St. Matthews Fire Protection District

1980

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.

1980

January 17, 1980, Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Jan.17,1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Bill Andriot
Tom Jerry Smith	Durward Maynard
J.P.Terry	Marty Kamer
Geo. Miller	J.C.Nuckols
John Monohan	

Mr. Miller opened the meeting by announcing that he was appointing Mr. Nuckols as Vice Chairman for this meeting.

Minutes of meeting held on Dec.13,1979 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Nuckols, that minutes be accepted as read.

Mr. Miller introduced a letter that had been sent to Mr. John B. O'Leary by Mr. Shirley Palmer-Ball. Said letter was read by Mr. Terry which stated that Mr. Palmer-Ball was willing to donate property and building, north of L & N right-a-way, for a second fire station.

At this point Mr. Miller announced that a special meeting of the board would be held on Sat. Jan 19th. At this meeting Mr. O'Leary and Mr. Palmer-Ball will also be present to discuss contents of letter.

Under new business Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the dept purchase 15 new Scott Paks plus extra bottles and dispose of all old ones by selling for best price available. Motion voted on and so carried with one member opposing.

Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Andriot, that the salary for the three full time employees be increased 10%. Motion voted on and so carried with one member opposing.

Also Mr. Monohan said that due to the age of 8855 that some thought should be given to getting this piece of apparatus put in up to-date condition and also should consider idea for the purchase of one or two new pumpers.

Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that Mr. Haeberlin proceed on making plans to recondition 8855 in order to bring it up to-date.

A motion was made by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that an ammendment be made to the minutes of meeting of Dec.13, 1979 which would read :--any meeting instead of-each monthly meeting.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Smith, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

January 19, 1980, Special Board meeting:

A special meeting of St. Matthews Vol Fire Assn was held on Jan. 19,1980.

Directors present:
Al Haeberlin
J.C.Nuckols
Tom Jerry Smith
Marty Kamer.

Also present at this meeting were Mr. Paul Clark, Mr. John B. O'Leary, Mr. Shirley Palmer-Ball and Mr. Jack Macy.

Mr. Miller opened the meeting by asking Mr. Palmer-Ball to make known his offer in regards to his letter offering to donate property and building north of L & N right-of-way.

Mr. Palmer-Ball said the Palmer Products Corp. would donate property and gave discription of type of building he would erect. Mr. Haeberlin asked where structure would be located. Mr. Palmer-Ball said that would have to be decided. He also said that if other property, other than his own, would become available he would consider constructing a building on it. Said he is willing to work with the community in any way possible.

At this point Mr. Haeberlin gave details of how we now operate from our present station.

Mr. Macy said the board should consider this offer. Asked that we come up with good reasons for not accepting offer. If offer not accepted he assured us the matter will not be dropped.

Mr. Nuckols said the offer is well appreciated and that he is in favor provided certain details can be worked out.

At this point Mr. Haeberlin was asked to start working on certain details, consider all aspects and determine what can be done.

It was suggested that a sketch drawing be made of the building and also it will have to be determined what size lot will be needed.

Mr. Palmer-Ball said the property would be deeded to the St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. If the St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn should be desolved at any time the property would revert back to Palmer Products Corp.

With no further discussion, Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

January 23, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*:

St. Matthews firm offers land for new fire station

By SHELDON SHAFER
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

The problem of ensuring adequate e protection on the north side of the uisville & Nashville Railroad Co. cks along Frankfort Avenue and Lyn- ı Way in St. Matthews may be solved on.

Palmer Products Corp., 146 St. Mat- ews Ave., has agreed to donate land r the city's second fire station, accord- ng to S. W. Palmer-Ball, the company's vice president.

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, which serves most of St. Matthews, has one station at Sears Avenue and Lyndon Way south of the tracks. Trains blocking intersections have caused concern among residents and a group representing more than 200 St. Matthews-area merchants.

Palmer-Ball said in a telephone interview last night that his company has suggested several parcels it owns near St. Matthews Avenue and Chenoweth Lane as possible sites.

He said the firm is waiting for the fire association's board of directors to give it specifications for the station.

St. Matthews volunteer fire chief Al Haeberlin wouldn't discuss the matter last night. He said the association's board would have to make the decision. Association board chairman George Miller could not be reached for comment.

St. Matthews Mayor Bernard Bowling disclosed Palmer's offer after last night's meeting of the St. Matthews City Council. The volunteer fire association, not the city, would decide on the new station.

The city now contracts with the association on an annual basis to provide fire protection. The city pays the association from residents' taxes.

Bowling estimated the land and station would cost the association more than $60,000 if it had to finance the entire project.

In a letter to the fire association's directors, J. L. Macy, president of the St. Matthews and East Jefferson County Business Association, said, "Our organization is totally committed for the construction of a fire facility north of the L & N tracks. The offer seems to fit the needs of the community quite well and we believe it should be pursued quickly."

Palmer-Ball said the land offer "will have a limited time span because, if the community does not take us up on this offer, we will have to take this same money and invest it in fire protection improvements for our facilities only."

January 23/24, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*, Neighborhoods:

Fire taxes

Departments raise rates as hedge against new law

By **BOB DEITEL**/Staff Writer

Someone once asked the chief of the Worthington Volunteer Fire Department if he was going to spruce up his modest office.

"Just give me a room, an Army surplus desk and a few odd pieces of furniture," Chief Carl Haunz answered.

"Upholstered chairs don't put out fires."

Haunz's office still has no upholstery.

"We're a no-frills department," he says.

Yet when his eastern Jefferson County fire protection district billed its customers late last year, it charged $86,000 more than the $153,000 it collected in 1978 — a 57 percent increase.

The usually frugal district had raised its 1979 tax rate from 7 cents per $100 of assessed property valuation to 10 cents per $100 — the maximum fire-tax rate allowed by state law.

Worthington wasn't alone.

Fairdale's fire district also raised its rate from 7 cents to 10 cents to help bring in $70,000 more than the previous year's $123,000 — a 57 percent jump.

Jeffersontown's district joined in, too, increasing its rate from 7 cents to 9½ cents and boosting its tax revenue from $186,000 in 1978 to an expected $305,000 when all 1979 taxes are in.

That's a 64 per cent increase.

The list goes on.

By the time property tax collections began in late 1979, seven of Jefferson County's 20 volunteer fire protection districts had raised their rates:

Buechel, Black Mudd, Camp Taylor and Okolona went from 7 cents to 10 cents — with expected increases in income ranging from $68,000 to $130,000.

When the smoke settled, the amount of taxes charged by the volunteer districts had been pushed to a record yearly total of $4 million — $854,000 more than in 1978.

Some of that 27 percent increase came from hikes in property valuations around the county, including in fire districts that didn't raise their rates.

But most resulted from the rate increases.

What caused so much activity?

"I think everybody hit the panic button," said Bob Gaddie, chief of the Jeffersontown Volunteer Fire Department.

A panic button that was connected to a hotly debated piece of legislation called House Bill 44 — passed early last year by the state legislature.

Even now, Jefferson County's fire districts and districts throughout the state have a lobbyist at the General Assembly in Frankfort trying to gut the law.

They dislike the law because it could limit a taxing district, including fire districts, to no more than a 4 percent yearly increase in revenue from property taxes, unless the increase above 4 percent is due to new property on the tax rolls or unless the district's taxpayers don't object to a larger increase in revenue.

The new law had a loophole — some taxing districts, including fire

See TAXES Page 2, col. 1

January 23/24, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*, Neighborhoods:

Taxes

Fire departments use loophole as hedge

Continued from Page One

districts, were given extra time to raise rates before having to comply.

Many local fire districts latched on to that loophole.

"We had to go to the top to protect ourselves," Worthington's Chief Haunz said in explaining his department's increase to the maximum 10 cents.

Some increase in his department's revenue will go toward paying off debts, he said.

Most of the money, however, will go into the bank — stockpiled for the expected purchase of a new fire truck in 1981, and for when the 4 percent limit will begin to hurt, Haunz said.

"It may seem like a windfall now, but we could be looking at a shortage in the next few years," Haunz said.

"We pinch that dollar. In fact, we pinch it till it squeals most of the time. There's no question in my mind that we would have stayed at 7 cents this year had it not been for House Bill 44."

There's also no question that many firefighters believe the law will hurt fire departments — even the ones that raised rates before the deadline.

One reason is that fire districts receive about 95 percent of their income from property taxes; they can't fall back on other sources, such as occupational taxes.

"A volunteer fire department is an emergency operation," Haunz said. "We must keep our equipment rolling, but we also have some of the same perils as other businesses. The eight- or nine-year-old trucks that cost us $30,000 now would cost more than $100,000 to replace.

"We may suffer because our ability to provide good fire service will suffer."

Some departments don't like having a law limit their income when they already are volunteering their time and effort to keep costs down.

"Right now the fire departments in Jefferson County are the only organizations saving the taxpayer money," one chief said.

Firefighters especially fear the prospect that they soon will have to roll back tax rates because of the law.

Imagine, for instance, that a district's existing property valuations are increased by more than 4 percent, as often happens when property is reassessed by the county.

Because that raises the district's tax base by more than 4 percent, the revenue from that tax base will increase by more than 4 percent, too.

The new law says that taxpayers must be told in a public hearing about any increase in a district's income, and that if the increase is above 4 percent, exclusive of new property, taxpayers may petition for a public referendum to get the tax rate lowered.

In 1979, for example, Eastwood's property valuations increased 33 percent — from reassessments and new property added to the tax rolls.

So even though the fire district had the same rate as the year before, its expected income for 1979 increased 33 percent, too.

If the new law had been in effect then, Eastwood taxpayers could have petitioned for a referendum on lowering the tax rate.

But not all the districts have such dramatic increases from property valuations.

Dixie Suburban, already charging the maximum 10-cent rate in 1979, earned only 3 percent more than in 1978 because that's all its tax base increased.

"We went to 10 cents in the early '70s and we're still playing catch-up," said Bob Martin, chief of Middletown's volunteer fire department.

Martin, however, is especially worried about fire districts smaller than his.

Gary Brunsman, chief of Anchorage's department and its 20 volunteers, agrees.

Anchorage has always charged a 10-cent tax rate, so it couldn't raise its rate last year to earn a surplus as a hedge against possible tough times ahead.

"We have no cushion. We're it. We are strapped," Brunsman said.

His district earns only about $28,000 a year, of which about $10,000 goes for yearly payments on a firehouse it built recently. Anchorage still owes about $80,000 on the firehouse.

Of all the fire districts that didn't raise their 1979 rates, 10 couldn't because they were at 10 cents already.

Pleasure Ridge Park's rate remained at 8 cents, and the department says it's in good shape. Fern Creek kept its 9-cents rate and Lyndon remained the lowest-charging district in the county, at a mere 3½ cents.

(St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, which raised its rate from 3½ cents 7 cents in 1979, is not a taxing district and is not covered by the new law on revenue growth. The department is still supported by individual subscriptions and contracts, including one with the city of St. Matthews.)

Of all the increases in revenue by the fire districts last year, Camp Taylor's was the largest:

The district charged 74 percent more than in 1978 — $139,900 compared with $80,350.

Camp Taylor probably would have raised its rates anyway, but the new law helped prompt it, said Norm Liebert, chairman of the district's board of trustees.

Some of the extra money will go into the bank, for a future truck or other equipment, he said. Some of it will go toward upkeep of a $118,000 firehouse completed two months ago.

Then, when those costs are covered, probably in the next two years, the district will roll back its tax rate to about 8 cents, he said.

If anything is clear about the new law, however, it's that its details and possible effects are unclear.

Firefighters say they are very confused.

Will any district automatically roll back its tax rate when it brings in more than the 4 percent limit on revenue from existing property?

Will taxpayers support increases of more than 4 percent, or will they oppose them as the law allows?

Will they even understand how to fight such an increase?

Whatever the details, volunteer firefighters want badly to douse the new law.

Dennis Clare, coordinator of Jefferson County's fire districts, will be in Frankfort many times during the current session of the General Assembly to lobby against the law.

Clare, chosen to represent all of Kentucky's volunteer firefighters on this issue, said he may seek the law's repeal

January 23/24, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*, Neighborhoods:

Fire district tax increases

This chart shows the increases in tax rates and incomes for Jefferson County's volunteer fire-protection districts in 1979. The total percentage increase of income, shown in the 6th column of figures, is due not only to higher tax rates, but also to increases in property valuations — shown by percentage in the 5th column of figures.

Fire Prevention Districts	1978 tax rate (cents/$100)	1978 tax income	1979 tax rate (cents/$100)	1979 tax income	% increase in property valuation	% increase of income in 1979
Camp Taylor	7	$ 80,352	10	$139,903	22	74
Jeffersontown	7	185,794	9.5	305,233	21	64
Worthington	7	152,592	10	239,066	10	57
Fairdale	7	123,361	10	193,356	10	57
Okolona	7	239,644	10	369,084	8	54
Black Mudd	7	191,452	10	290,381	6	52
Buechel	7	132,616	10	201,087	6	52
Eastwood	10	22,775	10	30,259	33	33
Edgewood	10	61,470	10	76,097	24	24
Middletown	10	293,245	10	348,195	19	19
Lyndon	3.5	136,117	3.5	151,903	12	12
McMahan	10	119,438	10	133,268	12	12
Harrods Creek	10	235,381	10	255,953	9	9
Highview	10	209,511	10	225,772	8	8
Fern Creek	9	177,032	9	193,578	9	9
Anchorage	10	27,000*	10	28,712	6*	6*
Pleasure Ridge	8	467,139	8	488,920	5	5
Lake Dreamland	10	172,249	10	178,944	4	4
South Dixie	10	110,868	10	114,390	3	3
Dixie Suburban	10	33,856	10	34,871	3	3

* Estimated — exact figures not available.

or may just seek to have fire districts exempted.

If the law survives as is, will local firefighters be able to adjust to cuts in their income — which has doubled from about $2 million in 1975 to $4 million in 1979?

Some fire chiefs say privately that they think some departments spend money frivolously sometimes — on a fancy firehouse or chrome-laden truck, for instance.

Most departments offer volunteers and sometimes their families yearly parties, dinners or gifts as rewards — at such costs, according to audits of the departments, as $2,000 in Jeffersontown and $5,000 at South Dixie.

Pleasure Ridge Park — the largest volunteer department in the state, with about 140 men — spent $11,000 last year on "Christmas gifts to employees and firemen," according to the department's audit. That came out to about $1,000 on a yearly banquet and the rest for non-standard equipment the firefighters wanted, Pleasure Ridge Park Chief R. K. Back said.

They consider that a much-deserved luxury.

"There are a lot of people who don't understand why we do this," said Jeffersontown Chief Gaddie.

"Basically, ours is for the wives. If your wife had to get up at 2 or 3 in the morning while you ran out to a fire, you'd understand."

"Of course it's the community's money," said Chief Haunz of Worthington. "But it's one way to say 'thank you' to the fellows. I don't think anyone would quibble with that."

January 23/24, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*, Neighborhoods: Dennis Clare, Program director is a full-time supporter of county firefighters

By DELMA J. FRANCIS/Staff Writer

If Harrods Creek Fire Chief Leonard Heydt wants clarification on a law regarding enforcement of the fire code, he calls Dennis Clare.

If Jeffersontown Fire Chief Robert Gaddie has some recruits who need redlight and siren permits and identification cards, he sends them to Dennis Clare.

If Anchorage Fire Chief Gary Brunsman wants to know the latest equipment purchased by the Black Mudd Fire Department, he phones Dennis Clare.

To them, Clare, an attorney, is the man with all the answers.

He's Jefferson County's part-time director of fire protection programs and legal counsel to the 23 county fire departments — for the time being.

Right now Clare is a man under fire.

Jefferson County Judge Mitch McConnell says the county needs a full-time coordinator. That would put Clare out of the picture, except as legal counsel. McConnell has said Clare may be retained in that capacity and paid on an hourly basis.

But Jefferson County's fire protection districts have given Clare a unanimous vote of confidence. They want to keep him.

Photo by David R. Lutman

Dennis Clare

"I'll continue to serve these fellows as long as I can," Clare said.

Seated in a comfortable leather chair in his law office, Clare, 37, talked about his seven-year relationship with the firefighters.

He sounds almost like a proud father discussing his child's accomplishments when he lists the achievements made by the volunteer departments.

"Middletown just received a Class 4 rating," he said, beaming.

Does that rating — the highest given any volunteer department in the county by the state Insurance Services Office — mean Middletown is the best department?

"Oh, you don't want me to say that," he said. "That'd mean making enemies of 22 departments."

Middletown is just setting the pace right now, he said.

"The Class 4 is a goal they'd all like to reach. It's the carrot out there to be obtained."

And despite the obvious competition between departments, the firefighters throughout the county take pride in the accomplishments made by them all.

"It's very rare in the United States that a substantial part of a metropolitan area receives fire protection from volunteer organizations," Clare said. "Why, Pleasure Ridge Park is the third largest department in the state, paid or volun-

Rest of article next page—

Smoke detectors

County fire officials want apartment alarms required

By DELMA J. FRANCIS/Staff Writer

Within less than a month, there have been fires at three large apartment complexes in Jefferson County.

If volunteer firefighters have their way, steps will be taken to try to provide early fire warning.

The Jefferson County Firefighters Inc. and the Alliance of Jefferson County Fire Chiefs have instructed their legal counsel and coordinator, Dennis Clare, to prepare a proposed county ordinance requiring that landlords install smoke detectors in all apartments.

The city of Louisville enacted a similar law, which went into effect Nov. 30.

"We've been working on it for quite a while," said Bob Martin, president of the fire chiefs' association.

The firefighters probably will present their proposed ordinance to Jefferson Fiscal Court in about a month, Martin said.

The recent fires — at Whispering Hills, Rolling Hills and Douglass Hills apartment complexes — indicate the need for smoke detectors, firefighters say, and they're redoubling their efforts to require the devices in all multifamily housing units.

No one was injured in the three recent fires, but each resulted in extensive property damage.

Smoke alarms can be lifesavers, Martin said, and they are especially important for apartment dwellers, because a fire in one unit can spread and endanger the lives of many.

"A smoke alarm is not a cure-all, but it's the closest thing we've come up with," he said. "We're more concerned with life than property," Martin said, but a smoke detector could help save both.

An early warning would allow people to get out before flames and heavy smoke cut off escape routes, he said.

It also would allow firefighters to get to the scene before too much damage is done to property, he said.

"This is the biggest thing we can do to save lives," Martin said.

Although smoke detectors will be of help after fires start, it's up to individuals to help prevent them, Martin said.

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January 23/24, 1980, *The Courier-Journal*, Neighborhoods:

teer. They've got over 125 firemen — I mean firefighters," he amended.

"You know what they say when you use that word? They tell you a fireman is a railroad employee who keeps the engines running," Clare said.

In addition, there are women fighting fires these days.

When Clare became director of the districts in 1972, no volunteer departments had women. Today several departments do, but it didn't happen without protest.

"I got several calls from wives of firefighters who were not enthusiastic about women serving on the departments with their husbands. I told them that was an individual problem — something they'd have to work out. I haven't had any calls like that in quite awhile," he said.

The thought of losing his $19,803-a-year position goes beyond the money, Clare said.

"I really enjoy this job. I think I probably know as much about laws that apply to fire departments and fire codes as anybody in the county. After eight years, I could have gotten all that through osmosis."

But Clare has never been a firefighter — and says he couldn't.

"I'm afraid of heights, and all fires do not occur at ground level," he said.

In his spare time, Clare, who lives at 1111 Red Fox Road, near Seneca Park, is president of the Main Street Association and president of the Kentuckiana Girl Scout Council, the first man to hold that post.

Clare also has long been active in Democratic politics, having worked in the mayoral campaign of his father-in-law, former Louisville Mayor Frank Burke, and in the 1971 gubernatorial campaign of Bert Combs and the campaigns of U. S. Rep. Ron Mazzoli, Democrat whose Third District includes Louisville and Shively.

"I guess I'm just a volunteer at heart," he said.

Some of the time he spends working with the fire departments amounts to volunteering, said Middletown Fire Chief Bob Martin, president of the Jefferson County fire chiefs' association.

"He's spending more time tha he's being paid for," Martin said. "He's doing an excellent job for us."

McConnell has not publicly criticized Clare's performance.

"The thing at issue is the right of the county judge to have department heads of his own choosing," said Mike Shea, special assistant to McConnell.

But Clare says the situation is politically motivated.

Shea named several Democrats holding key positions in McConnell's Republican administration and said McConnell is attempting to improve the quality of county government without regard to party affiliation.

"The judge is a reasonable man, and he's just trying to upgrade the help we get," Martin said, "but I think once he finds out all that Dennis has been doing he'll say, 'Hey, that's fine.' "

McConnell has deferred any action on the matter until he's met with firefighters. That meeting has tentatively been set for Feb. 7, Martin said.

1980

February 11, 1980, Improvement Statement:

FIRE INSURANCE
CLASSIFICATION IMPROVEMENT STATEMENTS
FOR
ST. MATTHEWS FIRE PROTECTION AREA, KENTUCKY

"FIRE DEPARTMENT"
PAGE 2

Prepared By
INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE OF KENTUCKY

AT THE REQUEST OF Chief Albert Haeberlin

February 11, 1980

The following statements are based upon the criteria contained in our Grading Schedule and upon conditions in St. Matthews F. P. A. on July 17, 1979. They indicate the action that can be taken to remove deficiency points from the current grading. The number of points that can be removed is given in the parenthesis after each statement. Partial action will result in removing part of the total points indicated. These statements relate only to the fire insurance classification of your fire protection area. They are not for property loss prevention or life safety purposes and no life safety or property loss prevention recommendations are made.

WATER SUPPLY

1. The distribution system should provide adequate fire flows throughout the Fire Protection Area. (70 points)

2. The piping should be arranged so that, with a break in any main, the supply facilities will be able, in conjunction with available storage, to deliver 5,000 g.p.m. for 4.8 hours at any time during a period of 3 days with consumption at the maximum daily rate. (19 points)

3. The valving should be arranged so that, while any valve is being repaired, the supply facilities will be able, in conjunction with available storage, to deliver 5,000 g.p.m. for 4.8 hours at any time during a period of 2 days with consumption at the maximum daily rate. (36 points)

4a. For commercial* districts there should be one or more hydrants at each street intersection depending on the required fire flow, with intermediate hydrants so that they are not over 300 feet apart. (137 points)

*Commercial districts include business, industrial, warehouse, institutional, educational, hotel and apartment occupancies.

4b. For residential districts there should be a hydrant at each street intersection with intermediate hydrants so that they are not over 500 feet apart. (61 points)

5. Hydrants should be maintained in good condition. Inspections should be made in the spring, in the fall, and after each use. The inspection should include complete operation of the hydrant. Suitable records of inspections, repairs, and condition should be maintained. (See American Water Works Association Manual M-17) (23 points)

February 11, 1980, Improvement Statement:

6. Valves should be maintained in good condition. Inspection of all valves should be made annually and important valves more frequently. Suitable records of inspections, repairs, and condition should be maintained. (33 points)

7. Pumping stations should have no combustible material in their construction or should be completely protected by automatic sprinklers. Internal and external hazards should be properly safe-guarded. (15 points)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Grading criteria indicates a need for 5 engine companies in your Fire Protection Area. An additional engine company, equipped with a pumper of at least 1,000 g.p.m. capacity, should be provided in the vicinity of U. S. Highway 42 and Travis Road. (84 points)

2. Apparatus should be kept in good condition. Suitable repair facilities including adequate tools and equipment should be provided. (51 points)

3. A chief officer should be on duty in a fire station at all times. (23 points)

4. An officer should be on duty at all times with each engine and ladder company. (33 points)

5. Grading criteria indicates a need for 6 men, including the officer, on duty at all times with each engine and ladder company. (334 points)

6. All hose should be tested annually to 250 p.s.i. pressure. All 2½-inch or larger hose over 10 years old, and all 1½-inch hose over 5 years old, should be replaced. (15 points)

7. Suitable training facilities including a drill tower, a structure in which fires may be built, a drafting pit, and one or more hydrants should be provided on an adequately sized, suitably surfaced area where the generation of smoke and the use of water will not be restricted. The training program should be under the supervision of a designated training officer and, should include; at least 6 day and 2 night practices per crew per year at the training ground by companies, some of which should be multiple company exercises. (22 points)

FIRE SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS

1. The communication center should be in a separate building of fire resistive construction with internal hazards protected and no external exposures. (18 points)

FIRE SAFETY CONTROL

1. Enforcement procedures should be improved to provide adequate control over hazardous materials, processes, and occupancies. (256 points)

2. Enforcement procedures should be improved to provide adequate control over building construction. (23 points)

3. Enforcement prodecures should be improved to provide adequate control over all electrical installations. (24 points)

February 13, 1980, *The Voice* :

Fire hydrants to appease in taxing dispute

By LINDSEY LOGAN
Staff Writer

St. Matthews City Council hopes to appease residents of their city who pay twice as much for fire protection as most others receiving service from the same fire department. The bait: five new fire hydrants.

According to a recommendation proposed by St. Matthews mayor Bernard Bowling, hydrants would be placed along two streets in the city served by the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department. Residents here pay the St. Matthews tax rate of seven cents per $100 valuation although the Lyndon Fire District's tax rate is 3.5 cents.

Bowling admitted the decision to put in new hydrants in the area served by the Lyndon department came "as a result of a differential in (tax) rates." The new hydrants were requested by former Lyndon Fire Chief Don White, who resigned in January.

Residents and Lyndon fire officials learned it would be illegal to set up two separate taxing districts in St. Matthews so those served by the Lyndon fire department could pay the lower tax rate, Bowling said.

If the councilmen go along with the recommendation, two hydrants will be placed on Harris Place and th[illegible] will be added on Virginia Avenue. Estimated cost of the hydrants is $2,000 to $2,500 each. St. Matthews will bear the entire cost of the project, Bowling said.

"It will offer us more aggregate water supply over there," Lyndon chief James Baker said.

At least one resident may have played a significant role in the decision. Virginia Avenue resident John Totten patiently waited through several St. Matthews City Council meetings last summer to see if he and his neighbors might pay the lower Lyndon tax rate. Totten may at least see new fire hydrants for his effort.

The same number of hydrants will also be added in other parts of St. Matthews, the mayor said. A committee will be appointed to choose which of 12 locations most need new hydrants, he added.

These locations are the 100 block of Staebler Avenue, Browns Lane between Winchester and Briarwood roads, Churchill Road at Delray

See page 2.

Fire hydrants slated

From page 1

Road, Breckenridge Lane at Woerner Road, Breckenridge between Winchester and Woerner, Dayton Road at Iola, Willis Avenue at Fairlawn Road, Willis at Baer, Eline Avenue at Wilmington Avenue, 100 block of Fairlawn, Ridgeway Avenue at Dellridge Drive and the 4200 block of Alton Road near Browns Lane.

1980

February 14, 1980, Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Feb. 14, 1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Bill Andriot
Tom Jerry Smith	Durward Maynard
J.P. Terry	J.C. Nuckols
Geo. Miller	Marty Kamer
John Monohan	

Minutes of meeting held on Jan. 17, 1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Smith, that minutes be accepted as read.

Mr. Monohan made a motion, with a second, whereby the Chief and his two assistant chiefs be permitted to add new men to the roster in order to establish classified firefighters. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin reported that one employee, namely Mike Davis, was not fully satisfied with the amount of raise he was given. After some discussion on the matter, Mr. Maynard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that we raise Mr. Davis's salary to $12,000 per year. Along with this motion Mr. Monohan also suggested that an Organization chart and Job discription chart be drawn up for the now three employees. Motion voted on and so carried.

After some discussion in regards to a car for the fire inspector, Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that the dept reinburse mr. Kamer $100.00 per month, on a month to month basis, for the use of his own car plus any additional insurance cost. Motion voted on and so carried.

Also Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith, that a committee consisting of the Chief and the two Asst. Chiefs along with one board member be established to review the purchase of cars to meet the Fire Dept. needs. This committee will than make recommendations to the board for final approval. Motion voted on and so carried.

In regards to the Louisville Country Club, Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that we find out who are members of the board of directors of the club and send each member a letter stating that if fire dues are not paid in full by June 30, 1980 any and all fire protection from St. Matthews Fire Dept. will be discontinued. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin recommended that he would like to up grade fire helmets being used by the dept. Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that Mr. Haeberlin be authorized to purchase needed amount of new helmets, and also purchase an additional amount of needed pagers. Motion voted on and so carried.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

February 14, 1980, Letter:

February 14,1980.

The Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association does not agree that the partial payment fulfills your organization's obligation for fire service.

To be fair to all the home and business owners we serve in our fire protection area, we have eliminated all past "deals". All churches, hospitals, clubs, etc. are now required to pay the .07¢ per hundred dollar assessment on land and improvements per the latest Jefferson County assessment. Granted, this program can only be as fair as the Jefferson County assessments, which have a review and challenge process.

Over the years, our two organizations have had a positive relationship. As recent as 1978, we extinguished two majors fires at your facility. At the same time, we commend your organization on the fire protection improvements made to meet the Kentucky life safety code requirements in your rebuild/ remodeling programs.

The St. Matthews Fire Department continues to improve on our total operations, these improvements were reflected in the recent I.S.O. review of our equipment and capabilities to allow our business and commercial owners to obtain the improved class 5 insurance rates.

Due to our past relationship, we are returning your partial payment and extending our 1980 offer for fire protection until June 30,1980, to allow you time in fulfilling your total obligation.

If you cannot comply by June 30,1980, we will terminate any and all fire service. We would be happy to help you in making the proper contacts with the Harrods Creek Volunteer Fire Department or the City of Louisville to allow for continued fire protection service for your facility.

We hope we can continue our current good relationship.

Sincerely,

Albert R. Haeberlin

Albert R. Haeberlin, President
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assoc.

cc: All Board Members
Louisville Country Club

1980

February 29, 1980, Letter:

Louisville Country Club

February 29, 1980

Mr. Albert R. Haeberlin
President
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc.
4114 Lyndon Way
P.O. Box 7283
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mr. Haeberlin:

This will acknowledge your letter of February 14, 1980 concerning the amount of our dues for 1980 and the return of our check for $650.00.

On the understanding that you have eliminated all past "deals" and that fairness requires uniform treatment of all property owners, we will withdraw our protest of your statement for 1980 dues. We request that in the future you keep in mind that the property assessment method used by a wide range of taxing agencies does, in our opinion, place a disproportionate burden on us for the cost of fire protection. At the same time, we recognize that we are within your district and do wish to be a cooperative constituent that pays its fair share.

Accordingly, please find enclosed our check for $1,007.99 as you have previously billed.

I appreciate your consideration of our request for adjustment and the thoughtful courtesy of your complete reply. This extra consideration is especially gratifying considering that you and your Board are volunteering your services.

We hope our acceptance of this large increase will help encourage you to continue your progress in upgrading and expanding services in any ways that bring protection closer to our rather remote location.

We, too, look for continuation of our good relationship.

Very truly yours,

George B. Wombwell

George B. Wombwell, Treasurer

GBW/jfe

Enclosure

March 5, 1980, The Voice:

Proposed firehouse worries residents

By KATHARINE MARTIN
Staff Writer

Firehouses aren't built in a day. Before the St. Matthews Fire Association can build a firehouse on the north side of the tracks they must go through a detailed procedure with the Louisville and Jefferson County Planning Commission.

That procedure includes a public hearing on whatever site is chosen. That'll be good news to 27 Staebler Avenue residents who, fearing that the firehouse will open onto their street, have already petitioned against the possible firehouse.

News of Shirley Palmer-Ball's Jan. 10 letter to John O'Leary and the St. Matthews Businessmen, offering both the land and the building, sparked the Staebler Avenue concerns.

Residents there are afraid Palmer-Ball will give the city a piece of his vacant lot which fronts on Staebler Avenue.

Palmer-Ball says nothing's definite. "I have dealt with St. Matthews long enough to know you have to be flexible," Palmer-Ball said, explaining that if none of his property between Westport Road and Staebler Avenue is suitable and a better location can be found his offer is still good.

Since Don Merley and O'Leary first pitched the firehouse idea to businessmen last summer they have gathered over 200 signatures on a petition favoring the firehouse.

Mrs. James LaFollette maintains that few, if any, of the signatures are of Staebler Avenue residents since most of the residents who she approached with an opposing petition had heard nothing about the possible firehouse.

O'Leary did not remember if there were any Staebler Avenue signatures, but he thinks there were. Most signatures were gathered before Palmer-Ball made his offer.

According to commission planner Phil Bills signatures are only a start. The fire association board will have to file their plans with the commis-

See page 3

Firehouse

From front page

sion and then wait for the commission's review.

The review will include a staff study and a public hearing and will result in a commission recommendation. The St. Matthews city council has the power to reverse the decision, Bills said.

According to fire association chairman George Miller the association has yet to make any definite decisions. Miller was unwilling to say when a decision on where they would like to build the firehouse can be expected.

1980

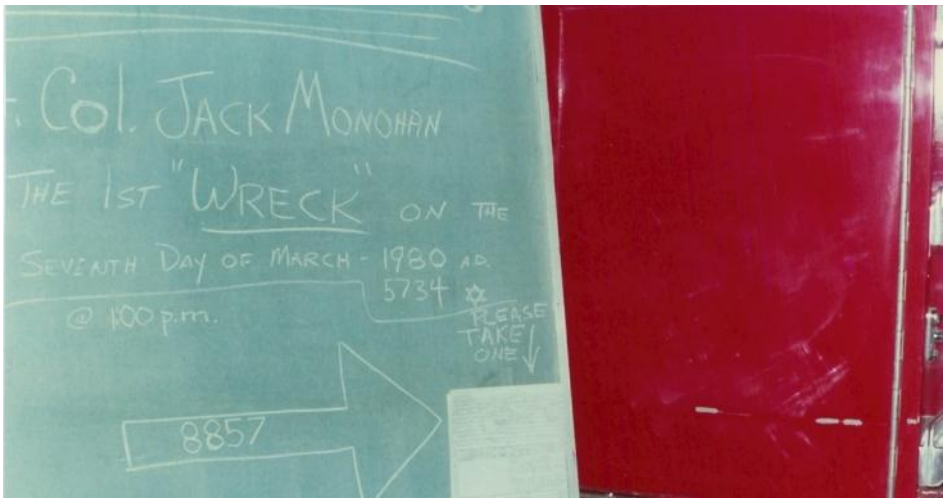
Unit 8857 was delivered around this time:

ST. MATTHEWS UNIT 8857

1980 Seagrave Model HT20765 Custom 100 ft. Tractor Drawn Aerial Truck
Engine: Detroit, 2 cycle diesel with Jacobs Engine Brake
Model 8V-92TA, 430 HP @2100 RPM, 1223 lb ft Torque @ 1400 RPM
Transmission: Allison Automatic, 4 speed, Model HT-740D
Brakes: B.F. Goodrich, all wheel Disk Brakes
Air: Bendix 15.5 Cu Ft Compressor
Weight: 38,940 lb total truck as delivered (without equipment)
Axle: Tractor Front - 15,000 lbs with power steering
Tractor Rear - 23,000 lbs Non-spin
Trailer Rear - 15,000 lbs with power steering
Alternator: Leece Neville 190 AMP
Electrical system,: Start- 24V, Equipment-12V
Tires: 11:00 X 20, 14 ply nylon
Ground Ladders: total of 275 ft.
Overall Height: 10 ft, 10 in.
Overall width: 8 ft, 0 in.
Length: 54 ft, 8 in.

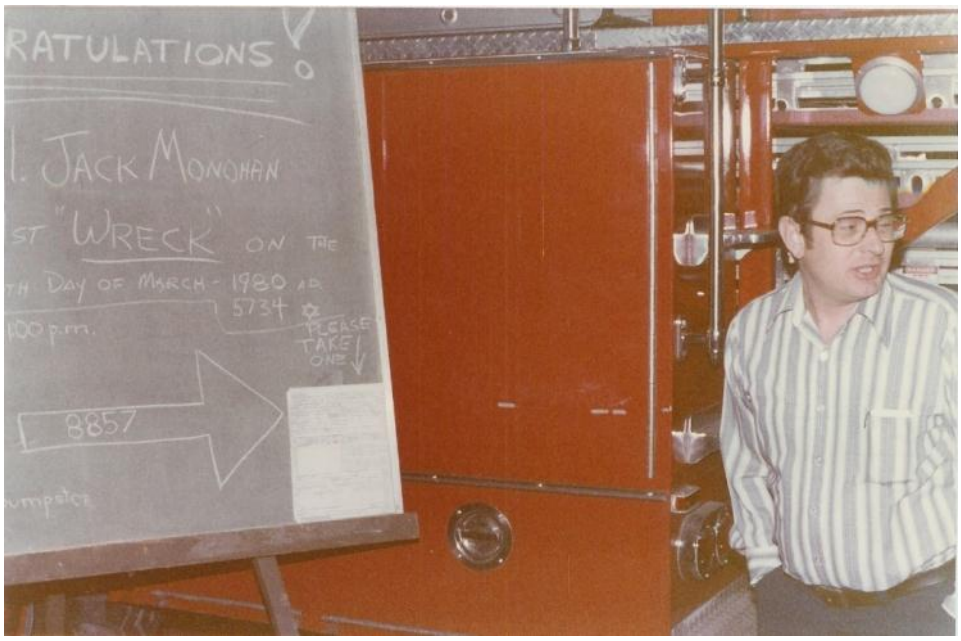
1980

Courtesy Jim Hytken: **March 7, 1980**



1980

Courtesy Jim Hytken: **March 7, 1980**



8857 & Al Ring

Courtesy Jim Hytken, Believed to be 1980

1980

Courtesy Jim Hytken:

Believed to be 1980

1980

Courtesy Jim Hytken: **Believed to be 1980**

1980

Courtesy Jim Hytken: **Believed to be 1980**

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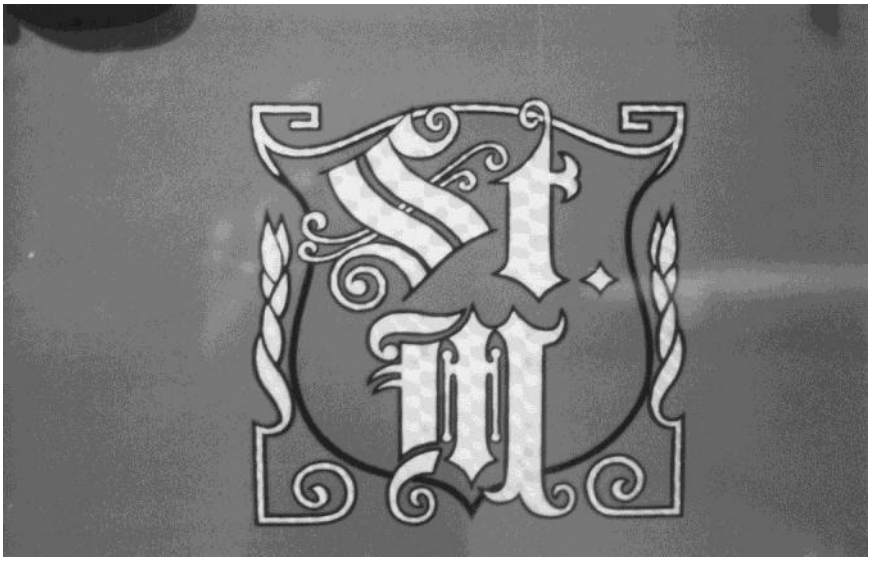
Courtesy Jim Hytken: **Believed to be 1980**



1980

March 8, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on March 8, 1980. Meeting called to order at 10 A.M.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Tom Jerry Smith
Geo Miller	Durward Maynard
J.C.Nuckols	Bill Andriot
John Monohan	Marty Kamer

Mr. Miller opened the meeting by announcing that he was resigning, as of this date, as Chairman of the board. He said he would recommend that the board appoint Mr. Nuckols to serve as chairman. Mr. Nuckols wished to decline because of other duties.

At this point Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Maynard, that John Monohan be appointed to serve as chairman. Motion voted on and so carried.

The next order of business was the reading of minuted of meeting held on Feb.14, 1980. Motion made and seconded that minutes be accepted as read.

Mr. Miller gave a report on the meeting he held with the Chief and Asst. Chief's in regards to the purchase of four cars. At this point Mr. Nuckols made a motion seconded by Mr. Smith, that the board vote to purchase four cars and that Mr. Haeberlin is to secure prices and report back to the board at next meeting.

Along with this motion Mr. Nuckols asked to make an amendment to said motion whereby the Dept. would pay all expenses of the cars and that the $10.00 per fire run now received by the three Chief Officers be discontinued. Motion voted on and so carried.

The board agreed to send three firemen, with expenses paid, to Memphis for the Annual Instructors Conference.

Under new business Mr. Haeberlin gave a report on a letter he received from I.S.O. Mr. Haeberlin proposed that a committee be formed to select sites for a new station. It was agreed by all that Mr. Frank Florence be on look out for sited and report to Mr. Haeberlin.

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Maynard that anyone wo signs checks for the Fire Dept. be bonded. Motion voted on and so carried.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

March 8, 1980: Board meeting:

George E. Miller retires as Chairman of the Board of th St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept.

Having been a board member for 39 years, 27 of which I was Secretary and 9 years as Chairman of the Board. I hope to continue being a regular Board member.

I started to get one of Jimmie Carter's speech writers to write this for me, but I was afraid I would get calls boo-ing me. I have always had a sense of humor and tried to have the respect of everyone, white or black that I come in contact with.

Three other board members besides myself handled the financing to give the people of this area the finest equipment than any other Volunteer Fire Dept. in the state of Kentucky and southern Indiana, only reason for my decision was , it will take a load off me, which I deserve.

Looking back on what we have gone through , the only wages I ever received after years we got a turkey on Thanksgiving and a ham on Christmas, which came from our area store of the Kroger Co. Every one of them were perfect except on about 3 occasions, the hams were so big, they were too fat.

But we Directors felt like the Volunteer Firemen had lots of children and they, being the backbone of the department, they deserved it.

George E Miller

March 19, 1980, *The Voice*:

Miller retires as St. Matthews fire chairman

At a special meeting of the Board of the St. Mathews Volunteer Fire Association Saturday, March 8, George E. Miller announced his resignation from chairman of the board.

In a prepared statement Miller released Wednesday, March 12, Miller said he had served as secretary of the board for 27 years and as chairman for the last nine. Miller added that he hoped to continue as a member of the board.

Explaining his resignation in his statement, Miller said, "It will take a load off me, which I deserve."

Miller, who is now retired, said in an interview that he had been employed with credit offices of various department stores and manufacturers in Louisville. Miller also served on the gas rationing board during World War II.

One of the most recent acts of the fire board under Miller's chairmanship was to purchase a custom-built 100 foot, tractor drawn aerial truck.

1980

April 7, 1980: **Board meeting:**

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on April 7, 1980.

Directors present:

J.C.Nuckols	Marty Kamer
Tom Jerry Smith	Al Haeberlin
Geo. Miller	J.P.Terry
Bill Andriot	

Due to the absence of Chairman Monohan the board agreed to have Mr. Miller act as chairman at this meeting.

Minutes of meeting held on March 8, 1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made and seconded that minutes be accepted as read.

The next order of business was a report from the site selection committee on their findings of property that might be suitable for a fire station. Mr. Florence reported that four sites were considered. Of the four, the site at Rudy Ln. and Brownsboro Rd. seemed to be the most suitable site.

After some discussion there was some concern as to whether or not we could meet the full cash price of $185,000 and if and how could we get the money. It was then agreed upon for Mr. Nuckols, Mr. Haeberlin, and Mr. Florence to meet with some bankers to see what could be worked out to obtain a loan.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

April 9, 1980: Special Board meeting:

A special meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn was held on April 9, 1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Durward Maynard
Geo. Miller	Bill Andriot
Tom Jerry Smith	Marty Kamer
J.P. Terry	

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Haeberlin at 7:10 P.M. The purpose of this meeting was to present to the board a contract for the board to approve or disapprove. This contract is a contract offer for the purchae of a piece of property located at Rudy Ln. and Brownsboro Rd.

After having read said contract and discussing it, Mr. Terry made a motion to accept contract as drawn and present to realator. Motion was seconded by Mr. Andriot. A vote on the motion was taken with five members in favor, one member obstained and one member opposed.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Kamer, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

April 16, 1980: *The Voice*:

Saturday fire damages Mallgate apartment

By LINDSEY LOGAN
Staff Writer

The third fire in just over two years struck an apartment complex adjacent to St. Matthews last Saturday, gutting a bedroom and sending smoke into several neighboring apartments.

An estimated 30 St. Matthews volunteer firefighters brought the blaze under control in about five minutes. They had completely extinguished the Mallgate Apartment's fire and returned to their station within one hour. No one was injured.

"It turned out to be pretty simple, really," St. Matthews Fire Chief Albert Haeberlin said at the scene, the bottom apartment at the corner of Sherburn Lane and Brightwood Place. The fire started in the rear bedroom and was confined to that room, the chief said. Because of the intense heat, Haeberlin guessed the fire had been burning "quite some time" before firemen arrived about 2:15 p.m.

Haeberlin pegged "natural causes" as the origin of the blaze. A smoldering cigarette could have been the culprit, he said.

William Terrell, whose apartment is above the burned one, called St. Matthews firemen after his son smelled smoke. He said he was worried apartment resident Jacqueline Smith had left her seven-year-old daughter, Kim, at home when she left early Saturday morning.

"I was a bit concerned at first because the lady (Ms. Smith) has a small daughter and I didn't see her leave with her mother," Terrell said. "I thought she might be in there." Neither was at home.

Both Haeberlin and Terrell, a five-year resident, said the number of fires at the apartment complex seemed normal. "Pure numbers" raise the probability of a fire at the complex above the probability of a home fire, the chief said. Others watching the blaze were not so sure.

Mike Garvey, who lives next to Terrell, said he expected to leave the complex when his lease runs out next month. He charged that the apartments are not safe and said the number of fires at the complex is "too high."

Garvey planned to take his six-month-old daughter to his mother's to be sure she didn't breathe too much smoke.

Apartment complex employees at the scene looked grim and their mood evidently continued Monday. "We have nothing to say about that fire Saturday, absolutely nothing!" one employee told The Voice.

"I guess we're lucky it hap[illegible] during the day," Terrell said. If we'd have been asleep we might all have been overcome by smoke by the time the fire department got here.

Another resident was not so pessimistic. "It sort of livens up a drab, dreary Saturday afternoon he said.

The fire was much smaller than previous blazes. A Dec. 31, 1979 fire heavily damaged six apartments at the complex. Ten units were damaged by smoke.

A March 1978 fire caused an estimated $100,000 in damage to the complex.

"I guess we're lucky it happened during the day," Terrell said., If we'd have been asleep we might all have been overcome by smoke by the time the fire department got here.

Another resident was not so pessimistic. "It sort of livens up a drab, dreary Saturday afternoon he said.

The fire was much smaller than previous blazes. A December 31, 1979 fire heavily damaged six apartments at the complex. Ten units were damaged by smoke.

A March 1978 fire caused an estimated $100,000 in damage to the complex.

1980

May 8, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Fire Vol. Fire Assn. was held on May 8,1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Bill Andriot
Geo. Miller	Marty Kamer
Tom Jerry Smith	J.C.Nuckols
John Monohan	J.P.Terry

Minutes of meeting held on April 7,1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Also minutes of special meeting held on April 9, 1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin.
Motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Terry, that minutes of both meetings be accepted as read. Motion so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin gave an up-date report on what has been done up to this point in regards to property for new station.

Mr. Nuckols gave a financial report.

Mr. Haeberlin said he would like the boards approval to send a selected number of firefighters to the Annual State Fire School in Lexington. Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that firefighters be sent to Fire School with expenses paid by the dept.

There being no furtner business, motion made by Mr. Nuckols, seconded by Mr. Terry, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

May 14, 1980: *The Courier-Journal*:

Fire at condominiums causes damage in excess of $1 million

By MICHEL MARRIOTT
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Fire caused damage estimated at more than $1 million yesterday at a four-unit section of Coach Gate Condominiums, 5800 Coach Gate Wynde.

The complex is located off North Hubbards Lane near Brownsboro Road.

More than 40 firefighters from the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department answered the 4:36 p.m. call. The only injuries reported were minor burns to several firefighters.

The fire destroyed two condominiums and slightly damaged two others before it was brought under control in less than 30 minutes, said Chief Albert Haeberlin. The cause of the fire has not been determined, but investigators believe it started in the kitchen of one of the units.

As firefighters began to arrive on the 38-acre complex of rolling hills, tennis courts and condominiums, Elise Sales was swept with fear.

Like the frantic Mallard duck from nearby Coach Gate Lake whose nest was theatened by the fire, Mrs. Sales was worried about her family.

The fire is believed to have started in the Sales condominium at 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road, and Mrs. Sales feared her 18-year-old son, John, was inside.

After a search by firefighters, John was not found. However, he was seen driving up the winding road to the condominium minutes later.

"I don't care about this stuff," Mrs. Sales said, standing next to a pile of badly charred silverware dating back to the Civil War. "I've had it a long time."

She said only the welfare of her son concerned her.

Her husband, Raymond, was driving home from his downtown law office when he was saw smoke and heard sirens as he turned up Coach Gate Wynde from Hubbards Lane.

"I'm 58 years old, son," he said as he watched his neighbors move furniture and other belongings from a threatened condominium into a garage.

"I can't get upset. To me this is only brick and stone. My family is all right. We can get another house."

Sales' birthday was yesterday. There was no celebration.

Edna Yarmuth also saw her home at 1102 Chamberlain Hill Road gutted.

Mrs. Yarmuth, 53, said she moved to Coach Gate almost four years ago, after the death of her husband, Stanley R. Yarmuth, founder and former board chairman and president of National Industries Inc.

Sitting on a grassy mound, several dozen yards from the fire, Mrs. Yarmuth said, "There really isn't anything you can do. It is just things."

But Nell Thrope, interior decorator to Mrs. Yarmuth and the Sales family, was flabbergasted at the sight of her work going up in smoke.

"I can hardly believe what I am seeing," she said, with her right hand held over her heart. "They're such fine people."

Mrs. Thrope said the furnishings of the two apartments were worth well over $600,000. She said the antiques Mrs. Yarmuth lost in the fire were "priceless."

Notice Colston, developer of Coach Gate and nearby Coach House, said the condominiums would be rebuilt. He said the Sales and Yarmuth condominiums were two of the most expensive in the complex, where prices range from $90,000 to $250,000.

Colston's condominium at 1106 Chamberlain Hill in the section where the fire struck, was hardly damaged, he said. He said a firewall separates the two end units from the two center ones where Mrs. Yarmuth and the Saleses lived.

He said fire codes didn't require him to build firewalls between every condominium.

A sudden storm forced many of the 50 or more spectators to head for cover. The Saleses ended up in Mrs. Yarmuth's undamaged garage. From its doorway into her home, scorched house plants, smoke smudged walls and ash-packed carpets could be seen.

Mrs. Sales said she didn't want to look in her home, again.

As her son, John, walked to the rear of what had once been his home, he soon found there was little he recognized. A blackened hunk of wires and springs was all that was left of the stereo system his family gave him for his graduation from Ballard High School last week.

But as the day wore on, his father began to think more about something he said that he "just can't go out and buy at the store" — a dollhouse and its contents he had been working on for more than a year.

It was supposed to be a gift for his 18-month-old granddaughter.

Sales said he worked on the 14-room house and its tiny furnishings every evening and weekend. He said it was lost in the fire.

After more than four hours on the scene, the St. Matthews firefighters packed up their equipment and left.

With night approaching, the Mallard duck found her burned eggs and sat on them.

1980

May 14, 1980: *The Louisville Times*, by George Graves: Fire destroys 2 condominiums in St. Matthews.

Fire destroys 2 condominiums in St. Matthews

By GEORGE GRAVES
Louisville Times Staff Writer

Two elegant St. Matthews condominiums — valued at perhaps $1 million — burned yesterday afternoon.

It was first feared that John Sales, 18, was in one of the structures that burst into flames shortly before 4:30 p.m. Sales is the son of the owners of one of the Coach Gate condominiums, Elise and Raymond Sales.

St. Matthews volunteer firefighters quickly determined that no one was inside the burning condominiums on Coach Gate Wynde off Hubbards Lane.

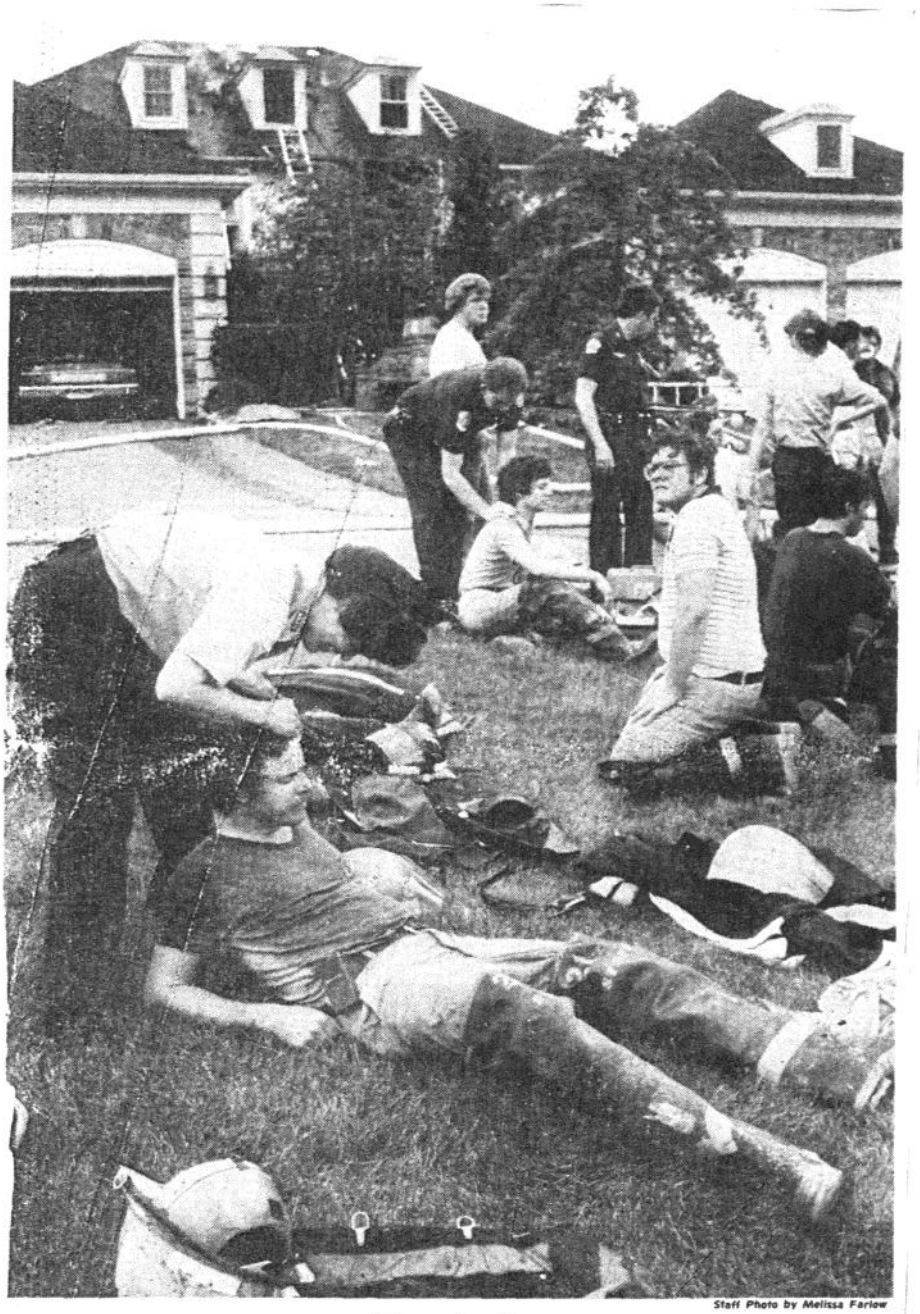
The two-story homes were 4 years old.

The owner and resident of the other condominium was Edna Yarmuth.

Mrs. Yarmuth and the Sales left the scene quickly, apparently no longer able to endure the sight of charred possessions.

It was also very hard for Nell Thorpe to watch the firefighters sift through the remains. An interior designer, she had helped decorate the condominiums. "I'm in such a state of shock over all this because I worked hard on them," she said.

Fire officials said the blaze apparently started in the kitchen of one of the homes, spread to the other kitchen and then roared up to the roofs. The cause of the fire was not known this morning.



Staff Photo by Melissa Farlow

After the fire

Emergency Medical Services workers treated firefighters from the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department for exhaustion and minor burns after they put out a fire at Coach Gate Condominiums yesterday afternoon. Two units were destroyed with damage estimated at $1 million. Story on Page A18.

Foreground: lying slightly sitting up is Mike Davis. Kneeling and looking to the east is Joe Wolfe, sitting being attended to by JC EMT is Gary Doyle. Guy standing behind the girl treating Doyle is John Kleinsteuber of HCFD

Comments by Al Ring: I was at my real estate office on Hurstbourne Lane and responded. I don't remember if I went direct or to the station and came over in the van. When I arrived I looked for Assistant Chief Franklin Florence and found him in the back. He told me to take charge of the men with 1 1/2 inch lines focused on the back and keep the water flowing. He was having trouble with them hitting the fire, then stopping to see if it was doing any good and then flowing again. I did this for a while until most of that fire was knocked down and then was assigned to help with over-hall and suppression "mop up" in the attic area.

1980

May 13, 1980, STMFD:

1980

May 13, 1980, STMFD:

1980

May 13, 1980, STMFD:

May 21, 1980: *The Voice,* Fires strike…three St. Matthews area families homeless in two days, by Suzanne Darland: 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road & 5101 Moccasin Court

Fires strike...

three St. Matthews area families homeless in two days

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

Two residential fires off Brownsboro Road and Hubbards Lane last week on two separate days have left three families homeless and fire officials tired and puzzled about the coincidence.

A kitchen stove left on caused an estimated $1 million damage last Tuesday to two condominiums at 5800 Coach Gate Wynde in the Coach Gate condominiums off Hub-

The time of the fire there, which townhouseswhich he estimates was valued at $100,000, burned to the ground.

Then Thursday afternoon at 4:38 St. Matthews Volunteer Firefighters were called again to a house fire at 5701 Moccassin Court, just north of Brownsboro Road in the same area.

For that fire, county arson investigators blamed a hot lawnmower that was put in the garage before it was allowed to cool completely. A neighbor was mowing the Hall lawn, officials said, and put the lawnmower in the garage near paint and other flammable materials. The heat apparently ignited them.

Dr. C. Ben Hall's one-story house, which he estimates was valued at $100,000 burned to the ground.

Officials say the fire started in the garage and spread through the rest of the house before it emerged as flames outside the house. Neighbors saw it then and called the fire department, but too much damage had already been done to save the house.

"The fire had a good start before we got there," said St. Matthews Fire Chief Albert Haeberlin. "Even if we'd had two fireplugs in front of the house and twice as many trucks we couldn't have saved it."

Chief Haeberlin said when his men reached the house, identified by a cloud of thick black smoke that could be seen for miles, 30 percent of the roof was already burning.

Dr. Hall, a dentist, was playing golf at Big Springs Country Club when the club's pro came out on the course to tell him his house was burning.

He said he and his wife Sally had lived in the house for 17 years and had decorated it with souvenirs from over 26 countries the family had visited over the years. Hall also was an archaeology buff, and had some treasures there that were irreplaceable.

He mentioned to a reporter that the April 1974 tornado had torn off part of the house's roof.

"But we'll rebuild again," he said.

The developers of the Coach Gate condominiums also said the two units would be rebuilt.

The fire destroyed two condominiums and slightly damaged two others in a four-unit section before it was brought under control in less than 30 minutes. A firestop kept flames from spreading to those adjacent units. No one was seriously injured, although several St. Matthews volunteer firefighters were treated for smoke inhalation and minor burns at the scene.

The developers of the condominiums said Sales, and Edna Yarmuth's condominiums, which were completely gutted by the blaze, were two of the most expensive in the complex. Prices there range from $90,000 to $250,000.

More than 40 firefighters from the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department answered the 4:36 p.m. call.

They remained on the scene for four hours, helping sort through charred items, and ensuring no further flareups occurred.

The interior designer for the two families, Nell Thorpe, said the fur-

May 21, 1980: *The Voice,* Fires strike…three St. Matthews area families homeless in two days, by Suzanne Darland: 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road & 5101 Moccasin Court

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The interior designer for the two families, Nell Thorpe, said the furnishings in the two apartments were worth well over $600,000. She said the antiques Mrs. Yarmuth lost in the fire were "priceless." Mrs. Yarmuth moved to Coach Gate almost four years ago, after the death of her husband, Stanley R. Yarmuth, founder of National Industries, Inc.

At one point, Mrs. Sales feared her 18-year-old son John was inside the condominium. But he drove up the road minutes later.

1980

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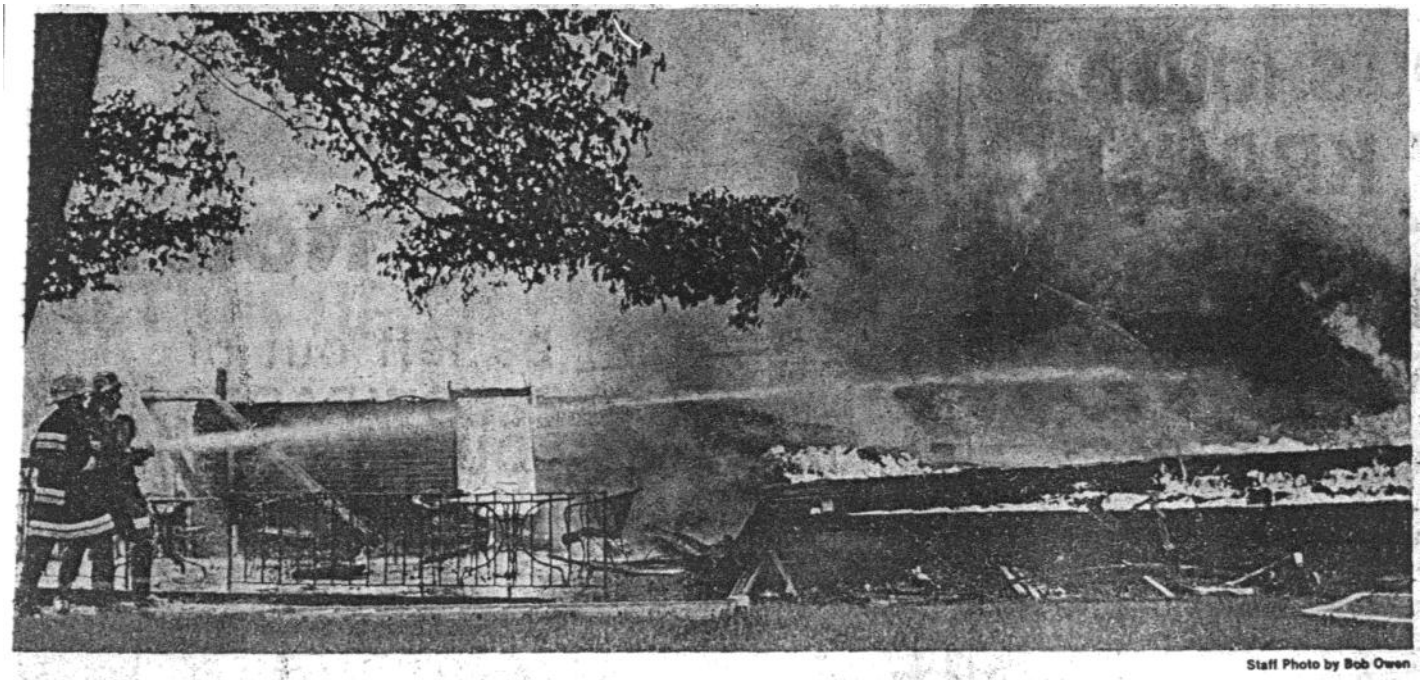
Fires strike...

three St. Matthews area families homeless in two days

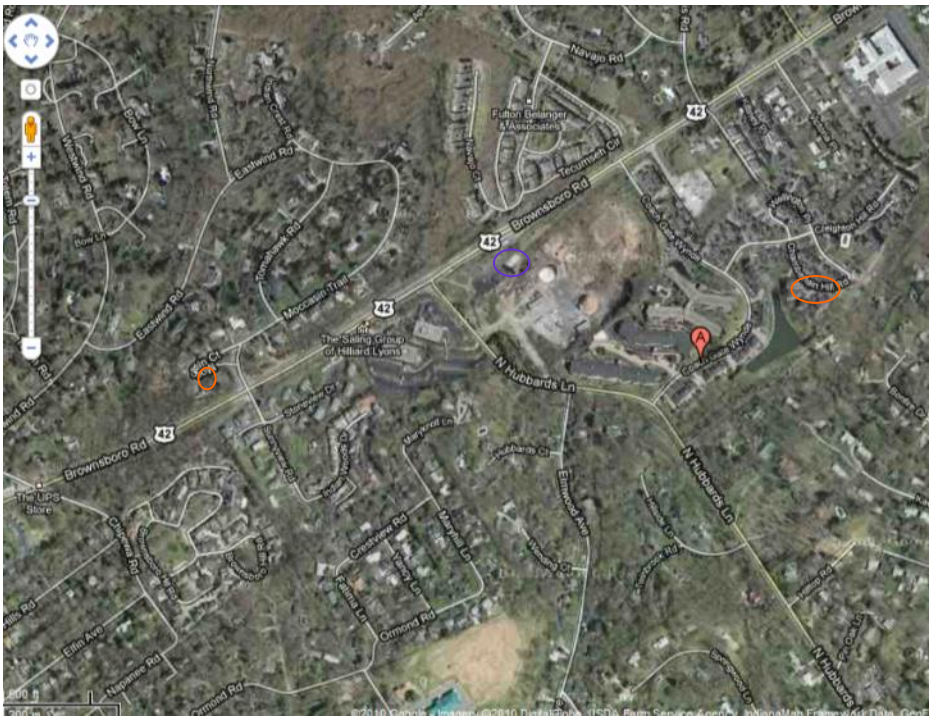


Staff Photo by Bob Owen

FIRE COMPLETELY DESTROYED Dr. Ben Hall's house on Moccasin Court off Brownsboro Road Thursday evening. This was the second major fire in that many days for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. The first, last Tuesday, gutted two condominiums in the nearby Coach Gate complex.

Courtesy Google, 5101 Moccasin Court & 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road

Future STMFD Station 2



1980

Coach Gate Fire, Personal note from Rick Albers (2008): Sgt. George Soules was my apparatus operator and I had Firefighters John Volkerding and Chuck Kuhn. We were dispatched to a report of a fire at 5800 Coach Gate Wynde, which is the 4-story condo building on the left as you top the hill coming up from Hubbards Lane. We had made several false alarms on the 5800 building and I remember having a conversation with Sgt. Soules as we turned onto N. Hubbards Lane from Westport Road, something like "Here we go again, probably another false alarm, same old shit."

As we traveled north on Hubbards Lane at about Massie Avenue, I was looking up Rudy Lane for some reason and George hollered "Holy Shit, look at the smoke!!" I turned and looked and saw NOTHING and he started laughing and said "Gotcha!" I called him a name or two and we went on down the road. When we turned right into Coach Gate Wynde, I said "Holy Shit, look at the smoke!" George looked and all excited he said "Where?" I laughed at him and he cussed me this time.

I started checking out the 5800 building as we approached and I reminded George where the Siamese connection was. George was watching the road and slowing down to turn into the building's driveway. Again, there was NOTHING showing and I picked up the microphone and was just about to call on the scene when for some reason, I just happened to look over to my right and saw the damndest column of black smoke coming out of one of the condo's a couple of blocks over.

George was still looking for the 5800 siamese and I hollered "Jesus Christ!! Look at that column of smoke over there!!" He replied, I ain't falling for that shit again" and he laughed. I hollered "I ain't shittin you this time. Look over there!!" He did and saw all the smoke and the pumper suddenly sped up like a rocket. I radioed County Alarm that there was nothing showing at 5800 but there was a large column of smoke about 2 blocks to the east and I'd get them the correct address in just a minute or so.

Within about 30 seconds we were on the scene and I radioed the correct address, called back a working fire and had all the responding companies re-directed to 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road. We were first on the scene and there was no chief officer there yet. I jumped out of the cab and ran over to the involved buildings and I could tell that 1104 was well involved on more than one level and that there was extension into the attic above 1102 and 1100. I radioed to George to back into the court and lay a double and give me the wye and two bundles. He did and we laid out the lines and too one 1-3/4" and started into the main fire building, hoping we might put a dent in the fire and buy some time before the rest of the companies started arriving. We pulled off all the lines, air packs and tools and shit and George went to water with the pumper. I got Volkerding & Kuhn to flake out all the lines and then we got ready to make our attack. There was still nobody else on the scene.

I hollered for George to start the water and we had it pretty damn quick. Then we put on our masks and started heading for 1104's front door. To get there you had to go down a short walkway and there were landscape shrubs on our right with a Mallard duck's nest full of eggs right there. I kept hearing something like the damn AFLAC duck and I yelled at Volkerding to stop clowning around. He said "What are you talking about?" and then I heard the quacking again and I turned around and told him "Look, this ain't no time to be screwing around and cutting up!!" He said "It wasn't me and it wasn't Chuck." Then we all looked and this big fat Mallard duck was trying to attack us. Then I put 2 and 2 together and told John I was sorry. We were having a difficult time not laughing about that. This all happened in about 30 seconds or so.

Then we kicked in the front door and there was fire licking out at us. Chuck Kuhn had the nozzle first and this was his first real fire. His eyes were as big as baseballs! He opened the nozzle and hit the ceiling and shut down. Then we went inside and you had to make a 90 degree turn right as you went in. Chuck saw all this fire and opened the nozzle again and George must have had close to 300 lbs. of pressure on the line because it threw Chuck backwards on top of me, and Chuck ain't no small boy! He smacked into a set of those cheap-ass aluminum louvered sliding closet doors and they fell on us and when that happened, all the shit it the closet lit off like a flare. I hollered "Are you OK?" and he said "Yeah!" I said "Well, then get up off your ass and hit that fire behind us before it lights up all of our asses." I also radioed out to George to cut his pressure by about 100 lbs. (We had just gotten those brand new state of the art tan Nomex fire coats with the wide white stripes on them. I distinctly remember after coming out of that fire that those stripes on my coat were all melted and brown and the tan nomex was all discolored. Chuck still had one of the older black duck STMFD coats with the red & white stripes and Volkerding had a new coat. They all had similar battle scars. Also, the straps on our Scott Packs were melted and burned. It was AWESOME!!)

Chuck hit all the fire around us and knocked it down and did a super job. Then I had John take the nozzle for awhile. He had a shit eating grin on his face and fire was still coming at us. We fought our way deeper into the condo and found the kitchen entrance and the stairwell to the second floor. We hit the fire that was running up the stairwell and then moved a few feet further when we realized that there was no longer a floor ahead of us. This fire had started in the walkout lower level and had been burning long enough to cause the floor to burn away. It didn't collapse. It was completely burned away. Not being able to go any further that way, I decided to hold our position at this point and do what we could to knock down more fire. By that time other companies were arriving and I told 8857 (aerial truck) to get up to the roof and see if it could be opened and to force entry into 1102 with the next due engine and get lines in there to stop the spread into that exposure. A few minutes later I heard 8802 call on the scene and I transferred command to him. By this time, the three of us had been inside the fire about 10 or 12 minutes.

All of a sudden, both Kuhn and Volkerding's low air bells started ringing. I looked at mine and still had well over ½ tank. I thought "how in the hell can those 2 young guys be out of air and I still have so much left and it's only been 10 minutes or so?" I sent them both out to get fresh bottles and another firefighter (I'm thinking it might have been Sam McCune) stayed in there with me and we kept knocking down more and more fire. After a few minutes, Kuhn & Volkerding came back in with fresh bottles and we set about the place pulling ceilings and walls and heading upstairs to mop that up. After another 10 minutes or so, both of their low air bells went off again and mine still hadn't. I checked and I was just now under ½ tank. I said "What the hell is wrong with those air packs?" I sent them both outside again for another tank. They were back with fresh bottles pretty quick. After about another 10 minutes of work, my low air bell went off and I called Frank and he said he'd have another company come in and relieve us. It turns out that John & Chuck were so wound up that they sucked the air out of their tanks about 3 times faster than they would if they were calm. New boys! Always a lot of fun.

Within a minute or two, another crew came in and took over for us and we went outside and headed to the front courtyard to rest and get a drink. When we walked out the front walkway that damn duck came after us again and it scared the shit out of Volkerding and I've never seen him move that fast in his life.

1980

Courtesy Google, 1104 Chamberlain Hill Road today (2010)

Comments by Al Ring: As with the condo fire a couple of days earlier I was at my real estate office on Hurstbourne Lane when the alarm came in. I responded to the station and came over in the van. I reported to Assistant Chief Florence who looked quite perturbed. He told me to take charge of the men in the hall way on the left side of the house and push the fire in the attic and the rest of the fire back towards the burned area. I don't remember if we had to bring a 1/1/2 in with us or if it was already there. We went through the far left window, just stepped right in, went to that hall and did what we were supposed to. In over-hall we discovered termites. In my opinion the home owner lucked out on this because that house would have eventually fallen in with all the termite damage we found. At least this way he got insurance to pay for the damage.

1980

Moccasin Court, personal note from Rick Albers (2008): This fire was two days after the Coach Gate fire about the same time of day, 4:30 PM. The run was knocked out as a house fire and we were all in the station and loaded up 8835 and were out the door immediately. I was the company officer on 35, Marty Kamer was driving and I think I had Sam McCune & Keith McBride in the jumpseats. I can't remember for sure. It was a nice clear day and the second we were on the front ramp Marty & I both said "there's a column of smoke in the sky" at the same time. 3 miles away & we could see it!

This time, 8802 was ahead of us and he got on the scene and called back a working fire. This house was a large ranch style home and it was on the cul-de-sac of Moccasin Court and it backed up to Brownsboro Road. It had a big 3-car garage attached to the right side and there was a nice swimming pool in the back yard. As we passed the rear of the property from Brownsboro Road we could see the fire in the sky. We turned left into Moccasin and then left again into the court. The garage was already fully involved, with cars inside it and the roof was already burned off it. You could tell it had already extended into the attic over the house.

Frank told us to drop two lines and lay out so Marty turned the pumper around in the cul-de-sac and stopped at in front of the house. We jumped off and pulled off our lines and bundles and other stuff. I thought it strange that the garage was a ball of fire already through the roof, but over the house, heavy brownish/black smoke would puff out of the space between the soffit and the exterior brick, then suck back in real fast and leave a deep black stain on the brick. I started thinking "backdraft." No sooner than that there was a loud rushing noise where the garage wall and house meet and then "BOOM"!

There was debris and shit hurled everywhere and the whole roof assembly seemed to lift & settle. (Later we saw that the brick veneer had been blown off the back of the house and there were at least 100 bricks in the swimming pool. This all happened in less than a minute and it startled everyone to say the least.

I hollered at Marty to lay to the hydrant across Brownsboro Road at Sunnyview, which is right opposite Moccasin's entrance. It's about a 400' lay. Frank heard that and said "Absolutely not! We're not blocking a major artery (Brownsboro Road) at 4:30 PM (rush-hour). Lay to the hydrant down Moccasin Trail!" I told Frank that we didn't have enough hose to reach that hydrant and he argued that we did. I said "OK Marty, let 'er rip." The pumper took off down Moccasin and disappeared into the horizon.

We were standing in the front yard with our lines all laid out, nice and dry, waiting for water. Marty radios in that he is out of hose and hasn't reached the hydrant yet. He said he was going onto the hydrant to hook up and needed a pumper of complete the lay. I gave Frank one of those "I told you so" looks. He frowned and quickly looked away and ordered 8834 to finish our lay.

Then Marty radioed that 8835 had started blowing oil and smoke everywhere and he shut it down. I think by that time Jack Monohan was pulling up so he went to 35 and found out that Marty was going up a hill in a high gear and the engine lugged down and actually kicked over and ran backwards (diesel's can do that). They restarted 35, checked oil pressure and everything was fine so Marty went onto the hydrant. By that time, 34 got there and finished the hose lay. 8857 pulled up in front of the house and the truckies bailed off with hooks and axes n'shit. Then our water came and we entered the front door.

The interior of the house was now charged with heavy smoke and you couldn't see shit. I knew the fire was above us and I told Keith McBride to pull the ceilings, which he did. For some reason, the pike pole he had was a 12 footer so he was having a helluva time working with it. He was getting it done because big chunks of drywall were landing on us. We still had no visibility but since the ceiling was down, we hit the fire above us. All we got was a blast of water right back down on us. I wondered what the hell was going on. We figured out that there was a second ceiling layer of drywall a few inches above the one we just pulled. Keith pulled that down and then there was fire.

About that time, when he pulled the second layer of drywall, the whole original layer fell and knocked the hell out of us (it had a lot of water weight above it from our line). We were all kind of disoriented and visibility sucked but was slightly improving, because we now had a hole in the ceiling and the fire was drawing the smoke and stuff in the living room back up into the attic space. I remember pushing all the sheetrock off me and looking for everyone else. I found Keith rolled up inside the damn fireplace. We helped him up and then we all regrouped and took our line deeper into the house finding fire in the kitchen and areas closest to the garage. We worked on that for awhile with other crews and another line.

We were getting a good handle on things and I took one of the crew members and we broke away and did a primary search of the bedrooms and the east end of the house. It was all clear. When we came back to the rest of the guys, it was time to get relief and we did and went outside. I think Keith had EMS check him out because he took a pretty good whallop from the ceiling.

At the time, I was still pissed at Frank for making us lay 1300' to a hydrant when there was one 400' away. But when I came outside and looked at the overall condition of this house, the delay in getting water had no real effect on the final outcome. This place was totaled before the first person called the fire department. We also found out that the backdraft blew the whole roof assembly all cock-eyed and that the ridgepole was almost completely eaten away by termites. The fire turned out to be the best pest control this homeowner could have asked for.

I understood the cause to be a lawn mower fire inside the garage. Somebody had just cut the grass, put the mower inside the garage and filled it with gasoline while it was still really hot. Needless to say, it lit off quick. After that, there was an amateur effort to fight the fire for quite awhile before anybody called the fire department. Thinking back on our seeing the smoke from the firehouse as we rolled onto the front ramp, I'd say that was an accurate conclusion.

The next pain in the ass was rolling up all that damn hose and re-racking 8835 when we got back in quarters. I think it was dark by the time I went home.

June 3, 1980, Letter:

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 3, 1980

CAPITOL BUILDING
FRANKFORT 40601

OAG 80-292

Mrs. Suzanne Darland
Assistant Editor
Scripps-Howard Press Company
3818 Shelbyville Road
P.O. Box 7432
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mrs. Darland:

You have requested an opinion of the Attorney General as to whether the St Matthews Volunteer Fire Department is a public agency which is required to comply with the Open Meetings Law, KRS 61.805-61.850.

We have checked the records of the office of the Secretary of State and found that a private nonprofit corporation with the official name of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. has been in existence since 1939. It appears that this is the same corporation you refer to as the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. Such a corporation is not the same as a fire protection district organized under KRS Chapter 75. A fire protection district can, under KRS 75.040(1), levy a tax on the property owners of the district for the purpose of fire protection. KRS 75.050 provides that a fire protection district or municipal corporation may contract through its governing body for fire protection to be provided by another district, municipal corporation or volunteer fire department. Effinger v. Fern Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Ky.App. 564 S.W.2d 847 (1978).

A private nonprofit corporation is not subject to the Open Meetings Law under the definition of a "public agency" in KRS 65.805(2). A private corporation does not have the power to levy taxes, and even though it makes a contract with a tax levying authority, it is not a public agency. The fact that a public

agency received a portion of its funds from a state or local authority does not bring it under the Open Meetings Law. (A private agency which receives as much as 25 percent of its operating funds from state or local authority is brought under the Open Records Law by KRS 61.870(1).)

It is therefore our opinion that the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc., is not required to hold open meetings under the Kentucky Open Meetings Law, KRS 61.805-61.850.

Yours very truly,

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Carl Miller

By: Carl Miller
Assistant Attorney General

CM:lg

1980

June 4, 1980: *The Voice*, by Suzanne Darland: St. Matthews FD plans 2nd firehouse at U.S. 42, Rudy:

Rudy, 42 firehouse planned for St. MVFD

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

It looks as though a second St. Matthews fire station on the north side of the L&N railroad tracks is going to be a reality.

A plan for the substation at the south corner of Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane, near the Watterson Expressway, has been submitted to the city-county planning commission.

The plan is presently under review and should be officially filed in a week or so, said a planning commission spokesperson.

The plan ends several years of speculation over whether the St. Matthews Fire Association would construct a second station. The present station is at 4114 Lyndon Way, just south of the tracks.

St. Matthews Mayor Bernard F. Bowling said discussion about a possible second fire station had been ongoing for years. And just this last summer the St. Matthews and East Jefferson County Business Association conducted a petition drive to persuade the fire department to build a second station.

Don Merkley, past president of the business association, said residents and businesses served by the fire department on the north side of the tracks are in a special jeopardy. He said should a train stop on the tracks, precious minutes would be lost having to go around the train to get to the fire.

But Chief Albert Haeberlin of the St. Matthews fire department countered that tests had shown a maximum of three minutes time would be needed to get to a fire going east on Shelbyville Road to the Watterson and back west on Brownsobor Road to get to a fire.

Also, said Chief Haeberlin, the Harrods Creek Fire Department could easily zip down Brownsboro Road if a backup were needed.

Besides, he said in an interview last year, there just aren't that many fires to warrant building a second fire station.

That was before two fires off Brownsboro Road last month which left three families homeless. Chief Haeberlin said none of the houses could have been saved. And there were no trains stopped involved in

See page 2

Courtesy, Google, this lot for STMFD Station 2 never materialized.

St. Matthews FD plans 2nd firehouse at U.S. 42, Rudy

From page 1

either of the two fires.

Chief Haeberlin said the fire association has been looking into the possibility of building a second fire station since the formal request by the business association. However, under fire insurance regulations, the St. Matthews area doesn't need another firehouse, he said. All homes and businesses are within the stipulated five minute radius. But long range plans call for adding another firehouse or two, one perhaps in the DuPont Square area, he said.

The plan for the Brownsboro Road station, which Haeberlin said might be termed Station No. 2 or the Windy Hills substation, calls for the fire entrance to be onto Brownsboro Road near Rudy Lane.

A forty-foot wide concrete apron will face the street for the fire trucks to leave the station on runs. Two other entrances into the 341½'x285' plot will be from Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane.

Forty parking spaces are shown on the plan designed by architect Kenneth Mock. The fire station itself is 6,984 square feet, and an existing house on the site is shown on the plan to remain there.

In January, Shirley Palmer-Ball told the fire department he'd be willing to pay for a fire station if it would be built on property he donated. Chief Haeberlin said he was negotiating with Palmer-Ball to see if his offer still held.

When Palmer-Ball made that offer, residents on Staebler Avenue, where several vacant lots owned by Palmer-Ball are located, protested. They said they didn't want fire trucks traversing their residential street.

Chief Haeberlin said he hoped the new site would be more acceptable. "It's like a fire plug," he said. "Everybody wants it, but nobody wants it in their yard."

Betty Walsh, mayor of the fifth class city of Windy Hills where the proposed station is located, said she had reservations about the plan.

"There's an awful lot of traffic there," she said. But she said she wanted to meet with the fire officials before making up her mind. She also said she questioned if the site, in the far northeast corner of the coverage area, was adequate for the area west of the Watterson and on the north side of the tracks.

Merkley had at one time suggested the proposed firehouse be built on stilts on top of the Staebler Avenue retention basin. And Chief Haeberlin also said the fire association looked into building a station at the quarry site on Brownsboro Road and Hubbards Lane.

"We want to review all possibilities to meet our basic needs now and in the future," he said.

Although no zoning change is necessary for the firehouse, planning commission staff will study the proposal and hold a public hearing, which will be announced, said a spokesman.

Final decision on the station rests with Jefferson Fiscal Court.

1980

June 12, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on June 12,1980.

Directors present:

Geo. Miller	J.C.Nuckols
Al Haeberlin	J.P.Terry
John Monohan	Marty Kamer
Bill Andriot	Tom Jerry Smith
Durward Maynard	

Minutes of meeting held on May 8,1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. With all being in favor minutes were accepted as read.

Mr. Haeberlin gave a report on the City of St. Matthews assestments for the coming year. The report indicated an increase of 3.3%.

Mr. Haeberlin also gave a report in regards to the opinion of the attorney general's office in regards to Open Meetings Act. The opinion states that since this organization is a private and non-profit organization, it is not required to hold open meetings.

The next order of business was the reading of a letter from the city of Winding Falls in regards to their contract.

Mr. Haeberlin gave an up-date report on the property at 42 & Rudy Ln. Mr. Maynard was instructed to read contract and advise if a meeting should be arranged with Windy Hills.

Mr. Andriot reported that firemen asked that the board review reinbursement program.
Mr. Andriot made a motion, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that a committee be appointed to review the reinbursement program.

Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nuckols, that insurance on extra activities be increased from $1000 to $2500 for medical payments. The additional cost would be $12.19 per year. motion voted on and so carried.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Smith, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

June 12, 1980, Report:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS -- OPERATING ACCOUNT

JUNE 23, 1979 THRU JUNE 22, 1980

BALANCE, June 23, 1979		$ 8,754.74
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	$324,702.06	
Interest	19,521.95	
Rental income	1,500.00	
Certificates of deposit and commercial paper	271,419.47	
Equipment sold	13,369.00	
Miscellaneous	2,891.37	633,403.85
Total cash available		$642,158.59
DISBURSEMENTS		
General expenses	$ 61,495.09	
Utilities and telephone	9,588.80	
Salaries	28,668.27	
Payroll taxes	13,250.72	
Truck expenses	41,185.16	
Supplies	17,630.83	
Radio system	5,239.83	
Office expense	1,301.08	
Professional fees	385.00	
Dues and subscriptions	1,115.74	
Conventions and meetings	6,424.00	
Equipment and automobiles purchased	223,897.27	
Certificates of deposit purchased	200,419.47	
Deposit on land	3,000.00	
Leasehold improvements	2,832.00	
Total disbursements		616,433.26
CASH BALANCE, June 22, 1980		$ 25,725.33

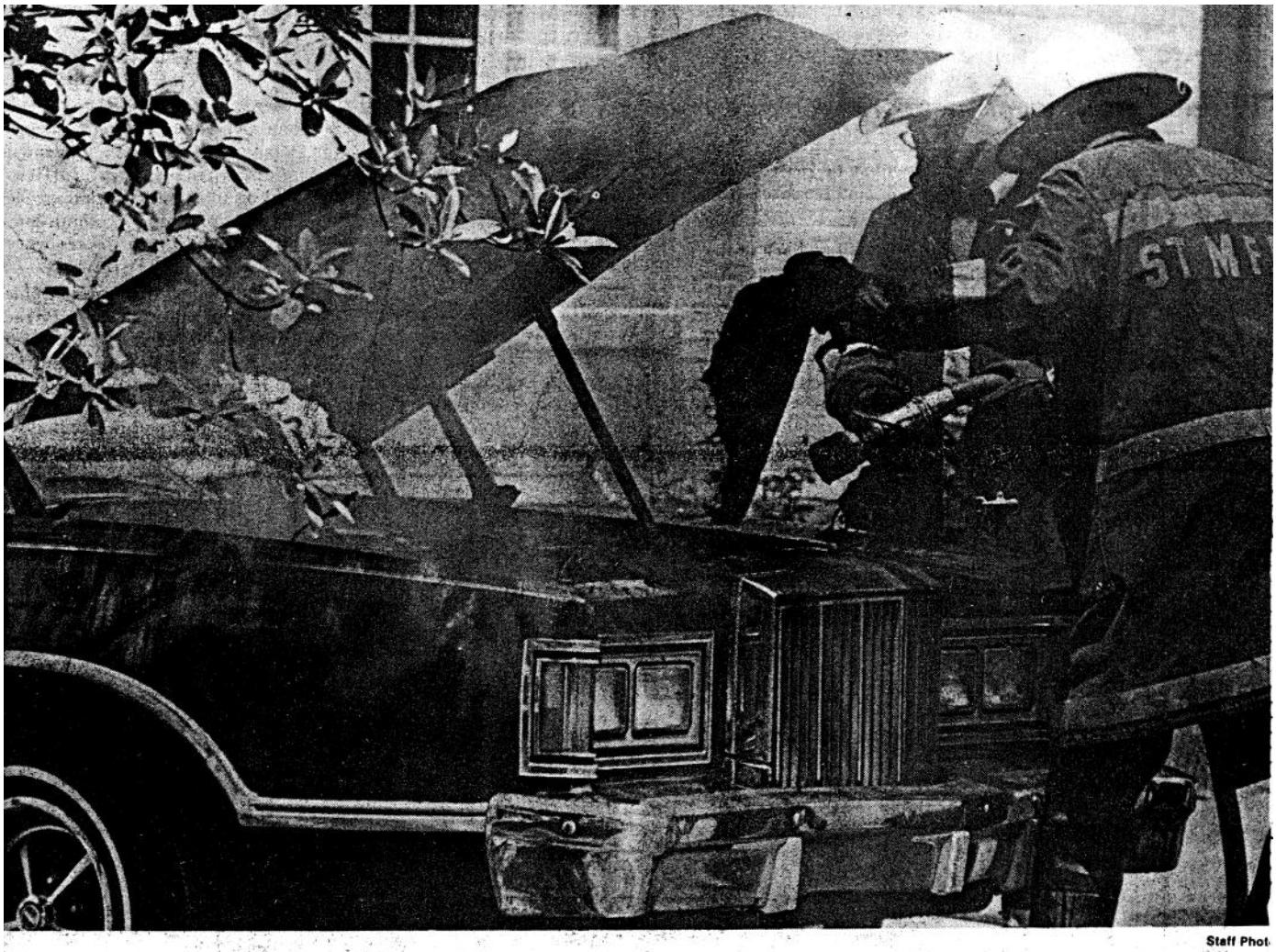
BALANCE, June 23, 1979		$15,909.58
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	$ 7,082.46	
Interest	88.50	
Certificate of deposit	5,000.00	12,170.96
Total cash available		$28,080.54
DISBURSEMENTS		
Investments	$14,000.00	
Supplies and equipment	12,458.88	
Total disbursements		26,458.88
CASH BALANCE, June 22, 1980		$ 1,621.66

1980

June 1980, 8857 visited Al Ring's house to meet his brothers family. Al was riding for the Chief.

8801 Chief's Car bottom right

June 25, 1980, *The Voice*:



Staff Phot

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER firefighters doused a burning car Wednesday, June 18. The car, driven by Colson Meyer, was at 3534 Willis Ave. in St. Matthews. Meyer, who was on a business call for Boland Maloney Lumber Co., said the engine burst into Firefighters were able to keep the fire contained to the engin were no injuries.

1980

July 2, 1980, *The Voice*:

Fire guts an area photography studio

An early afternoon fire last Friday gutted Norman Trigg's photography studio in St. Matthews, interrupting about $15,000 worth of work.

The fire apparently started in Trigg's darkroom while he was on a lunch break. A passer-by, Carl Rapson, spotted smoke coming from the roof of the Wiltshire Avenue studio and turned in the alarm. St. Matthews volunteer firefighters arrived shortly after the alarm and had the blaze under control in about 20 minutes.

Rapson, who was working nearby on Nanz Avenue, said he was driving by when he noticed the studio "smoking like hell."

Firefighters were forced to knock holes in the front and back of the garage at 153 Wiltshire that served as Trigg's studio in order to ventilate the fire. There was extensive water and smoke damage to much of Trigg's equipment. A value estimate was not available. There were no injuries.

Trigg, who was in the midst of "14 rush jobs," said the fire probably started near the timer clock in the darkroom, but how was uncertain.

Staff Photo by Bob Owen

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS put out the last of the flames in Norman Trigg's photography studio as the owner assessed the damage to his darkroom and about $15,000 worth of film he was developing.

July 2, 1980: *Voice* article about the studio fire, personal note from Rick Albers: I was the officer on 8835 on this one too and it was at the corner of Wiltshire & Willis Aves. The address, 153 Wiltshire, is actually in Louisville but the dude that called in used the intersection which is STMFD. That's how we got the run. LFD never responded.

This place was a 2 car garage converted into a photo studio with all the equipment and darkroom chemicals n'shit. I remember arriving and we pulled a 1-1/2" line and Sam McCune was my nozzleman. We masked up and entered and he quickly hit the fire and it all turned to steam and it was knocked down. I patted him on the back and just as I was saying "Good Job" Sam started screaming that his hands were burning. I helped him outside and we finished opening up the place to ventilate and things cooled down pretty quick.

I checked on Sam and he had 2nd degree burns on his hands. I distinctly remember Sam having gloves on as we entered the fire. The problem was, that the gloves he put on were those cotton gardening gloves instead of his fire gloves. Remember when we gave those out in the winter to put on when our hands were wet and cold? This fire was in the dead heat of summer. I guess Sam got his two pairs of gloves confused. I knew after this fire that he'd never do that again. Luckily, he wasn't hurt bad and recovered quickly.

1980

July 9/23, 1980, Board meeting:

The regular annual meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn was held on July 9,1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	J.P.Terry
John Monohan	Tom Jerry Smith
Geo. Miller	Marty Kamer
Durward Maynard	Bill Andriot

Minutes of meeting held on June 12,1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin.

A motion was made that minutes be accepted as read, with an ammendment to be added. The ammendment would be the sending of a letter to Winding Falls accepting their proposal of a 6mo. contract at latest assestments and than a one year contract using the latest assestments. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin reported that the committe on reinbursements haven't met but that progress is being made on reviewing said program.

Also Mr. Haeberlin reported that a 60 day extension has been obtained for acquiring property at 42 & Rudy Ln. He also reported that 3 agencies, namely the Health Dept, Water Co. and Traffic Dept, haven't GIVEN THEIR APPROVAL. This means a letter will have to be sent to these agencies letting them know our intent and than wait for their approval.

Due to restrictions on this property condemnation procedures will have to take place.

Mr. Miller made a motion that Mr. Maynard, Mr. Haeberlin and Attn Charlie Heibel be appointed to present necessary papers to the County Judge and Fiscal Court for condemnation of the property. Motion voted on and so carried.

Under new business the next order of business was the election of officiers and election of two directors whose terms expire this date.

The Board came to the conclusion that due to certain information not being available, the meeting is adjourned. The next meeting to be the continuation of this meeting will be held on July 23,1980 at 7:30 P.M.

The adjourned meeting of July 9 reconveined on July 23,1980 with the following directors present:

John Monohan	Al Haeberlin
J.P.Terry	Geo. Miller
J.C.Nuckols	Bill Andriot
Tom Jerry Smith	Marty Kamer
Durward Maynard	

1980

July 9/23, 1980, Board meeting: George Miller retires from Board.

Under new business Mr. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Maynard, the the following be re-elected for one year with term expiring July 1981.

Al Haeberlin----Chief
Jack Monohan----Asst. Chief
Frank Florence--Asst. Chief

Motion voted on and so carried.

With the terms as directors expiring on this date for Al Haeberlin and Geo. Miller, a motion was made by Mr. Miller that Al Haeberlin be re-elected as a director for 4 years with term expiring July 1981. Motion was seconded by Mr. Terry. Motion voted on and so carried.

Also at this point Mr. Miller announced that as of this date he was retiring from the fire dept. as a director. Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Andriot, that a vote of thanks be given for Mr. Miller's years of service.

Mr. Terry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Andriot, that we defer the appointment of a new director, replacing Mr. Miller, until the board can screen potential candidates. Motion voted on and so carried.

The next order of business was a motion by Mr. Haeberlin, seconded by Mr. Terry, that Mr. Andriot be elected for 1 year as a director representing the firemen. Motion voted on and so carried.

Directors and their terms are as follows:

J.P.Terry------term expires 1981
J.C.Nuckols----term expires 1981

John Monohan---term expires 1982
Tom Jerry Smith--term expires 1982

Durward Maynard--term expires 1983
Marty Kamer------term expires 1983

Al Haeberlin-----term expires 1984
Vacancy-- --due to Mr. Miller retiring

The election of Officiers being the next order of business, Mr. Monohan expressed his feelings in regards of officiers. He recommended that the Chief and Asst.Chief's be responsible for running the Fire Dept and the board be responsible for operation of the corporation. Therefore he suggested that a person other than the Chief be elected to serve as President. Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that John Monohan be elected as President for 1 year with term expiring July 1981. Motion voted on and so carried.

July 9/23, 1980, Board meeting:

Mr. Maynard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that the following be re-elected for 1 year with term expiring July 1981.

Bill Andriot, Vice President
Marty Kamer, Secretary
J.C.Nuckols, Treasurer
J.P.Terry, Process Agent

Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that Tom Jerry Smith be elected to serve as Asst. Treasurer for 1 year with term expiring July 1981. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Nuckols also made a motion to appoint Tom Jerry Smith as 3rd person to sign checks. Motion was seconded by Mr Haeberlin, voted on and so carried.

Also Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that Mrs Sharps salary be increased to $8000 per year effective on next pay period, being Aug.1,1980. Motion voted on and so carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Nuckols, seconded by Mr. Haeberlin, that we give Mr. Miller a retirement gift---namely a new refrigerator of his choice. A letter will be sent to him authorizing him to purchase same and charge to Fire Dept. Motion voted on and so carried.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Kamer, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

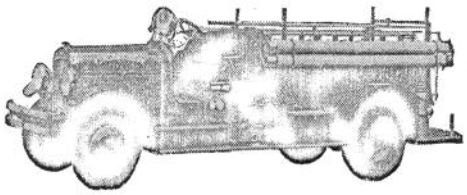
Marty Kamer

1980

July 9, 1980, Resolution:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCORPORATED



4114 Lyndon Way - P.O. Box 7283
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. held on July 9, 1980, a discussion was entered as to the proposal of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. to acquire property at the corner of Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane for the purpose of construction of a fire station facility. It was noted in the meeting that the subject property, although properly zoned, was restricted by a covenant of Deed of Restrictions for use of subject property for residential purposes only. It was further noted that the adjacent property across Rudy Lane was used for commercial purposes.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the Board requested that the County institute proceedings for the condemnation of subject property pursuant to K.R.S. 67.085 in order that the property be acquired for the purpose of the erection of the fire station facility.

UPON FURTHER MOTION duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board directed that Albert R. Haeberlin, President, Charles W. Hebel, Jr., Attorney, and Durward W. Maynard, Attorney, immediately proceed with the County Judge, Commissioners of the Fiscal Court, and County Attorney, to effect the condemnation of the subject property for the purpose as above designated.

Respectfully,

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

By: Albert R. Haeberlin
Albert R. Haeberlin, President

ATTESTED: Dorothy Kramer
Secretary

1980

July 10, 1980, Letter:

Scripps-Howard Press Co.
3818 Shelbyville Road
P.O. Box 7432
Louisville, Ky. 40207
(502) 895-5436

July 10, 1980

Albert Haeberlin, president
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association
4114 Lyndon Way
Louisville, KY 40207

Dear Chief Haeberlin:

According to the attorney general's opinion I received recently, I should be entitled to see St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association records under KRS 61.870 (1). The statute provides for a private agency receiving as much as 25 percent of its operating funds from state or local authority be brought under the open records law (as opposed to open meetings).

Therefore I'm requesting to see copies of the association's budget for the present fiscal year, as well as for 1979-80 and 1978-79.

Also, I'm requesting copies of the contractual arrangements the association has with St. Matthews, Beechwood Village, Windy Hills, Richlawn, Cherrywood Village, Rolling Fields, Fairmeade, Woodlawn Park, Brownsboro Village, Maryhill Estates, Druid Hills, Bellewood, and other small cities the association serves.

If copies are not feasible, please notify me of a convenient time to view these documents.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Darland

(Mrs.) Suzanne Darland
assistant editor

cc: Durwood Maynard
Billie Sharp
Carl Miller, assistant attorney general

OPEN RECORDS

61.870. Definitions. — As used in KRS 61.872 to 61.884:

(1) "Public agency" means every state or local officer, state department, division, bureau, board, commission and authority; every legislative board, commission, committee and officer; every county and city governing body, council, school district board, special district board, municipal corporation, court or judicial agency, and any board, department, commission, committee, subcommittee, ad hoc committee, council or agency thereof; and any other body which is created by state or local authority in any branch of government or which derives at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its funds from state or local authority.

(2) "Public records" means all books, papers, maps, photographs, cards, tapes, discs, recordings or other documentary materials regardless of physical form or characteristics, which are prepared, owned, used, in the possession of or retained by a public agency. "Public record" shall not include any records owned by a private person or corporation that are not related to functions, activities, programs or operations funded by state or local authority.

(3) "Official custodian" means the chief administrative officer or any other officer or employe of a public agency who is responsible for the maintenance, care and keeping of public records, regardless of whether such records are in his actual personal custody and control.

(4) "Custodian" means the official custodian or any authorized person having personal custody and control of public records. (Enact. Acts 1976, ch. 273, § 1.)

July 16, 1980, *The Voice*:

St. Matthews station #2 on Rudy Lane

Deed restrictions stall firehouse

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

Often when a piece of property is sold or up for a zoning change, nearby residents speculate about deed restrictions.

The little-understood covenant of use generally follows property from sale to sale and places certain restrictions on its use. It might decree the size and type of house, or prevent the lot's further subdivision, or stipulate it remain residential.

Usually though, the deed restriction is only a figment of a neighbor's imagination. But not in the case of a proposed fire station on Brownsboro Road at Rudy Lane.

Rumored deed restrictions there have turned out to be very real and have thrown a cog into plans for St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association's station #2.

After submitting a fire station plan to the city-county planning commission for preliminary review, attorney Charles Hebel discovered deed restrictions for the property limiting use to residential only.

The plan for the station at 4750 Brownsboro Road has not yet been formally submitted to the planning commission. No zoning change is required, but the station will come under the agency's review. St. Matthews Chief Albert Haeberlin said the discovery of the deed restrictions is one reason plans have been held up.

An architect's rendering calls for a 6,984 square feet station, with a 40-feet-wide concrete apron facing Brownsboro Road. Forty parking places are shown on the plan.

Attorney Hebel said he and fire officials were presently meeting to decide what action to take on the current snag. With deed restrictions, he said, owners of adjacent property, which at one time was part of the same parcel of land and thus would have the same deed restrictions, could block the station by filing an action in circuit court.

"We'll probably have to take other actions," he said. He added the fire association intended to stay with the Rudy Lane site.

This isn't the first time the association has had to contend with deed restrictions. When the fire station on Lyndon Way was built, deed restrictions again limited the site to residential construction.

But the association asked the city of St. Matthews to condemn the property then deed it to them, a rather common legal maneuver to void deed restrictions, said Foster Haunz, attorney for St. Matthews.

That would be an option open to the association for the Brownsboro Road site, he said. The site is located in the fifth class city of Windy Hills which has condemnation powers. Another would be to have the seven or eight property owners involved sign a waiver to remove the restrictions.

But it doesn't appear that either choice would be popular among the proposed fire station's neighbors.

Councilmembers and nearby residents have made no secret of their displeasure with the fire association's choice of a site.

"I'm really against it," said Mrs. Pollard Gillespie who lives at 704 Rudy Lane, three houses down from the site and covered by the same deed restriction.

She said she wasn't sure if she'd oppose the station in court, but she said none of her neighbors planned to sign a waiver for the fire association.

Another neighbor, asking not to be identified, said she had talked with an attorney about opposing the fire station. She also said she had talked with several neighbors who were ready to fight the station.

"We plan to oppose the station," said Mrs. J.E. Osbourne, who lives next to the site, at 4748 Brownsboro Road.

Neighbors said they were afraid of increased traffic the station would generate.

Windy Hills Mayor Betty Walsh said she didn't think the city's council would grant the fire association condemnation to clear the way for the station. She's had too many phone calls on the matter from angry residents.

She said she had asked Chief Haeberlin for a meeting several times, but he has yet to meet with city officials about the firehouse plan.

"He really owes us the courtesy of a meeting," she said.

Chief Haeberlin, in an interview, said he didn't want to meet with Mrs. Walsh until plans were "more definite."

Mrs. Walsh said the Windy Hills council, as well as other city's officials on Brownsboro Road, for years has asked St. Matthews for a second station, closer to the northeast end of the fire protection district.

"But I want to know why they picked this particular site."

1980

July 22, 1980, mini-resume:

July 22, 1980

Mr. Albert R. Haeberlin, President
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association
4066 Elmwood Avenue
Louisville, KY 40207

Dear Al:

Enclosed is a mini-resume, which should be of interest to you in selecting a member for the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association. Following are a few highlights.

- Life-long resident of St. Matthews.
- Heavy fire service experience.
- Responsible position in business community.

After your review, should you have an interest, an interview or additional information can be arranged.

Sincerely,

John M. Monohan, III

Encl.

C: Mr. George E. Miller
Mr. J. C. Nuckols
Mr. Martin A. Kamer
Mr. J. P. Terry
Mr. Durward W. Maynard
Mr. Albert E. Andriot, Jr.
Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr.
Dr. Tom Jerry Smith

Personal Data:

Name: - John M. Monohan, III
Address: - 4093 Gilman Avenue
Age: - 43
Height: - 6'1"
Weight: - 205 lbs.
Married - 3 Children
Multi-property Owner

Education:

Holy Trinity Grade School
Eastern High School
Oklahoma A&M College
Bellarmine College

Experience:

Over 21 years with the Louisville Ladder Division of Emerson Electric Company. Presently as Vice President-Administration and a member of the Board of Directors. Currently the in-house expert for product liability legal cases, and responsible for the Engineering Department. Report directly to the President of the Company.

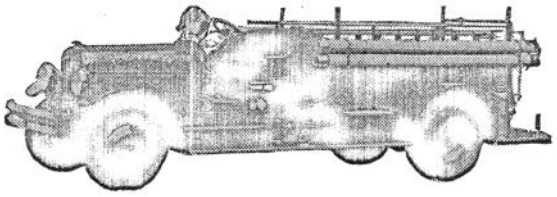
Over 25 years with The Fire Service. Associated with, but not limited to, the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, and presently an Assistant Chief. Currently responsible for fire suppression and the ready state of all fire apparatus and equipment. Report directly to Chief of Department.

1980

July 23, 1980, Resolution:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCORPORATED



4114 Lyndon Way - P.O. Box 7283
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Inc., held on July 23, 1980, a discussion was held on the resignation of Mr. George E. Miller as a board member.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the Board recognized Mr. Miller's contributions as a board member, thanked him for his 40 years of service, and presented him with an appropriate plaque and a silver engraved tray.

UPON FURTHER MOTION duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the Board agreed to present Mr. Miller with a refridgerator of his choice and to be purchased by him from a dealer of his choice.

I, the undersigned, chief of the St. Matthews Fire Department do certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted and entered upon records of the said association on the date aforesaid.

It is further certified that upon presenting this resolution to an appliance dealer of his chice, Mr. Miller is authorized to commit for said purchase with the bill being mailed to the letterhead address for payment in full by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Inc.

Respectfully,

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION INC

by Albert R. Haeberlin

Albert R. Haeberlin, Chief

ATTESTED BY Marty Kamer

Marty Kamer, Secretary

1980

August 13, 1980: *The Voice,* by Lindsey Logan: Third fire in less than year strikes Mallgate:

Third fire in less than year strikes Mallgate

By LINDSEY LOGAN
Staff Writer

For the third time in less than one year, fire damaged apartments in a complex adjacent to St. Matthews last Thursday afternoon. No injuries were reported.

Approximately 25 St. Matthews volunteer firemen battled the blaze which apparently started in the third floor apartment at 603 Quail's Run in the Mallgate complex, according to St. Matthews Assistant Chief John M. Monohan III. The fire was burning between the floor of the third floor and ceiling of the second floor apartments, Monohan said.

The fire "burned several feet horizontally in each direction," according to Monohan, and burned through the 2'x8' floor joist.

Cause of the blaze is still under investigation, he said.

Residents of the apartment behind the third floor unit likely saved the complex from much more serious damage. Sue Gardner noted a funny smell when she awakened her roommate, Bebe Williams, at 1 p.m., she said.

Ms. Williams saw smoke pouring into their apartment and called the complex's office. "We thought it was the air conditioning or something so I called the office," Ms. Williams said.

Continuing their search for the cause of the smoke, the girls opened the door and looked outside. They saw smoke pouring from the next door apartment and called the fire apartment.

"It was just a total fluke that we

See page 2

Mallgate fire called 'routine'

From page 1

opened the door and saw the smoke coming out from underneath the other door," Ms. Williams said.

The girls knocked on nearby doors to assure everyone moved to safety. They found only one man, who said he was staying with friends.

The man, who asked that he not be identified, said he and the apartment manager attempted to put out the fire with extinguishers before firemen arrived. "There wasn't much that we could do," he said.

Smoke was thick and spraying the flames on the floor only brought more smoke, he said.

St. Matthews firemen used a ladder truck and extension ladders to reach the blaze. The fire was brought under control in minutes and most of the work was done by 2 p.m.

Monohan labeled the blaze "Fairly routine" and said damage was mostly structural. Nearby apartments suffered only minor smoke damage, he said. The first floor apartment sustained some water damage, he added.

Management of the apartment had no comment on the fire.

A fire at the complex last April gutted one bedroom and a Dec. 31, 1979 blaze heavily damaged six apartments. An estimated $100,000 in damage was done by another fire at the complex in March, 1978.

1980

August 13, 1980: *The Voice,* by Lindsey Logan: Third fire in less than year strikes Mallgate:

HOT CLIMBING was the order of the day last Thursday for St. Matthews volunteer firemen who battled a blaze which damaged two apartments in the Mallgate complex. Neighbors reported the fire and warned residents. No one was injured.

1980

August 14, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on August 14,1980

Directors present:

John Monohan	J.P.Terry
Tom Jerry Smith	Durward Maynard
Bill Andriot	Marty Kamer
Al Haeberlin	

Minutes of meeting held on July 9 & 23 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. With all in favor minutes were accepted as read.

Mr. Haeberlin read a letter from Mr. Miller thanking the board for the gifts he received upon his retirement from the board.

Mr. Haeberlin reported that the 60day extension on acquiring the Brownsboro property will expire at the end of this month. Mr. Maynard reported that the meeting schudled for Aug.19 with Fiscal Court in regard to the condemnation of the property will be postponed until Sept. 9th. It was than suggested the Mr. Florence try to get another extension of 15 days.

The next order of business was in regards to a letter received from Scripps-Howard on open records. After quite a lengthly discussion on the letter Mr. Terry made a motion to hold up on answering it until more information os obtained. Motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, voted on and so carried.

The next order of business was a financial report read by Mr. Haeberlin.

Mr. Haeberlin than asked that a committe be appointed to review the up-stairs apartment as to its needs in the way of painting, carpeting ect. Mr. Terry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Andriot, that Mr. Monohan and Mr. Haeberlin review the apartment and proceed with its needs.

After discussing the contract we have with Mallgate apartments it was decided by the board to let them pay semi-annualy .

There being no further business Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

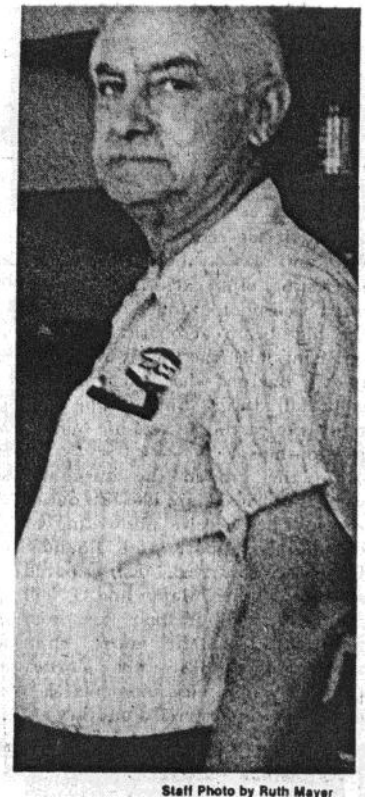
Marty Kamer

August 20, 1980: ***The Voice***:

38 years in St. Matthews

Terry says 'no' to retirement

By RUTH MAYER
Staff Writer



Staff Photo by Ruth Mayer

J.P. TERRY

Is a familiar face of forty years leaving Terry's Texaco Service in St. Matthews?

J.P. Terry says "no."

Terry, 67, was born in Rochester, Ky. At one time his father, John Terry, sold cars for V.V. Cooke. His mother Blanche died when he was three years old, and he was reared by his grandmother, Bertha Reneer.

Terry graduated from Rochester High in 1932, and for the next seven years worked as a mechanic at the R.L. Dennis Motor Co. in Rochester.

In January 1938 Terry moved to Louisville. He and his uncle, J.M. Wilkerson, opened a Texaco service station in Shively where Terry was manager.

Terry made another change in August 1939. He bought a station at Frankfort and Sherrin avenues for $400, which he called Terry's Texaco Service. He was the sole employee, manager and owner.

In July 1942, Terry sold the Sherrin Avenue station and bought another, located at 3800 Lexington Road, from Louis Chilton for $1200. He now had three full-time employees besides himself. Their main tasks included washing and greasing cars and making minor repairs.

The following thirty-eight years of J.P. Terry's life were devoted to the success of this station, which he also called Terry's Texaco Service. From 1950-1970 he had eleven employees. In the 1950s he sold 55,000 gallons of gas a month. Terry said some of his customers have been coming to his stations for forty years.

The Lexington Road station was opened 24 hours a day until 1973 "when the gas shortage hit," said Terry. The station is now open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., closed on Sundays.

In July 1980, Terry made a big decision. He sold Terry's Texaco to Charles Parsons Jr., with the understanding that Terry would stay on as part-time manager. Parsons resides in St. Matthews and is a graduate of Waggener High School.

Terry stated his health was the main impetus in his decision to sell. He is a diabetic. Also his "knees were tired from the concrete floors." Terry further stated even though the ownership has changed, the faces are the same.

Terry will be married forty-two years this August to Marie Humphrey of Rochester. They have two children, Judy T. Smith and Blanche T. Booher. Judy graduated from Eastern High, Blanche from Waggener. The Terrys have four grandchildren. Although most of her time is spent taking care of the home, Mrs. Terry helped with the station's bookkeeping for several years.

Terry is also an avid baseball fan. He played ball with the St. Matthews Merchants in 1939, '40 and '41. His favorite professional team is the Cincinnati Reds.

Terry was a volunteer fireman with the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department from 1939 through 1946. He retired as a captain. He has served on the Fire Department's Board of Directors since 1941.

Why has Terry spent most of his lifetime in a Texaco service station? He said he "always liked to fool with automobiles" and he "liked meeting people." He further stated that he liked Texaco products which he has sold for forty-eight years.

Terry recently received a forty-year award from Texaco, Inc. — a two-diamond and ruby ring.

August 27, 1980: ***The Courier-Journal:***

St. Matthews fire station

Group to ask Fiscal Court to condemn land

By LINDA SANDERS
Staff Writer

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association will ask Jefferson Fiscal Court on Sept. 9 to condemn property at Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane so the association can build a firehouse there.

Fire Chief Al Haeberlin told the Windy Hills City Council on Monday that the association wants the county to use its power of eminent domain to purchase the property and resell it to the association.

The procedure would cancel deed restrictions that prohibit using the land for any purpose other than residential.

Haeberlin confirmed that the association will proceed with plans to build at the Rudy Lane site — which is in Windy Hills — during a meeting Monday between representatives of the fire group and the Windy Hills council.

The association filed preliminary plans for the station with the Louisville-Jefferson County Planning Commission this spring, but the plans were blocked by the deed restrictions on the land, owned by Maurice Raisor.

Haeberlin wouldn't say what price Raisor and the association have agreed on, although he said the "asking price" is $185,000.

The fire group used a similar maneuver when building its station at 4114 Lyndon Way. The city of St. Matthews condemned the land and resold it to the association to avoid deed restrictions.

Haeberlin said the group chose the Rudy Lane site because it's "closer to the people we serve."

He said the property is large enough for a three-bay station and provides easy access to other parts of the St. Matthews district by the Watterson Expressway.

Windy Hills council members said they are concerned about the choice of the location for several reasons, including heavy traffic at the intersection, the potential for drainage problems created by runoff from training sessions at the station and danger to children walking to school past the station.

"We don't foresee that traffic in the area will present us any problems," he said. The station would have entrances on Rudy Lane and Brownsboro Road, he said, although fire trucks normally would leave by Brownsboro Road.

He said the plans have been submitted to several government agencies, including water-management and traffic experts and must be approved by those agencies.

The association has been searching more than a year for a site on the north side of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Co. tracks that run through the area.

August 27, 1980: ***The Voice:***

Fiscal court to clear way for U.S. 42 firehouse

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

At the Sept. 9 meeting of Jefferson Fiscal Court, County Judge Mitch McConnell will request that the county condemn 2½ acres on Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane for a second St. Matthews fire station.

He'll make that request, said David Huber, the county's chief administrative officer, on the condition that the fire association continue to pursue a community facilities review with the city-county planning commission. Huber said the judge would probably request a public hearing on the review, and would ask that fiscal court make the final decision. Usually, the planning commission has the final say on public facilities.

Condemnation is an often-used legal procedure to side-step deed restrictions on a piece of property. Fire officials said they discovered deed restrictions on the site stipulating only residential use, and limiting the size of the building.

For the first time Monday night, fire station officials met with officials from the fifth class city of Windy Hills, where the proposed fire station is located.

And city councilmembers weren't pleased with the way things were going.

They wanted to know why the site was chosen over other sites, and why the fire officials had waited until the review process was almost over before meeting with them. They said they worried about traffic problems, the safety of their children walking to Dunn Elementary School, drainage, and noise.

And when the two-hour meeting was over, Mayor Betty Walsh didn't seem any more satisfied.

"Will you help us?" asked Frank Florence, assistant fire chief.

"We have to hear from the people, too," she responded tacitly. "This is going to be a terrible blow to them."

Mayor Walsh said the council would "wait and hear more" before

See Page 14

Station location changes

From page 1

deciding what to do about the proposed firehouse.

Fire Chief Albert Haeberlin told councilmembers that while three years ago the associations' insurance raters sugested the DuPont area as a likely place for a second firehouse, this year they said the "area of U.S. 42." He said it took more than a year for the fire committee to find a willing seller.

Chief Haeberlin told residents firefighters were used to weaving their way through traffic, and said a fire station signal might be installed.

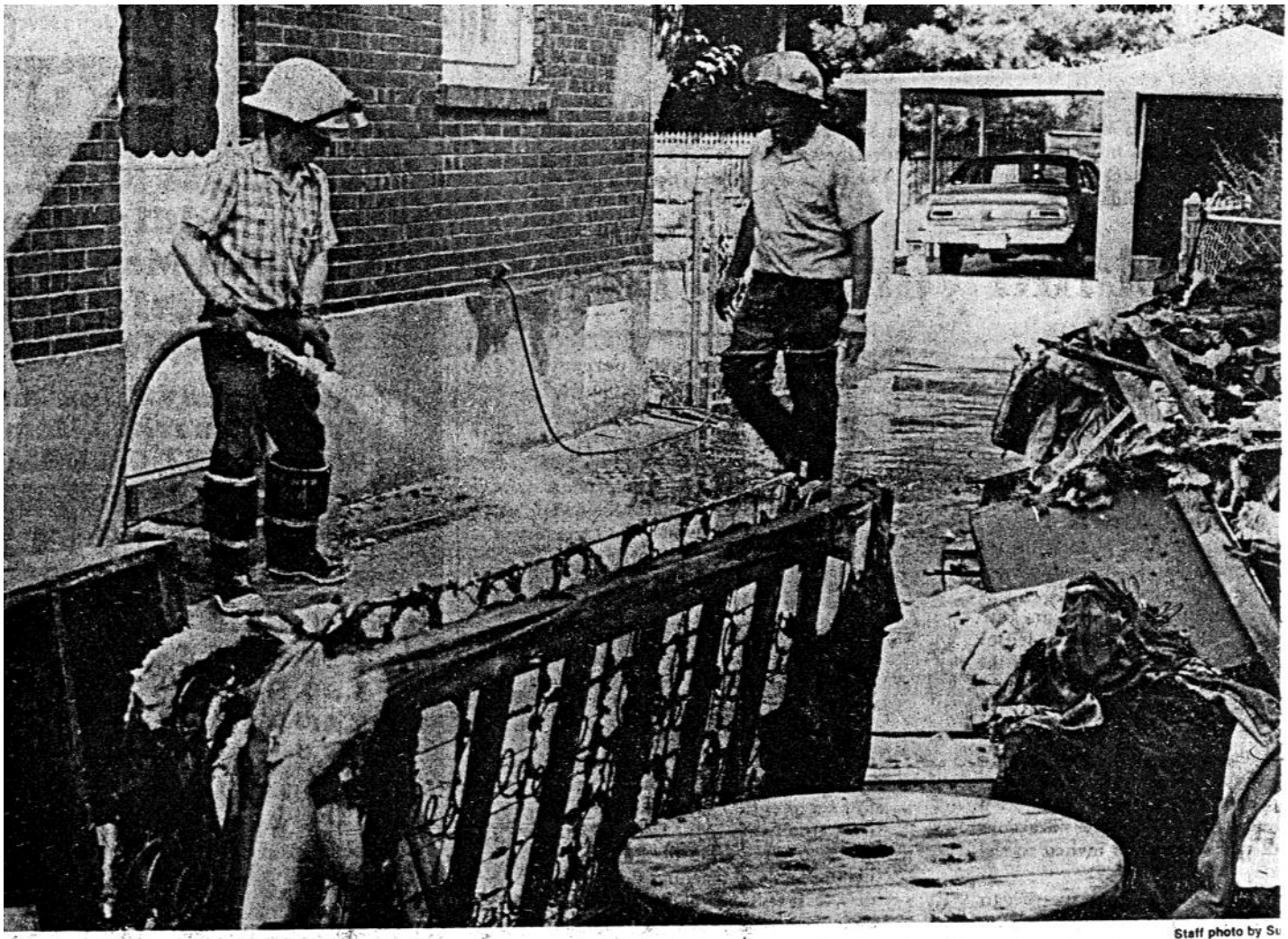
Chief Haeberlin also told the Windy Hills officials construction of the firehouse would be accomplished without raising the tax rate.

The chief wouldn't disclose how much he paid for the property, which has one house on it. In 1979 it was assessed at $76,440, according to tax records. The list price in a realtor's handbook recently was $185,000.

Huber said the costs of acquiring the fire station will be borne by the fire association. The county, as is its practice for new firehouses, will kick in $2,500 towards the cost of the station, he said.

1980

August 27, 1980: ***The Voice:***



Staff photo by Su

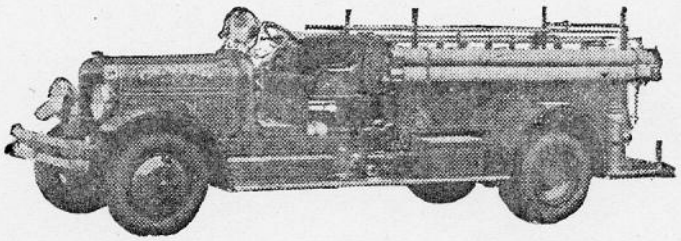
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER firefighters hosed down burnt out furniture, clothes and books from an upstairs bedroom at the Charles Schoppenhorst home, 3414 Old Cannons Lane, last Tuesday. A candle left burning unattended was allegedly the cause of th which gutted the room, according to family members.

1980

August 30, 1980: Letter:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCORPORATED



4114 Lyndon Way - P.O. Box 7283
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

August 30, 1980

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Inc. regrets to announce that time has expired on the option to purchase the site at 4750 Brownsboro Road for a second fire station. Attempts to negotiate a contract extension for the time required to procure the necessary approvals were rejected by the sellers.

The department would like to thank the community for their support and backing on the Brownsboro Road site for a second fire station. We pledge to continue our efforts to locate a site suitable to the community and the experts in fire suppression.

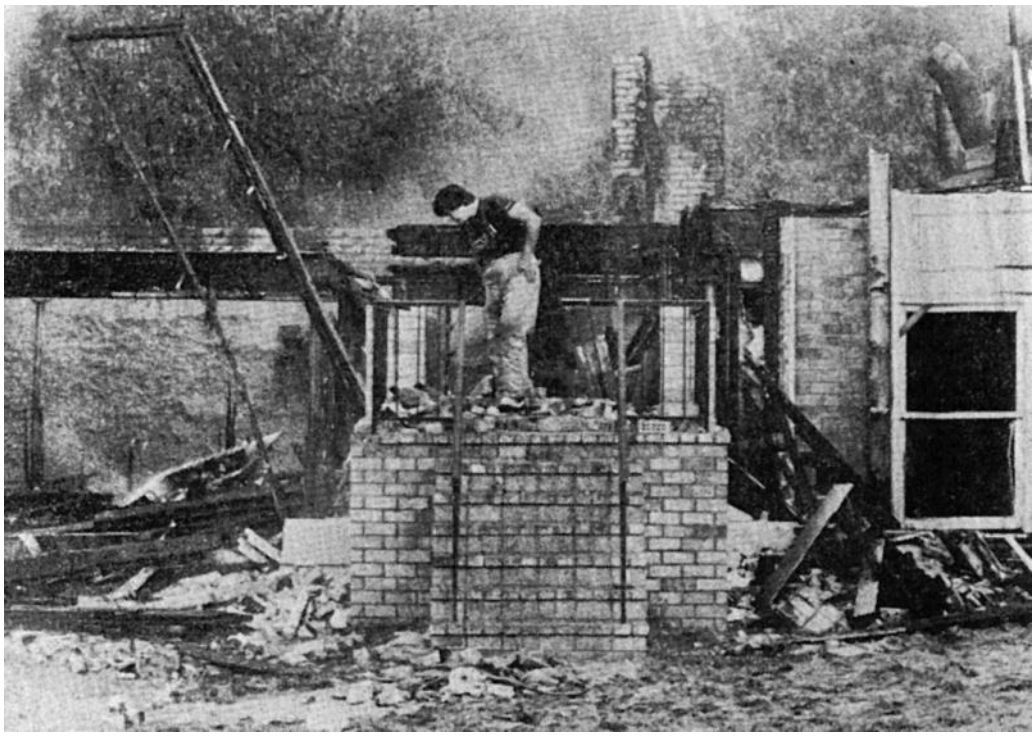
Albert R. Haeberlin

Albert R. Haeberlin, Chief
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

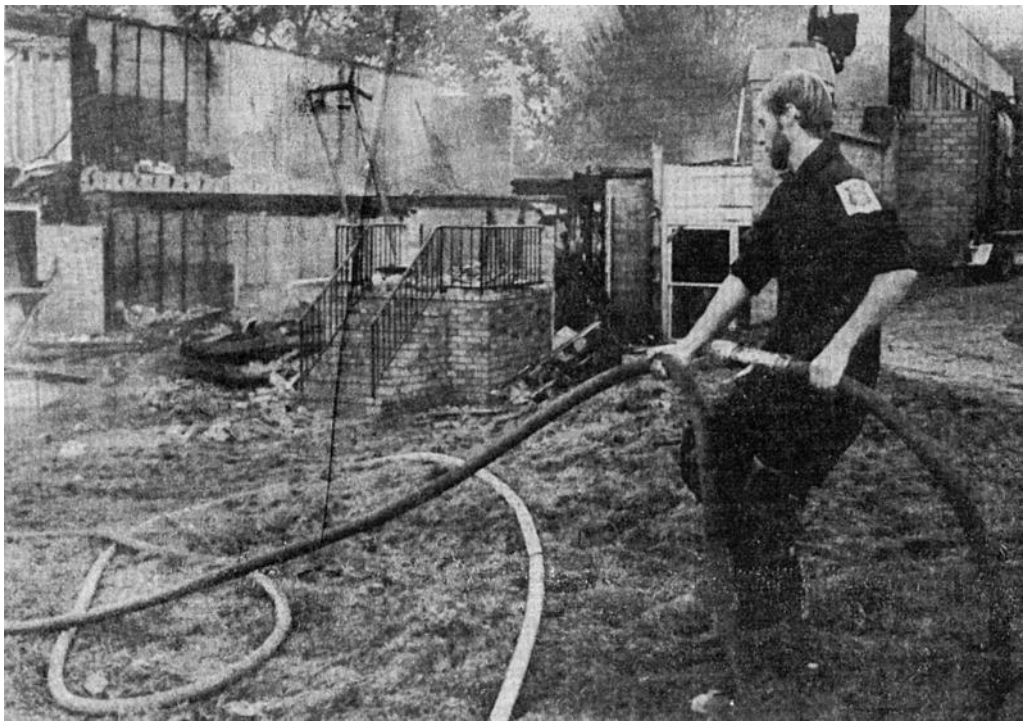
"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

1980

September 3, 1980: *The Louisville Times*, by Andrew Wolfson: Fire in Coach Gate complex guts 2 condominiums, damages another.



Capt. Mike Noland looks over the remains of one of the Coach Gate Condominiums destroyed by fire today: Staff Photo by Keith Williams.



St. Matthews firefighter Alan Unthank prepared to hose down a hot spot on the Coach Gate Condominiums after fire destroyed two unoccupied units early today. Last May another fire caused $1 million damage at the condominiums: Staff Photo by Keith Williams.

1980

September 3, 1980: 1217 Wellington Place, Coach Gate: **Courtesy Google, (2010)**

September 3, 1980: *The Louisville Times*, by Andrew Wolfson: Fire in Coach Gate complex guts 2 condominiums, damages another.

Fire in Coach Gate complex guts 2 condominiums, damages another

By ANDREW WOLFSON
Louisville Times Staff Writer

A fire early this morning gutted two units of the Coach Gate Condominiums about 200 yards from where a blaze caused an estimated $1 million in damage earlier this year.

The two condominiums, at 1217 Wellington Place, were under construction and unoccupied at the time. A third unit, also unoccupied, was slightly damaged.

Chief Al Haeberlin of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department said about 40 firefighters responded to the blaze at 2:08 a.m., after a Coach Gate resident reported what he thought was a small brush fire.

Haeberlin said he could see an orange glow from the blaze as he left his home on Elmwood Avenue, about a mile from the scene.

"It was like a fiery inferno," he said. "The roofs of both units were already burned through."

The blaze was brought under control in about 20 minutes, he said.

One firefighter was injured, Haeberlin said. Capt. Bill Wilkie was struck by a falling wall and treated at Baptist East Hospital for lacerations to the forehead.

The cause of the fire has not been determined, Haeberlin said. He has asked the Jefferson County police arson unit to investigate. He said determining the cause might be difficult because the units were destroyed.

The Coach Gate complex is located off North Hubbards Lane near Brownsboro Road. Condominium prices range from $90,000 to $250,000.

A fire on May 13 destroyed two occupied units at 5800 Coach Gate Wynde in the complex. The only injuries reported then were minor burns to firefighters.

The Jefferson County arson unit determined that that blaze started when a pot was left unattended on a lit stove, Haeberlin said.

This morning's fire destroyed two units in a six-unit complex, he said. The condominiums on both ends of the section were not damaged.

At sunrise today four firefighters continued to douse the burned-out condominums, watching for spot fires.

September 3, 1980: *The Voice*, Opinion: St. Matthews fire board should be open:

PAGE 4, SCRIPPS-HOWARD PRESS, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1980

Opinion

St. Matthews fire board should be open

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association has a rich history of service. Part of one of the oldest fire departments in the county, volunteer firefighters and board members have given hours of watchful care to the community since 1919.

St. Matthews area residents owe a great deal to the men who have prevented and fought fires.

But the peoples' confidence has been shaken by the recent move to build a second firehouse.

No one questions the need for a second fire station to better serve the vast protection area. Other fire districts have two stations or more.

But the secrecy and uncooperative attitude of the board members helped to flame rumors and misunderstandings that got out of hand. Fire officials repeatedly refused to answer questions about their plans to build a second fire station. It wasn't until after the plans were completed that fire officials met with the residents of Windy Hills where the second fire station is to be built.

Opinion

At that meeting fire officials continued to be uncooperative. Their attitude of "We're the experts and you're the nincompoops" did little to build confidence. In a time when public confidence in officials is at an all-time low, it is hard to understand why the St. Matthews fire officials find it uncomfortable to be open with those they serve.

While open meetings are not required by law, since the fire association is a private corporation, they should be held. After all it is tax money that pays for the operation of the St. Matthews fire department.

The people who live in the St. Matthews fire protection district are proud of the service that has been provided over the years. They feel secure knowing that the volunteers will roll out of bed at 3 a.m. to answer an alarm.

But there is no need for the board members, most of whom gave years of active fire-fighting service to the department, to be so smug about it.

The board's insistence that they had no plans to build a second fire station when in fact the architect's drawings had already been approved by county agencies will only serve to heighten the distrust of those who feel deceived by the secrecy surrounding the department's plans.

September 10, 1980: *The Voice,* Fire Association will not pursue lost option on site, by Suzanne Darland:

Fire Association will pursue lost option on site

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association has lost its option to buy a 2½-acre lot at the corner of Rudy Lane and Brownsboro Road for a second fire station.

"Time ran out on us," said Chief Albert Haeberlin, "and we thought they'd give us an extention."

Instead, said Chief Haeberlin, the owners of the property added "additional financial constraints" to the terms of purchase. And he said the fire association didn't think it could afford to meet them.

Haeberlin wouldn't disclose how much the association had agreed to pay for the property. It was assesed in 1979 at $76,000, and a realtor's handbook recently listed the selling price at "$185,000 for the lot and house."

He said the association would "start over" in their search for a second site for a second St. Matthews firehouse. And he said he would continue to work with the owners of the property at Rudy Lane.

"Maybe they'll change their minds."

Pat Kidd, real estate agent for Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Raisor, who own the property, said, "It's not dead

See page 2

Option on fire station site is lost

From page 1

yet." She refused to elaborate.

The new fire station has been the subject of controversy for several months now. First plans called for placing it in St. Matthews, on the north side of the L&N railroad tracks.

But residents there protested.

So fire officials looked elsewhere. Two weeks ago, they held a meeting with the Windy Hills City Council. Councilmembers expressed concerns about traffic, noise, drainage, and safety.

Yesterday, County Judge Mitch McConnell was to have asked Jefferson Fiscal Court to begin proceedings to condemn the firehouse site. A common legal practice, it would have allowed the firehouse to be built there even though deed restrictions limit its use to residential.

But David Huber, the county's administrative head, said nothing would have happened yesterday anyway, because conditions for its condemnation weren't met.

1980

September 11, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Sept. 11, 1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	John Monohan
Bill Andriot	J.P. Terry
Marty Kamer	Tom Jerry Smith
J.C. Nuckols	

Minutes of meeting held on Aug. 14, 1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin.

Motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Smith, that minutes be accepted as read. Motion so carried.

Under old business Mr. Haeberlin reported that he and Mr. Monohan haven't had the opportunity to survey the upstairs apartment as yet, but will do so in the near future. Also Mr. Haeberlin reported that getting a 15 day extension on property contract was unsucessful.

Under new business Mr. Haeberlin recommended that the board authorize paying the cost of having cable TV. Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that the dept pay the $12.00 per month for cable TV. Motion so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin read a letter from the City of Woodlawn Park announcing that they wish to dicontinue contracting for fire protection. After some discussion on this matter Mr. Monohan agreed to check into said matter.

The next order of business was the recommendation of Mr. Haeberlin that he be authorized to purchase a new treathing air compressor. Mr. Monohan suggested that Mr. Haeberlin get bids and present them to the board for review.

Mr. Monohan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that the dept. send the 3 Chief Officiers to Miami Fla. to attend the Fire Chiefs Convention. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that our policy for non-subscribers be changed to read as follows:
On first alarm calls there will be a $300.00 base charge plus $100.00 per apparatus responding for the first hour, and $100.00 per apparatus per fraction of hour thereafter. This cancels and supercedes any and all previous contracts. and agreements. Motion voted on and so carried.

After some discussion in regards to workmens Compensation for our full time employees, Mr. Haeberlin said he would further investigate.

There being no further business, , motion made by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Nuckols, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

September 18, 1980: Letter:

September 18, 1980

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire
Association, Inc.
St. Matthews, Kentucky

Gentlemen:

We have examined the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc.'s Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements -- Operating Account and Investment Account for the period beginning June 23, 1979 and ending June 22, 1980. Our examination was limited to a verification of recorded cash receipts and cash disbursements of the operating and investment accounts. Such recorded cash transactions were compared with the deposits and canceled checks as per the bank statement for each account. No other procedures were performed.

Due to the limited scope of our examination, we are unable to express an opinion on the Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements -- Operating Account and Investment Account.

Respectfully submitted,

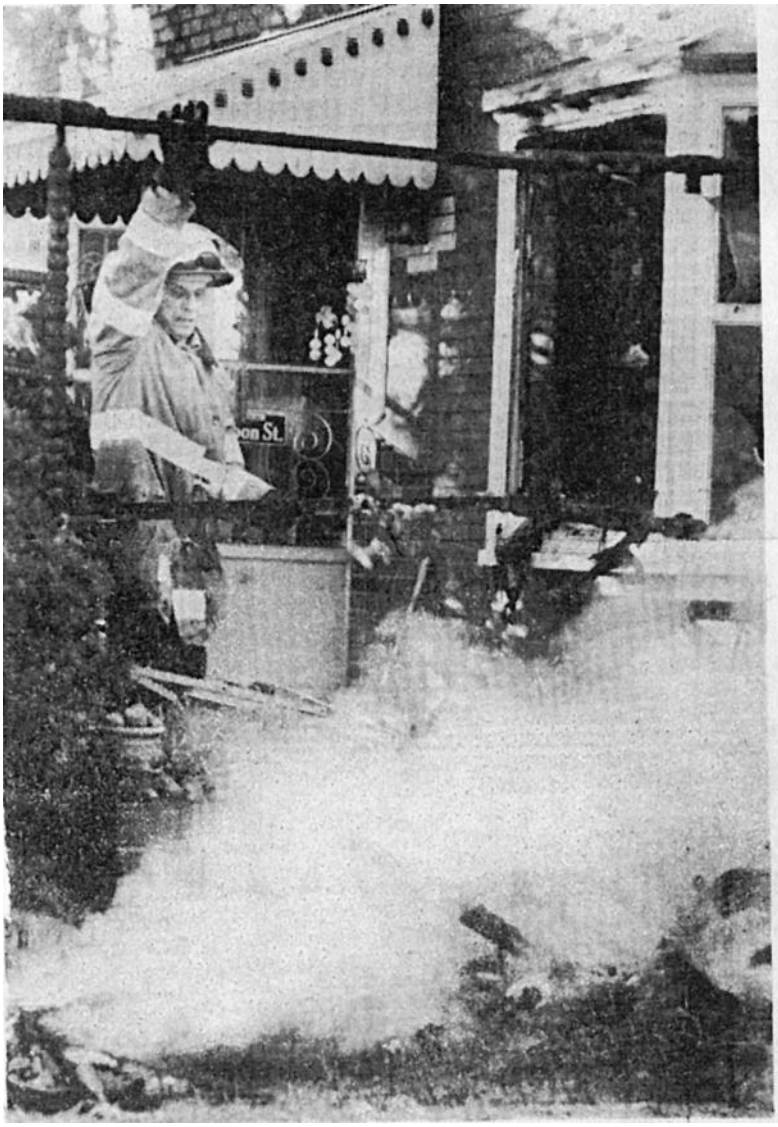
September 29, 1980: Chief officers had just left town for International Association of Fire Chiefs conference, Major Al Ring was riding as 8804.

September 29, 1980 House, 804 Browns Lane 8:25 a.m.

Comments by Al Ring: I was riding as 8801 with the number 8804. All chief Officers had just left town. I responded direct pulled up with smoke showing. I did a quick size-up and decided the fire was in a front bedroom room on the left, we would steam it real quick from the front window and then go through the front door turn right and finish it. The firefighters did a great job and it was quickly handled.

1980

September 29, 1980: Chief officers had just left town for International Association of Fire Chiefs conference, Major Al Ring was riding as 8804.



Photos by Patrick L. Pfister

Sad homecoming

Ashley Farmer rushed home from work to comfort his wife, Heddy, after fire damaged their home, at 804 Browns Lane, about 8:20 this morning. At left, Greg Cobb, of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, removed a charred bed frame from the Farmers' front bedroom. Firefighters had the blaze under control about 10 minutes after arriving.

Courtesy Google, (2010)

1980

October 9, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Oct.9,I980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	J.C.Nuckols
John Monohan	Tom Jerry Smith
J.P.Terry	Durward Maynard
Bill Andriot	Marty Kamer

Minutes of meeting held on Sept. II,I980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Maynard, that minutes be accepted as read. Motion so carried.

Mr. Haeberlin reported that the $3000 deposit on the Brownsboro Rd. property has been turned over to the seller. Further efforts will be made to recover this deposit.

Mr. Monohan gave a report on the different types and makes of compressors for our Breathing Air system.
Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Monohan, that we purchase a compressor from Ingersoll-Rand at the quoted price of $I5,975 plus instalation cost. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Andriot announced that there will be a dinner-dance for the firemen and directors, to be held on Nov. I5 at the Holiday-Inn on Brownsboro Rd.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Nuckols, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

October 18, 1980: Letter:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Dewey Blackburn
Gale Hearn, President
Max Johnson
Harold Miller
Don Peden
Joe Peden
Tim Proffitt
Huba Sparks
Jack Spradlin
Jerry Stephenson
Roy Turner
Ernest Williams, Secretary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Harley Walker

HEADMASTER
Harry D. Middleton

BROWN'S LANE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
1403 BROWN'S LANE
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

"Founding & securing the future through Christian education"

October 18, 1980

Dear Captain Albers,

We would like to express our thanks to you for coming to Brown's Lane to talk with our students about fire prevention. We feel that your visit afforded our students a valuable learning experience. It seems that visits like the one you and your company made on Thursday make a lasting and positive impression upon young boys and girls.

My kindergarten boys and girls asked me to send these pictures of firemen at work along with their thanks. Please relay our thanks to all the men who helped in the demonstration. My students have spent a great deal of time talking about your visit and pretending to be fire fighters.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Hale

Kindergarten Teacher

October 21, 1980, Letters:
To be come effective June 30, 1981:

William B. Stansbury
Mayor

City of Louisville
Kentucky
Office of Director of Safety

Philip H. Scholtz
Director

October 21, 1980

Albert R. Haeberlin, Chief
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. Box 7283
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

RE: FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT
DC-19693

Dear Chief Haeberlin:

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department is currently under contract with the City of Louisville to provide the City of Louisville with fire protection throughout an area as is designated within such contract and such contract being DC-19693.

Due to many changes and improvements in the fire defenses of the City of Louisville since the inception of this contract, it is the present position of the City of Louisville that this contract no longer is of any benefit and should be discontinued.

Therefore, the City of Louisville, thru this office and by this letter, does give notice of its desire to terminate said contract as of June 30, 1981.

The City of Louisville wishes to express its appreciation to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department for the cooperation and aid it has given throughout the many years that this contract has been in force.

David H. Benedict
Assistant Director
Public Health and Safety Cabinet

DHB:bja

cc: Colonel Larry Bonnafon
Tony Miller
Max Simmons
Bob Schwoeppe
Don Clark

HUBERT T. WILLIS
501 SOUTH SECOND STREET
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202

October 21, 1980

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association
4114 Lyndon Way
St. Matthews, Kentucky 40207

Gentlemen:

I have your notice of October 1, 1980 soliciting my subscription for your service for the 12 months beginning November, 1980.

It mentions the fee at $78.65 and this is astonishing to me because it is my memory that your charge for many years has been very much less. I do want this protection but I should like some explanation of what appears to be a huge increase in your charge.

Incidentally, your letter was addressed to me at #12 Mockingbird Valley Road and I don't know where you got that number because I have never known of any actual number for my place there but, if it has one, I rather think it is somewhere in the 400's.

Please be sure to answer this letter by addressing it to the address shown on the letterhead since mail addressed to me at Mockingbird Valley often is not received.

Yours truly,

Hubert T. Willis

Hubert T. Willis

HTW:rvh

1980

October 24, 1980, Letter:

HUBERT T. WILLIS
501 SOUTH SECOND STREET
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202

October 24, 1980

Board of Trustees
St. Matthews Volunteer
Fire Association
4114 Lyndon Way
St. Matthews, Kentucky 40207

Gentlemen:

I wrote you on October 21, 1980 about your bill and received a phone call yesterday from a lady in your office who explained that it was based on the county assessment of my property on Mockingbird Valley Road and she thought in 1979. As I told her, any such assessment is news to me and I wrote the appropriate agencysome time ago that if it made any assessment of my property, of which I have received no notice, then to consider that letter as a notice of appeal but I have heard nothing.

The lady I spoke to yesterday said that my property was assessed, after the Homestead Exemption, at approximately $96,000 until 1979 and then increased to some figure which I didn't and don't know and this was used as a basis for your charge.

As I wrote you, I should like to retain the protection of your association but the basis for the charge is not fair to me as it may be to nearly all your subscribers because nearly all of the value, and I guess something like 90%, is attributable to the acreage somewhere in the range of 12-1/2, and not to the obsolete, old dilapidated house which, I think, was built some 70 years ago and is out of style and undesirable and has no appeal to a possible purchaser as a residence.

Your Association can protect only the house, - not the acreage and that is where the value lies.

On this account, it seems just to me that you make a different basis of a charge to subscribers in my position in the instances where nearly all the value is in ground, - not buildings.

It runs through my mind that I paid you for a long time something in the range of $15.00 per year so this enormous increase is surprising.

Yours truly,

Hubert T. Willis

Hubert T. Willis

HTW:rvh

November 4, 1980, Letter:

November 4, 1980

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept.
4114 Lyndon Way
Louisville, Kentucky 40222

Gentlemen:

I'm a bit late in writing this but on October 1 I discovered smoke in my basement and smelled something burning. I couldn't find where the smoke was coming from so I called your Fire Department.

In a very short time the first fireman arrived and others soon followed. After a careful search they found that my door bell transformer had shorted out and the insulation had burned.

I am writing to express my appreciation for the speedy and courteous way my call was handled. How fortunate we, in this community, are to have such dedicated men giving of their time to serve us when we are in need.

I am truly grateful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. James L. Breed

MRS. JAMES L. BREED
304 Lotis Way
Louisville, Ky. 40207

1980

November 13, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monyhly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Nov.13,1980.

Directors present:

John Monohan	Bill Andriot
Al Haeberlin	Durward Maynard
J.C.Nuckols	J.P.Terry
Tom Jerry Smith	Marty Kamer

Minutes of meeting held on Oct.9,1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made by Mr. Maynard, seconded by Mr. Smith, that minutes be accepted as read. Motion so carried.

Under old business Mr. Maynard reported he is still working on getting the $3000 deposit refunded.
Also Mr. Maynard showed the board a copy of a letter he had written to Suzanne Darland of Scripps-Howard Press in regards to open records, stating the position of the St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn.
Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that a copy of this letter and a copy of Statutes be sent to Mr. Carl Miller, Asst. Attorney General.

Under new business Mr. Haeberlin read a letter from the City of Louisville announcing their desire to cancel their Contract with St. Matthews Fire Dept. for fire protection in specified area. This cancelation would become effective June 30,1981.

Mr. Terry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith, that Turkeys be given to firefighters and directors for Thanksgiving. Motion so carried.
Mr. Haeberlin read a letter from Mr. Hubert Willis in regards to his billing for fire protection. The board instructed Mr. Maynard to write Mr. Willis a letter outlining to him that if his dues aren't paid it will cost him per run as outlined in our policy.
Mr. Haeberlin announced that the Aliance of Chief's of Fire Depts. was considering hiring Mr. Dennis Clare to represent the depts. as a lobbist in Frankfort. Each dept. would pay a yearly fee to support his salary. Mr. Haeberlin proposed that this Dept. accept Mr. Clare to represent it. Mr. Monohan at this point recommended that this matter be studied and taken up at a later date.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Smith, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer,Sect.

Marty Kamer

1980

November 22, 1980: Letter:

DURWARD W. MAYNARD
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
GREATER KENTUCKY BUILDING
225 SOUTH FIFTH STREET
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202

583-3691

November 22, 1980

Mrs. Suzanne Darland
Assistant Editor
Scripps-Howard Press Co.
3818 Shelbyville Road
Post Office Box 7432
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mrs. Darland:

In your letter of July 10, 1980, to Mr. Albert Haeberlin, President of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, you suggested that as Assistant Editor of Scripps-Howard Press Co., you should be entitled to see the said Association's records under KRS 61.870(1) (Open Records Law), and cited as your authority an Opinion from the Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky, prepared by Hon. Carl Miller, Assistant Attorney General, dated June 3, 1980, and numbered OAG 80-292.

It is my understanding that you discussed this matter with Mr. Haeberlin several times by telephone subsequent to the date of your said letter, who advised you that the Association was of the opinion that you were not entitled to review it's records. Thereafter, on October 22, 1980, and on two occasions thereafter you called me by telephone, and I advised you I would discuss your request with the Association's Board of Directors and inform you.

This I have done, and in order that you may be fully advised, the said Board of Directors has directed me to respond to your said letter as follows:

1. The Association is not a "Public Agency" within the meaning of KRS 61.870(1), for the following reasons:

a) It is not a municipal corporation.
b) It is not a body created by state or local authority in any branch of government.
c) It does not derive any of its funds from state or local authority in any branch of government.
d) No funds are derived by the Association in the form of taxes.
e) It has no power or authority to levy taxes.

2. The Association is a private, educational, charitable, scientific, civic, non-profit corporation, not created by state or local authority in any branch of government, with power and authority to make and enter into contracts with others.

3. The Associations income is derived from contributions and gifts from private persons and private corporations, and from payment for fire protection services under contract with private persons, private corporations and municipalities.

4. The income derived by the Association under contracts with municipalities to render fire protection services is from an annual agreed price, and is not predicated or calculated upon any percentage of taxes levied and collected by the municipalies and paid to the Association under contract.

5. The municipalities with whom the Association contracts cannot be considered as "local authorities" in any branch of government. They are municipal corporations.

6. The records of the Association are not "Public Records" within the meaning of the definition set out in KRS 61.870(2). The last sentence in that section provides:

> ""Public record" shall not include any records owned by a private person or corporation that are not related to functions, activities, programs or operations funded by state or local authority." (Emphasis added)

In further response to your said letter, each of the cities mentioned therein are municipal corporations, and pursuant to KRS 61-870(1), each of their records would be available to you.

For all of the foregoing reasons, and in accordance with the above mentioned OAG 80-292, the Board of Directors of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. is of the opinion that it is not required to open it's records under the Kentucky Open Records Law, KRS 61.870-61-884.

Sincerely yours,

Durward W. Maynard

DWM/v
CC: Hon. Carl Miller
Assistant Attorney General

Mr. John M. Monohan, President

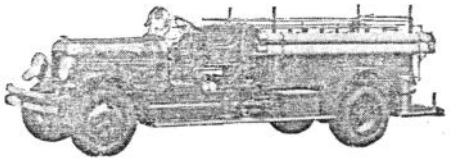
Enclosures

1980

December 10, 1980: Letter:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCORPORATED



4114 Lyndon Way - P.O. Box 7283
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207

December 10, 1980

Hon. Hubert T. Willis
501 South Second Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Mr. Willis:

Your letters of October 21 and October 24, 1980, to the Association, were recently forwarded to me for response.

Even though the Association records may have your mailing address erroneously listed as No. 12 Mockingbird Valley Road, the fire suppression organization have you and your neighbors properly identified on its map books, copies of which are enclosed. Please review these maps and advise the Association of any changes or additions.

With respect to the Association's subscription service, kindly be advised that it has for many years used the latest certified property evaluation assessment by the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator as a basis for determining its subscription rates. In 1979, the Association Board of Directors approved the current rate pursuant to those assessments, and feels it would be improper to make an exception for any subscriber or subscribers. For a more detailed explanation of this matter, I am also enclosing copies of Chief Haeberlin's letters of January 6, 1979, to subscribers, and February 5, 1979, to the Mayor of St. Matthews.

Currently, the Association has a membership of fifty firefighters, with an average of thirty responding to each fire emergency. Their training program has been upgraded. The Association has purchased one additional ladder truck, as well as additional equipment. After being reviewed by the Fire Insurance Office of Kentucky an improved insurance classification, from Class 6 to Class 5, was received as a result of these improvements.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

Association records reveal that your last subscription, in the sum of $34.20, was paid on November 2, 1978, and that you did not subscribe for the year 1979, and have not yet done so for the year 1980, during which time your property was not entitled to fire protection services on a subscription basis.

Kindly be informed, that if you had had a fire in your home under such circumstances, and had called the Association to suppress the same, you would have been billed as follows:

> Base charge of $100.00 per apparatus for the first hour, and $100.00 per apparatus for each hour or fraction of an hour thereafter. (Usually four apparatus make a fire run)

Thank you for writing to the Association, and it is hoped that this response sufficiently answers your inquiries. I regret the delay in responding before now.

In order that your property may be covered and eligible to receive fire protection services from the Association on a subscription basis, I urge you to forward your check in the sum of $78.65 without further delay.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Durward W. Maynard

DWM/v

Enclosures

cc: John M. Monohan, President
Albert R. Haeberlin, Chief

1980

December 11, 1980: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of St. Matthews Vol. Fire Assn. was held on Dec. 11,1980.

Directors present:

Al Haeberlin	Bill Andriot
Tom Jerry Smith	John Monohan
J.P.Terry	Durward Maynard
Marty Kamer	J.C.Nuckols

Minutes of meeting held on Nov.13,1980 were read by Mr. Haeberlin. Motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Maynard, that minutes be accepted as read. Motion so carried.

Under old business Mr. Maynard reported he is still working on getting the $3000 refund and will report progress at next meeting.

Mr. Maynard also read a letter that was sent on Nov. 22 1980 to Suzanne Darland nad Mr. Carl Miller.

Under new business Mr. Monohan read a letter from the city of Windy Hills requesting that we grant them permission to pay their dues on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Nuckols made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kamer, that we set a policy granting city's permission, upon request, to pay for fire protection on a quarterly basis but no less than quarterly. Motion voted on and so carried.

Mr. Monohan reported that after talking with Mr. Dennis Clare, more time would be needed for further research before making a decision to hire Mr. Clare to represent this dept as a lobbist in Frankfort.

Mr. Andriot made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terry, that Hams be given to firemen and directors for Xmas.

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Terry, seconded by Mr. Nuckols, that meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Marty Kamer, Sect.

Marty Kamer

December 16, 1980: Letter:

HUBERT T. WILLIS
501 SOUTH SECOND STREET
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202

December 16, 1980

Mr. Durward W. Maynard
St. Matthews Volunteer
Fire Association
4114 Lyndon Way - P.O. Box 7283
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mr. Maynard:

Thank you for your letter of December 10, 1980 in response to my letters to you of October 21 and 24, 1980.

I can understand your Association's reluctance to make an exception in my instance even though probably most of the appraised value relates to the ground, - not to the old, obsolete, and dilapidated house which is badly in need of repairs and not worth much.

In consequence, I am enclosing my check to your Association for $78.65 not only for the fire protection services your Association provides but in appreciation of the valuable contributions made by the volunteers in your fire department.

Yours truly,

Hubert T. Willis

Hubert T. Willis

Enclosure

HTW:rvh

Recd - 12/19/80
ck. # 19286
amt. - $78.65
B.S.

December 23, 1980: *The Voice*, by Roger Harris, managing editor, Opinion: Attorney General says St. Matthews firemen must open books.

St. Matthews fire records ruled open

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

After an eight-month effort, a *Voice* newspaper reporter should now be able to see the records of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association.

The attorney general ruled last week that the association's records were open to the public. In Kentucky, the only attorney general's opinion that carries the force of law is that dealing with open records. (Other attorney general opinions on other matters are just that — advisory opinions.)

But there still may be a battle over the documents. On Thursday, when he received the opinion signed by assistant Attorney General Carl Miller, Durward Maynard, who is on the association's board of directors and who serves unofficially as its attorney, said he didn't "agree with Miller one bit."

He said he didn't agree with any of the three-page opinion, and said the ruling was "one man's opinion."

As of press time Monday, board president John M. Monohan Jr. said he had not seen a copy of the opinion, so he wouldn't say if a *Voice* reporter could see the documents requested in July: this year's budget, the budgets for 1979-80 and 1978-79, and copies of contracts with the small cities the association serves.

Fire Chief Al Haeberlin, former president of the board, also said he had not seen the opinion. Maynard said he mailed the copies Thursday.

All of the county's other 21 volunteer fire departments are separate taxing districts and are thus subject to Kentucky's 1975 "Sunshine Laws," which provide public access to meetings and records of public agencies.

But the St. Matthews fire department is different. It was incorporated in 1939 as a private, non-profit corporation, according to records in the office of the Secretary of State. Instead of levying a tax, the association contracts with the small cities it serves for a set rate, this year 7 cents per $100 assessed valuation of the residential and business property.

Cities pass this tax on to the residents.

And up until last week, that status as a non-profit corporation kept records of the association private. But according to assistant Attorney General Miller, "Apparently the funding of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. is derived mainly from contracts from municipalities without bidding and believe that this makes the use of its funds a matter of public stewardship."

Miller based his opinion on a similar one rendered in 1976 regarding the now-defunct River Region Mental Health and Retardation Board. Though not a public agency, a substantial amount of its operating expenses came from state and federal governments. The opinion then said, "As far as open records are concerned, it is apparently the policy of the legislature that wherever public funds go, public interest follows."

The 1975 open records statute provides that public agencies make their records public. And in that statute a public agency is defined as a body in any branch of government, or one which derives at least 25 percent of its funds from state or local authority.

Betty Walsh, mayor of the fifth class city of Windy Hills in the northeastern corner of the St. Matthews fire protection area, said of the opinion that she hoped "communication would be better" with the open records ruling.

Windy Hills had been selected as the site for a second fire station this fall.

Jeanne Beam, chairman of the board of trustees for the sixth class city of Indian Hills, off Brownsboro Road, said the ruling would put her city "in a position to see where the tax money goes."

In June, the *Voice* had sought an attorney general's opinion that the monthly board meetings of the association were open to the public. But because the association had incorporated privately in 1939, the June opinion read, its meetings were not open to the public.

December 23, 1980: *The Voice*, by Roger Harris Managing Editor, Attorney General says St. Matthews firemen must open books.

PAGE 4, SCRIPPS-HOWARD PRESS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1980

Opinion

Attorney General says St. Matthe

Roger Harris
Managing
Editor

If a fire breaks out in the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association protection area, it's comforting to know that the courageous firefighters will put their lives on the line to save life and property.

Unfortunately, the men who govern the association do not instill the same level of confidence.

Despite a Kentucky attorney general's opinion that requires by law that the association open its financial records to public scrutiny, the association leadership has avoided honoring this legal obligation. The association apparently feels it is unnecessary that it be held accountable for the thousands of tax dollars it receives annually from a dozen fourth, fifth and sixth class cities in eastern Jefferson County.

Earlier this month Assistant Attorney General Carl Miller wrote in part: "In summary, it is the opinion of the Attorney General, upon the facts and assumptions stated herein, that the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. is a public agency under the Kentucky Open Records Law and its records are subject to public inspection under KRS 61.870-61.884."

That would seem to be crystal clear since attorney general's opinions on open records carry the force of law in Kentucky. But apparently the St. Matthews fire association board of directors feels that it is above the law.

Durward Maynard, a member of the association's board serving as unofficial attorney, responded to *Voice* reporter Suzanne Darland's request on Thursday, Dec. 18, for a look at the association records by refusing to recognize the legal standing of the attorney general's opinion. Other association officials, including Fire Chief Albert Haeberlin and board president John Monohan, have been equally uncooperative.

Maynard, in a letter dated Nov. 22 that responded to Mrs. Darland's request that the attorney general rule on the issue, maintained that the association was not a public agency. The money received from the small cities is not tax money, Maynard said.

Further, Maynard claimed that "the municipalities with whom the association contracts cannot be considered as 'local authorities' in any branch of government. They are municipal corporations."

The open records law defines a public agency as a body that derives at least 25 percent of its funds from state or local authority.

St. Matthews alone paid $128,407.36 for fire protection last

December 23, 1980: *The Voice*, by Roger Harris Managing Editor, Attorney General says St. Matthews firemen must open books.

;ws firemen must open books

year. All cities and individuals in unincorporated areas of the association's fire protection area are taxed seven cents for every $100 of assessed property value.

The taxpayers have the legally protected right to check for themselves on how their money is being spent. A 1976 attorney general's opinion on a similar issue concerning the River Region Health and Retardation Board said, "As far as open records are concerned, it is apparently the policy of the legislature that wherever public funds go, public interest follows."

Tracing the tax money sent to the St. Matthews fire association has not been easy. In fact, the association has a long, dark history of avoiding public scrutiny.

Last May, reporter Darland was kicked out of a meeting of the association's board of directors. An attorney general's opinion upheld the association's contention that it is not required to hold open meetings, but in July Mrs. Darland was denied an opportunity to view the association's records as required by law. After waiting four and a half months for a response from the association, the attorney general's opinion was requested.

The reason for the association's apparent disregard for the law and its unwillingness to be held accountable is baffling. The board's reaction borders on paranoia. The association seems to be saying, "We are the professionals. We know what we're doing. And you, the public, should not ask questions."

But there are questions that must be answered. Conversations with St. Matthews firefighters and former firefighters have revealed alleged improprieties that must be checked out. Things like: Did the chief and assistant chiefs make a side trip to the Bahamas after attending a convention in Florida recently, all at taxpayers' expense?

Was the purchase of the largest aerial ladder truck in Jefferson County, which has yet to be used, necessary? Was the purchase of new firehats necessary when three-year-old hats were still usable?

There is a general feeling among St. Matthews-area government officials and businessmen that the St. Matthews fire association cares little about keeping the public informed.

For a community to distrust those who are supposed to protect life and property from fire is, to say the least, disturbing. But much more disturbing is the fact that the St. Matthews association so blatantly disregards state law and an attorney general's opinion based on that law.

It now seems that the only recourse left to make the St. Matthews Fire Association records open is to file suit in Jefferson Circuit Court.

As is so often the case when arrogant spenders of public money set themselves above the law, the taxpayer is the loser.

December 23, 1980: *The Voice*, Fire destroys Glenview home, by Suzanne Darland:

Fire destroys Glenview home

By SUZANNE DARLAND
Staff Writer

Fire completely destroyed a one-story wood frame house Thursday evening at 3601 Woodside Road in Glenview.

Baylor O. Hickman who is in his 80s walked away from the fire unhurt, but three Harrods Creek firefighters were treated for minor burns and smoke inhalation.

Chris Aponte and Robert Conrad were taken to Baptist East Hospital for heat exhaustion and hyperventilation, and were released later Thursday night. Paul McDonald was treated by emergency medical teams at the site of the fire for minor facial burns.

The three men were among those who entered the house when firefighters first answered the alarm at 6:05 p.m.

The house was burned to the ground, and Harrods Creek Fire Department Chief Leonard Heydt said that fact will probably keep investigators from ever fully knowing what caused the fire.

He said they suspect a wood stove in the basement may have caused the blaze, however. During the fire, a natural gas line was ruptured, enveloping the house in flames.

Heydt also said that officials suspect the fire department was not called immediately. The house is in a semi-rural area, and neighbors weren't home so the elderly Hickman couldn't call the fire department.

When four Harrods Creek trucks arrived. The St. Matthews Fire Depart nent was called, said Heydt. The house was nestled in a small valley, with a narrow, winding driveway leading to it.

Four pumper trucks, two from Harrods Creek and two from St. Matthews, hooked up to a fire hydrant 3,500 feet away on the road, trying to bring enough water pressure to the house. Later, a nearer fire hydrant 500 feet away was connected to water hose lines. It was difficult to reach, across rolling land and over a couple of fences, said Heydt.

"But if a hydrant had been right in front of the house I doubt the outcome would have been different," he said.

This was the Harrods Creek department's third run that evening, said Heydt, a rarity for the usually quiet deparment. The first was at 4:45 p.m., to the Prospect post office because a furnace motor was smoking. The second was to a field fire at Juniper Beach at 5:25 p.m.

1980—Used for recruiting:

GENERAL INFORMATION

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department was started in 1919, by a handfull of dedicated men with very little equipment. During the time the department has existed, it has had five locations and is presently located in it's new house on Lyndon Way. Now the department has one of the most modern fire stations in the country. Six pieces of well equipped fire apparatus are kept in a state of readiness.

Since 1977 the department has been headed by Chief Albert R. Haeberlin. The Chief and his two Assistant Chiefs are appointed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members. They in turn appoint the officers of the department.

In fire suppression, the St. Matthews Department is staffed by unpaid firefighters, who donate their time and energies for the betterment of their community. The department employs 4 paid personnel to perform insurance related duties, maintain the station and handle the daily responsibilities of it's business.

The department receives it's monies by contracting it's services to the various cities and individuals that lie within it's fire protection area. The department is not connected with the City of St. Matthews in any way, other than on a contractual basis for fire service. The Board of Directors are responsible for all the business and financial matters of the department.

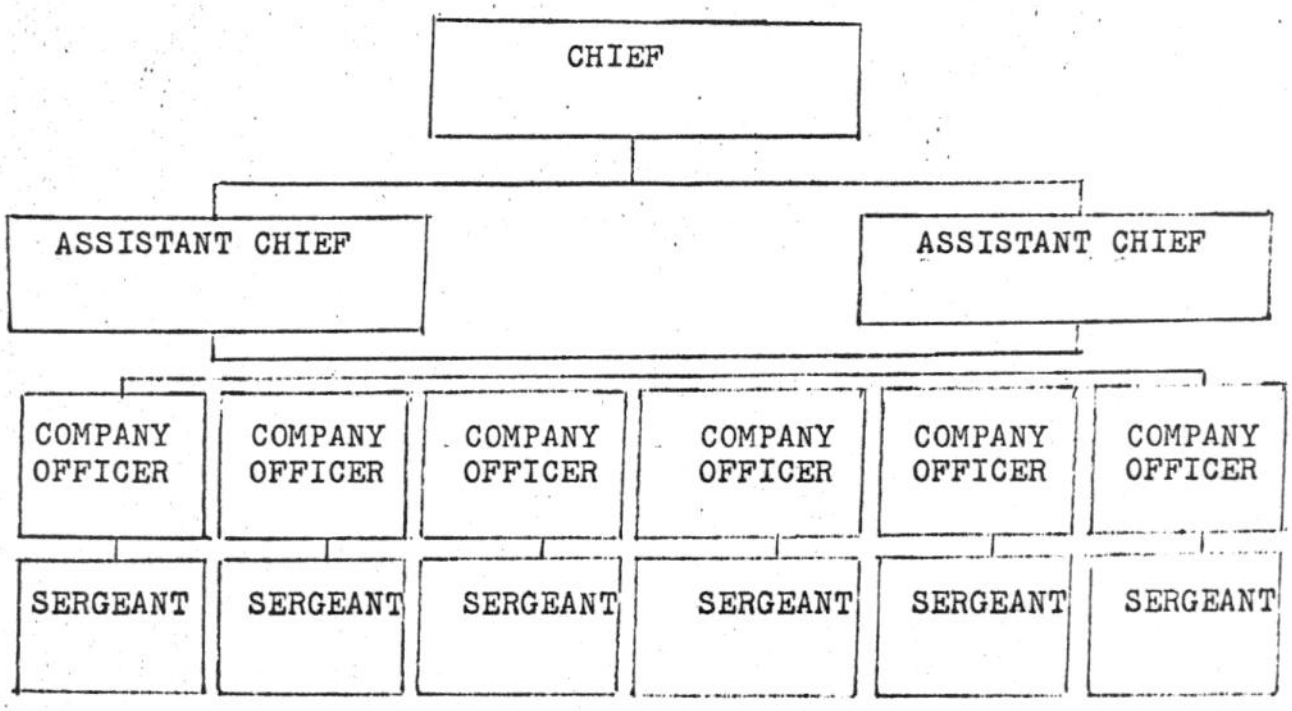
The present firefighters are proud of their position in the fire service as well as the community and look forward to the departments future with cinfidence and continuing to improve and expand their overall operations. We hope that you too will seriously consider becoming a dedicated firefighter, with the goal of helping this department become one of the finest in the country.

1980

1980—Used for recruiting:

1980

1980—Used for recruiting:



The Chief Officers, which are the Chief and two Assistant Chiefs are appointed by the Board of Directors of this Department.

The Officers, which are all Captains and Sergeants, are appointed by the Chief Officers.

1980—Used for recruiting:

APPARATUS

8822 - 1931 Seagrave - 500 G.P.M. - Single Stage Pumper Retired from service and maintained only for parades, etc.

8833 - 1963 Seagrave - 1250 G.P.M. - Two Stage Pumper with 500 gal. tank - completely equipped with hose, nozzles, ladders, breathing apparatus and other related tools and equipment. Maintained as second line apparatus.

8834 - 1976 Mack - 1500 G.P.M. - Two Stage Pumper with 500 gallon tank. Completely equipped with hose, nozzles, ladders, breathing apparatus and other related tools and equipment.

8835 - 1976 Mack - 1500 G.P.M. - Two Stage Pumper with 500 gallon tank. Completely equipped with hose, nozzles, ladders, breathing apparatus and other related tools and equipment.

8836 - 1973 Mack - 1500 G.P.M. - Two Stage Pumper with 500 gallon tank. Completely equipped with hose, nozzles, ladders, breathing apparatus and other related tools and equipment.

8855 - 1957 Seagrave - 75' Aerial (Also equipped with 750 G.P.M. Pump) completely equipped with a full complement of various size ground ladders, tools of all kinds, rescue and ventilation equipment, breathing apparatus and other related items. Maintained as second line apparatus.

8857 - 1979 Seagrave Tractor Drawn - 100' Aerial. Completely equipped with a full complement of various size ground ladders, tools of all kinds, rescue and ventilation equipment, breathing apparatus and other related items.

8898 - 1979 Ford Van - Not equipped with fire fighting equipment (other than fire extinguisher), as this vehicle is maintained to transport personnel and equipment as may be required.

8811 - 1980 Ford LTD - Not equipped with fire fighting equipment, as this vehicle is maintained to transport personnel. Mostly used for inspection purposes.

All the above apparatus equipped with two-channel radios, both mobile and portable.

1980—Used for recruiting:

RESPONSIBILITY of MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

To set up programs to secure new members. also to work on programs that help the moral of the firefighters.

To check out all applicants for membership and either deny or accept them as new members.

To be sure new members, or members coming back from being inactive are issued gear, key, red light and siren card and monitor.

To keep records on all firefighters on this department, including active or inactive, fireruns, training participation, extra activities, leave of absence for health reasons and any other information pertaining to the firefighters.

To report to the chief officers of this department the findings of this committee and to make recommendations of action to be taken.

INSURANCE PROVIDED FOR

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

All insurance is provided to the firefighter free, by various government agencies and not the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. At no time do any of these agencies including the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department provide insurance for your automobile. We strongly recomend that every firefighter carry good insurance on his own automobile.

Under the Kentucky Workman's Compensation Law, every person who is a member of a volunteer fire department shall be deemed to be in the employment of the political subdivision of the state where the department is located and will be provided coverage under the Workman's Compensation Law.

Also provided to all Jefferson County Firefighters, under the direction of the Jefferson County Fire Protection Program, from the Office of the County Judge, will be an insurance policy covering medical and disability.

It is the policy of the Department that all medical bills and personal lost work time due to disability, to be compensated to the involved individual. Therefore, with current double policys, all insurance monies will be signed over to the department.TheDepartment will pay all medical bills and compensate the individual for lost wages after taxes.

All insurance that is provided starts at the time you are notified of an emergency and start responding, and stops when you make your first stop after leaving the fire station

1980

1980—Used for recruiting:

GIFT OF APPRECIATION

Approved by the Board of Directors, June 1972

A gift certificate will be given all eligible persons within one month of his resigning the Department. The amount of the certificate will be determined by the sum of the active service the person has been a firefighter or a board member.

To be eligible:
(1) The individual must be approved by the Board of Directors.
(2) Resign in good standing.
(3) Meet minimum time requirements. Required time need not be consecutive.

The following is a listing of the time requirements and the businesses where the gift certificates may be redeemed.

10 Years	$25.00
15 Years	$50.00
20 Years	$75.00
25 Years	$100.00

K. Brown Jewelers
Merckley-Kendricks Jewelers
Rodes
Bycks

Levy Brothers
Penneys
Oakwood Sporting Goods
Allied Sporting Goods

The firefighter will also be allowed to keep his firefighting helmet.

A FIREMAN'S PRAYER

When I am called to Duty, God,
Wherever flames may rage;
Give me strength to save some life,
What so ever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late:
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert
And hear the weakest shout,
And quickly and efficiently,
Put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling and
To give the best of me;
To guard every neighbor and
Protect his property,
And if according to Your will
I have to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting hand,
My children and my wife.

1980

1980—Used for recruiting:

TO: Prospective Applicants
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

Gentlemen:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I can welcome your solicitation for membership into one of the finest firefighter groups in the State of Kentucky. If accepted, you will become a member of one of the most modern, well-trained fire departments in our area. We are very demanding in some respects, but also are known throughout our community as a group of serious men that can have fun together.

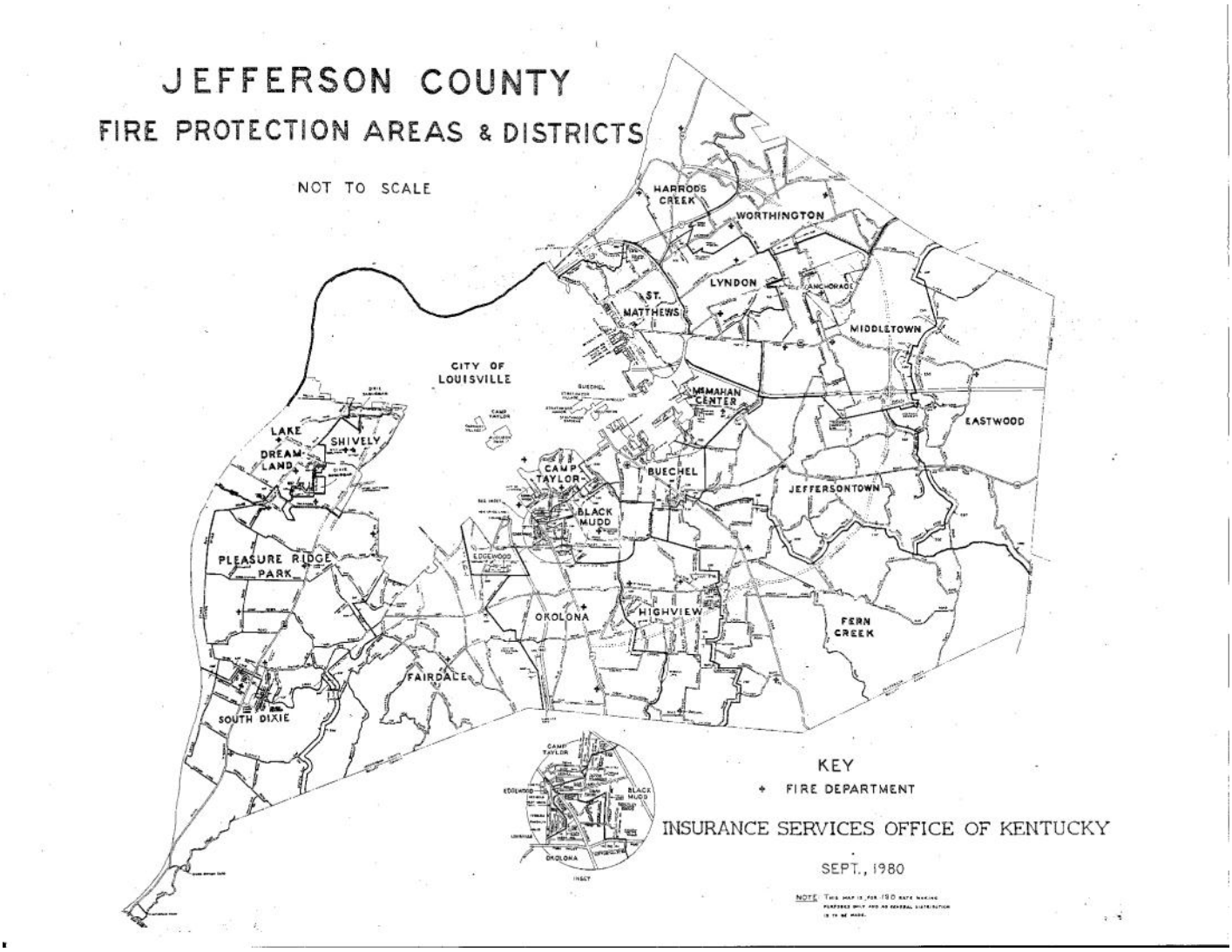
I am sure that after you have been through our initial training sessions you will realize the sincerity and the seriour dedication that is expressed by our body of men. Should you need to request my services, do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Assistant Chiefs.

I remain,

Albert K Heeberlin, chief

1980

1980, Jefferson County Fire Protection Areas & Districts, courtesy John Bailey:



1980

Fire Statistics For 1980

Total number of fire runs:	373
Total working fires:	9
Number of A.M. runs, 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.:	88
Number of P.M. runs, 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.:	285

Number of responses made by fire apparatus:

8801:	218	Chief Al Haeberlin
8802:	293	Assistant Chief Frank Florence
8803:	236	Assistant Chief Jack Monohan
8804:	29	Major Al Ring
8805:	9	
8806	4	
8833:	33	
8834:	167	
8835:	193	
8836:	272	
8855:	58	
8857:	114	8857 was off the track for the first 3 months of the year because it was
8898:	6	brand new and delivered early and all equipment was not in for it.

Types of fire runs:

House:	111
Commercial:	86
Automobile:	48
Field & Trash:	34
Miscellaneous:	72
Malicious false:	20
Back up City of Louisville:	2

Working Fires:

April 12, 1980	708 Brightwood Apt. 1A	Mallgate—bedroom
May 13, 1980	1104 Chamberlain Hill Road	Coach Gate Condominiums
May 15, 1980	5101 Moccasin Court	House
June 27, 1980	153 Wiltshire	House in City Of Louisville
August 7, 1980	603 Quails Run Apt. C1	Mallgate Apartments
August 19, 1980	3414 Hycliffe Avenue	House
September 3, 1980	1217 Wellington Lane	Coach Gate Condominiums
September 29, 1980	804 Browns Lane	House
October 18, 1980	209 Meriman Road	House

1980

Board of Directors

A. E. Andriot, Jr.
Al Haeberlin
M. A. Kamer
Durward W. Maynard
George Miller
J. M. Monohan, Jr.
J. C. Nuckols
Tom Jerry Smith
J. P. Terry

Officers

1980

Chief Al Haeberlin
Assist. Chief Frank Florence
Assist. Chief J. M. Monohan
Maj. Al Ring.
Captain Rick Albers
Captain E. Gar Davis
Captain K. L. Strange
Lieutenant Marty Kamer

Firefighters

Steve Anderson
Mike Davis
Gary Doyle
D. L. Engnehl
Ran Florence
Steve Florence
Jim Graven
Larry Heaphy
R. N. Helm
Doug Hickerson
Greg Holt
J. F. Hytken
Tony Justice
Marty Kamer

AUXILIARY FIREFIGHTERS

Lt. Bill Dieckman
Hugo Koehler
Joe Noland
George Soules

Brian Martin
Keith McBride
Charlie McCune
Sam McCune
Todd Merkley
Doug Mitchell
Kent Monohan
P. H. Noland
J. L. Noon
Mike Noon
Walter Ochs
Pat M. Owens
David Reed
Dwayne Reed
Ken Reising
P. L. Schneider
R. H. Schultze
Bill Seng
A. R. Scott
R. Tackett
John Volkerding
John Walling
Joe. Wheatly
J. W. Woodring