to discuss the matter at the time, but offered to do so after the department returned to the station. All he would say at the time was, "I think we did a damn good job."

The chief has not changed his mind about, and Voice reporters have been unable to locate witnesses with specific criticisms of the department.

Chief Moonhan was bitter about the Channel 17 reporting. "Just consider the source and forget it," he said, adding, "That's just (Johnson's) back-ground. It's probably the first fire he's ever covered."

Assistant Chief Albert L. Hasberrin interjected to some of the criticisms in an interview the following day.

"I don't know how we could have gotten there sooner," he said. "The bug just gotten back from a fire in a television set on Grand Road, so the stationmen were full of men when the alarm blew."

A map of Jefferson in Page A-8. Another story and picture about Greathouse school on Page A-5.

"When there may have been some confusion. Whenever you get a bunch of men together trying to do something in a hurry there's some confusion. But there was nothing to anger. It may have been a little strong language just to expedite matters."

As for another Channel 17 allegation, that the volunteers clustered around one of the trucks in a confused state, Hasberrin explained:

"They were doing exactly what they are told to do, which is to report to the chief for orders. With men coming from all over the area to the fire, it may have looked confusing, but they were following orders."

What most interested Hasberrin and A. L. Al. Bligh, one of the volunteers who was injured, was the report that although they had a small fire set out of control. "The news reporters said it up as a

small fire," said Bligh, "but the chief did not, and so was right."

Hasberrin said, "We knew the fire was all through the two-story structure that was below the roof and above the ceiling. It may have looked as if it were in just one room, but it was all over the building when we got there."

Bligh reported some of the people at the scene complaining that drops did not go around to the rear of the school to fight it from that angle.

"If we had done so, the fire would have had no place to go. We would have forced it back down on the street where bringing hose up through the building, from the ground," Bligh said.

For this reason, the firemen began fighting the fire at both ends of the roof, he contends. It is as much as possible, he said, while letting it burn through the ceiling.

One criticism apparently had a basis in fact, but for a reason which was not reported at the time. That is, the truck usually getting water to the fire.

Water supply was low

Bligh and Hasberrin said that the hose connections were made without a flaw, but that the water supply was low. Chief Moonhan said the truck "had a vacuum of every hydrant," meaning that the pumps were working so fast that water could come through the hydrants. "It's definitely didn't have enough



THE STRAIN of fighting the fire shows on the face of St. Matthews fireman Paul Dillman.

## Repairing of school under way

By Richard Anderson  
Staff Writer

Restoration of the Greathouse school was begun Tuesday and Jefferson County School Superintendent Richard Vandusen says "with a little luck" the school may be ready for use in the fall.

The school board has given authority to "Hunters-Gibson" Associates, an architectural firm, and Greaves Contractors, Inc. to begin restoration of the fire-damaged building.

According to Vandusen, "Greaves Contractors will begin work on cleaning up the debris. In the meantime, other work that will be required will be put on the drawing board."

Personnel from the Board of Education have been working at the building to remove furniture from the damaged area since last Saturday.

Vandusen said much of the furniture may be repaired or replaced.

Plans described

According to the superintendent, a new roof will be put up over the entire section of the building and repairs will be made to the roof at the west end of the building.

A temporary roof will be placed over

Continued to Page A10

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Continued to Page A10

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

# Her alarm hit snags, caller says

By Richard Anderson  
Staff Writer

Greathouse Elementary School, a 31-year-old St. Matthews institution, suffered severe fire damage Friday evening after being struck by lightning.

According to Mrs. N. F. Becker, who lives directly across from the school on Grandview Avenue, the chimney of the building was struck about 5:25 pm. "I saw the lightning from my window. Then I could see heat, like you see on a hot day over asphalt, around the chimney. Then flames broke out."

Mrs. Becker then called the old telephone number of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, 896-4411. Receiving no answer, she called the St. Matthews police, and let the phone ring twice.

She then called the telephone operator and was told the fire department would be contacted.

Approximately the same time, Jackie Forsting, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Forsting, of 225 Fairfax, had noticed smoke near the chimney of the school. She also called the operator and notified an emergency answering service of the fire.

Both Miss Forsting and Mrs. Becker agree that it was approximately five to ten minutes before the St. Matthews units arrived.

However, Miss Forsting stated that she believed the lightning struck 45 minutes prior to the arrival of the first fire truck.

All five St. Matthews' trucks went to the scene, including a ladder truck which was used to get water down through the roof of the building.

In addition, one truck from the McMahan Center Volunteer Fire Department under the command of Chief Jim Trautwein joined the St. Matthews' men at the fire. Another McMahan truck was dispatched to the St. Matthews' fire house on standby alert -- and while there answered a malicious false alarm.

According to St. Matthew's Assistant Chief Albert R. Haerberlin, the fire swept through the west wing of the building in the two or three foot deep dead space between the flat, tar-covered roof and the ceiling of the top floor.

flames were shooting from the third floor of the building. The fire burned out of control for approximately an hour.

By 7 pm, although the flames in half of the building near the chimney were still out of control, the fire had been subdued in other parts of the building. Shortly after 8 pm the fire was extinguished.

Security police, employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education, were called and arrived at the scene about 6 pm.

The area between Fairfax and Meridian on Grandview Avenue was closed off. Matthews and the private security police estimated the crowd at about one thousand.

Although reporters from WHAS-TV and the Louisville Courier-Journal stated that neighborhood residents were critical of the way the fire departments handled the fire, Voice reporters found no such comment.

Mrs. Becker praised the volunteers. "I think the firemen did a wonderful job. They saved the building."

She also stated that she now knows the number for the St. Matthews Fire Department which she called was the wrong one. Emergency fire calls should go to the county dispatching center. The number there is 584-1231.

Col. Steve Sheehan of the Industrial Police of Kentucky, hired to serve the school, also spoke in praise of the department's efforts. "I don't think the Louisville Fire Department could have done a better job. I think St. Matthews did a fine job."

Two firemen, both from St. Matthews were taken to hospitals for treatment of injuries suffered while fighting the blaze.

Lt. Al Ring, 27, of 25 Westport Terrace, was taken to Kentucky Baptist Hospital where he was treated for exhaustion and bruises.

Continued

## Greathouse School damaged by fire

Continued from page 7

Ring said he was leading a hose crew into the building from the ground floor. Desks and school furniture were stacked in the passageway. Because of this, it took the crew about four minutes to get to the second landing.

A section of the ceiling fell and struck Ring on the head and sent him falling down two flights of stairs. Sgt. Richard McAllister of the St. Matthews Police took Ring to the hospital where he was treated and released.

John L. Noon, 54, of 101 Colonial Drive, was injured when a piece of glass pierced his boot while pulling a hose through a broken window. He was taken to General Hospital where he was treated and released. Against their doctor's orders, both Ring and Noon were at the fire station cleaning equipment.

After the fire was out and units had left the scene of the blaze, a security guard spotted a small flame and called the fire department. This was about 1 am Saturday morning. The flame was caused by a smoldering pile of books and was quickly extinguished.

Noon's son, John Noon Jr., was one of the firemen who returned to the school. On that call, the young Noon injured his

ankle and was taken by his father to General Hospital where he was treated and released.

Several other firemen were treated for minor injuries and smoke inhalation at the scene of the fire.

Another witness praised the efforts of the firemen. Mrs. Richard Getch, a teacher and alumna of Greathouse, arrived after the fire was well in progress. Her husband had informed her of the fire, after hearing of it on a local radio station.

Mrs. Getch teaches special education at Greathouse. She was at the school Saturday morning to retrieve personal belongings from the building.

The area was blocked off by security police, and nobody other than Board of Education personnel were admitted.

So, Mrs. Getch looked on from the edge of the school lot. "A lot of us (teachers) had personal belongings in the building," she said.

Mrs. Getch hopes the building could be repaired. "This school was homey, not cold and concrete."

According to unofficial comment by the some inspecting the site over the weekend, there is a good chance that the school may be repaired by the fall.

**FIRE**  
**584-1231**  
**ST. MATTHEWS**  
**VOLUNTEER**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**PEEL LABEL OFF AND STICK ON**  
**CRADLE OF TELEPHONE**

## 1971

**July 15, 1971:** *The Voice-Jeffersonian*, various articles, by Richard Anderson, Betwey Peak, and pictures by George W. Davidson, Jr., Jim Yuhr.

### The fire at Greathouse

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According to St. Matthews Assistant Chief Albert R. Haeberlin, the fire swept through the west wing of the building in the two or three foot deep dead space between the flat, tar-covered roof and the ceiling of the top floor.

By the time the fire units had arrived, flames were shooting from the third floor of the building. The fire burned out of control for approximately an hour.

**By 7 p.m., although the flames in half of the building near the chimney were still out of control, the fire had been subdued in other parts of the building. Shortly after 8 p.m. the fire was extinguished.**

Security police, employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education, were called and arrived at the scene about 6 p.m.

The area between Fairfax and Meridian on Grandview Avenue was closed off. St. Matthews and the private security police estimated the crowd at about one thousand.

Although reporters from WHAS-TV and the *Louisville Courier-Journal* stated that neighborhood residents were critical of the way the fire departments handled the fire, *Voice* reporters found no such comment.

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Two firemen, both from St. Matthews were taken to hospitals for treatment of injuries suffered while fighting the blaze.

Lt Al Ring, 27, of 25 Westport Terrace, was taken to Kentucky Baptist Hospital where he was treated for exhaustion and bruises. (Actually, I was hit by a roof cave in, almost knocked out, badly cut on a finger and bruised. After stitches I got the name of the nurse who helped me and we dated a few times.)

Ring said he was leading a hose crew into the building from the ground floor. Desks and school furniture were stacked in the passageway. Because of this it took the crew about four minutes to get to the second landing.

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*Photo by George W. Davidson, Jr.*

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN move in close to pour water into the 31-year-old school at 3930 Grandview Avenue in St. Matthews.

1971

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

# The fire at Greathouse



*Voice photo by James M. Yuhr*

DENSE SMOKE engulfed firemen as they directed streams of high-pressure water onto the blazing Greathouse Elementary School last Friday. Lightning is believed to have caused the fire.

# Was the fire fought skillfully?

## Chief says 'yes'; some news media scoffed

Officers of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department this week vigorously defended the way they fought the Greathouse School fire Friday night.

According to The Louisville Courier-Journal account on Saturday, "some neighborhood residents criticized the St. Matthews firemen and Chief (John) Monohan for not getting their equipment pieced together quickly and for not calling in Louisville firemen." The story failed to cite any evidence of confusion and did not identify any of the complaining residents.

On the Friday evening WHAS-TV (Channel 11) news reporter Bob Johnson stated that the firemen appeared to be in confusion, cursed at each other and threw equipment to the ground in disgust. Johnson interviewed an unidentified man who charged the firemen with incompetent work. His report implied that the fire had been allowed to get out of control. Johnson questioned Chief Monohan about not calling on Louisville for help.

### 'A damn good job'

On that broadcast, Monohan refused to discuss the matter at the time, but offered to do so after the department returned to the station. All he would say at the time was, "I think we did a damn good job."

The chief has not changed his mind since, and Voice reporters have been unable to locate witnesses with specific criticisms of the department.

Chief Monohan was bitter about the Channel 11 reporting. "Just consider the source and forget it," he said, adding: "What's his (Johnson's) background? It's probably the first fire he's ever been on."

Assistant Chief Albert R. Haerberlin reacted to some of the criticisms in an interview the following day.

"I don't know how we could have gotten there sooner," he said. "We had just gotten back from a fire in a television set on Ormond Road, so the stationhouse was full of men when the siren blew.

A page of pictures is on Page A-9. Another story and picture about Greathouse School are on Page A-5.

"Sure, there may have been some cursing. Whenever you get a bunch of men together trying to do something in a hurry that's normal. But there was nothing said in anger. It may have been a little strong language just to expedite matters."

As for another Channel 11 allegation, that the volunteers clustered around one of the trucks in a confused state, Haerberlin explained:

"They were doing exactly what they are told to do, which is to report to the chief for orders. With men coming from all over the area to the fire, it may have looked confusing, but they were following orders."

What most disturbed Haerberlin and Lt. Al Ring, one of the volunteers who was injured, was the reported complaint that they let a small fire get out of control.

"The news reporters sized it up as a

small fire," said Ring, "but the chief did not, and he was right."

Haerberlin said, "We knew the fire was all through that two-to-three foot area below the roof and above the ceiling. It may have looked as if it were in just one room, but it was all over the building when we got there."

Ring reported some of the people at the scene complaining that firemen did not go around to the rear of the school to fight it from that angle.

"If we had done so, the fire would have had no place to go. We would have forced it back down on the men who were bringing hose up through the building, from the ground," Ring said.

For this reason, the firemen began fighting the fire at both ends of the roof, to contain it as much as possible, he said, while letting it burn through the center.

One criticism apparently had a basis in fact, but for a reason which was not reported at the time. That involves trouble getting water to the fire.

### Water supply was low

Ring and Haerberlin said that the hose connections were made without a flaw, but that the water supply was low.

Chief Monohan said his trucks "pulled a vacuum at every hydrant," meaning that the pumps were working faster than water could come through the hydrants.

"We definitely didn't have enough

Continued to Page A10

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



Voice photo by James M. Yuhr

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN AIM a stream of water upward toward a smoking roof area of Greathouse School. The chimney was the one which was struck by the lightning that touched off the blaze.

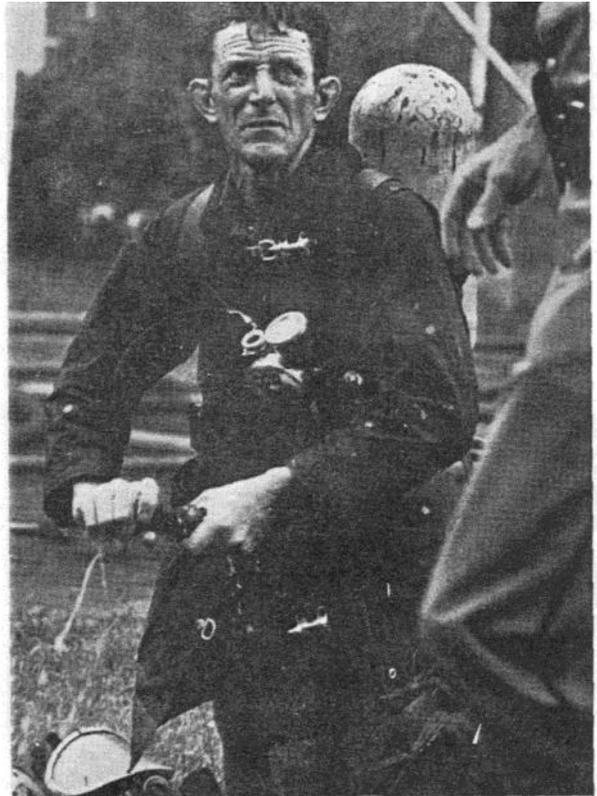


Photo by George W. Davidson, Jr.

THE STRAIN of fighting the fire shows on the face of St. Matthews fireman Paul Dillman.

## Firefighters defend way they fought blaze

Continued from page 7

water," the chief said. He declined to say whether this meant more of the building could have been saved if water had not been a problem. He said only that "we could have done a better job."

Monohan noted that the entire St. Matthews area is inadequately supplied with hydrants and that his men have for years recommended more of them. "We should have one at every intersection," he said. "There is not one the whole length of Breckinridge Lane or Chenoweth Lane.

### Why no call for help

Monohan said he did not call in Louisville for help simply because he had enough men and equipment to handle the job. If they had been present, he said, there would have been no water for them to use anyway.

Police Sgt. Richard McAllister also defended the firemen. McAllister and four other policemen were at the fire to control the crowd of nearly 1,000 who were drawn to the scene.

"The crowds were a problem," he said, with children getting in the way of the firemen.

He said he believed the men did a good job and to criticize them now is just "second-guessing and Monday-morning quarterbacking."

St. Matthews City Council member John Barker, who was at the scene for a long time, had high praise for the volunteers. "How can you possibly criticize these men? They had a hold of the tail of a tiger," he said.

Reviewing the criticism at the firehouse last Saturday, Assistant Chief Haebertlin summed it up: "If anything went wrong, maybe we should have taken more time to talk to reporters."

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Repairing of school under way

By Richard Anderson  
Staff Writer

Renovation of the Greathouse school was begun Tuesday, and Jefferson County School Superintendent Richard VanHoose says "with a little luck" the school may be ready for use in the fall.

The school board has given authority to Hartstern-Schnell Associates, an architectural firm, and Stevens Contractors, Inc. to begin renovation of the fire-damaged building.

According to VanHoose, "Stevens Contractors will begin work on cleaning up the debris. In the meantime, other work that will be required will be put on the drawing board."

Personnel from the Board of Education have been working at the building to remove furniture from the damaged area since last Saturday.

VanHoose said much of the furniture may be repaired or repainted.

## Plans described

According to the superintendent, a new roof will be put up over the center section of the building and repairs will be made to the roof at the west end of the building.

A temporary roof will be placed over

Continued to Page A10

## Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

### Fall use possible

# Repair of school quickly under way

Continued from page 7

the center section until the permanent roof can be constructed.

"The construction company is working at an accelerated pace. We have seven weeks before school opens, and we may be able to make it."

These decisions evidently were discussed at a closed meeting of the Board of Education held in VanHoose's office Monday night. A Voice reporter was excluded from the meeting.

Earlier in the day Board Chairman

Dr. William P. VonderHaar said the meeting would be closed because reporters for other news media had not previously been notified of the meeting.

### Five churches respond

After the fire last Friday evening, VanHoose said he hoped churches in the area would lend assistance if emergency housing was needed to relocate the students.

Five churches have offered such help. Members of the administrative board of St. Matthews United Methodist Church on Browns Lane were contacted by a member of the church Friday evening after the fire.

They held a special meeting after worship service Sunday morning.

According to Orson Smith, chairman of the board, the group voted unanimously to offer to talk to the school board about the use of their facilities.

Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church, at 311 Browns Lane, also voted at a meeting of its session to "notify the school board of their willingness to cooperate in every way possible."

The Rev. Tom Jones, minister of Harvey Browne, stated that they currently have a special education Sunday school class. Greathouse has a special education program.

### Cites long-time ties

By Monday night, both Bethel United Church of Christ, of 115 Meridian Avenue and St. John Lutheran Church, at 901 Breckenridge Lane, had offered help.

St. Matthews Baptist Church has a special interest in the school.

According to pastor Alton H. McEachern, "We have long-standing ties with Greathouse. Our church was organized in the original Greathouse school building, where Sears is now. The church was constituted there in 1927."

Although it would take a vote of the congregation, the Baptist church at 2515 Grandview has unofficially offered its assistance.

None of the five churches to offer assistance has, as yet, made any commitment about the number of students they can handle.

VanHoose praised the churches, saying, "I would like to express, on the part of the board, our thanks for the tremendous response we have received so far."

Although VanHoose believes the repair work will go quickly, the decision as to whether the school will be ready for use in the fall will be made later this summer.

## Lightning hits 5 times in the area

Lightning struck five times in St. Matthews over the weekend, severely damaging the Greathouse school, and causing damage to two local churches.

A heavy piece of limestone coping was knocked to the ground from atop the tower of St. Matthews Baptist Church at 3515 Grandview Avenue.

According to pastor Alton H. McEachern, the lightning struck Friday evening at a tower at the highest point of the building. A large piece of stone was toppled from the corner of that tower.

A unit from the Louisville Fire Department was called, but there was no fire. Air-conditioning units housed in the tower were not damaged.

No estimate of the cost of repair has been made yet.

A steeple, towering 63 feet above the roof of Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church at 311 Browns Lane, was shattered when lightning struck there Saturday night.

According to the Rev. Tom Jones, minister at the church, the fiberglass and plywood steeple was removed by a crane that night. A member of the church who is in the contracting business estimated the damage at about \$10,000.

A rectifier in the pipe organ at the church was also damaged by the lightning. That part will cost about \$200 to replace.

Two private residences on Browns Lane were also struck, resulting in little or no damage.

## EDITORIALS

# Volunteer firefighters perform well at Greathouse fire

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department was severely tested last Friday night and came through pretty well. The fire at Greathouse School was a big one and the volunteers kept it contained to one wing. The school may even be rebuilt in time for fall, but that is probably wishful thinking.

There has been a lot of here-say talk in recent days about the volunteers' confusion at the fire scene. Much of it has been uninformed or misinformed talk from people who enjoy talking but know little about fighting fires.

Also, there has been some knee-jerk defensive reaction from firefighters and officials who want to stay friendly with them. It's the old our-boys-can-do-no-wrong routine and it's predictable.

Our St. Matthews volunteers are very good. They train regularly and realistically. Few people are aware that they had a training exercise at the Greathouse school in February of this year. They knew the school, its construction and its hazards.

(One they did not know was

created by a thoughtless school employee who left all the inside school room doors locked and furniture piled in hallways and stair wells. That cost the firemen precious time.)

But for all their training they are still volunteers. Man for man they lack the discipline, training and experience of the professional. The turnover of personnel is a continuing problem and a real handicap in any volunteer force.

True, they respond promptly and they work long hours and they risk their lives and they don't cost the taxpayers what they are worth and all of that. But it is just not fair to think of them as professionals or to expect them to meet professional standards all the time.

If there are many St. Matthews citizens who are disturbed about the quality of our fire protection, it has not been apparent here. But if there are some, they seem to have two options; either sign up to help as a volunteer firefighter or ask the City Council to raise the taxes enough to pay for a professional fire department.

St. Matthews resident who went there as a child reminisces

## 'It's gone. Greathouse is burned. . . This is my school. . .'

By Betsy Peak

It's gone. Greathouse has burned. As I stand there, tears careen down my face. Why am I crying? Is it for the little girl that still dwells in me? This is my school.

The computer in my brain starts whirling and kaleidoscopes of sights and sounds flash through the night. This is the school of my "Firsts". The first day of school, first teacher, first best friend, the first taste of success and defeat. All these conditioned me for the present.

The odor of stale smoke drifts by me. This is the wrong smell. It should be chalk and disinfectant, new pencils before they're sharpened, teacher's perfume, starched plaid dresses, peanut butter on buns, Savings Stamps for War Bonds, someone getting sick, new books when they're first cracked open, autumn leaves during a fire drill, damp sweaters drying in a stuffy room, buttered beets. People mill around talking in hushed whispers. My mind rebels. These are the wrong sounds, too!

Editor's note: The writer is a St. Matthews resident who attended Greathouse School as a child. After moving to Minneapolis and Rochester, N.Y., she has returned to her hometown and lives at 4006 Winchester Road.

It's the playground with the laughter and quarrels of children, baseball bats cracking, Pledge of Allegiance echoing after the first bell, swing chains creaking under the weight of children, hushed classrooms during a test, carnivals where your parents worked in a booth, secrets told to your best friend.

The firemen are almost finished. One last hose remains pumping. Why do I feel the way that I do about this place? Because it's a place for young children's dreams and hopes.

We were the children before the influence of television or computers that let us know our capabilities. We could dream impossible dreams and no one said it couldn't be done because they didn't know for sure.

Wasn't it true that by staring at the back of someone's head, he would turn around? One could be President without going to college. Working on Roy Rogers' ranch would only require a letter. Holly-

wood would beckon if a talent scout ever appeared. Truman could beat Dewey our parents told us. My brother would receive his Charles Atlas course someday. Wishing upon a star brought great results if you never looked at it again.

It's summertime. We always returned here with our best friend to plan those

tick that no mother could detect.

We planned our adult lives also, right up to our wedding dresses—mine was to be ballerina length and hers to have a train. Maybe we'll just stay here and swing until it's time to go home.

The computer in my mind has stopped whirling—now a song keeps running

long lazy days. Our activities weren't planned then and as we swung we were free to decide what to do. Definitely to go to the Vogue on Saturday, maybe peddle our bikes to St. Matthews to get a long licorice stick that would drag on the ground, possibly a trip to Woolworth's to check the new colorless Tangee lipstick

through my head "Charlottetown is burning down. Good-bye, Goodbye" Goodbye Greathouse, good-bye!

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1971

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



Standing amid the ruins of the third floor of the Greathouse Elementary School, volunteer fireman shout information down to their comrades on the ground. The collapsed roof appears behind them.

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

### Inside the fire lines with the St. Matthews volunteer firemen

Last Friday, a bolt of lightning struck a chimney at the Greathouse Elementary School at 3930 Grandview Avenue in St. Matthews. The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department responded to the fire alarm.

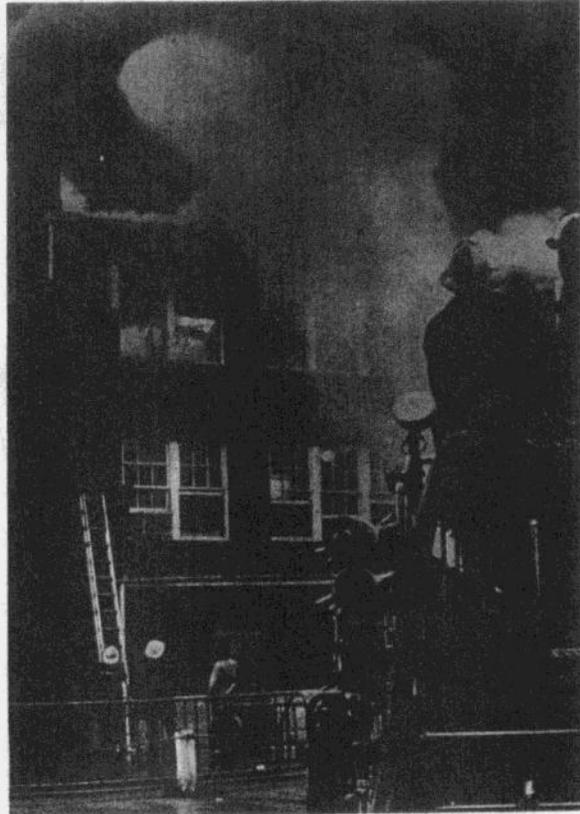
Some segments of the downtown news media assailed the manner in which the fire was fought and some citizens were reported as being critical of the St. Matthews department's operations. Later, the Fire Department made a

resounding defense of its actions (the story is on Page 4 of today's paper) and a number of citizens also praised the work of the volunteers. Here were some pictures of the action as the blaze was fought.



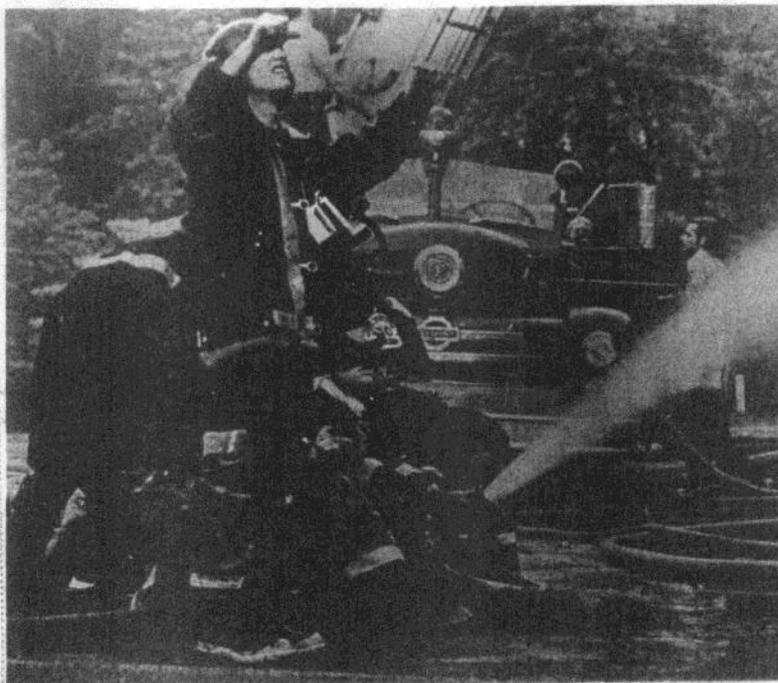
*Voice photo by Jim Yahr*

HERE'S A VIEW of the firefighting action at the area of Greathouse School. The chimney which was hit by lightning is shrouded in smoke at the upper-right of this picture.



*Voice photo by George W. Davidson, Jr.*

HEAVY SMOKE BILLOWED around volunteer firemen last Friday as they fought the fire at Greathouse Elementary School in St. Matthews. Lightning is believed to have been the cause.



*Voice photo by George W. Davidson, Jr.*

SIGNALING IN THE CENTER is Lt. Jack Dehart of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. At left is volunteer fireman

Paul Ollman. Others of the fire department aim a stream of water against the blazing 31-year-old school on Grandview Avenue.



*Voice photo by George W. Davidson, Jr.*

A STREAM OF WATER from a high-pressure hose was poured onto the blazing window by a fireman from this aerial ladder.

1971

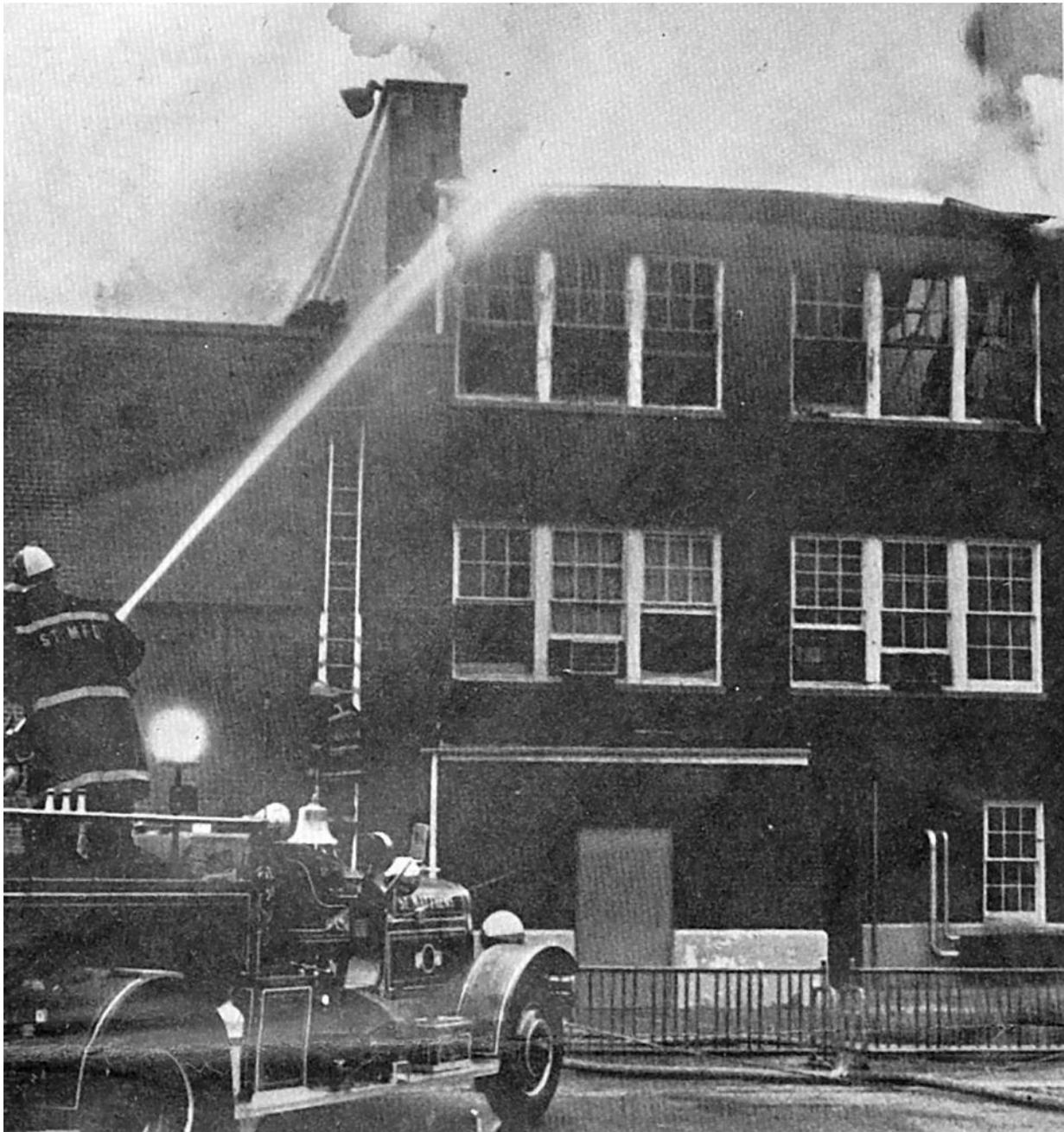
July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

**Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School**

Last Friday, a bolt of lightning struck a chimney at the Greathouse Elementary School at 3930 Grandview Avenue in St. Matthews. The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department responded to the fire alarm.

Some segments of the downtown news media assailed the manner in which the fire was fought and some citizens were reported as being critical of the St. Matthews department's operations. Later, the Fire Department made a resounding defense of its action and a number of citizens also praised the work of the volunteers.

Here are some pictures of action as the blaze was fought.



HERE'S A VIEW of the firefighting action at the rear of Greathouse School. The chimney was hit by lightning is shrouded in smoke at the upper-right of this picture

1971

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



HEAVY SMOKE BILLOWED around volunteer firemen last Friday as they fought the fire at Greathouse Elementary school in St. Matthews. Lightning is believed to have been the cause.

1971

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School

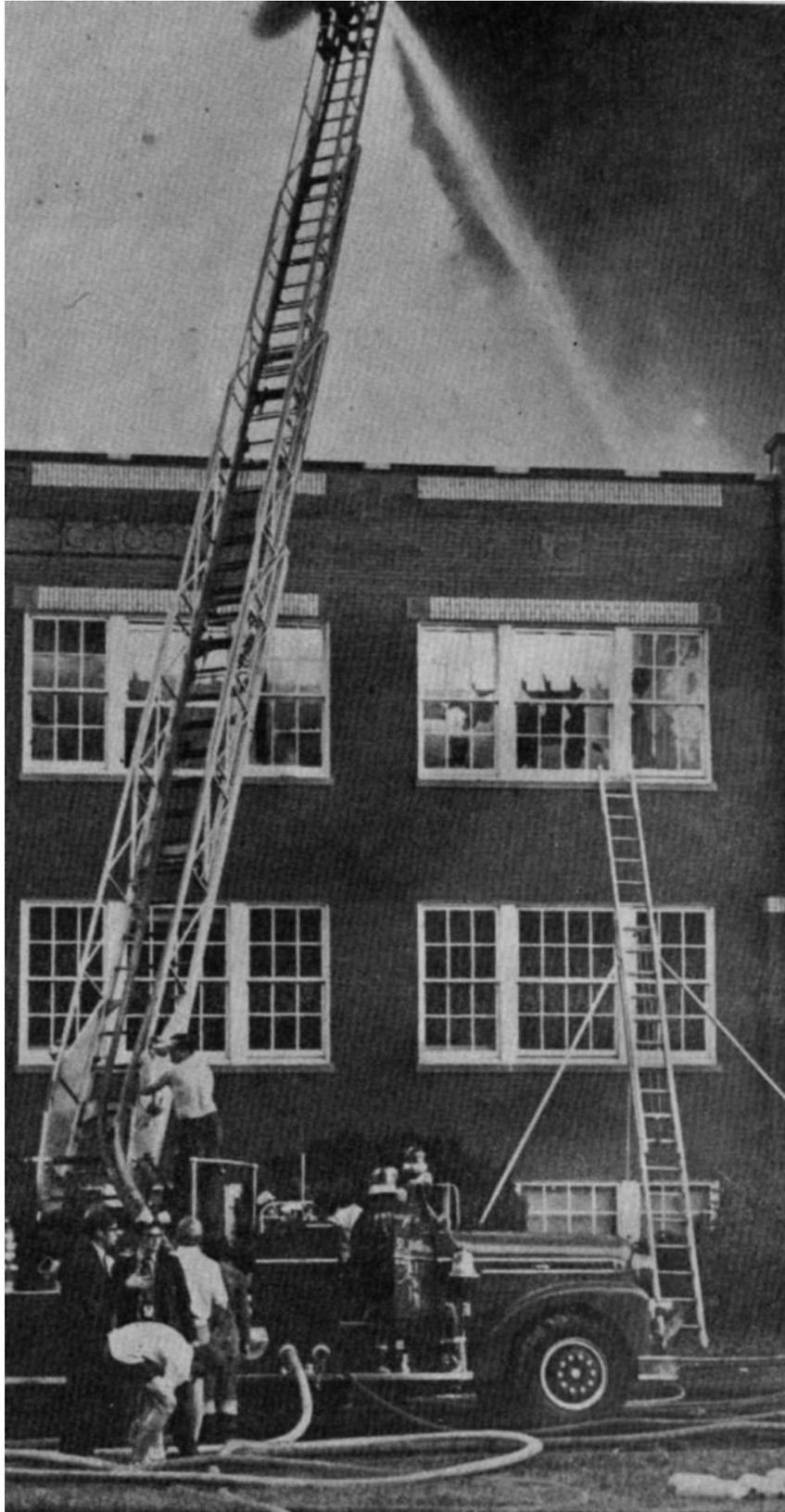


SIGNALING IN THE CENTER is Lt. Jack DeHart of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. At left is volunteer Paul Dillman. Others of the fire department aim a stream of water against the blazing 31-year-old school on Grandview Avenue.

1971

July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Major fire at 3930 Grandview, Greathouse School



A STREAM OF WATER from a high-pressure hose was poured onto the blazing school by fireman from this aerial ladder.

1971

July 15, 1971, Letter:

# Jefferson County Public Schools

3332 NEWBURG ROAD — LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40218

502/459-3310

## Board of Education

Roberta B. Tully

CHAIRMAN

William P. VonderHaar, M.D.

VICE CHAIRMAN

Aubrey W. Conway

Orville R. Miller, Jr.

Fred Pfannenschmidt, Jr.

Richard VanHoose

SUPERINTENDENT

John L. Ramsey

James E. Farmer

Jack Dawson

Louis H. C. Laukhuf

E. C. Grayson

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENTS

July 15, 1971

Mr. John Monohan, Jr., Chief  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
4114 Lyndon Way  
Louisville, Kentucky

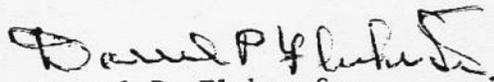
Mr. Monohan:

I realize that all too often the men of our Volunteer Fire Departments get criticism when they deserve praise. Therefore, I am taking this opportunity to commend you and your men for the marvelous job you did in extinguishing the fire at Greathouse Elementary School.

My foreman and men have told me that your department did an outstanding job and that through your efforts Greathouse was not completely destroyed.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to you and your men for a job well done.

Sincerely,



Darrel P. Fluhr, Sr.,  
Director of Maintenance

DPF/mad

July 15, 1971, Recognition:

ITEM #7 RECOGNITION OF ST. MATTHEWS AND McMAHAN FIRE DEPARTMENTS

MOTION # 7448

On July 9, 1971, Greathouse Elementary School was damaged by fire resulting from a bolt of lightning which struck the chimney and passed between the roof and ceiling of the second floor. The Jefferson County Board of Education wishes to recognize members of the St. Matthews and McMahan Fire Departments for risking their lives to bring the fire under control and preventing a total loss of the building and its contents. The board commends these volunteers, who give unselfishly of their time and effort to serve this community in such an important task.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Orville R. Miller, Jr., seconded by Mrs. Roberta B. Tully, that the Board approve the above resolution commending the St. Matthews and McMahan Fire Departments.

Upon roll call, the vote on the motion was as follows:

William P. VonderHaar	YES	Mrs. Roberta B. Tully	YES
Orville R. Miller, Jr.	YES	Earl J. Hartlage	YES
Fred Pfannenschmidt, Jr.	YES	(Motion carried)	

## Unknown date on Greathouse school fire:



Staff Photos

A fire at Greathouse School in July and the \$200,000 it cost for repairs pointed up the spiraling cost of new schools in Jefferson County. The new Klondike Lane Elementary School, at right, cost \$1,170,000—to house 756 pupils. However, new materials, design and the like make costs of new and old schools hard to compare.



## On the school-price escalator

By BARRY JACOBS, Courier-Journal & Times Staff Writer

WHEN FIRE struck the Greathouse school in St. Matthews in July, County School Superintendent Richard Van Hoose estimated that a replacement for the elementary school, which was built for less than \$300,000 in 1939, would cost \$1.25 million.

Greathouse was saved—the fire wasn't as bad as it seemed at first, though the repair bill was estimated at \$200,000—but Van Hoose's statement indicates how expensive county school construction has become.

One factor, of course, is the rising cost of labor and materials; and tighter building codes and more facilities also have boosted the price tag. On the other hand, the cost increase has been moderated by the trend to larger schools, certain design changes, and the use of standardized, factory-built components.

Because of these variables, meaningful cost comparisons between county schools

built in different years are difficult. Donald E. Schnell, president of Hartstern, Schnell, Campbell, Schadt Associates, the architectural firm that designs all Jefferson County schools, explained part of the problem.

SCHNELL noted that studies can be made on the cost of exactly duplicating a 1939 building in 1971. The studies are of limited practical value, however, because, Schnell said, the same building can't be built today, since code changes require, for example, a different wiring system.

Comparing costs of schools built in different years, then, is a little like comparing apples with oranges. Nevertheless, if the county can't build apples anymore, it must build—and pay for—oranges. So, from a budgetary point of view, the changes in cost are significant. And measured by any yardstick—cost per school,

per square foot, or per pupil—the price has been going up.

THE COUNTY has built a steady stream of elementary schools in the past 20 years, from Waller and Hawthorne to Prestonia and Klondike Lane. "We really started the building program in 1953, when the (special building) tax was passed," explained John Ramsey, associate county school superintendent for general administration.

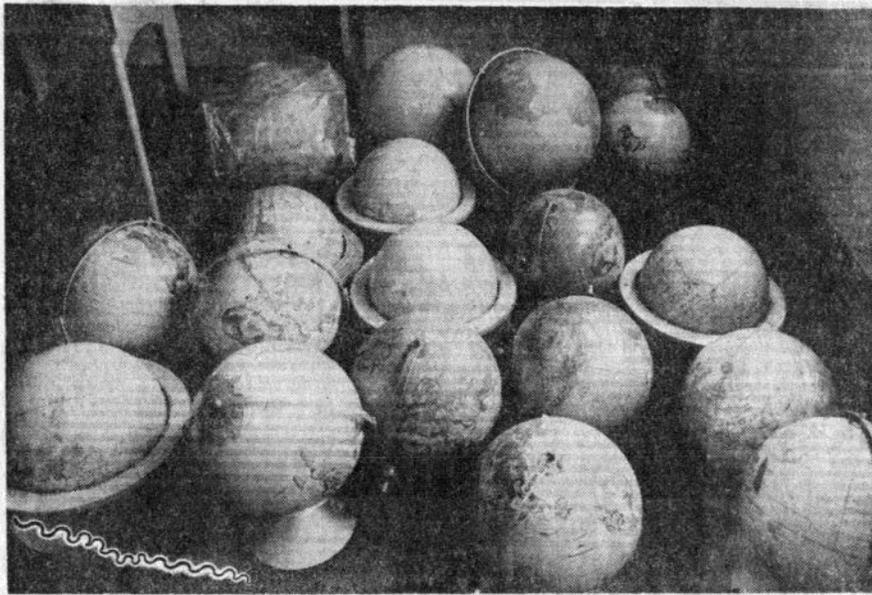
In 1953, the county built Alice Waller Elementary School for \$296,703. (All cost figures used in this article exclude land and site development.) The area of the school, planned for 480 pupils, was 32,700 square feet. The square-foot cost was \$9.07, and the cost per pupil was \$618.

By 1959, when the Indian Trail Ele-

See SCHOOL-PRICE

PAGE 2, Col. 4, this section

## Unknown date on Greathouse school fire:



Staff Photos by Bud Kamenish

### School's in, despite fire

GLOBES AWAIT distribution to classrooms at Greathouse Elementary School, 3930 Grandview Avenue in St. Matthews. At right, Charles Nunn and Jimmy Dennis wash windows in preparation for tomorrow's first day of school. Greathouse is opening after a fire July 9, which for a time threatened to force

classes elsewhere. The fire, apparently started by lightning, gutted four classrooms and damaged the roof of the 32-year-old brick building. Repairs were rushed through during July and August, so that the school's approximately 500 pupils could start the fall term in their accustomed surroundings.



## GREATHOUSE BEING REPAIRED

# Burned School May Reopen in Fall

The Greathouse Elementary School in St. Matthews is expected to be open for business again this fall, despite a lightning-sparked fire that did extensive damage two weeks ago.

The school is being repaired, John L. Ramsey, associate superintendent of Jefferson County schools, said today, and if everything goes on schedule the school will be open for classes when school starts Sept. 1.

During the July 9 fire, County School Supt. Richard VanHoose feared that the school would be beyond repair and asked area churches to consider letting the school use their facilities for temporary classroom space.

Six churches and the St. Matthews

armory responded with offers of space, which probably won't be needed now, Ramsey said.

Cost estimates of the damage are not complete. However, Donald E. Schnell, architect for the project, said the cost may run close to \$200,000 for the building and its contents. The school was built in 1939 at a cost of \$75,000, but VanHoose has estimated that it would cost \$1.25 million to replace.

Four classrooms were completely gutted by the fire, floors on two levels and many ceilings will have to be replaced, and some plaster work and re-decorating will need to be done, officials said.

About a fourth of the school's equip-

ment and furniture was also damaged, including an estimated 20 per cent of the library books, Schnell said.

Fire officials believe the fire started when lightning hit a chimney during a storm. Three storms since then have hampered repair efforts and added to the water damage. Officials say that problem should end late this week when the new roof is completed.



July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Letters to the editor

## Sacrificing trees to the 'Almighty Traffic Flow'

Dear Sir,

No obituaries exist for trees.

I read the article of June 17 concerning the widening of Thierman Lane at Shelbyville Road with accumulative horror and a sinking heart. Bordering the lawn of the Christian Science Church are two patriarch elm trees of unusual variety and size. These beautiful 170 year old elm trees will be destroyed because of the relentless demands of the automobile -- the common denominator of our times.

I read with utter astonishment that the Second Church of Christ Scientists considers the trees a hazard to their building and pro-

perty. The last remaining oasis of beauty on that concerous sore called Shelbyville Road is theirs to cherish and protect; yet it too must be sacrificed before the Almighty Traffic Flow. What manner of men are we? Are our priorities so distorted that these magnificent, specimen trees are considered of secondary importance to asphalt, automobiles, traffic flow and parking lots.

With equal confusion I read the Manager of Sears and Roebuck, Mr. Don E. Wittekiend, likes the idea of Sears being corporate citizens by financially aiding this latest piece of progress to be bestowed on Shelbyville Road. What extraordinary corporate citizens

Sears & Roebuck would be if it gave part of its parking lot toward this widening project and thereby illustrated its continuing environmental awareness. Sears has earned a national reputation for environmental sensitivity with its low phosphate detergent, and I can't believe this same sensitivity doesn't extend into other fields.

It is further completely bewildering to me that the City of St. Matthews, which takes great pains with the difficult task of beautifying their city, would be a part of this project to destroy trees that have been freely given. These elm trees are the only thing worth looking at in the vast

waste land of Shelbyville Road, and should be guarded and protected as an example of what a street can look like if properly developed and nurtured.

The picture of a tree lined and shaded Shelbyville Road is tantalizing and more than all the perfect traffic flow in the world this picture would bring me back to shop there. Does anybody care? Care enough to come out themselves and protect the destruction of these trees?

Let your feelings be known to Mr. Don E. Wittekiend of Sears and Roebuck and to Mayor Bernard Bowling, St. Matthews' enlightened Mayor.

Mimi Martin  
6005 Hunting Road  
Louisville, Ky. 40222



THIERMAN LANE from Shelbyville Road. Trees at right are set to be cut.

1971

**July 16-19, 1971: ONE MAN'S OPINION, WHAS Television and Radio**

The subject is fire, and you: When does your community get so big that lives and property are threatened until government begins paying to inject some fulltime professional help into the efforts of devoted, volunteer firefighters.

The time is now, for many of the citified communities outside of Louisville, Shively and Anchorage that still depend upon the volunteer smoke eater. Especially for St. Matthews and its adjacent areas, where two hospitals and more office buildings and apartment complexes soon will make fire defense all the more an awesome job.

The urgent need for government beef-up of volunteer protection: that is the lesson that ought to pull everybody together, in the wake of the July 9 school house fire in St. Matthews. And the call for action in this case points to St. Matthews City Hall and to Jefferson County Fiscal Court.

This is no slap at the dedicated volunteer. True, at the tough, smoke-choking schoolhouse blaze, four experienced WHAS newsmen reported confusion and leadership error among the St. Matthews firefighters. Nor did the newsmen make these judgments lightly. Their station, WHAS, is closer than any other to the volunteer firefighters.

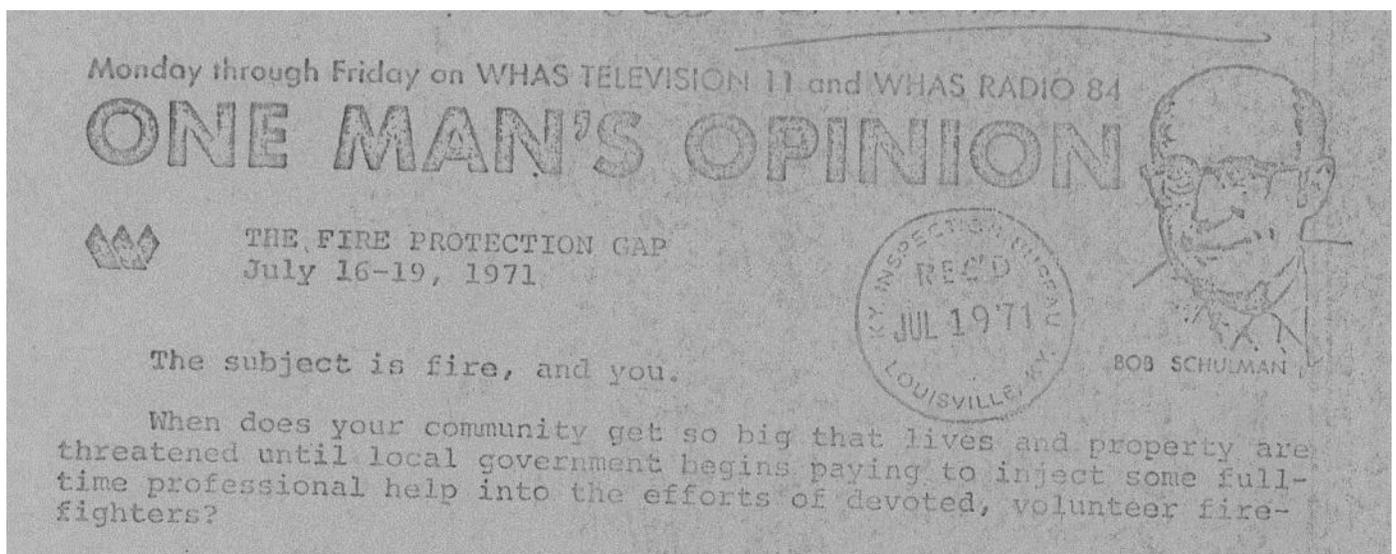
And understandably, St. Matthews Chief John Monohan and his exhausted men responded out of injured pride. On one score, for example, the chief said he ordered no call for help from Louisville's paid fire department because all accessible water hydrants already were in overextended use. Moreover, much of the schoolhouse was saved.

But action, not debate is what's called for. The 56 St. Matthews volunteers have under their wing the protection of 23 incorporated cities, and some unincorporated areas besides. Fire insurance authorities say it's inconceivable that, in situations like this and others elsewhere in Jefferson County, there are not full-time, paid, fire inspectors to do fire-prevention work, and at least one full-time professional available to each volunteer department for drill training.

And while Joe Smith, head of the Kentucky Inspection Bureau, says he'd rather have a well-trained volunteer than a poorly trained professional any time, it's the training, and the 24-hour availability of manpower, that make insurance standards demand four volunteers on call, to equal one full-time firefighter.

For many years, Jefferson County government has given fire defense a low dollar priority because, thanks to the volunteers, the headaches have been taken care of for almost nothing. The part-time efforts of lawyer Richard Trautwein and a secretary are all that the county now provides, by way of a fire protection program.

But now let a schoolhouse fire be a warning of how growth demands change. This means St. Matthews looking to installing better fire preventive building practices. It means Fiscal Court finding the quarter-million or so dollars a year to provide a few inspectors, and a full-time man in each volunteer department. It's the least the volunteers deserve. Or do we need a disaster to awaken us? Bob Schulman, One's Man Opinion (TV & Radio commentary.)



July 15, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

### Near ice house

# Fire siren to get a new 'home' soon

St. Matthews residents in the area around the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department will have a fond wish come true soon.

The city has received permission to relocate the fire siren which has been the bane of the citizens' existence since its installation atop the firehouse on Lyndon Way.

The siren became an issue in May when a delegation of Brown Avenue residents asked the City Council to remove the siren. Mayor Bernard F. Bowling said he would do everything he could to find a more acceptable permanent location.

In a letter to the city dated July 2, A. G. Flacher, president of the Merchants Ice and Cold Storage Company, Inc., wrote: "We hereby give the city of St. Matthews authority to install your fire siren on our property at 3940 Westport Road."

City Council member Harry Jones, who conducted the negotiations with the company, said Saturday that he had received an oral statement from Merchants Ice some time ago, and "this letter indicates that a contract has been made." Jones said he couldn't set a firm date for the relocation because he hadn't had an opportunity to discuss the matter with Mayor Bowling. Bowling is out of the city on vacation.

Jones could not give financial details on the cost of the relocation or who would be responsible for the costs.

"I don't know who paid for the last relocation," he said, "and until we discuss the matter with Fire Department officials, I won't know. If we have to pay to get it moved, I suppose we'll do it."

John Ford of 229 Brown Avenue, who was appointed to a committee by Mayor Bowling during the May 25 council meeting to work with the council on the siren problem said Saturday, he was "happy to hear the siren is being relocated to the business section, and I appreciate the Council keeping its word without further prodding."

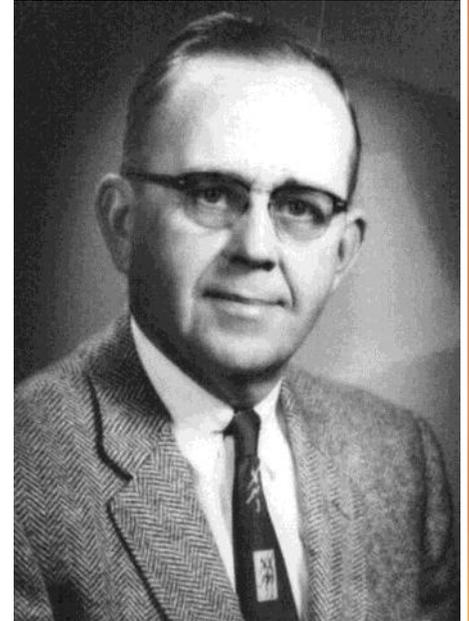
"However," he said, "long-range planning should include a better method, which would affect the fewest amount of people. I would think there are some knowledgeable, qualified persons in this field that could find a less noisy method."

1971

July 20, 1971, Board member Henry Monohan died:  
**Henry Apperious Monohan**

**Firefighter 1931 to 1941, Assistant Chief 1940 to 1941, Chief 1941, Director 1956 to 1971**

**August 21, 1914 to July 20, 1971**



1914, August 21, Born on Wildwood Farm in St. Matthews, Kentucky. Youngest of 4 children.

Attended Holy Trinity grade school and St. Xavier High School.

Loved farming, and ran Wildwood Farm for many years.

1931, joined the STMFD as a firefighter and served until 1941.

1939, March 9, he became assistant chief of STMFD.

1940 to 1941, became Assistant Chief of STMFD.

1941, July 9, became Chief of the STMFD for a short period of time.

1941, August 5, Newspaper article: **WANTED MEN!** Henry Monohan, chief of the St. Matthews Volunteer

Fire Department has called a special meeting of the body for Tuesday night August 26, at 7:30 at the fire house. At this meeting Chief Monohan would be glad to interview men over 21 years of age who would like to become members of the crew of firefighters. Men are needed now Mr. Monohan states, and here is a real opportunity for young men to render a worthwhile service to their community.

1952, December, bought (with his brother, John) a 355 acre farm with 90 cattle.

1956, became a member of the STMFD Board of Directors, and served until his death in 1971.

1960's, was a partner in the McDanial Tractor Company, eventually bought the whole company.

During this time he was also involved with other farm implement businesses.

1967, May 27, Married late in life to Marie Therese Lyons, who died June 19, 1971. They had no children.

Lived at 521 Zorn avenue, Louisville, KY.

1971, July 20, Died at age 56 of a heart attack.

**Henry A. Monohan, 56, of 521 Zorn, died of a heart attack at 5 p.m. Tuesday at his home, according to Deputy Coroner Henry Burchett.**

Monohan was the owner and operator of a tractor and farm implement company.

He was a member and director of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department where his brother, John Monohan Jr., is chief.

His wife, the former Marie Lyons, died June 19.

Survivors include his mother, Mrs. John M. Monohan.

The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Leonard Catholic Church, 440 Zorn, with burial in Calvary Cemetery. The body is at Pearson's, 149 Breckinridge Lane.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the American Heart Association.

July 29, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## letters to the editor

# Trinity High School objects to new fire siren site

Dear Editor:

I have sent the following letter to The St. Matthews City Council:

It is with great distress, that we notice the article in *The Voice-Jeffersonian* (July 22) regarding the relocation of the siren for the St. Matthews Fire Department.

There are several important considerations which have been overlooked. Before such a change is instituted, I think it is only fair that public notice be made and an open meeting arranged so that everyone concerned will be given a chance to be heard.

We are the first to admit that the siren is a nuisance -- we have lived with it in our backyard for the past 18 years and we know what it is like.

We take exception to the statement by Mr. Ford that "he is happy to hear that the siren is being relocated to the business section." The location at Merchant's is no more of a business section than the area immediately surrounding the Fire House. There are many residences just across Westport Road from Merchant's.

Trinity High School is very close to Merchant's and we think this is a very important consideration. As we pointed out in our letter of February 16, 1971 to the St. Matthews' City Council, this siren often interrupts classes -- it works out to several hundred man power hours per week. In 18 years this means that too much time has been wasted.

The times when the siren is used also should be considered. The siren is only used from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm (I think). It blows for the longest times during business hours--when the volunteers

are working--and during the times when classes are being held.

Because of these considerations, we request a second thought on this matter, especially since we were not informed of the contemplated change, even though we had lodged an official complaint on February 16.

Sincerely,

Rev. H. A. Jansing  
Business Manager  
Trinity High School  
4011 Shelbyville Road



Score one for the beautifiers, in this case the City of St. Matthews, which did a fine job prettifying an otherwise drab signal control shed at the intersection of Chenoweth Lane and the L & N Railroad tracks . . .



. . . and one more for the uglifiers, in this case the Alwes Outdoor Advertising Co. which last week erected the blank billboard at the right just across the tracks from the signal shed. This makes 25 massive billboards

## Greathouse School repairs to be completed by fall

By Robin Garr  
Staff Writer

Work is under way this week on repairs to Greathouse School in St. Matthews, severely damaged in a July 9 fire reportedly caused by lightning.

Jefferson County School Board officials reported Monday that cost of the repairs will total between \$200,000 and \$250,000. The officials hope that all work will be completed by the beginning of this fall's school term.

Officials added that classes will be held at Greathouse in the fall in any case, as the school gymnasium can be pressed into service for temporary classes if the repair work is not complete.

Superintendent of Schools Richard VanHoose said the Greathouse structure cost taxpayers only \$75,000 at the time of its construction in 1939, but that replacement of the school in today's market would probably cost more than \$1 million.

VanHoose noted that the blaze gutted four classrooms, destroyed about one-fourth of the school's equipment, and burned most of the building's roof.

In Monday's school board meeting, board members unanimously approved a resolution offering special recognition to the St. Matthews and McMahan Fire Departments "for risking their lives to bring the fire under control and preventing a total loss of the building and its contents."

### Other work at Greathouse

"The board commends these volunteers, who give unselfishly of their time and effort to serve this community in such an important task," the board's resolution concluded.

Also, the board approved a VanHoose request that the contractor be authorized to undertake certain other projects at the school.

"These items, not necessarily resulting from the fire, will be cheaper to take care of while the builder is there anyway," the superintendent explained.

VanHoose said the work includes modifications and carpeting in the school library, work in the administrative offices, improvements in the sound and audio-visual systems, and upgrading of the building fire-alarm system.

In addition, he said, painting of the school which had been scheduled for next year will be accomplished at this time, due to smoke and fire damage.

The superintendent told board members

the estimated cost of the extra work is \$16,000, "far under what it would cost to hire the builder if he weren't already there."



WILL LAUSMAN, chairman of the turtle soup supper, stirs the turtle meat, cooking in a steaming broth Friday morning.



THE "CRYBABIES," the men assigned to peeling and quartering onions, work at their task.



THE WOMEN, seated in a large circle, peeled potatoes.

August 5, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# IN A JAM IN AN ELEVATOR

## Boy tries 'Stop' button...it works, he's stuck

"Let me go home!" the curly-haired blond boy wailed, as tears poured down his cheeks and he squirmed in the firm bear-hug of a burly policeman.

Gary Berry, 9, had just been rescued last Saturday morning from an elevator in the St. Matthews Company Building at 125 Chenoweth Lane. The boy had been trapped in the elevator between the first and second floors of the building for about 45 minutes.

But the lad's plight was all his own doing, according to St. Matthews Police Officer William L. Bosemer.

"He said he came over here to the building to get a Coke," Bosemer said. "The boy got into the elevator and started it up toward the second floor. Then, you know how kids are, he saw this button that said 'Emergency Stop' and he pushed it. The elevator stopped right there, between the first and second floor."

Bosemer said the boy apparently failed to see or read other lettering on the "Emergency Stop" button which indicates that it can be pulled to get the elevator moving again. The boy became panicky, Bosemer said, and began yelling for help and thumping on the elevator door.

### Adults console boy

A number of adults who were at work in the building, including Mrs. Bea Leslie, the owner, consoled the trapped boy through the elevator door and assured him that he would soon be rescued.

Throughout Gary's ordeal, an unidentified man and woman chatted continually with the trapped boy through the crack in the elevator door. They succeeded in calming him a bit and reducing somewhat the noise level of his walls.

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and the St. Matthews Police Department had been called.

Ten firemen, under the direction of Lts. Al Ring and Doug Monohan, sped to the building, with an aerial ladder truck. At first, Ring said, it was thought that entrance might be gained to the elevator through an opening in the building's roof. But there was none.

The rescue of the boy was delayed for some time because emergency keys to open the elevator doors could not be located. Mrs. Leslie explained that these keys had been moved from locations near the elevator doors to more obscure spots in the building. This was

done, she said, to prevent a child from getting one of the keys, opening an exterior elevator door and perhaps falling into the elevator pit. But at the time the boy was trapped, the keys could not be quickly found. Thus, young Gary spent about 45 minutes inside the elevator.

### A problem with kids

"Kids swarm all over that building all the time," Officer Bosemer said. "This boy's been in this building before."

Mrs. Leslie agreed that the management of the building has had a frequent problem with children wandering through the building. "We've been chasing children out of here for days," she said.

"We knew he wasn't hurt," Lt. Ring said. "We were talking to him through the door and he told us he wasn't hurt. He was just scared. We could have forced the elevator door open in seconds, but it seemed a shame to destroy such an expensive door, particularly when we knew the boy was unhurt. We decided to wait for the keys."

Before long an employee of the office building arrived and produced the keys. Lts. Ring and Monohan went to the

second floor, opened the exterior elevator door and lowered themselves onto the top of the stalled elevator. They reached through the trap door in the top of the elevator and hoisted Gary up to the second floor.

### Scurries for home

Young Gary, with tears streaming down his cheeks, scurried for the exit door of the building. But Officer Bosemer grabbed him and tried to explain the dangers of what Gary had got himself into. But the tearful and badly frightened boy could only wail repeatedly: "Let me go home! I want to go home! Please let me go home!"

The policeman realized that his message wasn't getting through to the boy, so he released Gary. The boy ran to his home, about half a block away. His mother is Mrs. Paul Dillman of 3827 Staebler Avenue.

Officer Bosemer went to the Dillman home for a long and earnest talk with young Gary about the dangers of what he had done.

Gary promised never to go near the building again.



Voice photo

AN AERIAL LADDER was sent to the place where the boy was trapped.

July 31, 1971

August 12, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Workin' on the railroad

## 8-unit train pulls a king-sized delay here

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad added insult to injury Thursday.

M. Matthews residents, long accustomed and somewhat resigned to traffic delays imposed by lengthy freight trains along the L & N's tracks that parallel Westport Road, found matters more congested than usual shortly after lunch time that day.

At about 1:05 pm, a switch engine pulling six cars and a caboose chugged slowly across the Chenoweth Lane crossing, without benefit of crossing gate, ringing bells or flashing lights.

As traffic screeched to a stop on

either side of the tracks, the train slowed, stopped, and then the gates came down.

Then, the 1:10 local returning to the Louisville yards from the Ford plant in the eastern part of the county passed. The switch engine started to roll and waiting cars started their engines in anticipation of getting under way at last.

It was not to be. Without clearing the intersection, the short train stopped, cut out a gondola and left it straddling Chenoweth. The engine backed and filled, juggled cars and reassembled for more

than 10 minutes as the traffic jam, and crowd of interested spectators, grew.

Finally, at almost 1:25 pm, the six-car train was reassembled and slowly rolled away.

Woodson Knight, public-relations director at the L & N's Louisville headquarters, said the unit was a "work train" that had to stop in the area to drop off materials for routine track maintenance.

He said it was an isolated case, not normal procedure.

"I live in that area myself, so I know what you mean," he concluded.



Voice photo by Robin Garr III

A WORK TRAIN was rumbling across the Chenoweth Lane crossing at the time this picture was taken. Note the crossing gates jutting vertically, out of position, at the sides of this picture.

1971

August 12, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board Of Directors of the St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held Thursday August 12 1971 at fire house.

Directors Present.

W. L. Wilson                      Robert Walling  
Geo E. Miller                     Jno Monohan  
Jno Emrich

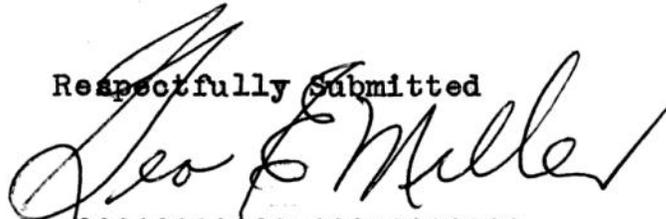
Minutes of last meeting which was the Annual meeting held July 14th 1971 Wednesday read by Chairman Emrich

Motion made by Geo E. Miller seconded by W. L. Wilson that they be accepted as read and filed.

Motion made by Jno Emrich seconded by Geo E Miller That director Robt. Walling and the fireman buy motorola 23 inch colored television set for the firemans lounge. At a price of \$459.00 plus sales tax.

There being no further business motion made by Jno Monohan seconded by Jno Emrich that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted



.....  
Geo E. Miller Sec'y

August 19, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:**Experts disagree on device's value****Would a lightning rod have prevented \$250,000 fire at Greathouse school?**By Robin Garr III  
Staff Writer

Could a lightning rod have spared Greathouse School the \$250,000 damage it sustained in the July 9 fire?

The St. Matthews institution lost most of its roof and four classrooms that Friday evening when a bolt of lightning

struck a high chimney and flashed down into the building.

No lightning rod was installed there. A post-fire survey commissioned by the Jefferson County School Board indicated that Greathouse School is one of eight county schools lacking this form of lightning protection.

However, authorities offered mixed

opinions on the real protective value of lightning rods.

Lloyd Redman, the county board's assistant superintendent for maintenance, operations and school construction, said they don't always work as they should.

"I'm no expert on the subject," he said, "but I've gone into this with our architects and electronics people, and they say it isn't necessarily the answer. "It's a debatable point," he added, citing a lightning strike at Durrett High School. A chimney there had a lightning rod installed.

He added that Cochrane and Goldsmith Lane, having no tall chimneys, don't need lightning rods. Also, Melbourne Heights contains only offices, and no classes are held there.

Plans for installation of lightning arrestors at the other listed schools are indefinite, Redman said. Citing the serious question as to their value, he added "you're talking about several thousand dollars per building," for a good installation.

He also noted that insurance companies offer no reduction in fire rates for buildings so equipped. "They don't even ask if the building has one," he concluded.

Don Schnell of Hartstern Schnell and Associates, architects for the county board, echoed Redman's remarks.

"Although you may have a lightning rod on one feature of the building, that doesn't rule out the possibility of lightning damage," he explained. "A lightning rod can only handle a certain amount of (electrical) charge. If the charge exceeds the limit, it can still do damage." Complete lightning protection requires an elaborate and highly expensive system of arrestors, he said.

Schnell added that about 60 school buildings designed by the Louisville firm over the last 20 years have had lightning rods

**Work at Greathouse**

A spokesman at Greathouse Schools said Stevens Contractors, Inc., of Louisville has the situation "well in hand" and expects to finish all work in time for the first day of school, Sept. 2.

However, no lightning rod will be installed there. Redman explained the tall chimney that was struck is no longer necessary, as the school's heating system was replaced several years ago, and the new gas plant doesn't require it. Accordingly, the new stack projects only five feet above the roofline, and is not considered a lightning hazard.

Redman noted the eight schools which lack lightning rods include Greathouse, Goldsmith Lane, Shryock, Jefferson-town Elementary, Cochrane, Lyndon, Melbourne Heights and Smyrna.

**Greathouse had no rod for lightning**

Continued from Page 1

installed "where conditions warrant." But he said he'd question the need for adding them to the older buildings that are due for replacement.

However, if the older schools are to continue in service, "we'd recommend the board look at the possibility of installing them," he added.

Sgt. William Timberlake of the Louisville Fire Prevention Bureau commented, "We've been told (lightning rods) perform well if properly installed -- that's the main point. It stands to reason lightning is going to strike the highest thing around."

Timberlake cited Kentucky Standards of Safety, Section 2613, "Lightning Protection." He said the standard calls for installation of lightning rods, "where necessary," on schools, churches, hospitals and other places where people congregate.

"Where necessary," Timberlake said, is defined as depending on frequency and severity of local storms, the location and occupancy of the building.

Commenting on the state standard, Redman remarked, "We haven't had any trouble with the state fire authorities about any of our buildings."

Schnell added, "It depends a lot on the value of the property. We don't consider it a major safety problem, though, because of the fire alarm systems installed in all the schools."

Lightning and thunder are not rare in the stormy Ohio Valley. The U. S. Weather Bureau's Standiford Field station reports there is an average of 45 thunderstorms in the greater Louisville area during a typical year, and no neighborhood is exempt from possible lightning damage.

**Volunteers' fire runs in St. Matthews**

Volunteers of the St. Matthews Fire Department were called out twice this last week. On Tuesday, firefighters responded to a report of a car fire at 3715 Fairview, but the flames were reportedly out when they arrived.

On Friday, two engines rolled to the home of Virginia McCork at 217 Monohan Drive, where they put out a stove fire.

Monday evening, the fire department was called for a car fire in the Shelbyville Road Plaza parking lot. The fire was out when firemen arrived on the scene.

Continued on Page A-8

1971

August 26, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Working fire at 319 Browns Lane, Church Steeple, McMahan, responded.

# St. Matthews fire runs

A fire in the steeple at St. Matthews United Methodist Church, on Browns Lane near Norbourne Boulevard, was put out Aug. 17 by St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. The fire report came in at about 8:15 pm.

Spokesmen at the church said the fire was apparently caused by the wiring to an exhaust fan located in the steeple. The extent of damage is unknown, but a report is expected shortly.

The spokesman said damage is "more than it appears from the outside," being concentrated to the inside of the structure, the church roof, and some water damage.

In the week's only other fire run, one engine was dispatched to cover the Lyndon firehouse while the local department responded to a fire in its area.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 384

## FIRE REPORT

DATE 8/17/71 TIME OF ALARM 8:00 ACT. P.M. TIME RETURNED 11:00 ACT. P.M.

LOCATION St. Matthews Methodist Church APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE  Browns Lane in  
Norbourne Blvd

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

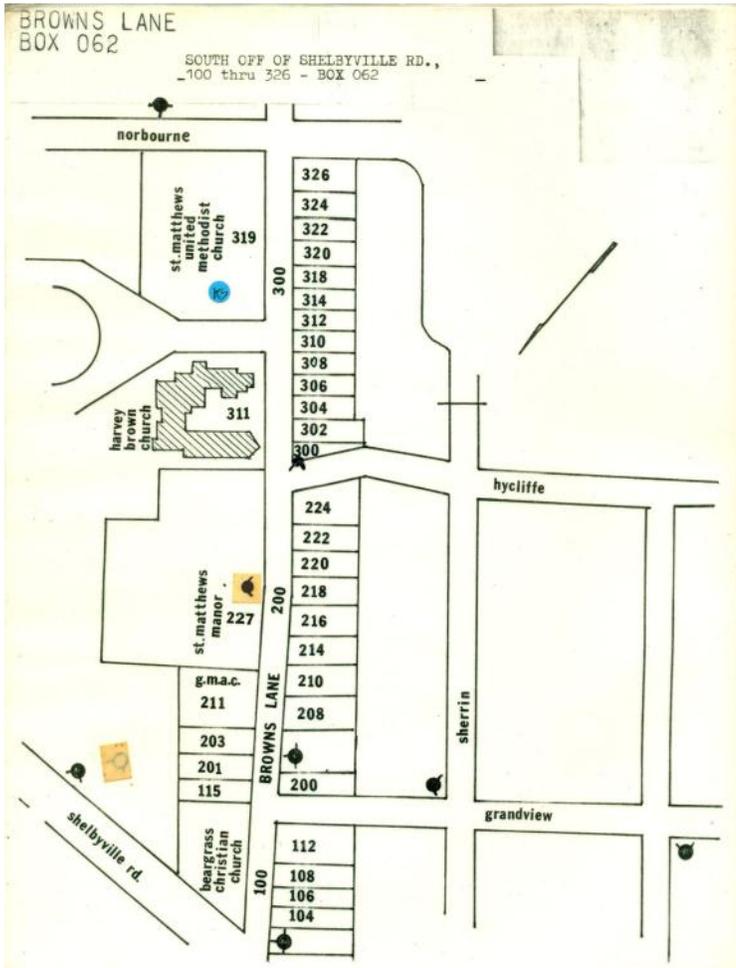
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5-6 5-7

REMARKS Set up with 6 of 1 1/2" LINES - Used 3 to put out fire. One McManhan put in St. Matthews House. Appears to have started around exhaust fan in steeple.

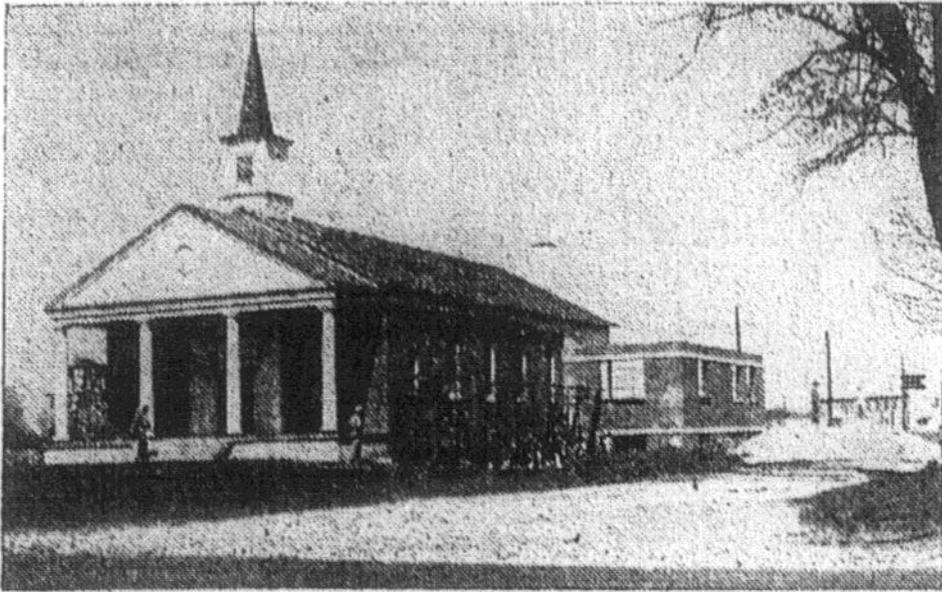
OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief REPORT WRITTEN BY Al Humberlin

Comment by Al Ring: If I recall with Sam Wolfe's help, we were training on a Tuesday night when the alarm came in. The inside of the main church was quite smokey. I think I finally found the source up in the steeple and had started in an exhaust fan. It was a lot of smoke but not a lot of fire. There was a beam across the crawl space up in the steeple and we wanted a small guy to take a line up there. Chief Monohan ask Sam Wolfe to get a line up there and get to the seat of the fire. Little fire, lots of smoke damage.



1971

August 26, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Working fire at 319 Browns Lane, Church Steeple, McMahan, responded.



Even on Saturdays the work continues on St. Matthews Methodist Church. At the right rear, walls for the addition are going up.



**FREE WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

THIS OFFER GOOD ALL YEAR LONG

 <b>Free Ice Cream Cone</b> WITH EACH <b>50¢</b> PURCHASE OF <b>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</b>	 <b>Free Ice Cream Soda</b> WITH EACH <b>\$2.00</b> PURCHASE OF <b>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</b>
---	--

PROMPT FREE DELIVERY 9 AM to 9 PM MONDAY thru SATURDAY

**Fairmeade PHARMACY** CHARGE ACCOUNTS INVITED

896-4452 4238 Shelbyville Road at Fairmeade Next to Winn-Dixie

**RAWERT'S ASHLAND SERVICE**



Westport Rd. at Lyndon Ln.  
Phone 425-9133

The Relocation of Mr. Vernon and Mr. John H. Rawert  
FORMERLY OPERATING AT RAWERT ASHLAND MIDDLETOWN, KY.

**ANNOUNCING**

**15 Years of successful service station operation assures you of fast, courteous, dependable service.**

We feature professional mechanical work and guarantee results! Quality Ashland Products, Valvoline Oil and Top Value Stamps!

We Invite You To Stop In and Get Acquainted.

1971

September 9, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors  
of The St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held Thursday Sept. 9 1971.

Directros present

Geo Miller	W. L. Wilson
Fred C/ Boss	Phillip Grauman
Jno Monohan.	

Minutes of last metting held Thursday Aug 12 1971.  
read by President Monohan

Motion made by Fred C. Boss seconded by Geo Miller  
that they be accepted as read.

Most pf the meeting was taken up with discussion on  
the settlemeny of the interest due on loan made us by Cityn Of  
St. Matthews and it was decided that Jno Monohan see  
John Emrich and then we arrange a metting with Bolling Jones  
and get this adjusted as they did not remit their payments  
as they should and there is a difference of \$1180.00  
which we are being charged that we should not and will not pay

There being no further business motion made by  
Fred C. Boss seconded by Jno Monohan that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

GEM / L.R.

Geo E. Miller

Sec'y.

1971

September 16, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Former Director, 1945 to 1948 for STMFD.



SUPER BEETLE

25 years of hard labor for \$2049.

Suggested retail price. MSRP. Local taxes and other dealer delivery charges. If any, additional.

Only 20 cars left in stock at this price.

This year, everybody's introducing a new auto. Only one.

"Volkswagenized." "Volkswagen priced."

So not to be outdone we've done the same.

Except, of course, we didn't have to start from scratch.

For years, while every body else has been jumping from model to model

and worrying about taxes, we've stuck with our original and improved the way it works.

And so today, while cars may not look like the newest economy car, it's the most developed.

It's the only one with a sealed steel bottom. To protect its insides against just about everything out side, including time.

The only one with an air-cooled magnesium-alloy engine. To eliminate locking over and freezing up.

And the only one with a free electronic diagnostic system. To spot problems early and actually help extend its life.

So even if it doesn't look the newest, maybe not. It ticks the best.



St. Matthews Volkswagen

4021 Shelbyville Road 897-5151



Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph C. Schlich

## Schlichs to celebrate 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph C. Schlich, 337 Monahan Drive, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, Sunday, Sept. 26, at a 3 pm Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. A reception in Lourdes auditorium will follow. Friends are invited and there have been no formal invitations.

Mrs. Schlich, the former Benita Klug, has been manager of Our Lady of Lourdes School lunch room since the school opened 21 years ago. Mr. Schlich, who formerly conducted Schlich Engraving Co. with his father, now assists his son in the Paul Schlich Insurance Agency.

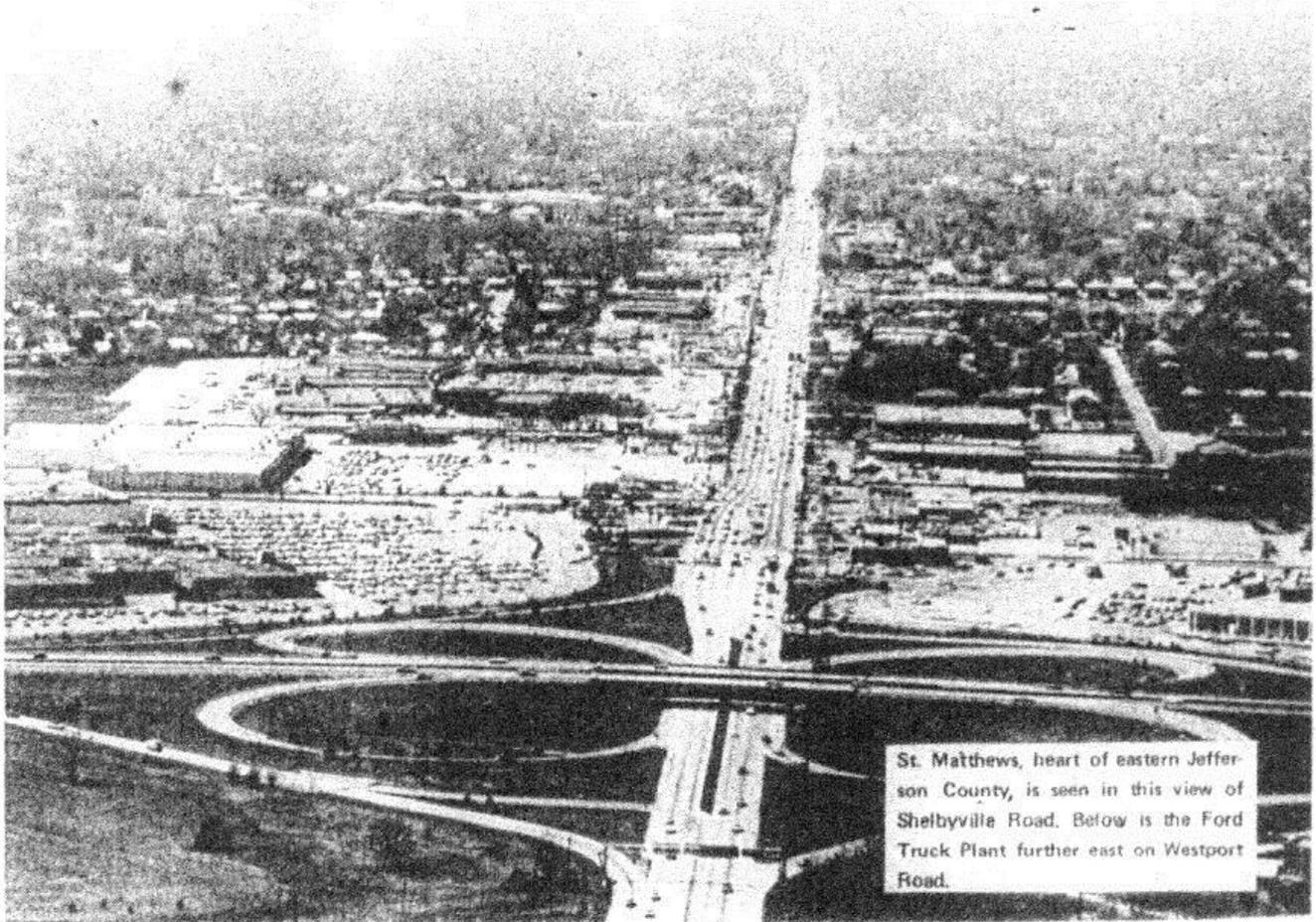
The couple has six children and twenty-six grandchildren.



1971

October 7, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Is this our town, or Mahwah, N.J.?



St. Matthews, heart of eastern Jefferson County, is seen in this view of Shelbyville Road. Below is the Ford Truck Plant further east on Westport Road.

Zoning looms as a major civil rights issue

October 7, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## In St. Matthews

# **Fire siren relocation promised 'soon'**

By Frank Fox  
Staff Writer

Much to the dismay of nearby residents the St. Matthews Fire Department siren remains atop the station house on Lyndon Way. City officials promised last June to relocate the noisy neighbor and many are wondering "will it be done?"

"As soon as possible" was the answer from city officials last week. "Permission to erect the siren on private property off Westport Road in the city's business section was received in August and we are currently negotiating cost with fire department officials," said councilman Harry J. Jones.

The property mentioned by Jones is a small triangular plot of land adjoining Bacon's department store parking lot behind Shelbyville Road. It is owned by Merchants Ice and Cold Storage Company of Louisville.

## Negotiations lag

Jones said "it was probably my fault that negotiations between the city and department had been laggins some, because private business interests had been taking up more of my time." "Cost however," said Jones, "won't be a major obstacle. If money is what its going to take, I guess we'll have to spend it."

Jones and Mayor Bernard F. Bowling both think the city will eventually have to assume the "lion's share" of relocation costs. However, they are looking for relief in a U.S. Department of Defense plan that might pay about half the cost.

That plan is part of a national Civil defense emergency warning system "If the city consented to two-use siren policy (two-use defined as a warning for both national emergencies and local fire alert) the Department of Defense will pay up to 50 percent of the cost of purchasing and installing a siren," according to Jefferson County's defense warning officer Elden Durand, Jr.

## City coordinated

"Those negotiations must be between the fire department and civil defense officials with the city coordinating activities only as an interested party" Bowling said. Both Jones and Bowling "thought" perhaps this had already been done, but weren't positive.

Attempts to reach Fire Chief John Monohan over the weekend weren't successful. Fire department board chairman, John Erarich, said he "hadn't attended the last meeting and didn't know if anything had been done or not."

Two residents of the Brown Avenue and Ridgeway Avenue who asked not to be named for the present say they already know "nothing has been" done. "What we want to know is when."

1971

October 12, 1971, Letter:

Christ Methodist Church Kindergarten

4614 BROWNSBORO ROAD

PHONE 695-9108

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

October 12, 1971

Dear Mr. Maloney,

We are truly grateful to you and your men for bringing the fire truck to us.

Every teacher commented that the talks were excellent. They also said it was the best we have had ever!

Thank you again for giving of your time and sharing with our children of your experience and splendid training.

Sincerely,

Red Lee Currens

1971

October 14, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the board of directors  
of the St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held Thursday Oct 14 1971

Directors present.

Geo E. Miller  
Leland Wilson  
Fred C. Boss

Robert Willing  
Jno Monohan  
Phil Grauman

Minutes of last meeting held Sept. 9th 1971  
read by President Monohan acting for Chairman Emrich

Motion Made by Phillip Grauman seconded by Fred C. Boss  
that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by Jno Monohan seconded by Geo Miller that  
all clients will be notified when bills are sent out May 1st  
1972 that effective with due date July 1st, if not paid will  
be charged 8% interest until paid. It will be charged on a monthly  
basis

Fred C. Boss was instructed to buy a \$5000.00 certificate  
of deposit.

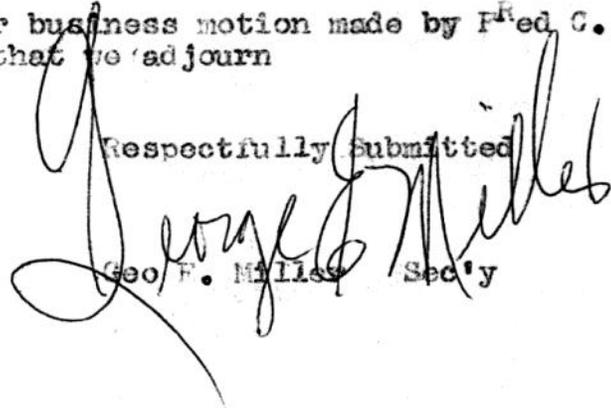
Pres. Monohan was instructed to proceed to buy a new  
peice of equipment which we need to replace another older peice.

It was decided by all Board member that no one be allowed  
set in on board meetings other than the members. But the door  
is open for any one wanting to meet before the board may do so  
before 7.30 P. M. on request.

The decision to appoint a ~~new~~ new board member to replace  
Henry Monohan was tabled until the 1972 Jan meeting.

There being no further business motion made by Fred C. Boss  
seconded by Leland Wilson that we adjourn

Respectfully Submitted



Geo. E. Miller Sec'y

1971

October 14, 1971, Roster:

MEETING *School - fire Prev.* FIRE RUNS NO. DATE *10-15-71* NUMBER OF MEN *35*  
 LOCATION *Holy Trinity School*

OFFICERS.

COL. MONCHAN # 33  
 MAJOR. HALBERLIN # 16  
 MAJOR *H.A. ZEPFNER* # 50  
 CAPT. BARCOCK # 2  
 CAPT. *D. WALLINGS* # 48  
 LT. DEHART # 10  
 LT. DECKMAN # 11  
 LT. JACKSON # 21  
 LT. D. MONCHAN # 31  
 LT. A. RING # 38

FIREMAN.

ALBERT A. ANDROIT JR. # 1  
 ALBERT A. ANDROIT. III # 63  
 HENRY BARCOCK JR. # 29  
 G. A. BECKMAN # 5  
 DENNIS BRYANT # 32  
 HERB CHRESTE # 8  
 DAVID C. DICK # 6  
 CHARLES DAVIS # 64  
 PAUL DILLMAN # 12  
 DENNY ENGNEHL # 13  
 CLARKE FENNIMORE # 14  
 PAUL FISH JR. # 7  
 ED. FOLEY # 15  
 W. R. FRANCKE III # 58  
 B. J. GOLDEN JR. # 56

TIM GOLDEN # 3  
 JIM GRAVEN ##34  
 RALPH HALBERLIN #26  
 JACK *H. HEDL* # 17  
 RICHARD HIRDT # 19  
 ROGER HIRDT # 23  
 PAT *R. MANN* # 53  
 THOMAS MARTIN # 27  
 CLIFTON McAPPE # 59  
 JIM McGRATH # 65  
 BOB E. McGRATH # 40  
 W. MERCKE # 67  
 TOMMY MILLER # 30  
 MIKE NOON # 20  
 JOHN NOON # 35  
 RUSS *R.P.* # 62  
 KYLE REAGAN # 37  
 KEN RIESING # 61  
 PHIL SCHNIDER # 41  
 G. B. SCHROCK # 18  
 R. HARVY SCHULETZE # 42  
 A. R. SCOTT # 43  
 CARTER SHURMAN # 24  
 GEORGE SOULERS # 44  
 K. STRANGE # 69  
 RICHARD TACKETT # 66  
 SAM WOLFE JR # 22  
 BOB ZAEPFEL # 4

*[Handwritten signature]*

1971

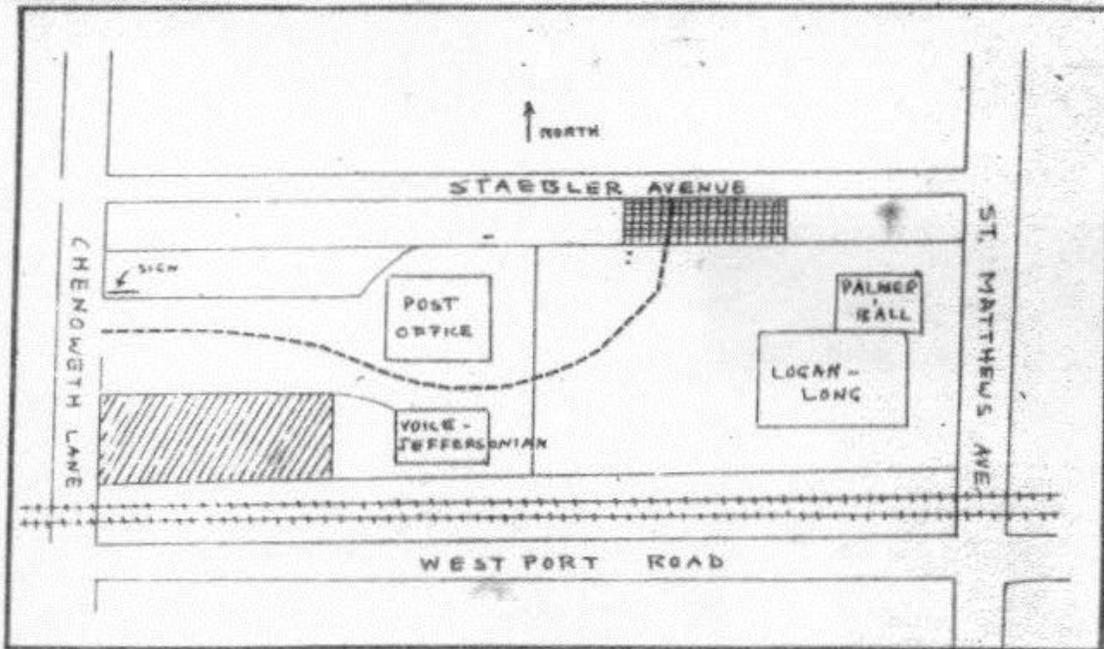
October 14, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



Norbourne Boulevard after an April, 1970, rain

October 21, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

SECTION A, PAGE 2, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1971



THE LINED PORTION at the lower right of this map shows the area planned for development as a neighborhood shopping center by the Walter Wagner Co., agents for an unidentified development group. The plans hinge on possible traffic flow along the dotted line to Staebler Avenue through six lots owned by the Palmer-Ball Co. The sign, which police have repeatedly requested be removed, is at the entrance to 109 Chenoweth Lane.

Traffic pattern may be a problem

## Chenoweth Lane shopping center planned

A local Realtor confirmed this week that a shopping center is being planned on a site adjoining the St. Matthews post office off Chenoweth Lane. Actual development

of the property, according to Realtor Walter Wagner, Jr., will begin as soon as financing, tenants and an access road can be acquired.

Notice of the proposed shopping center was given to the public last week when the realty company erected a sign off Chenoweth Lane adjacent to the Post Office driveway. The sign has been reported by motorists using the only existing access road to the property as a traffic hazard since it was installed last Thursday.

The St. Matthews Police have requested the Wagner Realty Company to relocate the sign. Thomas Berry a Wagner agent, said Tuesday morning his office had received numerous calls from the St. Matthews police since last Friday and

a painter had been instructed to move the sign away from the road.

Development of the site, presently occupied by a retail fruit and vegetable stand has been described by Wagner as some businessmen exercising an option they have on the property. According to city of St. Matthews tax records the property is owned by Chenoweth Square, Inc., 146 St. Matthews Avenue. The listed address is also the offices of the Palmer-Ball Company and the Palmer Asbestos and Rubber Company.

Wagner said he hopes the City Council would agree to provide access to Staebler Avenue through land owned by the Palmer-ball firm. Mayor Howling was out of town and could not be reached for comment on the proposal.

Although Berry said development of the land was still "up in the air", he insisted the land "is going to be developed."

### Middletown community meeting

Representatives from about 10 Middletown community organizations will meet to discuss community improvements Thursday, Oct. 21 at 8 pm in Lynn's Cafeteria on U.S. Highway 60 in Middletown.

1971

October 21, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



## Kentucky highway deaths 765 and 766

No matter how many of these one sees, they never lose their chilling impact. The fatal accident scene rarely varies; the lights flash, the police routinely go about their questioning and measuring and newsmen take their inevitable pictures. The bloody sheet covering the body, a crumpled shoe lying in

the middle of Westport Road, the shredded tire and twisted steel are mute evidence of the earlier, unseen horror. The dead men were strangers, but that doesn't seem to cure the sick feeling either, for as John Donne wrote "... any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. . ."

*Photograph by Managing Editor William L. Shipley*

## 2 die, 1 hurt in crash near Jefferson Freeway

Two men died and one woman was critically injured in a single-car accident Saturday afternoon on Westport Road.

James W. Brents, 19, of 3815 Stratton Avenue in Louisville and Earl Lee Hinkle, Jr., 24, of Pewee Valley, were killed. Priscilla Dickerson, 19, of 1719 Bolling Avenue in Louisville suffered multiple injuries in the crash which occurred on the dry pavement about 12:40 pm.

on the west side of the roadway, then plowed on for 67 feet. The car then jumped a guardrail and bridge abutment and came to rest on Westport Road on the west side of the overpass.

No evidence of drugs or liquor were found and no vehicle defects were apparent, police said.

STMFD did not respond on this, just shows what goes on.

October 21, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Present STMFD firefighter Jack DeHart.

Business women's week opens

## Beautification awards presented

Last Sunday was a Beautiful Day. It was beautification-awards day.

The St. Matthews Business & Professional Women's Club made its annual awards to area businessmen who have made outstanding efforts in beautifying their properties. About 60 persons attended the awards breakfast in Howard Johnson's Restaurant at 4621 Shelbyville Road.

Awards were given in three categories: 1. Eating establishments and small businesses 2. Offices, banks, and funeral homes. 3. Service stations and large businesses. Under each category two awards were made, one of the Most Attractive and the second for the Most Improved.

The winners were:

Category No. 1: The Stonehenge Shoppe, 4501 Shelbyville Road. (Most Attractive) and the Oriental Home, 4302 Shelbyville Road (Most Improved).

Category No. 2: Marshall Realty Co. 4052 Shelbyville Road (Most Attractive), and the Louisville Trust Co., 4000 Shelbyville Road (Most Improved).

Category No. 3: The Standard Oil station at 292 North Hubbards Lane (Most Attractive), and DeHart's Sunoco station at 4169 Shelbyville Road.

A special award was presented to the City of St. Matthews for its beautification efforts at the Eline Library, at the

St. Matthews Community Center, the flower plantings and wall-building alongside the Louisville & Nashville Railroad tracks in St. Matthews and around the St. Matthews City Hall.

The awards program Sunday also marked the opening of the National Business & Professional Women's Week. A number of events are being held during the week:

On Monday and Tuesday, women drivers in the St. Matthews area were observed by city policemen and give "citations" for their skillful and considerate driving. Local B & PW members also attended Monday night's sessions of Police Court.

Last night, the B & PW members attended a dinner at the Rivermont Holiday Inn. Lewis Kerberg spoke on a "Course in Practical Politics."

On Thursday, a sign will be erected near the intersection of Breckinridge and Dutchmans Lanes noting that a B&PW unit meets in St. Matthews.

A fellowship breakfast will be held at 7:30 am Friday in Pryor's at 4170 Shelbyville Road.

The B&PW will close its week's festivities with a dinner at 7 pm Saturday in the Marriott Inn in Clarksville, Ind.

At the awards program last Sunday morning, Mrs. Gretchen Kaiser, City Clerk for St. Matthews, received a

special award from the St. Matthews and East Jefferson County Business Association for her work in the B&PW beautification efforts. The award was presented by Miss Sara D. Gidden of the business association.

Miss Elizabeth Ross, a member of the St. Matthews City Council, accepted the award for the City on behalf of Mayor Bernard F. Bowling, who was out of the city. She also presented a proclamation from the Mayor on the observance of B&PW Week.

**October 5, 1971:** The Beautification League of Louisville and Jefferson County awarded the department a Beautification Award for the fire house landscaping.



### It's Time to Shine

There was a time I knew the year and model of all the cars off the assembly line. Today I suppose that I am about ten years behind on that awe-inspiring knowledge. In lieu of that observance my eye seems drawn to the well-cared for design-- you know, the guy who keeps his car so sparkling bright it glistens in the sun.

I find it refreshing to see a clean and shining car--sorta does something for my day. When gray skies are above, isn't it delightful to see Mr. Clean come riding down the street? If you find it embarrassing I know what you can do to overcome that feeling.

Drive into SPARKLE BRITE on Shelbyville Road (across from the Mall). While you wait in the attractively furnished lounge, SPARKLE BRITE will clean your car inside and out, fill the gas tank with MOBILGAS (if you wish) and for your convenience, you may also charge these services on your STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF KENTUCKY credit card.

With SPARKLE BRITE'S quick, professional and convenient service there is no excuse for driving around in a soiled (more commonly called dirty) car. Take a spin to SPARKLE BRITE and shine, shine, shine!

ACROSS FROM THE MALL

OPEN Daily to 6 P.M. SHELBYVILLE RD. OPEN Sundays to 3 P.M.

November 11, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

SECTION A, PAGE 8, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1971



NOW, it's official—the widening of Breckinridge Lane at four busy intersections. Work started this week on the south end and by next summer will include widening at Hillsboro Road, Norbourne Boulevard, Hycliff Avenue and Grandview Avenue. Additional right-of-way was not required by the State Highway Department for the \$60,000 project. The delays caused by the flagmen are only temporary. These photos were taken in front of St. John Lutheran Church.

Voice photos by Gary L. Moore



**RUSSELL RAKESTRAW** of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department crawled out on the Sqrut Tuesday during an equipment demonstration. About 250 fire fighters from Kentucky and Southern Indiana were expected to visit St. Matthews to see the equipment by the Mid-West Fire and Safety Co. The Sqrut is a 50 foot "water tower" — an aerial ladder with a water outlet at the end and can be installed on existing fire vehicles. The equipment provides additional firefighting capability without requiring the complete purchase of new trucks.

## St. Matthews fire runs

The St. Matthews Fire Department answered seven calls since the beginning of November. All incidents had minor damage reported.

An automobile was reported on fire on Browns Lane at Shelbyville Road, Nov. 1, by C. Cathcart, 101 E. Main St., Frankfort, Ky.

Also on that day the department used fans to exhaust smoke from burning food on a stove at the home of N. S. Adams, 306 Lotus Way.

Thermostat wires were blamed for a fire, on Nov. 2, in the automobile owned by Tom Ford, 453 Swing Lane.

Smoke was cleared from the kitchen of Mrs. Sarah Carney, 224 Trinity Road, on Nov. 4, when the thermostat on her stove malfunctioned.

On Nov. 6, a wire was reported down at 516 Club Lane, and was repaired by the Louisville Gas and Electric Co. No fire occurred.

A dumpster behind Trinity High School caught fire Nov. 8, and the St. Matthews Fire Department extinguished the blaze.

No damage was reported in a garbage truck fire Nov. 9, at 3801 Old Brownsboro Road.

1971

November 11, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board Of Directors  
of the St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n held Thursday Nov. 11 1971.

Directors Present.

Jno Monohan	Geo E. Miller
W. L. Wilson	Jno. Emrich
Fred C Boss	J. P. Terry
Robert Walling	Phillip Grauman

Minutes of last meeting held Oct. 14 1971. read  
by Chairman Emrich. Motion made by Robert Walling seconded  
by Geo Miller that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by J. P. Terry seconded by Leland  
Wilson that be buy turkeys for thanksgiving for all  
firemen directors and widows .

Mr. Fred C. Boss was instructed to buy out of  
proceeds from government bonds now due certificates of  
deposit \$10,000.00 in First National Bank also \$5,000.00  
in stock yards Bank . at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ % for one year period.

Motion made by Phil Grauman and seconded by Fred  
C. Boss that we pay for the contact lense broken at a fire  
by fireman Gerald ~~Schock~~ <sup>SEHR</sup>. The amount we were to pay was the  
actual cost or what any insurance company pays under their  
policy . All members of the board approved this motion ~~except~~  
except one John Monohan who voted no.

Ther being no further business motion made by  
J. P. Terry seconded by Jno. Monohan that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E. Miller Sec'y.

GM/Rp.

1971

November 11, 1971, Letter:

November 11, 1969

Chief John Monohan  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
St. Matthews Ave.  
Louisville, Ky. 40206

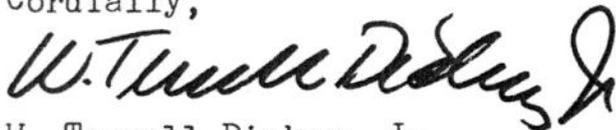
Dear John:

Mr. Dan Burke has brought to my attention the fact that there is a letter in existence from the Harrods Creek Fire Department stating that we prefer you to "keepout" of our area unless the senior officer present calls for your assistance.

This I disagree with wholeheartedly. I feel that the best interests of the people protected by fire departments of Jefferson County cannot be best served if each department operates as a "sacred" untouchable territory. Fast and efficient mutual aid is a necessity we both need as well as training and pre-planning together.

In this interest I think we should meet in the very near future to discuss areas where we have high risks involved (nursing homes, churches, etc.) and possibly discuss ways of assisting each other and the use of back-ups.

Cordially,



W. Terrell Dickey, Jr.

Chief, Harrods Creek Volunteer Fire Department

WTD/dmh

1971

November 11, 1971, Letter:

  
LOUIE B. NORN, GOVERNOR  
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE  
Old Capitol Annex  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

ROBERT D. PRESTON  
COMMISSIONER

November 15, 1971

Lemme Doit  
The Louisville Times  
Fifth & Broadway  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Lemme:

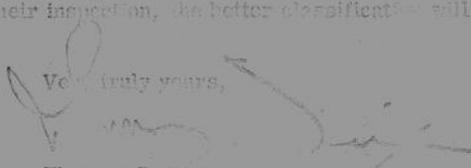
This writer makes an inquiry into the fire insurance rates being charged for residents of St. Matthews. She has been told the premium would be higher than if she lived in surrounding communities and is shocked to learn this information since she is very familiar with the St. Matthews volunteer fire department and speaks very well of the department and their equipment. She asks you if the St. Matthews area is still in a 7th class fire district and how can they be considered in the 6th district like communities surrounding them in order that their insurance rates will be lower.

Lemme, in order to answer this writer's inquiry, I had communication with the Kentucky Insect and Termite in Louisville and their manager, Joe Smith, Jr., manager of the St. Matthews area which includes most of the incorporated area of the city of St. Matthews, plus several other incorporated cities. They receive a class 7 classification where appropriate fire hydrant protection is afforded. Joe Smith, Jr. and members of the Bureau have attended several meetings with city officials and fire department officials developing an improvement program which, if completed, could result in assignment of class 6 to those areas now receiving class 7.

Lemme Doit  
Page two

Mr. Smith advises the fire department has completed those recommendations applicable to them and water supply facilities are essentially satisfactory for the better class. The principal deficiency in the fire defenses in recent years, preventing assignment of the better class, are within the areas of fire prevention activities, building department operations and electrical inspection provisions. Some progress has been made toward elimination or correction of these deficiencies and the Bureau has had frequent contact with city officials regarding this situation.

Mr. Smith concludes that it is anticipated when appropriate improvement and fire prevention activities, building department operations and electrical inspections are completed and completion is verified by their inspection, the better classification will be awarded.

Very truly yours,  
  
Thomas C. Dixon  
Chief Enforcement Officer  
Legal Enforcement Division

TCD/er

November 24, 1971, *The Voice Jeffersonian*:

## Hospital fundraising

# Baptists kick off Two Mile Campaign

By Ann Calvert  
Staff Writer

The first phase of the Kentucky Baptist Hospital "Two Mile Campaign," got underway Monday, with a kickoff luncheon for the solicitors and businessmen charged with raising \$1.6 million by April 1972.

John T. Acree Jr., executive committee chairman, announced that \$45,000 was pledged Monday. This sum is in addition to the \$400,000 raised by the KBH "family" to date.

Jim Booher, chairman of the major gifts committee, said the role of the major firm's commitment was to get \$400,000 through "the volunteer efforts of 20 hard working young men. I feel our objective will be met before the 30-day deadline."

Major gifts from individuals, handled by Gorman Roberts, are expected to add another \$200,000, according to Roberts' plan.

This is the first time the KBH has appealed to the community for funds, with emphasis on business, industry, foundations and individuals in eastern Jefferson County, said Acree.

Justifying the need for the hospital, C. H. Richardson Jr., chairman of the KBH administrative board, said "to revamp our present facility for continued acute care would consume more money than it would be worth... You cannot renovate plumbing, add oxygen lines, patient lavatories and automate for materials handling without starting from scratch."

He said the hospital was planned two years before the formation of the Falls

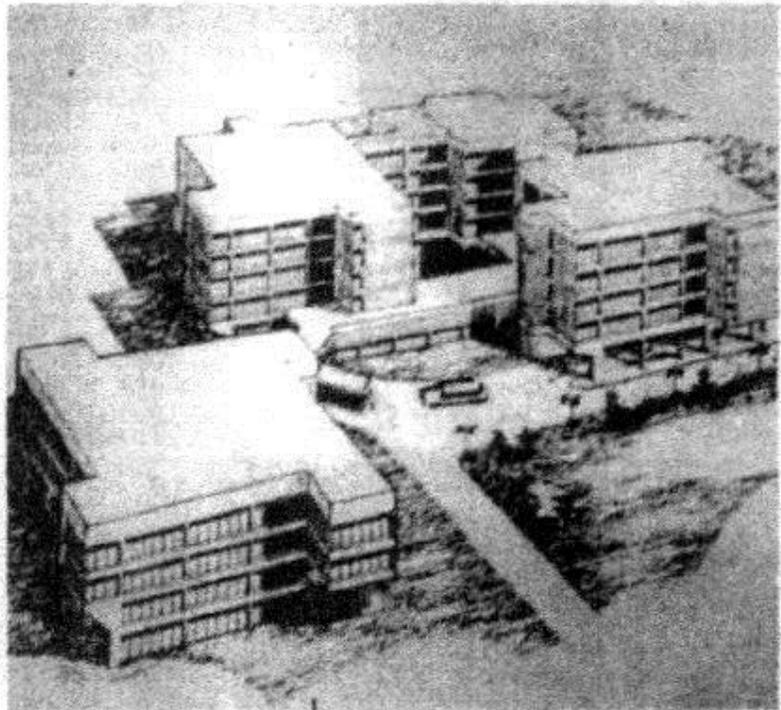
Region Health Council and before the Suburban Hospital (now under construction by Extencicare) was planned for the same area.

"Our existing plan provides the nucleus for the first phase of an eventual replacement hospital," Richardson said, referring to the acute care facility on Barret Avenue, which KBH hopes to totally phase out.

In the interim, while new programs and care will be provided in the first phase of the new hospital, Richardson explained that psychiatry would be greatly expanded in KBH's present facility.

One of the "unique" features of the proposed hospital is its radial design. It "puts the nurse in the center of the patient unit--a mere 40 feet from the farthest patient room," Richardson said. "In contrast, many present Louisville hospitals have corridors approaching 300 feet in length."

In response to the questions that have been raised about the need for such 230 additional beds, Richardson said, "The administration board reviewed our plans and determined we would betray our trust if we failed to proceed. We stand on our proposal," he concluded.



THIS IS an architect's rendering of the proposed Kentucky Baptist Hospital.

1971

November 24, 1971, *The Voice Jeffersonian*:

Former STMFD firefighter VonAllmen.



Voice Photo by Gary Moore

CASTING A FOOTPRINT was one of many lab sessions taught by Kentucky Law Enforcement Council instructor-coordinator Bill Thomas, right, in conjunction with a week-long advanced training school for area police held in St. Matthews. New laws and techniques relating to search and seizure were taught, and St. Matthews Police Sergeant Richard McAllister scored the highest grade received to date in the course. Assisting Thomas in the photograph above are: St. Matthews officer Ken Elder, Meadowvale Marshall Oscar Von Allmen Jr., and Jeffersonstown Police Officer Rick Jackman.

December 2, 1971, *The Voice Jeffersonian*:

STMFD did not respond to below.

### In Police Court

## Fire-lane violators fined \$4

Signs of the rapid approach of the holiday season were evident in St. Matthews Police Court last week. The number of fire-lane parking violations started climbing. Judge Thurston M. Crady fined the standard fee of \$4. They were warned of the serious consequences of their actions should they have hampered fire-fighting operations in an emergency.

An 18-year-old youth, Gary Winton Deal, who had five charges pending before the St. Matthews Police Court, was given a two-week break by Judge Crady so that the youth might find a job to pay the fine incurred on charges of a loud muffler, speeding, no operator's license on person, no eye protection and no rear view mirror.

"The problem is if I give the boy a fine, his father will have to pay it," Judge Crady explained to the court. "Have you been in jail before son?" asked the judge.

"Yes, sir," young Deal said, in California, Ohio and Arizona.

## Crash kills two youths

Jan E. Myers, 21, of 314 Monohan Drive, and Robert Lee Treadway, 21, of 205 Heady, both in St. Matthews, were killed shortly after midnight Nov. 26, when their car slammed broadside into a tree on Breckinridge Lane near Grandview.

The impact occurred at an estimated 80 miles an hour, police said, and split the car in half. The youths were the only occupants and no other cars were involved.

Myers died of multiple injuries at the scene, said Chief Deputy Coroner William S. Anderson. Treadway was dead on arrival at General Hospital from head injuries.

According to witnesses, the car, apparently driven by Treadway, was traveling north on Breckinridge when it pulled out to pass two northbound vehicles.

While passing, the driver was confronted with a third vehicle which was southbound on Breckinridge. The young driver attempted to move back into the northbound lane.

At this point police reports state one or more wheels of the car left the pavement. The car skidded 198 feet and struck a tree on the opposite side of the street, with its right side.

The road was dry at the time, and there was a posted speed limit of 30 miles an hour. Seat belts were not in use, according to police reports.

Both youths were students at Jefferson Community College. Treadway was a sophomore and was a graduate of Waggener High School.

Myers also graduated from Waggener High School and had attended Western Kentucky University. He was a part-time student at Jefferson Community College and a member of Beechwood Baptist Church.

Treadway was buried Monday in Lexington, Ky. Myers was buried in Resthaven Memorial Park.

## City eligible

for insurance

December 2, 1971, *The Voice Jeffersonian*:**voicing opinions****The Voice-Jeffersonian**Published weekly by The Voice of St. Matthews, Inc.  
100 Chenoweth Ln. St. Matthews, Ky. 40207

Bruce B. VanDusen, Editor &amp; Publisher

David A. Schanberg, Gen. Manager

William L. Shipley, Managing Editor

THE VOICE  
NEWSPAPERS**EDITORIALS****Will Judge Crady  
please study  
the picture at the right?**

In one terrible moment last Friday night, the frequently-cited fact that St. Matthews streets have been fatality-free for many years was snatched into oblivion on Breckinridge Lane.

Two young men were killed speeding along a road they knew well in their own home town. The road was dry, the visibility was good and alcohol was evidently not involved. According to police, it was speeding, pure and simple.

Rationalize it if you will. Justify it as just a freak thing if you will. But it should not have happened. It need not have happened.

Privately, some St. Matthews police are now saying that the frequency of this sort of reckless speeding certainly would be reduced if the city had a reputation for cracking down on speeders in Police Court. They feel everyone should be frightened of speeding in St. Matthews, if not for their own lives, or those of others, then for the stiff punishment they would get in Judge Thurston Crady's court.

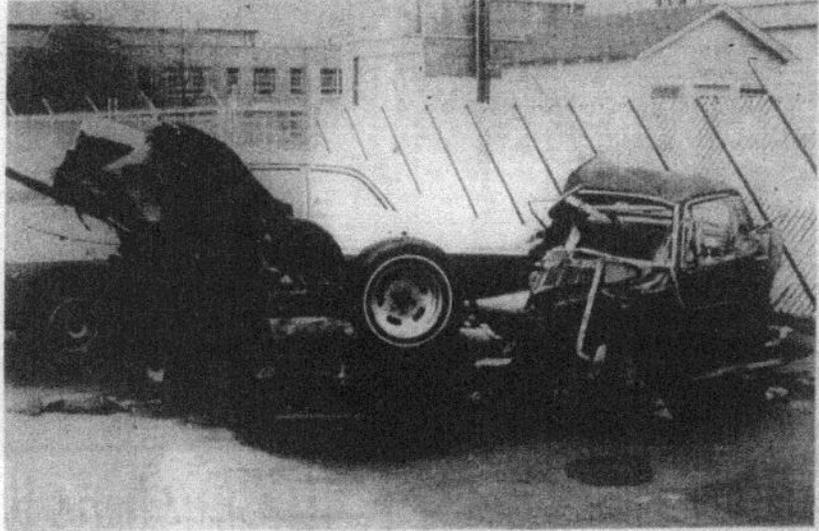
And now we learn that some

members of the St. Matthews City Council, which holds the power of appointment over Judge Crady, are beginning to agree with the police. Privately they are saying all youthful traffic offenders ought to be sent to traffic school where they are taught the effects of recklessness and the techniques of safe driving.

These same council members see no value in the Judge Crady's common practice of reducing and filing away traffic charges, or in giving low fines for serious offenses. After all, paying a small cash fine is no way to instill respect for the human and moral values involved in safe driving.

As far as we can tell, the city police and at least some of the city council are ready for a change of policy in Police Court. We are convinced the people of the city are, too.

Perhaps if Judge Crady takes a good long look at the picture to the right he will begin to get the point.

**Speed kills**

This is all that was left of the car in which  
Jan E. Myers and Robert Lee Treadway, both  
of St. Matthews, were killed last Friday night.

1971

December 2, 1971, Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors  
of the St. Matthews Vol. Fire Ass'n held Dec. 9th 1971

Directors Present.

Jno Monohan  
Geo Miller  
Fred C Boss  
J.P. Terry

Jno. Emrich  
Robert Walling  
W. L. Wilson

Minutes of last meeting held Nov. 11 1971 read by chairman  
Emrich.

Motion made by Leland Wilson seconded by Fred Boss that  
they be accepted as read.

Motion made by Fred Boss seconded by Robt Walling that  
we pay \$25.00 to Gerald Schreck for lost of contact lenses.

It was agreed by entire board that we will not pay  
anymore for contact lenses & Jewelry and other items will be considered  
on its own merit.

Above was approved by a motion made by J. P. Terry  
seconded by Jno Monohan

Motion made by Jno Emrich and seconded by Fred C. Boss  
that we give all fireman , directors and widows Ham for Xmas.

There being no further business motion made by  
Jno Monohan seconded by Geo Miller that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E. Miller

Sec'y

GEM/LR



Voice Photo

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES EIFLER in the gutted remains of their kitchen.

## What a time to be hit by fire!

### *Two blazes heavily damage home here*

By Anne Calvert  
Staff Writer

The toaster had been "on the blink" for about a week, but no one in the Eifler household thought much about it. Not until early Thursday morning, that is.

In those wee hours, the St. Matthews Fire Department was quenching the second of two fires that gutted much of the Eifler home, at 5721 Prince William St. The first was believed caused by a short from the faulty toaster; the second, possibly from a cigarette ash that erupted into flames in a box of trash in the boys' bedroom.

Shortly before noon Wednesday, the older three children were all in school, and 5-year-old Terry was at home with a babysitter, Sara C. Masden, of Thierman Lane.

"I kept smelling a peculiar odor for about 15 or 20 minutes," said Mrs. Masden. "It seemed to be coming from a small closet adjoining the kitchen where breakfast foods are kept."

When she discovered the source of the

odor she called the fire department and hurried young Terry outside. Smoke had grown so dense in those few moments that when St. Matthews Patrolman Leslie Jewell arrived he had to treat Mrs. Masden, an asthmatic, for smoke inhalation.

#### 6 minute response

Within about six minutes of her call, both the St. Matthews fire engines and one from McMahan Center had arrived. The fire had spread quickly through the walls, ruined the refrigerator, melted the family room furniture into incongruous shapes and destroyed a favorite imported stein collection that Mrs. Mary Ann Eifler had collected from various parts of the world.

About the time the children were arriving home, the fire trucks were mopping up the charred mess from the gutted kitchen and family room. Then the long evening of salvaging usable clothing, papers and furniture began.

Neighbors helped the Eiflers pack card-

board boxes and all seemed going well until shortly after midnight, someone noticed one of the boxes was on fire, -- maybe from a cigarette ash. So the St. Matthews Fire Department returned.

The strain of two fires within 12 hours was too much for this family. Charles Eifler began trying to help the firefighters do their job.

Finally, St. Matthews Police Sergeant Harry Hupp was asked by Chief John Monohan to restrain Eifler from hindering fire fighting. Eifler was charged with hampering fire fighting and disorderly conduct. He is to appear in St. Matthews Police Court on Jan. 3.

Damage from the two fires was estimated at \$27,000.

The Eifler family was surprised this weekend by the "most divine people," according to Mrs. Eifler. Scoggan Jones and his secretary, Barbara Severson, of the Paul Semonin Co. worked with the receptionist, Sandy Davis, and made ready

Continued on Page A-10

December 23, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: 2 working fire Prince William & Williamsburg Ct.

# What a time to be hit by two fires!

Continued from Page A-1

one of the firm's Homearama homes in Green Springs.

"They came in and cleaned and decorated this house and got food, clothes, furniture -- even money donations for us," Mrs. Eifler said excitedly.

"The refrigerator was even fuller than ours used to be," added Charles Eifler,

"and they even put pictures on the walls and sheets on the beds."

Eifler is in the home-building business, though his only previous contact with the Semco had been the company's handling of some of his homes, he said.

### Fire investigation

The Jefferson County Criminal Investigation Department inspected the house after the second fire to determine the probable cause.

"We were suspicious of arson at first," said Detective Russ Hunter, "but after three or four days of investigation, we have determined no arson was involved, there was no sign of forced entry."

"Apparently in the confusion of moving the cartons of clothes from the bedroom in the northeast corner of the house, someone dropped a lighted cigarette into one of the boxes."

St. Matthews Fire Department Lt. Al Ring assured *The Voice* that it was not a "rekindle."

"This was one of the finest firefighting efforts done by the department. The fire was out in four minutes and the overhaul took about two hours," Ring said.

"The fire was in an entirely different room, and the only damage is a hole in the floor."

Two days later, there was a ceiling and basement fire at 1007 Williamsburg Court, just four houses away from the Eifler home. Mrs. Clifford Fisher Jr. had had the basement set up with a Christmas tree and a table decorated and set for a party, when the fire broke out. She believes the wiring of a fluorescent light started the fire.

"I have nothing but the greatest praise

for the St. Matthews Fire Department," Mrs. Fisher said, echoing the sentiments of Mrs. Eifler, two days earlier.

"Those men picked up my decorated table and moved it all the way to the other end of the basement without breaking any of the dishes. Everything's all smoky, but only some end tables really suffered after damage," Mrs. Fisher said.

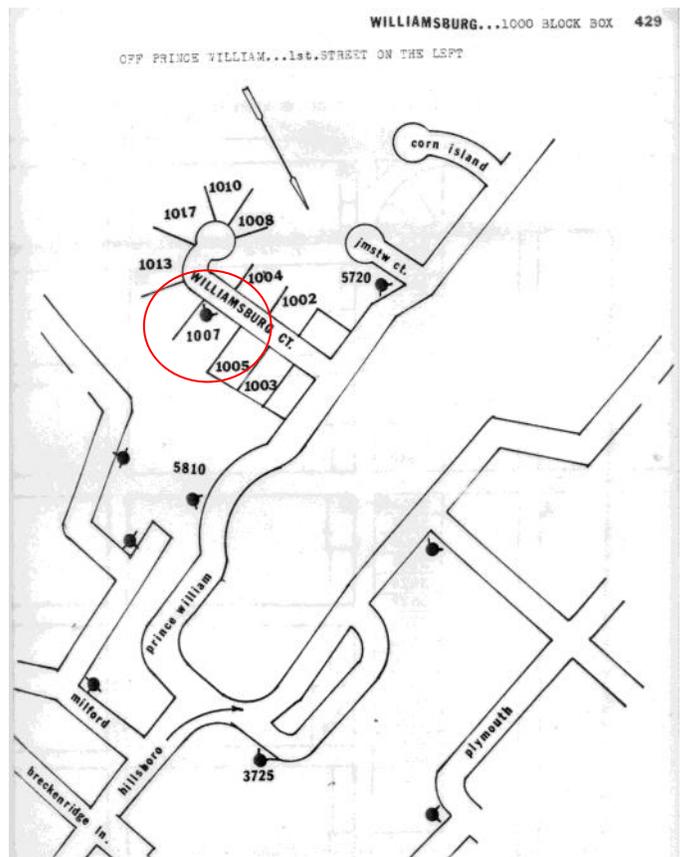
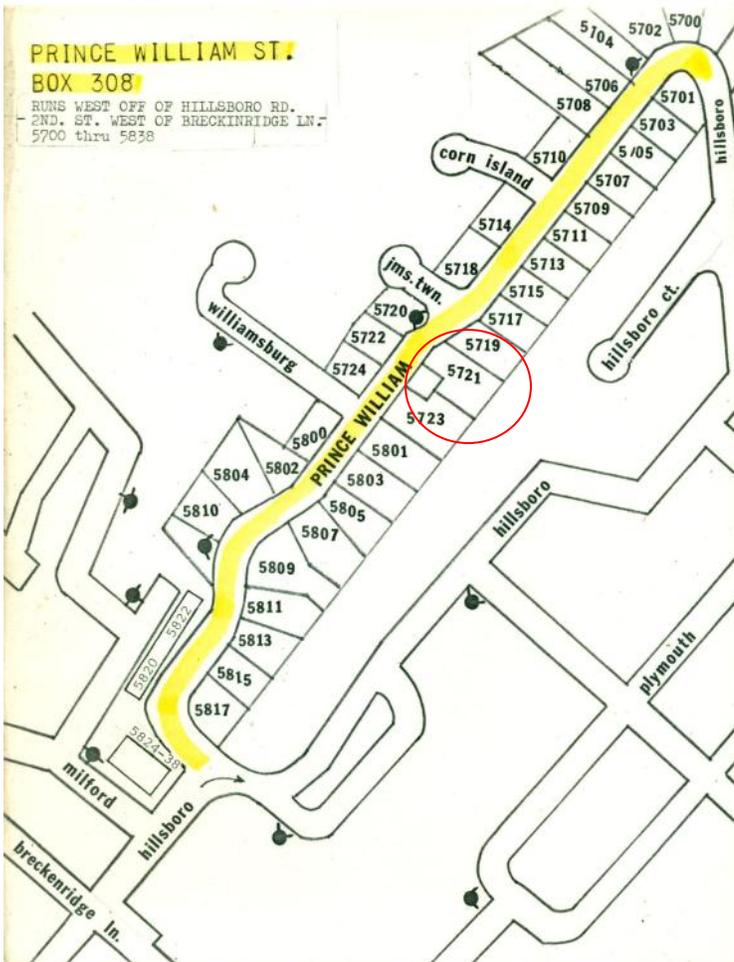
## Stop fires by checking wires

The sort of trouble that can lead to fire frequently makes itself known in advance. A spark here; a short there -- too often we see the malfunction, but are too busy to deal with it. Then, one day, it is too late.

At the Eifler house it was a faulty toaster. At the Fisher home it probably was bad wiring in a basement light fixture. In both cases, the result was fire -- one very serious, the other not so bad. It is that time of year. The cold

weather prompts more and more use of heating and lighting facilities; the electrical systems in many homes are inadequate to the demands of the times. Too much current is drawn through too small wires and the result is trouble.

Yes, dear reader, it can happen in your home. It happened in two of your neighbors' homes last week. You could save yourself a good deal of grief by making a quick check of likely trouble spots in your house.



1971

2 working fire Prince William & Williamsburg Ct.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 497

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12/15/71 TIME OF ALARM 11:58 <sup>(A.M.)</sup> TIME RETURNED 1:30 <sup>(P.M.)</sup>

LOCATION 5721 Prince William St APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER   
 WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER   
 RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
 VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT ~~Charlie~~ <sup>Mrs. Mason</sup> - Babysitter - 153 Thierman L.  
 OWNER Charles ~~Mason~~ E. Fler  
 OWNER ADDRESS 5721 Prince William St  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5-6 Mac-3

REMARKS Guttered Kitchen - Family Room -  
 Babysitter got child out - Babysitter  
 Treated for smoke inhalation at scene  
 by Officer Jewell - St. M. P. D.

OFFICER IN CHARGE Major Zehnder REPORT WRITTEN BY R. RAKOSTRAW  
 Ren. Doing for a small cut on hand - needs tetanus shot.  
 submit all info.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 494

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12-17-71 TIME OF ALARM 5:17 <sup>A.M.</sup> TIME RETURNED 6:45 <sup>P.M.</sup>

LOCATION 107 WILLIAMSBURG APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER   
 WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER   
 RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
 VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  08 07 68

REMARKS FIRE IN CEILING IN BASEMENT. USED 2  
 HOOPER LINES, LAID OFF 3 2 1/2" HOOPER  
 FIRE FIGHTER PAUL WILLMAN BECAME SICK

OFFICER IN CHARGE Lt. Al King REPORT WRITTEN BY Lt. Al King



1971

**2 working fire Prince William & Williamsburg Ct.**



Comments from Al Ring (2010)—I was officer in charge of S5 (quint) and we made a gasoline spill run on Shelbyville Road with S3 and Major Zehnder. While there the tone hit for the house fire on Prince William. S5 responded from there with Russ Rakestraw driving and Sam Wolfe and Ken Reising as the crew and myself as officer. It was obvious before we got there we had a working fire and sometime after getting there I McMahan was called. As I recall Russ pulled the Quint in the driveway facing the left side of the house. I ordered a line to the front door and started circling the house. I do not remember much but I do remember finding the fire in the back left side of the rear of the house, I ventilated with my helmet since we were very short-handed. This was one hot fire, one of the hottest I ever fought. Sam and

Ken advanced and quickly extinguished the fire in short order. Very fast knockdown. Our whole strategy was to hit it hard and fast before it got to the attack where it would run on us. It didn't. To give you an idea of how hot it was, the farthest bedroom on the right hand side of the house, looked like a machine gun had gone off because the drywall mud had popped off the drywall nails. S3 and McMahan eventually arrived. The second fire that night had nothing to do with the day time fire. I do not remember Mel Zehnder going 10-7 first with working fire. I do not remember him on scene until after the knock-down but Ken Reising is sure he was but he has no idea where he went or what he did. Let's face it we were just to damn busy.

The fire on Williamsburg Court took much longer because it was in the basement ceiling, very hard to find, because of smoke. We also had to deal with Paul Dillman becoming sick from all the smoke, but we found it and stopped it dead in its tracks. I was also in charge of this fire.

Notice water was not a problem with either fire because of location of hydrants.

1971

12/15/1971

5721 Prince William

Working house fire by Sam Wolfe (2010)

We had already been dispatched for a gasoline spill at Swope Chrysler Plymouth on Shelbyville Road and had been there for less than 5 minutes when the 'tone' went off again. Lt. Ring, Russ Rakestraw, Ken Reising and myself were the crew on S-5. Major Zehnder was there with S-3. You could tell by the way the 2<sup>nd</sup> call was dispatched that there might be something to this one. Major Zehnder released us from the first call and told us to respond to the house fire. I remember walking behind S-5 making sure we were clear as Russ backed us out. Usually I would have been in the jump seat but I jumped on the left rear tailboard and pressed the button for the buzzer up front twice. We were off to the reported house fire on Prince William.

It was just about lunch hour on a clear, crisp late autumn day. I believe sometime during the response that County Alarm called us on the radio and announced 'we have gotten several calls on this.' The guys in the front seat and Ken Reising in the jump seat knew then that we had a 'worker.' Riding on the tailboard all I heard was the fast rise of the 'Q' siren that suddenly just seemed to stay there screaming. About the time we passed Winchester Road on Breckenridge Lane, I could smell the fire. I knew we had 'a job.' I reached down and pulled my <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> boots up.

As we pulled up I do not remember seeing much smoke from the house as I gave it a quick glance. It appeared to be a standard ranch style home with the living quarters on one end and bedrooms on the other. Ken and I were off the Quint and around to the side compartment where the Scott Packs were kept in no time. I have no memory of donning the mask or even turning the bottle on. We did it so much in training that it was automatic. Lt. Ring had walked the side and rear of the house and came back and told us to take an 1½ line to the front door. At the time we fought a lot of house fires in St. Matthews with booster lines. I remember thinking that there must be more to this fire than was showing from the front. Al saw from his size up that this one called for more.

Ken and I knelt down by the front porch and plugged in the masks. I turned my Cairns helmet around so that the Scott bottle would not knock it off. Something I did a lot with the damn thing. Ken was the senior man and took the nozzle. (I was about to learn that it was not such a bad deal for me this time) I reached down and grabbed some line and we humped in the front door of the house. This place was really tight. Smoke and heat was banked down to about a foot or so off the floor. You could barely make out the legs of tables and chairs on the first room to the left. We had just passed the dining room. Ken gave the heated overhead a quick burst and we humped in a little bit further. Off to the right I could see the short legs and skirt of a sofa. Living room I noted. I could just now start to feel some heat and I thought I saw a faint orange glow through the dark smoke over Ken's shoulder. We were moving straight ahead into the room of fire. I remember thinking that the heat wasn't that bad. The fire was about to change my mind.

I had crawled in right behind Ken fairly tight. He opened the nozzle and whipped it around in a fast circular motion. We were kicking it's..... whoa !! now it was HOT !! I felt really hot all over and all at once. I can tell you it is not possible for a man to get any lower on a floor. I remember feeling my skin around the seal of the face mask and hoping it wasn't burnt. Suddenly the room lightened up a bit and it was not nearly as hot. Lt. Ring had taken out some more windows on the north side of the house. His timing was perfect (although I would not tell him this for several years). He saved us from a pretty good beating inside. It was my first real lesson in ventilation. One that I never forgot. About this time Ken got up quickly, turned around and made it out the front door. I followed him out. Realizing I could have the 'knob' now, I grabbed the line and went back in. Through the smoky haze I could see that the kitchen was pretty much completely gone and a mass of charred black. I wet down what was left of kitchen cabinets until my knees started to feel hot through the boots. I put down the hose line to explore the floor. I discovered that I was kneeling in a mass of goo that had once been the inside of the refrigerator. I reached down to pick up the nozzle and got an electrical shock. I touched it again and got the same thing. I remember hollering out the door for someone to kill the electric. Out in the front I could hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> due engine pull up. Good timing. They can overhaul.

**1971**

**12/15/1971**

**5721 Prince William**

**Working house fire by Ken Reising (2010)**

Prior to our dispatch to a house fire at 5721 Prince William Ct, we had been dispatched to a gasoline spill inside to auto repair facility at Jim Booher Chevrolet on Shelbyville road. I drove S-3 with Lt. Dehart as officer and one man on the tailboard. We had just arrived on the scene, and were awaiting instructions. I was anticipating having to go into pump operations as we had a gasoline spill inside of a large wooden structure, when the tone hit to dispatch us to a house fire on Prince William Ct.

As I recall, Assistant Chief Mel Zehnder, Lt. Ring, and Lt. Dehart had a quick meeting assigning Lt. Ring, Russ Rakestraw as engineer, Sam Wolfe and myself to respond on S-5. I took the jump seat. Mel Zehnder went ahead. I believe we were informed by county alarm of several calls received. As we were passing Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Breckinridge Lane, Mel Zehnder went 10-7 at 5721 Prince William with a working fire.

When we arrived Sam Wolf and I Stretched a 1-1/2 inch line to the front door, and put on Scott Air Packs. In looking at the house we had a one-story brick house with heavy black smoke coming from the eaves of the structure. No fire was showing. I knew this was going to be a hot battle. I believe Russ stretched a section of 2 -1/2 inch supply line to a hydrant across the street. I remember Lt. Ring went around the back of the building, as Sam and I screwed our pack mask hoses into the regulators and proceeded in the front door.

We went down the front hall with a living room on our right and a dining room on our left. I had the nozzle and Sam was baking me up. When we got to the end of the hall I remember seeing the kitchen directly in front of me with what appeared to be a family room behind the kitchen, with a counter separating the two rooms. I saw smoke banked down about halfway to the floor and three spot fire in the kitchen. I opened the nozzle on a fog pattern and rotated the spray upward in a counterclockwise motion. We were immediately engulfed in superheated stream. I flowed water about 30 seconds a shut down the line. After shutting down the line I went out of the house and Sam followed. I took of my pack and went back in the house. By this time S-1 and McMahan were arriving on the scene and we proceeded to overhaul the fire. Thanks to Lt. Ring ventilating the family room, a lot of the smoke and steam went out of the rear of the house. This was a textbook knockdown were we stopped the damage from the fire where we found it when we arrived.

I was not available for the return run that evening.

1971

December 23, 1971, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

MRS. GILBERT T. DICK, 91, formerly of 112 Browns Lane, died Dec. 14 in St. Matthews Manor. The former Wionie Brown, she was a native of Cambridge,

Mo., and was a life member of the Crescent Hill Women's Club. She served on the board of Goodwill Industries and the Salvation Army. She was buried in Cave Hill Cemetery.

Wife of former Board member.

CONTINUOUS SERVICE  
SINCE 1000

PHONE  
502-2881

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION OF KENTUCKY

MAIN OFFICE  
200 WEST BROADWAY

LOUISVILLE, KY.  
40202

FINANCIAL DISTRICT OFFICE  
219 WEST MARKET STREET

December 31, 1971

Chief John Monahan  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
4114 Lyndon Way  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Chief Monahan:

Recently your fire department answered a call to extinguish a fire at my home in the St. Matthews area. I would like to take this opportunity to commend you and your men for the excellent job they did. Their actions in preventing further damage while fighting the fire were commendable.

You often hear how much damage firemen do while fighting fires. I for one, am one of your champions.

Sincerely,  
*John Everett*  
John Everett  
Vice President

JCE:ain



Sample fire run reports 1971:

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 462

FIRE REPORT

DATE 3-26-71 TIME OF ALARM 6:00 P.M. TIME RETURNED A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 305 TOLA RD APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ORVA LANGFORD

OWNER ADDRESS 305 TOLA RD

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109

REMARKS S-4 S-3 S-2 S-6 S-7  
(Bedroom fire - Smoke & Heat Damage throughout)

OFFICER IN CHARGE Orva Langford Chief REPORT WRITTEN BY E. Monahan

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 459

FIRE REPORT

DATE 4/13/71 TIME OF ALARM 4:30 P.M. TIME RETURNED 4:30 P.M.

LOCATION 427 TRINITY Hills APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER (Janie Foster) MR JOHN R FOSTER

OWNER ADDRESS (DAMIEN AT HOME) 678 OLD JOANIE AVE AT HOME

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109

REMARKS (Cause - UNKNOWN)

OFFICER IN CHARGE Major Harbelle REPORT WRITTEN BY Sam

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 416

FIRE REPORT

DATE 7/3/71 TIME OF ALARM 7:30 P.M. TIME RETURNED A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 3603 Hanover RD APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER PAUL J. DEMICHEAL

OWNER ADDRESS \* Paul J. De Micheal

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109

REMARKS FIRE STARTED IN KITCHEN UPON ROOM BETWEEN REFR. & WASH. - CAUSE UNKNOWN - CLOTHES BASKET IN THE AREA. - Owners Going From Home Approx. 45 Minutes. Lt. Ring cut on 2nd Finger also Leg Chief Monahan

OFFICER IN CHARGE Mrs. Tompser REPORT WRITTEN BY C. Harbelle

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 406

FIRE REPORT

DATE 7/9 TIME OF ALARM 5:15 P.M. TIME RETURNED 10:30 P.M.

LOCATION Great Harco School APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5-7

REMARKS Mr. Monahan had one unit at scene & (On on House)

OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Monahan REPORT WRITTEN BY C. Harbelle

Sample fire run reports 1971:

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 399

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 7-18-71 TIME OF ALARM 4:30 P.M. TIME RETURNED A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 2502 WOODSIDE APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT: JOHN W. ROSE

OWNER: SAME

OWNER ADDRESS: SAME

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5-7 H-2

REMARKS: FIRE APPEARED TO HAVE SPREAD IN LOWER OR  
CRAW SPACE ABOVE GARAGE AT FRONT OF HOUSE -  
CAUSE UNKNOWN - H-2 15# AMMONIUM AR SCENE  
BUT DENIED THRU TO GARAGE THRU

OFFICER IN CHARGE: CHIEF REPORT WRITTEN BY: A. H. HUBBARD

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 384

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 8/17/71 TIME OF ALARM 8:00 A.M. TIME RETURNED 11:00 A.M. P.M.

LOCATION St. Matthews Methodist Church APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  (5-6) (5-7)

REMARKS: SET UP WITH 6 of 1 1/2" LINES - USED 3 to  
put out FIRE. ONG MC PLASTER Part IN ST. MATTHEWS HOUSE.  
APPEARED TO HAVE SPREAD ABOVE EXHAUST FAN IN  
SCOFFLE.

OFFICER IN CHARGE: CHIEF REPORT WRITTEN BY: A. H. HUBBARD

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 497

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12/15/71 TIME OF ALARM 11:58 P.M. TIME RETURNED 1:30 P.M.

LOCATION 5721 Prince William St APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT: CHARLIE MASDON

OWNER: Charles Masdon Eifler

OWNER ADDRESS: 5721 Prince William St

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  5-6 Mac-3

REMARKS: Cutted Kitchen - Family Room -  
Babysitter got child out - Babysitter  
Treated for smoke inhalation at scene  
by Officer Jewell - St. M.P.D.

OFFICER IN CHARGE: Major Zehnder REPORT WRITTEN BY: R. RAKOSTRAW

Ken Raker has a small cut on hand - needs tetanus shot.  
submit to him.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 494

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12-17-71 TIME OF ALARM 5:17 A.M. TIME RETURNED 6:45 P.M. A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 107 WILLIBURG APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109  (5-6) (5-7)

REMARKS: FIRE IN CEILING IN BASEMENT. USED 2  
BOOSTER LINES, LAID OFF 3 2 1/2" sections  
FIRE FIGHTER PAUL ALLMAN BECAME SICK

OFFICER IN CHARGE: Lt. Al Rye REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lt. Al Rye

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 488

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12/23/1971 TIME OF ALARM A.M. P.M. TIME RETURNED A.M. P.M.

LOCATION 3904 Napone E. P.M. APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE  APARTMENT  COMMERCIAL  OFFICE

SMOKE  FUMES  LOCK OUT  DRYER  WASHER  3904 E.P.M.

WEEDS  TRASH  OTHER

RESUSCITATOR  RESCUE  WASH OFF

BACKUP  DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPANT: in Rear

OWNER: Mrs. John Bennett

OWNER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY RESPONSE 101  102  103  104  105  108  109

REMARKS: FIRE IN BED ROOM, 2 BOOSTER, SCOTTS,  
LABER, FAX.

OFFICER IN CHARGE: Lt. Al Rye REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lt. Al Rye

1971

This photo was in 1971 or 1972 at a training fire at Brownsboro Road and Sunnyview Drive. Left to right: Edwin (Bud) Morgan, Jack DeHart, Harry Babcock, Robbie Helm and Jim Graven. "Playing Around."



# 1971

## Fire Statistics For 1971

Total number of fire runs:	202
Total working fires:	9
Total hours of fire fighting:	70
Total 1 1/2" hose used:	6,850 feet
Total 2 1/2" hose used:	16,000 feet
Back up City of Louisville:	1 time
Number of A. M. runs:	46
Number of P. M. runs:	156

### Number of runs made by fire apparatus:

S1:	109
S2:	21
S3:	71
S4:	121
S5:	35

### Types of fire runs:

House	66
Commercial	29
Automobile	49
Field & trash	27
Miscellaneous	22
Malicious false	9

### Working fires:

1/6/1971	12:45 p.m.	House, 302 Castlevue Drive, Lyndon & McMahan assisted
1/7/1971	1:57 a.m.	House, 224 Travois Road
1/7/1971	7:00 a.m.	House, 224 Travois Road, (rekindle) Harrods Creek assisted
1/18/1971	8:56 a.m.	Doctors Office, 105 S. Hubbards Lane
2/10/1971	1:47 p.m.	Basement fire, Frishe's Big Boy Restaurant, 4800 Shelbyville Road
7/9/1971	5:31 p.m.	Greathouse School, 3930 Grandview Avenue, McMahan assisted at scene
7/18/1971	4:26 p.m.	House, 2502 Woodside Road, Harrods Creek assisted
8/17/1971	8:17 p.m.	Church Steeple, 319 Browns Lane, McMahan assisted
12/15/1971	11:51 a.m.	House, 5721 Prince William St., kitchen fire, McMahan assisted
12/15/1971	late p.m.	House, 5721 Prince William St. bedroom fire
12/17/1971	5:15 p.m.	House, basement fire, 107 Williamsburg Court

## 1971

### Board Of Directors

H. K. Babcock, end July 1971  
Fred C. Boss  
John C. Emrich  
Philip Grauman  
George E. Miller  
Henry A. Monohan, died in office July 20, 1971  
John M. Monohan Jr.  
James "JP" Terry  
Robert C. "Bob" Walling, start July 1971  
William Leland Wilson

### Officers

1971

Chief John M. Monohan Jr.  
Assistant Chief Al Haeberlin  
Assistant Chief Melchior R. "Melch" Zehnder  
Captain Harry K. Babcock  
Captain Robert C. "Bob" Walling  
Lieutenant Jack DeHart  
Lieutenant William E. "Bill" Dieckman  
Lieutenant Jim L. Jackson  
Lieutenant Douglas L. "Doug" Monohan  
Lieutenant Al Ring

### Firefighters

A. E. Andriot, Jr.  
A. E. "Bill" Andriot, III  
H. K. "Squire" Babcock  
Gerald "Jerry" Beckman  
Wiley A. Brewer  
Dennis L. Bryant  
Herb L. Chreste  
William Brad Clarke Jr.  
Charile T. Davis  
Mike P. Davis  
David C. Dick  
Paul G. Dillman  
Denny Engnehl  
Clarke E. Fenimore  
A. Paul Fish Jr.  
Ed Foley  
Walt Frank  
B. J. "Skip" Golden, Jr.  
Tim D. Golden  
Jim Graven  
Ralph S. Haeberlin  
Rob N. Helm  
Richard F. Herdt  
Roger S. Herdt  
Gordon Hinton  
Bernie J. Karem  
Chris E. Kinberger, Sr.  
Dennis C. Lange, end in April  
Ross H. "Pat" Maloney  
Tom L. Martin

Clinton S. McAfee  
Charles "Fred" McBride  
Jim J. McGrath  
Robert E. "Bob" McGrath  
R. "Pat" McNally  
Bill Mercke  
W. "Tommy" Miller  
Edwin W. "Bud" Morgan, Jr.  
John L. Noon  
Kyle L. Reagan  
Ken C. Reising, Jr.  
Russell "Russ" M. Rakestraw  
Philip "Leakey" Schneider  
Gerald P. Schreck  
Richard Harvey Schultze  
Allan R. Scott  
Dale P. Seebold  
Michael C. Sherman  
George L. Soules, Jr.  
Kenneth "Ken" L. Strange  
Richard E. Tackett  
Sam A. Wolfe  
Robert L. "Bob" Zaepfel