## St. Matthews Fire Protection District 1940 – 1946

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. Last revised in 2023.

There were many people who helped with this project over the years, however 3 deserver special mention. Rick Albers, John M. Monohan, Jr. and Jack Monohan.

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 should get permission from the source.



### **1940:** Middletown Volunteer Fire Department started.

The Middletown Volunteer Fire Department has served the community of Middletown since 1940. There have been four chiefs in the 34 year history of the department Gus Hancock, Raymond "Toots" Berrick, Henry Riddle, and Rob Martin, Regioning as a ninth class department. Middletown attained a sixth class rating in May of 1995.

The first firehouse was a converted feed store, and in 1944 the first firehouse was built on property denated in the Middletown Civic Club adjacent to the first alarm office, (replaced in 1954 by the present office). In 1929 the department moved into the firepolice quarters which had been vacated by the Jefferson ( ounty Fire Department. The department purchased this building from Jefferson County Fiscal Court in 1953, and have modified it to suit our needs. This is the present firehouse. The second house is new under construction and property for the 3rd house has been purchased.

The first piece of equipment was a 1941 Ford 500rpm pumper. A number of Middletown citizens signed hundred dellar notes to guarantee payment. Through carnivals and subcrrintions to residents the equipment was paid for. In 1950, a second piece, a 1950 500 gallon Ford pumper was added, and during the following year the men of the department built a third pumper. consisting of a surplus civil defense pump, and a 500 gallon water tank on a Diamond T. Chasis. In 1952 the original pumper was sold and a new 1952 pumper was purchased. The following year the home-made rig was sold. In 1923 the department drew up plans for a 1000 gallon semi-quad and supervised the building of it during the following year at Kenesha, Wisconsin. Additional equipment includes a 10Kw mobile power unit and a Jeef field fire unit. A Pirsch pumper & are on order to be delivered in September.

In 1959, the Middletown area became a fire district, enabling us to collect revenue through county taxes. At present the department has 45 firemen.

### November 14, 1940, The Jeffersonian:

### Middletown Would Buy **Fire Department**

Civic Club actively rounding up ways and means to acquire needed protection.

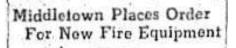
Middletown, through the instrumentality of its Civic Club is actively at work on a Fire Department project, a much needed improvement and one which, since the securing of city water, is now within the reach of possibillity.

At a meeting of the Civic Club. Tuesday night, this project came in for practically an evening's discussion; some figures having been presented on a possible equipment; and other details which have to be threshed out preliminary to the actual purchase.

The official board of the club are to have a called meeting Friday evening, the 22nd, when it is hoped final action can be taken. Prices under consideration cover the cost of a pumper and all necessary equipment,

A finance committee will be appointed, Friday evening, whose duty it will be to round up the April 11, 1941, The Jeffersonian money as already pledged by Middletown citizens and to take care of the down payment. After the business discussion Tuesday evening, a social hour was enjoyed with games and other entertainment.

### January 9, 1941, The Jeffersonian.



Members of the Middletown Civic Club placed Wednesday of this week an order for fire fighting apparatus, for the town, This project under consideration for some time was finally decided on and officially voted for, at the Tuesday night meeting of the club and the order accordingly. placed Wednesday.

Dedered is a pumper and all necessary equipment to come from the Boyer Company, of Logansport, Indiana, which simild he at Midletown, ready for service, in about sixty days. "Speaking of the situation, this morning, T. D. Self of the Civic Club, stated that no organization of fire tighters had yet been effected, though a musiker of volunteers had offered their services.



1940: Middletown Volunteer Fire Department started. From 50th Anniversary, Middletown Fore Department, 1940 to 1990.

### Middletown Fire Department

The following information was taken from the minutes of the Middletown Civic Club as well as other sources concerning the growth and origin of the Middletown Fire Department. While some information may not be included in this section, it will be located in other areas of this book.

In April of 1940 the members of the Middletown Civic Club decided to act upon getting fire equipment for the Middletown area when they learned that their insurance rates would be lowered if the town had fire protection. The first engine cost \$3270.00 and a down payment of \$1000.00 dollars had to be made with the balance to be paid in two to three years. This truck was a 1941 Ford 500 GPM pumper. A number of citizens signed \$100.00 notes to guarantee payment. In August of 1944 there was a picnic and the profits were used to pay on the engine and to buy caps and pants for the firemen. Through community canvassing, a carnival, and subscriptions, the unit was paid for.

Middletown was given a class nine rating.

The original firehouse was the garage area of the car dealership at the corner of Madison and Shelbyville Road, and the first firehouse was built on property donated by the Civic Club adjacent to the first alarm office at 115 Madison Ave. The first alarm office was replaced in 1954 by the current alarm office/residence now used by the FD as a storage and office building. The Fehr Brewing Co., as well as the Fall City and Oertel Brewing Companies, were substantial donors in the building fund in 1944. A Ford car was raffled off to help pay off the debt.

In 1948 the department moved into the fire-police quarters on U.S. 60 which had been vacated by the Jefferson County Fire Dept. This structure was built in 1946, and was modified to meet our needs. Many parts of the building can still be seen inside the current station which has seen several additions and renovations.

In 1950, the second piece of equipment was purchased, a 1950 500 gallon-per-minute Ford pumper, and during the following year the men built a third pumper, a 500 gallon water tank on a Diamond T chassis. In 1952 the original pumper was sold and a new 1952 Ford pumper was purchased. The following year the homemade unit was sold.

In December of 1964 a third pumper was added. The new truck was a 1000 GPM pumper that carried 500 gallons of water and cost \$40,000.00

Dues for the MVFD were as follows: Businesses — \$10.00, residences — \$7.50, and vacant lots — \$2.00 each. Any resident who did not participate would be charged \$100.00 per hour for each truck that responded to the call.

Effective May 27, 1965, the area served by the MVFD became a 6th class fire area, if your property was within 1000' of a fire hydrant. In 1969 we became a tax district enabling us to collect revenue through county taxes. In 1986 we received a class 2 rating.

There are many, many people who deserve credit for keeping the Fire Department going in the early years when its only and greatest assets were sheer will power and courage. One outstanding volunteer was Louis Langford, the longest serving volunteer. Louis served actively for thirtyseven and one half years. Today the Middletown Fire Protection District has 13 career firefighters and 35 volunteer firefighters who still risk their lives, still make great contributions and seek no recognition. The trustees also deserve recognition because they also serve without pay.

There are many other firefighters and others who have served with the Middletown Fire Department that I do not know, and I apologize for any omission of their names. You know who you are and what you did for our community. Without them, more buildings would have been lost to fire and more lives would have been lost.

We honor the spirit of selflessness which the firefighters of the Middletown Fire Department, both past and present exemplify. 1940

### 1940: Oldham County Emergency Medical Service started:

### The History Of Oldham County EMS

Like most EMS services, Oldham County EMS can draw its roots to the funeral homes and local constabulary. When a person was sick or injured, they were usually met with a hearse or a police car.

They were then whisked away to the closest hospital with no treatment en route. Then, in 1940 Milton Carl and Clayton Stoess purchased a Henney Packard. Since there wasn't a dispatch center, folks would call Milton Carl and his wife at home in Crestwood. They would then drop everything else and



respond. The beginning of a time-honored tradition of selfless service.



Over the years, the state began training individuals as emergency medical technicians (EMTs). The role of these people was to provide basic emergency care to the sick and injured on the scene and en route to the hospital.

The majority of these EMTs were members of local fire departments so it only made sense that these agencies would begin putting ambulances into their station. South

Oldham Fire Department, Lagrange Fire Department, North Oldham Fire Department and Ballardsville Fire Department all began providing these services.



Realizing that they could do more, the EMTs expressed their desire to become paramedics. In 1985, the Oldham County Fiscal Court approved funding for ten of these EMTS to attend a paramedic course and in 1987, the first paramedics for Oldham County graduated.

In April of 1987, they hit the streets, volunteering their services from 5 PM to midnight, four to five nights per week.

The Oldham County Dispatch center dispatched the paramedics along with the fire department's ambulances...

### 1940

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As the population of the county grew, it became obvious that 24 hour coverage was necessary. In order to facilitate this, a referendum was placed on the November 1991 ballot to for the Oldham County Ambulance

Taxing District. The referendum passed 2 to 1 and on April 1, 1992, Oldham County began full time paramedic coverage, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Shortly thereafter, they merged with the volunteer ambulance services.

As the number of volunteer EMTs decreased during the day, and the run volume increased, the need for a paid staff was recognized. In January 1996, the agency began operating a full time staff from 6AM to 6PM Monday through Saturday. Other times were covered by volunteers. In 1998, a full-time night crew was added, making Oldham County EMS operational 24 hours a day.



In 2000, construction was completed on the EMS headquarter located off of West Highway 146 in Buckner, Kentucky. This marked the first time that EMS vehicles, EMS crews, command staff and office personnel



Today, there are five ambulances available the majority of the time, with at least three paramedics on duty at any time.

would be under one roof.

St. Matthews to Have Weekly Tabloid Paper Publication within a month of the weekly tabloid, The Commuter, for St. Matthews residents, was presaged Wednesday when

the Secretary of State approved the \$3,000 incorporation of the Tribune Publishing Company of St. Matthews. The paper, according to Peyton

Hoge, the editor and one of the incorporators, will contain features and a summary of each week's local news plus various syndicated services. The other incorporators are Edward R. Scales, W. Emerson Barr, M. Lee Smith and Kimble Ouerbacker.

Other articles approved Wednesday were:

Southern Advertisers, Lexington, \$15,-000, Benjamin R. Buffett, Walter G. Boyd of Lexington and Edwin H. Meuhsler of Millersburg.

Omaha Packing Company, Louisville, decreasing capital stock from \$750,000 to \$7,500. J. E. Glenn, L. W. Bermond, J. G. Stewart and J. H. Heiss.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE.

It. F. Fightmaster, Anchorage farmer, wanted to salvage what was left of his truck after a C. & O. freight train rammed it Saturday at Chenoweth Ln. crossing in St. Matthews, and decided on the tires, Fightmaster leaped to safety on finding his truck caught between automatic crossing gates. Hurled aside,

### the truck broke one of the gates.

January 11 & 14, 1940, The Courier-Journal

Added booster brakes and 8 ply tires to Betsy.

St. Matthews Lions Club started.

St. Mathews Commuter Started edited by Payton Hoge. (Newspaper)

January 12, 1940: *St. Matthews Sun*: Give The Boys A Chance. The fire on the Burt Arterburn place Sunday was an example of how thoughtless the motorists are who gaily race to the scene of a fire along with the Fire Truck.

The apparatus, upon entering the roadway leading back to the burning building was followed by spectators in their cars, who proceeded to park in the middle of the roadway, thereby blocking all traffic back to the road that was trying to get through. As was pointed out by volunteer Fire Chief Bud Young, many of the crew find it quicker to answer the alarm in their own cars. Those of the crew, who were not fortunate enough to pass the motorists following the truck going for the thrill of seeing a fire, found that these same inconsiderate persons were the ones who blocked the roadway so that they had to park and run several blocks to the scene of the fire.

A fire beyond the protection of fire hydrants is most distressing, to say the least, and time is an important factor in fighting any fire anywhere; but most assuredly is this true in the case of a Volunteer Fire Department fighting the fires out in the country. Frequently, hose lines must be laid back out the entrance to a water supply, and a Volunteer fire crew does not have any time to be milling through the throng in search of an inconsiderate motorist and request him to move his car out of the way and neither does the crew's number warrant leaving a member at a gate to keep the spectators from driving in behind the truck since it is uncertain just how many members have been able to answer the alarm.

Put yourself in the shoes of the property owner who has been unfortunate enough to see fire bring destruction to his door. He pleads and deserves all the help he can muster to fight the flames. You would want all the help you could get, to fight a fire that was destroying your property-and you would be right in expecting such service.



February 14, 1940: Special Board meeting February 20, 1940:

Minutes of Regular Meeting held Feb. 14, 1940 Six directors and two members of Fire Co. present February 29, 1940, Meeting opened by the President at 8:15 P. M. The Jeffersonian: Mr. Hardin H. Herr, read the rewritten by laws of the Assn., Motion made and seconded that by-laws be accepted. Carried. Veterinarian Motion made and seconded that the following bills be paid: Seagraves Corp: 6.00 DR. H. F. FLEMING Dobson Printing Co. 5.55 1.50 St. Matt. Hdwe Co. .70 for Goggles Phone BElmont 4050 Mr. Monohan 3.82 Aetna Oil Co. 112 CORNELL PLACE Indian Refining Co. 3662 1.50 for writing by-laws Stenographer Louisville, Ky. (St. Matthews) Postage 4.00 Treatment of HORSES and Firemens Ball Tickets -9.50 34.19 Total other large animals exclusively ŝ Motion Caeried. Motion made and seconded that we install Booster Brakes on Pumper, as a measure of safety. Cost tp be approximately \$50.00. Motin Carried Motion made and seconded that secretary be authorized to purchase used Typewriter for the Assn. Motion Carried. There being no further business meeting was adjourned to meet again March 13, 1940. homas KI Thomas L. Dobson Secretary Feb. 20, 1940 President Winter, Directors Ogden, Zehnder, Smithson and Dobson, met for the purpose of passing a motion to make partial payment on note and renewing same with St. Matthews Bank. comas 1 Thomas I. Dobson. Secy. 1933 Courtesy Ekstrom Library University of Louisville, October 11, 1933, Caulfield & Shook, CSO 129339, Looking West on Shelbyville Road across from Plehn's Bakery. Aetna Oil Company where STMFD did some business.



March 10, 1940: Jeffersontown School caught fire. The fire started around 4:30 a.m. and did \$15,000 damage. The flames were through the roof when Jeffersontown firefighters arrived. The prompt arrival of the St. Mathews Volunteer Fire Department and work of the firemen is credited with having extinguished the fire and prevented more damage being done.



1940

March 11, 1940, The Courier-Journal:



as the result of a \$15,000 fire in the building which houses both grade and high schools.

The Jeffersontown Fire Department, the first to reach the scene, was called at 4:30 a.m. Flames to were bursting through the roof, Lieut. L. T. Tyler said. The local unit was reinforced a few minutes later by the St. Matthews and Louisville Fire Departments and due to their combined efforts, most of the building was saved.

### Cafeteria Destroyed.

The part of the building damaged most houses grades one, four and seven. The cafeteria in the basement of the grade school side of the building was destroyed. The boiler room, where the fire apparently started, was destroyed.

S. G. Boyd, principal, said workmen were busy Sunday preparing the high school section for occupancy by Tuesday. He could not say when the grade school section would be repaired.

#### School Will Continue.

But school will continue, just the same. All students were requested to report at 8 a.m. Tuesday. The grade pupils will be taught in the Sunday-school rooms of the Baptist and Lutheran Churches, Mr. Boyd announced.

George R. Adams, business director for the County Board of Education, said the entire loss was covered by insurance. He said school books, which are owned by the State, were saved, except for

water damage. Records in the offices also were saved. The main damage, in addition to the boiler room and cafeteria, was to the roof, woodwork and desks.



March 11, 1940, The Courier-Journal:

Fire Gives 600 Jeffersontown Pupils Extra Holiday

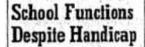


WHERE HER DESK WAS REFORE THE FIRE, Marilyn Rae Jones, 6-year-old first grade pupil and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Jones, Jeffersontown, salvages her slightly burned purse containing two pennies. Approximately 600 pupils were given a holiday Monday because of the fire.

Courtesy, gis.ky.gov/2007 GISCONF Winners/2007GISCONFMapContestWinHistoricJTown.pdf



Courtesy http://www.jtownalumni.org/index.php3?pageid=AboutUs.htm The original Jeffersontown High School; which opened in 1925, was located at what are now College Drive and Galene Drive. The 1st graduating class was in 1929, graduated eleven students. The original school colors of Green & White, proudly adorning their mascot named "The Gentlemen". The high school was an extension of the original Jeffersontown Elementary school in J-town at Dell Road and College Drive, which opened in 1914. The school was seriously damaged by a fire in 1940. The school subsequently conducted some classes in church Sunday School classrooms in the area.



Jeffersoniown plani suffered severe loss by fire early Sunday, but classes being held nevertholess.

Jeffersontown School is func-tioning this week-or has been since Monday-under rather ad-verse and difficult circumstances verse and difficult circumiances due to the fire which practically ruined one unit of the plant early Sunday merring. This difficulty in true particularly of the grade pupils who until repairs can be completed, are being housed in the Sunday School rooms at the Baptist and Lutheran Churches.

Superintendent O. J. Brivers stated yesterday, repairs are go-ing forward as rapidly as pos-sible, but will take several weeks subs, but will take several works to complete, size they will entail practically all woodwork, as en-tire new roof and possibly some of the valls to make the building again safe for occupanty.

The fire which wrought such have was first neticed about 4 a.m. Sunday by Mrs. J. H. Ander-son, who lives with her son nearson, who lives with her son near-by and whe was attending the needs of an invalid grandaus when she noticed the unusual light. She prompty rossed her son who turned in the slarm and boon not only the Jeffersoniown free fighting force, but also the 5t. Matthewn and a unit from Louisville were on the scene and by heroic efforts held the loss from covering the entire plant. At it was the grade resents with

As it was, the grade rooms, with principal's office and class toors above as well as cafeteria and boiler morns below suffered severely (though the cafeteria was not as badly hurt as at first fear-ed); the auditorium and later ad-ditions to the building escaping The loss has been roughly esti-mated at near \$15,000 but is said

to be fully covored by insurance. It so happens that the part of the building burned was the orig-

(Continued as Page 4)

#### SCHOOL CONTINUES DESPITE HANDICAP March 14, 1940, The Jeffersonian:

(Continued From Fage 1)

inal metieus shoul--and shore--withich (be rather rambiling, hui withich (coverning and commo-ious plant has berit direoloped. The four harmed lower recor-and honoment shafe from back an 1911 when a hernic of local men, stipled the Jefferhen Heights Land Co, with a vision, proposed to the Courty - Board of Education, through one Frot. Society, then a vision of the town, to donse five areas of land to the Beard for , school purposes, provided, that within five years a building to cost not less than \$10,000 be crasted thereos. This idea materialized is 701 to when on May Ta a contract two let in the Groups II. Rearwell Co. to erect a huilding, designed by Brinjon: II. Davis, to consist of four recens, lassement, leading platt, etc., the contract of two let in the Groups II. Rearwell Co. to erect a huilding, designed by Brinjon: II. Davis, to consist of four recens, lassement, leading platt, etc., the contract of two letter of the streng suddiction of the second building has been added to three times since that date, an upper story being the fast mdgliker; soon followed 200 craction of the lange suddiction of yet other chan rooms fissing the softer the section of the huilding a need for a high school the plant with the following Mo-vember on aces full and in the fail of 1016, with Cuy F. Mills as principal, is high school depart-ment, with 3. W. D. Renegate as theing conducted in the basement. M. Henegae being forced to give up the wave the following Mo-vember on acesual of ill beathy, difficulates and was finally discon-tioned for a time; buil staged a comchack, finally gaining there on the base and the stage there in the developed--antaler his mori-rismed for the last decrade-info a prack a flow plant the gain of the head taby under the peri-erabilit of Prinzipal S. G. Baydi i has developed--antaler his mori-tion do the plant head head the head or more the fish data the head head of the head taby under the peri-erabilit of the staged at his the fourth he folloped head the his mori-

ached second to name in me Gundy. Sinte District Deputy Fice Mar-shuis George Srinnelder and A. C. Gardy studed today that an in-vertigationaints the couse of Sus-day's fire had been made and a piece of eable taken from the detris take now in the hands of George R. Adams, husiness direc-ter' of the Board of Education, would point to a conclusion de-fortive wiring was responsible. "Mr: Adams suid, that it sam his opinion even on profuminary in-vestigation, that the fire starts above the basement floor.

School Board Officials View Fire Damage



George R. Adams (left), business director of the Jefferson County Board of Education, and County Superintendent O. J. Stivers look down into amaldering debris at Jeffertoniown School.

### March 18, 1940,

MANUFACTURER'S OR IMPORTER'S CERTIFICATE TO A MOTOR VEHICLE Ohio Gen'l Code, Sec. 6290-13 Ohio No. STATE OF 35 Franklin COUNTY OF ... KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: THE SEAGRAVE CORPORATION whose address is That. (Name of Manufacturer or Impariar) COLUMBUS, OHIO does hereby grant, bargain, sell and transfer unto whose address is the following described Motor Vehicle: MOTOR No. 116884 YEAR 1931 NO. OF CYL. 6 Mfr's SERIAL No. 65455 MAKE Seagrave MODEL 6DT H. P. (S.A.E) 45.9 BODY TYPE Fire Apparatus Type of Safety Glass (Trade Name). Said 'manufacturer hereby certifies that this written instrument constitutes the first conveyance of said motor vehicle after its 'manufacture and that the manufacturer's serial number and motor number set forth above have not been and will not be used by the manufacturer on any other motor vehicle 'manufactured by said 'manufacturer, and that there are no other 'manufacturer's certificates issued by the 'manufacturer for the Motor Vehicle above described. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized agent of said 'manufacturer has here-Columbus, Ohio and certifies that unto set his hand at .... the statements contained in the foregoing 'manufacturer's certificate are true. SEAGRAVE CORP March 18th, 1940 (Duly Authorized Agent) Approved by Registrar-1-15-38 1. If Importer, Insert proper terms 6577-A THE COL. R. S. MEG. CO. -30-50

March 28, 1940: The Jeffersonian: Former Board Member.

March 22, 1940: *St. Matthews Sun*: Flames from a grass fire Wednesday afternoon threatened several homes and garages in the vicinity of Browns Lane and Shelbyville Road. The prompt arrival of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and work of the firemen is credited with having extinguished the fire and prevented any damage being done.

### Bank Cashier Retires From Active Service

T. H. Cooper succeeds G. T. Dick. at St. Matthews Bank 34 years.

Terminating an active career in banking in the St. Matthews community, G. T. Dick, cashier of the St. Matthews Bank since its inception in May 1906, will retire from the position of active cashier April 1.

Although relinquishing his official duties to T. H. Cooper, the newly appointed cashier, Mrs Dick will rotain an office in the St. Matthews Bank Building. Mr. Dick has seen his bank grow during the past 34 years from an institution which on its first day of business had \$3,000 in deposits, until at present its" aggregate sum of deposits amounts to a million two hundred thousand dollar:

Mr. Cooper has been the Bank's assistant cashier for the past fifteen years. A native of Lehanion, Ky., he began his banking career with the Citizen's National Bank of that city. He was also in the banking business for three years in Kansas City.

Mr. Cooper, whose home is on Wallace Avenue, St. Matthews, is a World War veterap and as a member of the Zachary Taylor Post of the American Legion he has served as its treasurer for the past ten years. April 2, 1940, The Courier-Journal

## Jeffersontown Board Reduces Assessment to That of State

Jeffersontown's Board of Trustees Monday night passed an ordinance reducing the city's tax assessment to that of the State. Under the new rule, those who\*

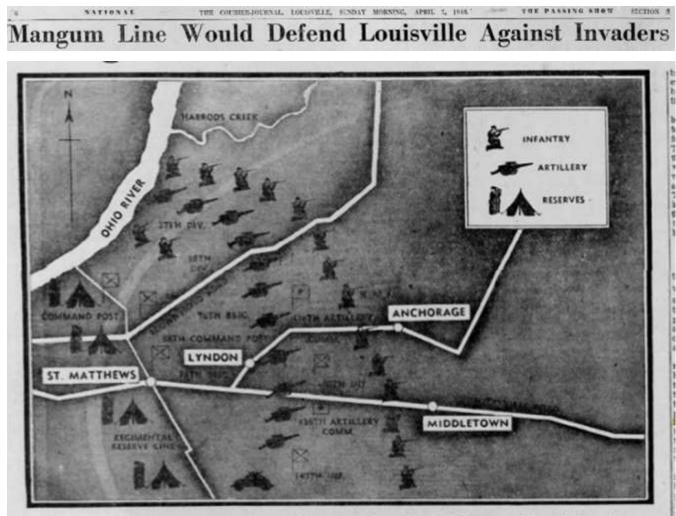
have not paid the tax will have town's assessor had rated property it computed for them at the lower a third higher than the State had. figure, and those who have paid will receive a rebate in an amount. which will, in the words of Board H. McMeekin and Louisville fire-Member M. C. Hite, "be justice to men, and to the St. Matthews them."

Mr. Hite proposed the reduction in a speech in which he declared that, while last year his tative of the State Highway Deassessment city hundred dollars higher than his sion of new construction planned State assessment, he raised such for the Taylorsville Rd., between a row over it that this year's is Jeffersontown and Louisville. The a few hundred dollars below the board signed a contract to pay State figure.

which seemed to indicate that the time, will bear the expense.

Other business transacted included reading of resolutions of gratitude to Safety Director Sam Fire Department, for help in fighting a recent fire at the Jeffersontown High School.

Board members and a represenwas several partment held a lengthy discusfor the moving of a water main Three citizens showed tax bills "when possible." The State, mean-



Like a huge are, the six-mile long Mangum Line extends from the Ohio River toward Central Kentucky.

NO ENEMY armies are driving! down from the East to storm Fort Knox and Louisville, and no big guns are being pulled into place around St. Matthews to bombard the city-that is, the less Orson Welles and his Martions have scenething up their

If foe ever penetrated this far inland, here is how Fort Knox would protect city and U. S. gold

### By TOM COLLINS

would is at war again; nations are looking to their defemen; and the military men to whom Amer-ica looks for protection are map-ping the strategy they will follow -just in case. This is why the "Mangum Line," for the defemes, has been ville and Fort Knox, has been "Margim Line."

wille and Furt Know, has been "Margium Line."
 "Margium Line."
 "Margium Line."
 "Worked out by Maj. H. G.
 "It's Remote Guessing
 Of course it is unlikely Louis wille would be attacked even if that is sweeping down from the all military lines as long rows of sound military strategy, and will

(forts, barricades and emplacements for guns. In time of war this is what they are; and if Louisville found a war in its front yard this is probably what the Mangum line would be. However, as it stands now it is more theory than thun-

der. In fact this plan has no relation

#### THE COUNTREPORTED ALL DELIVELE, SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 7, 1944. ---- THE PASSANG SHOW SECTION & NATIONAL 14 Mangum Line Would Defend Louisville Against Invaders

followed its curve to the southeast. bilowed its curve to the southeast. The defending troops would make their big stand here, he said, and would attempt to force the in-vaders to move on down the curve as they pought to break through. The farther they moved attempt-ing to flank the line, the farther they would get from their hase and the more vulnerable they would become

#### **Call Out the Tanks**

Eventually, at some point along the line, the defending commander would see his chance to counterattack, and from somewhere in the vicinity of St. Matthews the powerful tanks of the 7th Cav-alry Brigade-until now kept out of the battle-would rumble into

an Col. N. B. Briscoe, who is come ary mander of the Kentucky Military the Area, wouldn't expect ary mander of the Kentucky animary the Area, wouldn't expect anything the this to happen. They believe hen the outer Mangun Line, property he fortified, would stop the invaders: as and that the Th Cavelry Brigade tor-would rout them. Inte Fort Knox Buffer

### late Fort Knox Buffer

Fort Knox Buffer Lit. Colonet Briscoe pointed eut and Knox buffer and that the defense has of Fort Knox probably would be the Furt and decided in the Battle of Louisville. Louisville — considering that it had seized the Eastern in-duction of the Battle of Louisville be and the Atlantic sea-board in the process.—America will The railroads in the city would probably would be very happy to

the used to train soldiers for what-ever task might lie before them-but with all this it is little more than a line upon a map. In describing how the line would be used, Major Mangum pointed to the front line on his map and beline of the soldiers to both give the enemy commander the ration. In the last six months the supplies and reinforcements would be used, Major Mangum pointed to the front line on his map and beline of the soldiers of the sold. The supplies and reinforcements would be used, Major Mangum pointed to the front line on his map and the supplies and reinforcements would the supplies and reinforcements the supplice and the su



Armored cars would rumble into action as foe neared.

**A Training Center** The Fort is divided into two general groups. One contains the 7th Cavalry Brigade, a regiment of artillary, the 12th Observation Siguadron which works is con-

artillery.

Squadron which works is con-junction with the tanks, and a regiment of infantry which has put arrived. The other group is composed of the Medical and Engineering units and the artillery of the 5th Infantry Division. Colonel Briscoe sold that the Fort, while not of unusual interaction under in the Methody Fort, while not of unusual strategic value in the Nation's war defense, was strategically located for the training of soldiers.

new units already brought to the Fort, or to be brought, are a medical battalion, a battalion of

engineers, and two regiments of



April 5, 1940: St. Matthews Commuter: Letter to Editor, Chief R. M. Young. During the recent fire at the Jeffersontown High School, the local fire department called for assistance, you and the members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department rendered invaluable aid in preventing complete destruction in the school building, and because of this prompt service the Board of Directors of the town of Jeffersontown, at a meeting a few nights ago, unanimously approved the following resolution: Where as without the prompt action of Chief Young and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department in answering our emergency call for additional fire equipment, damage to the school building might have been so extensive as to cause a complete suspension of a long period of time. Resolved that the Board of Trustees do hereby express their sincere thanks to Chief Young and the members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department for rendering this most valuable service. The board of Trustees Jeffersontown Kentucky, by S. Durrer, Clerk.

April 10, 1940: Board meeting:

May 8, 1940, Board Meeting,

Minutes of Meeting April, 10, 1940

Six directors present. Zehnder. Winter, Schweitzer, Boss, Ogden and Davis. Firemen John Monahan and Bernard Handel.

Treasurer reported balance of \$150.79.

Following bills presented-

St. Matthews Hardware	2.77
Standard Oil .	7.86
Sou Bell Tel & Tel	3.85
Sou Bell Tel & Tel	4.13
Buschemeyer-Ogden	.55
Lou Gas & Elec	12.26
Chief Bud Young	
(Investigation expense)	3.00

\$34.42 Total

Motinn by Boss - seconded by Zehnder that bills be paid. Carried.

Motion by Zehnder - seconded by Ogden that Chief Young visit last fires at Middletown, Lyndon, and lakeland for the purpose of collecting funds in payment for these fire runs. He to receive the usual 15% commission if collected.

Carried

No further business meeting was Adjournedat 9:15 P. M.

ecretary

May 8, 1940(Meeting Date)

No meeting account lack of Quorum

1940

April 25, 1940, The Jeffersonian:



June 12, 1940: Board meeting:

Regular Meeting of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn.

June 12, 1940

Meeting called to order at 8 P. M. by the President

Officers and Directors present Winter, Davis, Dobson, Boss, Chief Bud Young, John Momohan, H. Monahan.

Motin made and seconded that the following bills be paid

Standard Oil Co.1.00Geo. Dehler4.44Young3.75Busch-Ogden.65Telephone Co.5.65Gas and Elec.4.60Total\$ 20.09

Motion made and seconded to pay St. Matthews Bank balance on note. Carried

Motion made and seconded that we receive bids on 2-6.50-20 8ply truck tires for fire engine. Treasurer authorized to purchase same at best price. Carried.

Secretary instructed to ask cooperation of St. Matthews Sun. Jeffersonian and Highlander in publicising our annual meeting to be held July 10, 1940.

No further business meeting adjourned at 9:15 P. M.

imas LA

Secretary

### St. Matthews Buys Site For Armory

### Options held on adjoining tract to be purchased for recreation activities.

After much talk coupled with considerable attain on the part of residents of St. Matthews, the first move has been effected toward the realization of a longchertsheit dream.

This "dream" is the securing for this fast developing suburb a recreation center and Armary building combined and the "first move" was the purchasing last Friday of a site for the building from Miss Etisel M. Eline of 4010 Frankfort Ave. for \$1,500

The statement that this is the "first move" is not exactly the truth since the interested civic organizations of the town have been moving for some months past raising the town's part of the cash required for the project, covering the amount in a twonight whirlwind campaign whereby subscriptions were secured and, supplemented by voluntary cash gifts, aggregating the amount required.

The land purchased Friday for the Armory's site is on the north side of Frankfort Ave. near Holy Trinity Church and options are held on an adjoining tract of equal size which will be bought as soon as subscriptions are all in and which will be used for a playground and general community center activities.

Building operations are expected to begin within the next five or six weeks, according to Capt. Jasper Cummings of the 149th Infantry. Kentucky National Guard, the structure of poured concrete to be 75 feet wide by 145 deep and on a two-story plan.

This armory is planned to have a drill floor 75x90 feet with adequate garage space for National Guard vehicles and artillery, a clubroom capable of accommodating civit meetings, and the usual complement of offices and supply rooms. Captain Cummings said.

### 2-Way Radios For Co. Police Cars

### Innovation to be in operation by August 1, Chief Cassell promises.

Announcement was made Monday by County Police Chief Frank Catsell that Jefferson will be patrolled by police cars equipped with two-way radios in the not distant future.

This innovation is planned to be in operation by August 1, Mr. Cassell said, and further, that the Fiscal Court has awarded the contract for the equipment to the R.C.A. Manufacturing Company of Camden, N. J.

It is said the Court approved the purchase of twelve two-way sets and equipment for installation of a broadcasting station to be located on the top of the Water Company's tower in Crescent Hill, the R.C.A. Company's bid being \$6,821.70. This was not quite the lowest bid, but was accepted, so the Court said, because the bidder had given "satisfactory service over extended length of time."

It was first proposed that the county use the city's broadcasting station, this idea being later rejected as both city and county authorities, in conference, agreed it would be better for the county to take bids.

No additional help will be required to operate the plant, Chief Cassell pointed out, since the desk sergeants by using remote control can serve as announcers from their desks at the Court House.

Six of the two-way sets, which cost about \$369 each, will be installed in cruising cars; two in accident cars; one in a detective's car and one each in cars of Chief Cassell, Assistant Chief Lee Clark and County Judge Mark Beauchamp.

The broadcasting station and equipment for its installation will cost \$2,383.50, Chief Cassell said.

June 20, 1940, *The Jeffersonian*:

### Fire Threatens Monohan Home Wed. Alternoon

Two members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and one Louisville fireman were overcome by heat and smoke while fighting a blaze at the home of Edward S. Monohan, Jr., on Brown's Late about 2 p.m. Wednesday.

The fire which did an estimated damage of \$5,000 is said to have been caused by a blow torch being used by William Gardner, a painter, in burning off old paint near the roof, the fire igniting the weatherboard and spreading into the attic.

James Monohan, son of the owner and only member of the family at home at the time, summoned aid-the St. Matthews Fire Department and a pumper and the Salvage Corps from Louisville, all responding. Two large eisterns furnished the water and the flames were held confined to the attic, though as a precautionary measure all the furniture of the ten-room house was removed.

During the conflagration. Captain "Bud" Young and Emil Lausman of the St. Matthews Volunteers and Lieut. Andrew Harrington of the Louisville Department were overcome, but quickly revived.

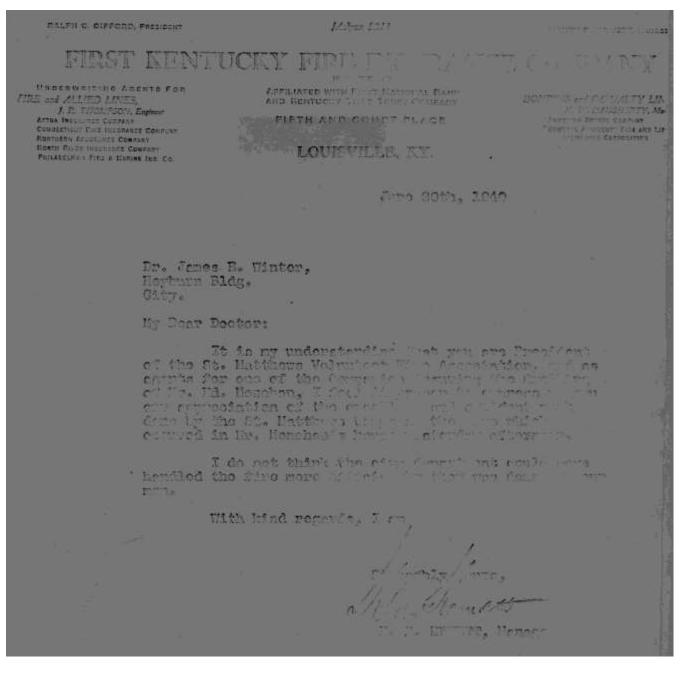
Mr. Monohan, owner of the home, is vice president of the St. Matthews Bank.

### June 27, 1940, The Jeffersonian:

### Dietrich-Kamer

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dietrich announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Louvinia Dietrich, to Mr. Martin Kamer, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Kamer, Elwood Ave., St. Matthews. The wedding will take place September 2 at Holy Trinity Church.

### June 20, 1940: Almost unreadable letter:



It is my understanding that you are president of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, and as agents for on of the Companies insuring the dwelling of Mr. Ed Monohan, I feel it

our appreciation of the \_\_\_\_\_ done by the St. Matthews \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ caused in Mr. Monohan's house yesterday afternoon.

I do not think the other department could have handled the fire more efficiently than was done by your men. July 9, 1940: *St. Matthews Sun*: Local Volunteer Fire Association Plans Addition To Its Equipment. Rapid Increase In Number Of Homes Here Demands Greater Efficiency. The annual meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Association was held at Bethel Church on July 10 and proved to be one of much interest in several ways.

First, and perhaps most important of the items making this an outstanding meeting was the statement by Fred C. Boss, treasurer, that for the first time in its history the organization has all bills paid and is now free of debt.

Routine business of the evening included the election of trustees which resulted in a re-election of all former incumbents and the addition of Paul Fleming to the personnel.

Too, plans were discussed for addition to the firefighting equipment thought needed in view of the vary large increase in the number of buildings in St. Matthews during the last few years.

According to "Bud" Young, Chief, the Fire Association is an entirely voluntary organization its only support being contributions received from local people who thus express appreciation of their services.

Mr. Young further points out that fire insurance rates for St. Matthews are about half what would otherwise be charged, just because of the protection rendered by the association, and in view of this fact he reminds citizens who have not yet made their annual contribution, that it is not yet too late, and that same may be sent to Jesse Ogden, Assistant Treasurer, 3900 Frankfort Avenue. However in any event, a house to house canvass in the interest of the organization is planned to be started next week.



July 10, 1940: Annual Board meeting:

Minutes of Annaul Meeting held July 10, 1940 at Bethel Frangelical Church

Meeting called to order by the President at 8;15 P. M.

Seven officers and Directors present- Total attendance 16.

President gave a brief summary of activities for the past year and announced that the "ssociation was out of debt except for current bills and there was sufficient cash on hand to pay them.

Treasurer read annual report and reported cash in bank as \$215. 39. Accepted as read.

Motin made and seconded to pay the following bills:

Standard Oil Co.	42.98					
St. Matt. Hdwe	3.25					
Busch- Ogden	1.10					
Rich Herdt	1.22	Por	time	lost	from	work
Reisert Ins. Agency	115.00				0.055748.6411	
Total	\$153.55					
Carried.						

Motion by Schweitzer-Boss that we have 2000 Stickers printd showing new phone numbers. Given to Dobson Printing Co. Carried.

Further improvements to equipment and fire house were discussed at length but no definite plans were made at this time.

Election of directors was held and resulted in the re-election of the present board and Mr. Paul Fleming added thereto.

No further business- meeting was adjourned at 10 P. M.

Secretary

1940

July 11, 1940: The Jeffersonian:



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COAL & WEIGHT GUARANTEED (

BM COAL CO.

TAYLOR MIL

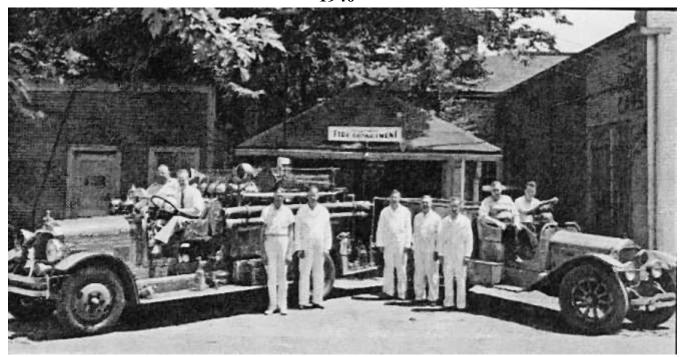
Price \$1.881.00-Small Closing Charge

Ste West Market St-WAbash 5081

LeRoy Highbaugh

St. Matthews section. This will take care of the conerete surfacing of 1.05 miles of the Westport Road from Chenoweth Lane to Hubbard's Lane and on St. Matthews Avenue from Westport Road to Shelbyville Road.

The contract for this work went to the George M. Endy Co.



From left to right: John Feierbend, Captain John M. Monohan, Jr., Chief Raymond Young, Assistant Chief Henry Monohan, William Leitsch, Richard Herdt Sr., Lieutenant Marty Kamer, George Wurster, and Bernard Handel. Fire house at 109 Breckinridge Lane. Betsy on the left, White Salvage Wagon on the right.

July 19, 1940: St. Matthews Sun:



Equipment and Crew of St. Matthews Fire Association

# COMMUNITY ASSET



 Matthews Volunteer Fire Association Begins , Annual Contribution Canvas, Monday, July 22

Those in the picture reading from left to right are: "Fats" Felerhend, Capi. John Monohan, Chief R. M. Young, Asst. Chief Henry Ionohan, Bill Leitsch, Rich Herdt, Lieut, Marty Kamer, George Varester, Bernie Handle.

Absent when picture was taken-Rudy Lineback, John Belerle, fred Wooten and Irvin Bauer.

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association held its annual neeting July 10th at Bethel Church. The treasurer reported for he first time the Association was free from debt and all bills were vald.

At the election of trustees, the former trustees were reelected with the addition of Mr. Paul Fleming. Plans were discussed for increasing the equipment to take care of the very large increase in number of buildings in St. Matthews during the past few years. The Fire Association is entirely a voluntary organization and

The Fire Association is entirely a voluntary organization and its only support are the contributions received from the people of St, Matthews and vicinity. The fire insurance rates in St. Matthews because of its work, are about half of the rate which would other wise be charged. If you have not paid your annual contribution, i is not to late to send it to Mr. Jess Ogden, assistant treasurer, 3704 Frankfort Avenue.

House to house canvas by the Fire Association will begin Mon day, July 22nd.

July, 1940: New Board Member: Paul H. Fleming



Firefighter 1930 to 1935, Trustee 1933 to 1934, and again in 1940—June 5, 1898 to January 27, 1951.

Born in Louisville, June 5, 1898 he attended boarding school and then went to Male High School. He started with the L. & N. Railroad on completion of high school and stayed with them all his life. During World War II her served with the 728 Railway Operation Battalion as a Captain. Though born a Catholic Mr. Fleming usually attended St. Matthews Bethel United Methodist Church with his wife Sara and they lived on Wallace Avenue. They had two daughters. He was also a member of Zachary Taylor Post 180, American Legion. He was a firefighter from 1930 to 1935 (maybe not officially) and joined the Board in 1933 and served to 1934. He died January 27, 1951.

**Courtesy David Evans, Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church:** 



Original church building at 118 Bauer Avenue. The one-room church was built in 1914; Sunday School addition in back was built in 1939. Photo made in 1940.

### 1940

### BY-LAWS OF THE ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

Directors and/or Sub. 1. The annual meeting of the incorporators of this corporation shall be held as provided in the Charter on the second Wednesday of July, 1940, and the second Wednesday of July each year thereafter, provided, however, if the said second Wednesday in July is a legal holiday, the meeting of the incorporators shall not be held thereon, but shall be held on that day next preceding which is not a holiday.

2. At the annual meeting of the incorporators there shall be elected eight directors, provided however that at any time the incorporators desire to do so a ninth director can be elected. Until the annual meeting for the election of directors the following named incorporators have been elected as directors:

Thomas Dobson, Dr. J. E. Winter, Joseph B. Zehnder, William Smithson, Edwin W. Davis, Louis H. Schweitzer, W. Jesse Ogden and Fred C. Boss.

3. At the annual meeting of the incorporators for the election of directors, all incorporators and all voluntary subscribers, who have subscribed for the fund at any time within the year prior to the election of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to vote.

4. Voting shall be by ballot and shall be done either in person or by proxy.

5. Until the election of officers of the corporation as provided by the Charter of the corporation thee shall be a President, Vice-president, secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the first regular meeting of the Board of Directors after the election of the directors after the Second Wednesday July, 1940. The foregoing officers shall hold their offices for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Until the meeting of the Board of Directors in August, 1940, the following shall serve as officers of the Corporation. Dr. J. W. Winter, President, Joseph B. Zehnder, Vice-president, Tomas Dobson, Secretary, Fred Boss, Treasurer.

6. The Directors may elect an assistant treasurer, a fire chief and an assistant fire chief until the meeting of the Board of Directors in August, 1940, W. Jesse Ogden shall serve as assistant Treasurer of the corporation, Raymond Young as chief of the fire department and Henry Monohan as assistant chief of the fire department.

7. The regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be the second Wednesday in each month provided that if that is not a legal holiday and if the said second Wednesday in a legal holiday the board will meet the next day thereafter not a legal holiday.

8. A majority of the Board of Directors or the President can call a meeting of the Board of Directors at any time.

9. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall act as temporary Chairman and shall call to order all meetings of the incorporators.

10. The Vice-president shall perform in the absence or incapacity of the president, the duties of that officer.

11. The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of all the funds and securities of the corporation, and deposit the same in the name of the corporation, in such bank or banks as the directors may elect; he shall sign all checks, drafts, notes and orders for the payment of money. No sum of money, however, shall be paid out unless approved by the Board of Directors.

12. If the Directors deem it advisable the Treasurer and the Assistant-Treasurer may be required to give bond for the faithful performance of their duties. The premium for such bond or bonds shall be paid from the funds of the corporation.

13. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the board of directors and also the minutes of the meetings of the incorporators; he shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the association; he shall also keep a record book containing the names and addresses of all persons who are incorporators of the company and who have subscribed to the fund for the benefit of

ny and who have subscribed to the fund for the benefit of the association. He shall also keep a list of the voluntary fireman.

14. No one under the age of twenty-one years shall be received as a voluntary fireman.

15. No one connected with the corporation shall receive a stated salary.

### **BY-LAWS OF THE ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION**

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Directors Anolog Sub

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- 3-

successors are elected and qualified.

**BY-LAWS OF THE ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION** 

Until the meeting of the Board of Directors in August, 1940, the following shall serve as officers of the corporation.

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2.15

1. 29.000	Dr. J.E. Winter,	President.	
	Joseph 3. Zehnder,	Vice-president.	
	Thomas Dobson,	Secretary,	
	Fred Bogs.	Treasurer.	

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-2-

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14. No one under the age of twenty-one years shall be received as a voluntary fireman.

15. No one connected with the corporation shall receive a stated salary.

James E. Conster, Privadent W. Jesse Ogden

### 1940

### Courtesy, http://140.194.76.129/publications/eng-pamphlets/ep870-1-42/c-2-4.pdf

### **Bowman Field**

Bowman Field at Louisville. Originally used as a commercial airfield on the outskirts of Louisville, the Army Air Force took over Bowman Field in August 1940. The Louisville District constructed additional runways along with over 100 buildings allowing the field to serve as a supply depot, air crew and combat glider training base, and near the end of the war, as a convalescent hospital for wounded flyers.

NOTE: Somewhere around this time Air Corps provided Bowman Field with a "Crash Truck," which participated many time with STMFD in parades as well as some fires.

Courtesy, http://www.flylouisville.com/Bowman-Field/History.aspx

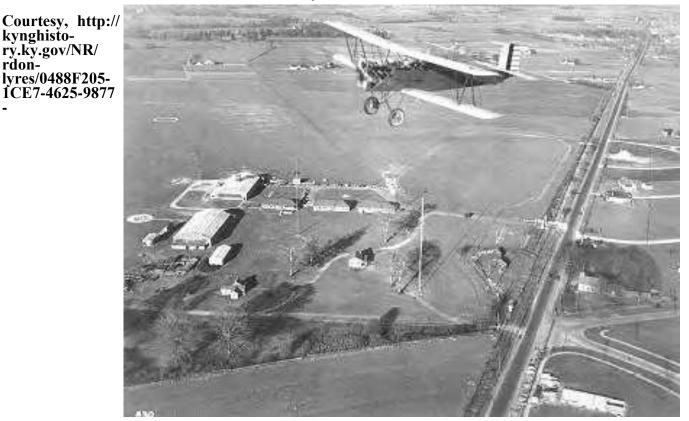
kvnghistory.ky.gov/NR/

During World War II Bowman Field was the busiest airport in the country, following an investment of \$1 million for construction of barracks and other facilities-including nine mess halls. At that time, thousands of members of the military called Bowman Field and Louisville their temporary home while undergoing combat readiness training.

The already cramped airfield added more troops in 1943, when Glider Pilot Combat Training opened. The gliders, which carried 15 troops each into combat, were a familiar sight in the Louisville skies during the last two years of the war.

The facility became known as "Air Base City" when a bomber squadron moved in, and more than 1600 recruits underwent basic training in a three-month period. During the war years, a large variety of Air Force and Navy aircraft could be seen passing through Bowman Field.

Bowman Field also was home to the Army Air Force School of flight surgeons, medical technicians and flight nurses. Those attending the school learned how to treat and evacuate the wounded by air, and, just as important, acquired the necessary skills to help ensure survival in combat zones. Graduates of the school were responsible for evacuating and treating a half-million sick and wounded from war zones around the world by the end of 1944.



August 14, 1940: Board meeting:

Regular Meeting August 14, 1940

Meeting called to order by the President.

Officers and Directors present Dr. Winter- Davis- Ogden-Fleming-Chief Bud Young-Henry Monahan- John Monahan.

Motion by Ogden- Fleming that bills amounting to \$51.00 be paid. Carried.

Balance on hand reported to be 174.07less bills voted to be paid 123.00 and 25.00 to be drawn as provided in folowing motion.

Motion by Ogden-Fleming that we send Chief Bud Young and asst. Chief Henty Monahan Firemens Meetings at Bowling Green and allow them \$25.00 expense money. Carried.

Meeting adjourned, to meet again Sept. 11. 1940.

Ed Davis, Acting Sec. mas & Wobion

Secretary



Dietrich-Kamer The wedding of Miss Louvinla Dietrich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dietrich, Prospect, and Mr. Martin A. Kamer, som of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Kamer, was solemnized at 9 a.m. Monday in Holy Trinity Church, the Rev. John Knue, celebrant.

Miss Julia Dietrich was the maid of honor and the brides-maids were Mises Mary Kamer and Stella Dietrich. Miss Betty Ann Kitzero was flower girl and Miss Martha Ann Schoenbachler was ringbearer.

Mr. Joseph Rush was the best man and the ushers were Messrs. Xaxier Kamer and Donald Mackay.

The bride wore a white taffeta wedding gown made with a close-fitting bodice and full skirt with a long train. Her long tulle vell was trimmed with lace. She carried a bouquet of white gladioll. The maid of honor wore blur net over taffeta trimmed in lace.

One bridesmaid wore equa net

and the other wore yellow net. They, wore hats of flesh color maline caught with ribbon to match the gowns. They carried bouquets of gladioli.

bouquets of gladiol. The flower girl wore pink net and carried a French bouquet. The ringbearer wore orchid net and carried the ring in a calla lily. A we dd in g breakfast was nerved at the home of the bride-groom's parents on Elmwood Ave. and a reception was held later at the home of the bride's parents in Prospect.

parents in Prospect. After a wedding trip to In-dianapelis, the bride and groom will make their home at 3810 Elmwood Ave.

Out-of-town, guests for the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Will Kijzero, Indianapolis, and Mr. Louis Fried, Cincianati.

September 5, 1940: The Jeffersonian:

### **GEORGIAN MANSION COMPLETED IN 1815** Veils of mystery shroud old house in heart of Middletown

#### By Joseph Oplesby Editor

wind attal variation the solutions and whinklier down the bruin childrony. But there's no one inside the did brone to hear three balt-human assume, Abandomed, the Captain Benjamin Read house on Main Street in Middledow passes its days quiety basing to trad-titiona, legends and history stratching back in the asyle, 10h sensury.

back to the early 19th century. Captain Benjamin Hood, who served in the Continential Army, began building the bouse in 1812.

the bouns in 1817, Rone for the two-loci thirk walls of the balking was cut by hand from the rack-ribbed hills of Middletown, Lamber for the floors, the window frames, the raffers and some of the outbuildings came from forents nearby. The house was finished in 1615.

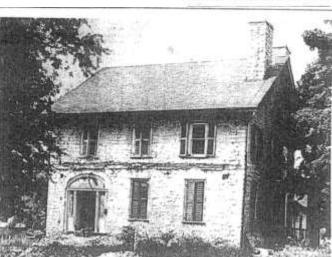
Captain Head built the place well and arranged Ha rooms for coriners and

convenience. Included in the original brune ware a meaned in the original boase were a parlor, a stillag room, a study, three badrooms, and a children's room. The servatia' quarters, the chicken house, the hars, and the kicken were separate balkings east of the main house.

#### Eye for perfection

Captain Head apparently had an eye for detail and perfection, Each room had its own stone fireplace, all the windows ware shuttered, all main doors were of 'flook and Bible' design, such a delicule crystal chandeller graced the main hall-

A rainbow-shaped glass panel topped the double door at the entrance. There



THE CAPTAIN BENJAMIN HEAD HOUSE IN MIDDLETOWN

tive vice president of Associated adapties of Kentucky. The announcement was made after a vole f the manuferrality stianding the sociaty is anisal convention just ended in Atlanta. As president, Walkins will have a role of made up of 3,700 of the top pro-maional and bealmass association man-pers across the nation and in Canada, be organizations collectively .regre-nt some 15 million manufers.

is said the new position will involve me additional travel but not an ap-14

were many paniries, bail in convenient tichus. The tenne slav hat a trees, side porch and a large matricely leading Wind still rabbe the shutters and to the top floors of the Georgian manalah.

to the top lines of the courgan maximum. For some reason yet in be obtainmined to bell a large room on the ground floor, of the mar, windowless. The only open-lage in Hast none were three doorways. The boson is essentially the same new as when it was built, although weather, and and unstate house ind their califor

dust, and vantals have left their calling

dust, and vantais noise and their caring cards. Badding his milliony career, the cap-ishs opened a general short new to his home. The above -- which no longer ex-lats -- was a long and narrow shore building. Capitals head rose on horseback in million-building.

Capital heat pute in numbers, in the source of philadelphica and faithmore is being stork for the since. Laker he married Norm prengmas, and the couple but firme riddren, including Amella, the mother of Robert Chester Tway, the original sensor of Painsview Phrone but Capitale Head logit neither the bouse but Capitale Head logit neither the bouse



**DB. SILAS WITHERBEE** 

MIT ATA ALOPA: IN 1871 HIGHLING PROSECT-

#### Tradition guestioned

According to tradition, John installer may non-the house in a poker game. This resultion is disputed by utilizing Thomas C. Fisher, a descendant of John Sins-brough. According to Fisher, it is more likely that Capitale Next tool to sell the house. trans.

John Handbringh was in extremely re-Renne man, records show, and it seems contrary to the known facts that he would have placed poler with a house as Makes. At any pate the bruse became the prop-erry of William Chambers in the stocks period of the 19th contary.

Chambers shandoned the house during

Chambers abandoned the knows during the Civil War to live in P. Louis, where he had extensive holdings Nobody Used in the old store manalum until about 1477. Their very, Dr. Elles Office witherbey, a native of Sev York, bought the bouve, he wight the bride there and zakado a family. From the bouse with Dr. Witherbee bought if the Bouse, back taxes, a legend grave about the house.

about the house. That lagged hasn't completely fiel rei.

That lagged haar's completely find yet, Townspecific believed the busine con-tained puried treasure that had been secreted somewhere to servaris until the Charber's family returned. (It was not uncorring in the Civil War period for families in hory treasure to seen it supe from bands of saiders.)

The heate, this, became a target for treasure human, Even in recatt months the place has been broken into several

Rumor buried

Fisher, who must the building, sold he has theroughly explored records and found the "hidden treasure" sicry to be "spare runner" without a word of truth to it. Dr. Witherber, who was Fisher's shep-grandfather, was a triend, counselor and physician to hundreds of people double bit from straight.

during his long practice. According to an article that appeared

According to an article that appeared in The Jeffersunian, "Dr. Silas (Wither-bee) war a groat exponent of public service in any and every line," Ils was a member of the Board of Commissioners of the County Farm, a official of the Middlelown Mothodist Church, a charter member of the Mid-delaws Mascote Lodge, and one of the Marganizars of the Back of Middlelown. He served as the bank's first president.

#### Baing rastored

Dr. Witherbee was "'n true country dector"" who made his rounds whatsver dector" who made his reunds whilewer the weather, scording to the article. The Witherbeen (his with was the for-mer Marice Beynroth) had three chi-drens Lucy, Bita, and Charles Lather. Dr, Witherbee died in 1938 st age 97 and the house passed to Lucy. Ebs Eved there until 1964, when her health required that she he moved to a nurshog home, where she died the hert year.

For suveral months Thomas Fisher's

For suveral months, Thomas Fisher's daughter, "Prankle," har humbend and thair three shidres occupied the huma-fince April of 1955, the hume has been abandoned. But it is in the process of being reatored. "Fisher, who said the place is worth about 37.000, may turn the house fato a musaum and shrine after completion of the reatoralian."

Courtesy, http://cityofmiddletownky.org/wetherby-house/

Built in 1796, The Wetherby House/Davis Tavern is located at 11803 Old Shelbyville Road (Main Street). It is a two-story structure with solid brick, two-foot-thick walls and 23 rooms. Stuccoed in 1922T it was the homestead on a one-hundred acre tract that was originally owned by Esquire William White.

Purchased by Susan Davis in 1841, it operated as Davis Tavern until the 1870's. The tavern and hotel was a stage coach stop on the trail that opened the "West" and had a 50-stall horse barn southeast of the tavern. Portions of the barn floor can be found today where the barn once stood. Guests included Henry Clay, Breckenridge and France's LaFayette who was said to have visited the tavern during his American tour of 1824. The July 23, 1822, Louisville Herald Newspaper commented on the high quality cheese that was served at the tavern. The Wetherby House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1860, Dr. Luther Paris Wetherby stopped at the inn for a night's rest. He liked Middletown, met Hattie Brown, the innkeeper's daughter whose family owned the tavern, courted her and they ultimately married. Luther and Hattie continued to live at the Inn where all five of their children were born. Thus, the Davis tavern became known as the Wetherby House. Dr. Wetherby was born in Moira, New York in 1838, graduated from Vermont's Castleton Medical College in 1857 and from Louisville School of medicine in 1858. He served as a surgeon for the Union Army during the Civil War. After his discharge in July of 1862, he returned to Middletown where he continued his medical practice.

When Dr. Wetherby died, his son Luther Paris (Lupe) Wetherby (1867-1956), who lived across the street, became the owner of the Wetherby House. The Wetherby family retained ownership of the building and about three acres of surrounding land until the City of Middletown purchased the house in 2000. The other acreage had been sold for development. As Lupe Wetherby's farm and shipping point for Middletown's strawberry growers, 6,500 crates of berries were shipped from the Wetherby House front yard in 1938.

Historic Wetherby house has since been renovated and is now Middletown's City Hall.

Text used by permission from the book "A Pictorial Tour of Middletown" by Sam Tucker.



September 9, 1940, The Courier-Journal:

# Fire Damages House Famed As Landmark

A 150-year-old landmark, the old Davis house on old U. S. 60 at Middletown, was damaged Sunday afternoon by fire originating from a flaring kerosene cook stove. Loss was set at \$5,000 by the owner, Luther P. Wetherby, 73, who purchased the home 50 years ago.

A St. Matthews volunteer fireman, Richard Hertz, Jr., 23, suffered a burned hand in the 2½-hour battle against the blaze. It started at 12:56 p.m. when Miss Ruth Downey started to light the stove in her second-story apartment.

Now divided into seven apartments, the structure also is known as the old Wetherby residence. Its two stories are of brick and stone, protected by the original tin roof. Lafayette stopped there on his Kentucky tour. September 11, 1940: Board meeting:

Regular, Meeting Sept. 11, 1940

Meeting called to order by Vice President Zehnder at 8:15 P.M.

Six officers and Directors present. Chief Young, Asst Chief H. Monohan, and John Monohan also present.

Treasurer reported balance of \$167.07

Motion by Boss-Dobson to pay the following bills:

Firemens Conv. Exp.	25.00	St. Matthews Hdwe. Co.	3.15
Weinberg	3.00	Jack Finn	2.60
Gas & Flec. Co.	2.27	Richard Herdt	1.22
Dobson Ptg. Co.	3.00*	Telephone	5.79
Standard Oil	2.94	Royal Photo	5.50
Buschemeyer-Ogden	1.85	Phil Hunt	4.65
0. O.B.	38.06		- 91
To	tal Amount	52.11	421

Asst. Treasurer reported deposits from Sept. 1, to date amounted to \$146.00. This amount added to treasurer's report less bills to be paid leaves balance of \$260.96.

Motion by Boss-Ogden that the \$100.00, received from the Wetherby fire at Middletown, be divided 50-50 with the firemen as it was contributed ~ to take care of the Assn. and the firemen as well. Motion carried.

Motion by Boss-Davis that a credit of \$7.50 be posted to the account of John Monohan, 3909 Elmwood. This amount being commission on fire run contribution collected by him. Motion carried.

Motion by Ogden-Boss that we serve Harrod's Creek at a minimum charge of \$200.00 covering not more than 20 residences or business places, and an additional \$10.00 for each residence or business place over that number. Motion carried.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned to meet again October 9, 1940.

September 12, 1940, The Jeffersonian: Fire Damages Co. Landmark—Wetherby apartment house at Middletown scene of heroic flame fighting Sunday—The apartment house of L. P. Wetherby of Middletown was destroyed by fire Sunday. The St. Matthews Fire Department answered the call and made record time in reaching the scene. Middletown certainly turned out as volunteer workers for men and women alike did what they could to save the property endangered and to assist the fire department who worked valiantly. It was reported that one of the firemen was overcome by smoke.

This old house, known to the older residents as the "Davis Place," is one of the town's landmarks, reportedly being 150 year old and one of the stories in connection with its history is that Lafayette once stopped there. The building is now divided into seven apartments and the fire is said to have started when one of the lodgers on the second floor started to light her stove. Mr. Wetherby acquired the home about 50 years ago. Sunday's loss is estimated at about \$5,000.00.

In an interview with Mrs. Wetherby, she stated: "We are very thankful to everyone who assisted us and too much praise cannot be made of the St. Matthews fire department who did their work well. Also several who were assisting have told us that the most outstanding efforts were made by Fulton Tyler an employee at Middletown Garage. How he braved the many risks that he took, can only by described by those who witnessed them, and his anticipation of the proper move to do next, was instrumental in keeping the loss as low as it is." Fulton is a hometown boy and has had an experienced mind from a little boy. He has been a "business man" since the days it would appear that he  $\frac{1}{d}$  the lodgers on the second floor should be engaged in childhood games. However, his long business restarted to light her stove career, for such a voung man has not made him inconsiderate or selfish. He is public spirited and proved his civic pride in his efforts to save property that seemed doomed to be ravaged by fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyler, with their little children live off Ellingsworth Lane south of Middletown.

### Fire Damages Co. Landmark

Wetherby apartment house at Middletown scene of heroic flame lighting Sunday.

Jeffersenlin Stiff Correspondence. The apartment house owned by L. P. Weiherby, of Middletowwas damaged by fire Sunday, The St. Matthews Fire Depart ment answered the call and mark record time in reaching the scene Middletown certainly turned sizt as volunteer workers for men and women alike did what they could to save the property endangered and to assist the fire department who worked valiantly. It was reported that one of the firensen was overcome by smoke.

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September 13, 1940, The Courier-Journal:

## Jail Trusty Leaving Fair Is Arrested Police Call Firebug Reckless Driver A Jefferson County jail trusty serving a two-year sentence for arson went to the Kentucky State

Fair Thursday night and had a d box of candy and a green Hawaiian lei to prove it when he 1. e was arrested at 12:45-a.m. Friday on charges of reckless driving e and lacking an operator's license. У The trusty, Ernest Neichter, of 2516 Frankfort, was arrested e at 1st and Broadway by Sergt. ٧., William Wallace who said he đ clocked Neichter at 45 miles an n hour and saw him cut through 17 lanes of traffic. 0 Neichter was held three months 1in jail in 1938 before he was 1judged sane after he confessed ce. starting a \$150,000 fire at Holy DI Trinity Church in St. Matthews. 2-Jailer Martin Connors, asked if 30 it were the practice to let trusties 3

drive cars, told a reporter: "You know better than to ask a question like that."

A jail attendant said Neichter was taking a car home for a "Mr. Beasey." License plates indicate il. the car is owned by Ed Beasey. 729 S. 24th. ss When arrested, Neichter was

hwearing the lei and had the candy which he said he obtained ty at the Fair. September 14, 1940, *The Courier-Journal*:

# Visit to Fair Costs Trusty Privileges

## Traffic Charges Are Filed Away In Police Court

Re-routing a trip for repaired eye glasses through the State Fair Thursday won Ernest Neichter, 19, a jail trusty, a bex of candy but cost him his "outside provileges" Friday.

The youth, who is serving a two-year sentence on arson charges resulting from the \$150,-000 fire at Holy Trinity Church, St. Matthews, in September, 1937, was arrested Thursday night when he was returning from the Fair in a borrowed car.

Charges of reckless driving and operating without a driver's license, which we're placed against him when he was arrested, were filed away in Police Court.

#### **Connors** Gives Permission,

Jailer Martin Connors said he gave permission for Neichter to leave the jail Thursday afternoon to get his glasses, which were being repaired after the prisoner had broken them while working in the jail. The jailer said he gave Neichter \$3.50 to pay for the repairs. Neichter didn't get his glasses and the jailer said there would be no more permission to leave the jail. Police notified the jailer after they arrested Neichter in a car licensed to Ed Beasley, 729 S. 24th, who operates a fair concension. At one time Neichter was under treatment at the Mental

under treatment at the Mental Hygiene Clinic, Brook and Chestnut. September 20, 1940, The Courier-Journal:





September 23, 1940, The Courier-Journal

Courtesy https://historiclouisville.weebly.com/east--somesuburbs.html#PhotoSwipe1536980957473



1940 - St Matthews Ave looking south toward Westport Rd.

September 20, 1940: St. Matthews Sun: Three Cars Destroyed By Fire At Holy Trinity. Three automobiles parked in the Holy Trinity School yard were destroyed by fire last night about 10 o'clock, while the owners were attending a bingo game. The local fire department and one division from Louisville responded to the alarm and confined the flames to the three cars which belonged tot J. J. Pfiester, 3953 Gilman Avenue, his brother, Henry J. Pfiester, 644 Barbee Way South, and

. . .

SHIBTS

**OPENING WEEK SPECIALS!** 

SATURDAY

1000

FORMAL

OPENING

BIRTS or TRUNKS

50c

BODYGARDS

Carl Deddens, 329 Sherrin Avenue. A gallon can found under one of the cars let to the suspicion someone was trying to siphon gas from the tank, while smoking a cigarette. This theory is further substantiated by a witness who reported having seen several youths loitering about the premises.

October 17, 1940, The Jef*fersonian*:

October 31, 1940, *The Jeffersonian*:

November 15, 1940: St. Matthews Sun: New Fire Plug. A fire plug has recently been installed at the corner of Richland and **Produce Avenues** 

to cover a radius of 1,000 feet from that point.

#### er son Ovedriga PRINTS 23 15: Site Trand Shore Endicat - Johnson Shore Oxodings Prints Utics Underwoor Jose Presion Drosses Trail of Soc. Loop: Underwoos Carborth Wark Deduce DRESS OXFORDS 10 or SHDRTS ABRLETL 10° PANTIES Work 2 All new Fed AREA/A Dec D MOLESKIN STOR Maskinsw COATS WORK SHERTS \$389 10 43 ANKLETS Carberti's Wark Claiters Tarkish 9: Broter Prown Heslery Gowirch Rubber Postwai Common Tawola San Gay Lufter' Dresses Pepperell Infants' Wear E. Z. Children's Underwon Better Des Wach Soft .... PRAL-4121 \$100 TOWELS HATS SHIFT 39 39 Made By BLANKETS SLIPS ONDO DRESS 94: PRINT 47 Birtheye DIAPERS 881 PANS 50 SHIRTS DRESSES Poter Pan Wash Solls Five Brother Wark Shirts with testing.

**OCTOBER 19** 

## Westport Road Now **Opened** To Traffic

Residents of the Westport Road as well as of the community at large, are delighted that this road is completed and open to the public, after being closed several months.

This new widened concrete road is an asset to the neighborhood as well as the entire county The L. & N. R.-R. has lowered the loading switch to conform with the road, making it easier to load and unload local freight. At present the many cars of lumber used for the construction of buildings at Bowman Field are being unloaded at St. Matthews.

November 14, 1940, *The Jeffersonian*:

## Middletown Would Buy **Fire Department**

SATURDAY

ST0

ST. MATTHEWS

SHOES

WORK SHOES

1.98

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ulties Arch T

RE

- 11 -

3926 FRANKFORT AVE.

Financia al Merchanian At Grant Savings 1 Description of Merchanian Description Description of Merchanian Description of M

Civic Club actively rounding up ways and means to acquire needed protection.

Middletown, through the instrumentality of its Civic Club is actively at work on a Fire Department project, a much needed improvement and one which, since the securing of city water, is now within the reach of possibillity.

At a meeting of the Civic Club. Tuesday night, this project came in for practically an evening's discussion; some figures having been presented on a possible equipment, and other details which have to be threshed out preliminary to the actual purchase.

The official board of the club are to have a called meeting Friday evening, the 22nd, when it is hoped final action can be taken Prices under consideration cover the cost of a pumper and all necessary equipment.

A finance committee will be appointed, Friday evening, whose duty it will be to round up the money as already pledged by Middletown citizens and to take care of the down payment. .

After the business discussion Tuesday evening, a social hour was enjoyed with games and other entertainment.

December 20, 1940: *St. Matthews Sun*: Flames Do \$2,000 Damage to Hagan Home. Newly wrapped Christmas gifts among household furnishing ruined. Fire of unknown origin gutted the attic at the home of P. Willett Hagan, 3710 Davies Avenue, Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Bedding, clothing, Christmas presents wrapped and ready for delivery, and contents of maid's room were destroyed. Plaster of first floor ceiling fell and water damaged lower floor. Fortunately no one was injured.

The fire was discovered by one of the children, when he opened the door leading to the upper floor, smoke was pouring through the opening.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department answered the call: Louisville Department was also called as the local firemen feared the roof might collapse. The loss was covered by insurance.

St. Matthews Fire Dept.

Adds New Equipment

New equipment just recently

acquired by the St. Matthews

Volunteer Fire Department in-

cludes hose, nozzles and other necessary appliances and cost the

With this recent purchase, they

now have for their use 2,200 feet

of 212" hose and 800 feet of 115".

Incidentally, "Bud" Young, captain, requests all the Volun-

teers to meet him Sunday at 9:30

at the fire house and also extends

neat sum of \$1,500.





November 21, 1940, The Jeffersonian:

Cannon's	Lane	To	Be	
Moved	Quart	er N	file	East

The City Planning and Zoning Commission, Friday, approved the moving of Cannon's Lane from its present location to a strip about a quarter of a mile cast.

This move was necessitated by the enlargement of Bowman Field to take care of the additional harracks and other requirements to house and employ the hambardment group to be siationed there incident to the active war preparations.

The width of the road, however. was not definitely agreed on since the present thoroughfare is eighty feet in width looking toward a possible city street plan

When moved the proposed quarter mile, the road will become entirely county property and the commissioners decided they had no right to order the County to maintain a road of this width.

Cannon's Lane is one among the most used theroughfares in the County, connecting as it does Taylorsville Read with the St. Matthews section, all populous territory. The change in its location will therefore be of concern to large numbers of the traveling public and will entail many matters for adjustment: before the actual change is made. CLUE C. MARKET COMPANY

### December 11, 1940: **Board meeting**

Fire Assn Meeting December 11, 1940 Meeting called to order by the President at 8:15 P. M. Directors Winter, Zehnder, Ogden, Davis, Schweitzer, Smithson and Dobson present. Absent Boss, Fleming.

Motion by Schnder-Schweitzer the following bills be paid: St. Matthews Hardware 1.40 Fulton-Conway \* Co. 5.01 Fureka 'ire Hose Co. 31.91 Dobson Ptg. Co. 4.50 Zaelin Service 6.72 Standard Oil Co. 3.05 White Motor Co. 6.69 \$59.28 Carried

Treasurers Report showed balance of \$433. 58 as of Dec. 1st. deposits to date 12.40 making present balance of 445.98.

Pump Committee reported that they had ordered pump for the Auxiliary truck. Frice to be betwwen 400. and 500 dollars.

Bids were opened on Fire Hose and after sales talks and dtscussions oreders were given as follows;

> Bi-Isteral Fire Hose Co. 500 ft 2% in Imperial. W&G treated hose, @1.02 per ft. 300 ft lin Imperial, W&G

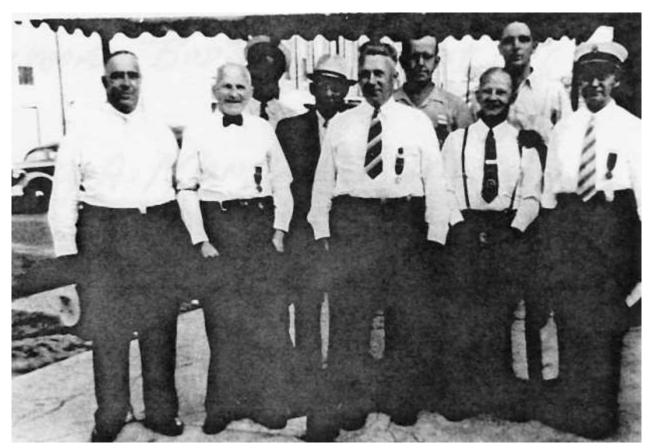
treated hose. . 75 per ft.

Eureka Fire Hose Co., Nozzles, fittings ets, amounting to approximately 350.00.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned to meet again, January 8, 1941.

Thomas LAbbion Secs.

1940



About 1940—Raymond "Bud" Young, 1<sup>st</sup>. back row left.

Henry A. Monohan, middle back row.

Late 1930s or early 1940s:

This pin was designed and given to members of the department during this time span.



Dear Sir:

A conservative estimate places the savings in insurance rates in St. Matthews due to the equipment and work of the St. Matthews Fire Association at more than \$20,000 annually. This saving in which all benefit, either directly or indirectly, can only be maintained by keeping the efficiency of the Fire Fighting apparatus at its greatest peak.

Due to the rapid increase in building and population in St. Matthews, we are in need of additional equipment as follows:

> 1 - 500 gal. pump to be mounted on a truck, which we already have, at a cost of \$500.

500 ft. of 22" hose at a cost of \$550.

Remodeling of garage to accommodate additional truck to cost between \$500 and \$1000.

Before we can do this, however, we want to retire the present indebtedness of the Association which will require \$1050. We will also need between \$500 and \$700 for our annual operating expenses. This means we need a minimum of about \$1700 this year and with twice that amount we can double this effectiveness of the fire fighting equipment.

All voluntary contributors are members of this Association and have a vote in the election of officers held the second Wednesday of June.

We are expecting you to make your annual contribution of \$ this year and if you would like to contribute a little more for the additional equipment, we will set it aside in a fund to be used only for its purchase.

Mail or bring your contribution to Mr. Jesse Ogden at Buschemeyer-Ogden Drug Store, Frankfort Avenue and Breckinridge Lane.

> Thomas Dobson, Secty. St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association.

Received of: as 1940

contribution to St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association.

Assistant Treasurer.

Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, Misner house and barn, now site of the Shelbyville Plaza. View from Shelbyville Road just east of creek that borders the shopping center. Photograph by warren Kellar Frederick about 1940. University of Louisville Photographic Archives.





Eline Motor Company, Shelbyville Road between Brekenridge and Meridian - 1940. University of Louisville Photographic Archives

1940

Courtesy, St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas,



THE HEART OF SY, MATTHEWS, ADDUT 1940, PALMER ASSESTON & RUBBER COMMANY ALOND NORTH SIDE OF WESTPORY ROAD, WEST OF ST MATTHEWS AVENUE IS AT UPPER RIGHT BEANDRASS-ST. MATTHEWS HISTORICA, SOCIETY

> PALMER ASSESSION & RUBBER CORP. WARE HOUSE, PARTALLY BUILT IN 1941 ALONG ST MATTHEWR AVENUE, WHEN PLANS FOR COMPLE-TION WERE DEVELOPED IN 1947, 2V 67-47U, JEFFERSON COLINTY PRESERVATION AND ANCHIVES.



## Courtesy, https://historiclouisville.weebly.com/east--some-suburbs.html#PhotoSwipe1536980957473



ca. 1940 - Meisner house and barn, now Shelbyville Rd. Plaza. View from Shelbyville Rd.



Late 1940s - St. Matthews looking north at Frankfort Ave - Lexington Rd. Wallace Center construction at bottom

## 1940

## **Board Of Directors**

### Officers

Fred C. Boss Edwin W. Davis Thomas L. Dobson Paul H. Fleming, start July 1940. Short time W. Jesse Ogden Louis H. Schweitzer William Smithson Dr. James Emil Winter Joseph B. "Joe" Zehnder

1940 Chief Raymond A. "Bud" Young Assist. Chief Henry A. Monohan Captain John M. Monohan, Jr. Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer

## **Firefighters**

T. A. Baker John A. Beierle Jim Brangers John Feierbend John Haeberlin Charles H. Hahn Bernard F. Handel Richard C. Herdt W. Rich Herdt Ted H. Huffman Jr. Ted H. Huffman Sr. William F. Leitsch Rudolph L. Lineback George W. Nichaus

R. C. Pennington Jim Edward Sauer James "JP" Terry Fred William Wootton, Jr. George John Wurster

1941

Mr. Lee Barbour becomes a commissioned agent.

All Board meetings took place at Ogden Pharmacy.

St. Matthews Rotary Club and the Eagles Club were started.

Bought new apparatus.

Built new firehouse.

**Richard C. Herdt became Assistant Chief:** 

Richard C. Herdt—Firefighter 1919 to 1941, Assistant Chief 1941 to 1962, Lifetime Assistant Chief 1972, September 1, 1888 to April 15, 1972—Born in Louisville in 1888 he moved to St. Matthews in 1917. He married in 1916, and they had one son, and one daughter. Mr. Herdt worked most of his life for Koster Swope Buick. He joined the department in 1919, became Assistant Chief in 1941, serving actively until 1962 when he was given the Assistant Chief position for life. He died in April 15, 1972. He was a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Church. He married Edna M. Ambron in 1915.



Henry A. Monohan became Chief August & part of September 1941: Henry Apperious Monohan—Firefighter 1931 to 1941, Assistant Chief 1940 to 1941, Chief 1941, Director 1956 to 1971—August 21, 1914 to July 20, 1971

1914, August 21, Born on Wildwood Farm in St. Matthews, Kentucky. Youngest of 4 children.

Attended Holy Trinity grade school and St. Xavier High School.

Loved farming, and ran Wildwood Farm for many years.

1931, joined the STMFD as a firefighter and served until 1941.

1939, March 9, he became assistant chief of STMFD.

1940 to 1941, became Assistant Chief of STMFD.

1941, July 9, became Chief of the STMFD for a short period of time. 1941, August 5, Newspaper article: WANTED MEN! Henry Monohan, chief of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department has called a special meeting of the body for Tuesday night August 26, at 7:30 at the fire house. At this meeting Chief Monohan would be glad to interview men over 21 years of age who would like to become members of the crew of firefighters. Men are needed now Mr. Monohan states, and here is a real opportunity for young men to render a worthwhile service to their community.

1952, December, bought (with his brother, John) a 355 acre farm with 90 cattle.

1956, became a member of the STMFD Board of Directors, and served until his death in 1971.

1960's, was a partner in the McDanial Tractor Company, eventually bought the whole company.

During this time he was also involved with other farm implement businesses.

1967, May 27, Married late in life to Marie Therese Lyons, who died June 19, 1971. They had no children.

Lived at 521 Zorn avenue, Louisville, KY.

1971, July 20, Died at age 56 of a heart attack.

## 1941

## Henry A. Monohan became Chief





John M. Monohan, Jr. became Chief and a Board Member:



John M. Monohan, Jr. became Chief and a Board Member:

John M. Monohan, Jr.—Firefighter April 1937 to 1940, Captain 1940 to 1941, Chief 1941 to 1977, Director 1941 to 1982—November 26, 1911 to July 12, 1999

1911, November 26, Born on Wildwood Farm in St. Matthews, Kentucky.

- Lifelong member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.
- Attended Holy Trinity Catholic school, Graduated from St. Xavier High School, Attended University of Louisville Speed School.

Followed his fathers footsteps for a shot period of time working for the First National Bank of Louisville.

- 1936, May 27, Married Katherine Marcilliat, who was born September 20, 1913, and they lived at 3909 Elmwood Avenue.
- 1937, March, Joined STMFD as a firefighter.
- 1937, June 3, John M. (Jack) Monohan, III born to John and Katherine.
- 1938, John and Katherine moved to 3909 Elmwood Avenue, in St. Matthews.
- 1940, Mary M. Monohan a daughter was born to John and Katherine.
- 1940/1941, served as Captain on the STMFD.
- 1941, December 29, Stephen O. Monohan born to John and Katherine.
- 1941, February 12, Became member of the Board of Directors serving until 1982.
- 1941, July 18, became President of the Board of Directors.
- 1941, September, he became Chief of STMFD, and served in that position until 1977.
- 1942, he worked for the Reynolds Metal Company and eventually became Plant Superintendent of Louisville Plant 15.
- 1943, September 18, Douglas Lewis Monohan born to John and Katherine.
- 1952, December, bought a 355 acre farm with 90 cattle with his brother, Henry.
- 1953, he became President of Firefighters Inc. a county wide association of fire departments.
- 1970, April 12, 50th Anniversary and the dedication of their new headquarters at 4114 Lyndon Way, of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department. A new \$250,000 facility.
- 1972, Lieutenant Al Ring designed and Chief John Monohan participated in a major recruiting program using the slogan "Chief Monohan Wants You." The *Voice-Jeffersonian* and WSTM-FM helped in the recruiting campaign.
- 1972, December 11, his son, Stephen O. Monohan died tragically.
- 1975, April 10, John achieved the "Magic 70" award (which is a combination of his age and service at that time). After retiring from Reynolds he went to work at Raque Food systems, a specialty manufacturing company.
- After retiring from Reynolds in his late 70's he went with Raque Food Systems—a Manufacturing Company.
- 1976, October 19, Chief Monohan announces to firefighters that he will be retiring in July 1977.
- 1977, July 13, Retired as Chief of the STMFD, while still serving on the Board of Directors, he was made an Honorary member of the board.
- 1982, June 10, told the Board of Directors that he would not be available for re-election in July for the Board of Trustees.
- 1991, February 10, his wife Katherine M. Monohan died.
- 1999, July 12, John M. Monohan, Jr. died at age 87 at Pine Tree Villa Nursing Home and is buried at Calvary Cemetery.

Nick Names: Nine Wrinkles, Pump Handle, Old Man, Ironsides

His feeling of accomplishment during his service: "Steady growth. That's been the biggest accomplishment of this department. We've tried to grow faster than the community so we can provide adequate fire protection at all times."

William E. Ehlig, Sr., became a Board Member:



William E. Ehlig, Sr.—-Trustee 1933 to 1934—-August 16, 1894 to April 2, 1949—Born in Louisville August 16, 1894. He attended Louisville grade schools and went to Manual High School. He then went to work for Louisville Tin and Stove Company, eventually becoming Vice President of the company. He married in 1922 and attended the Bethel and Beargrass Christian Church in St. Matthews. He was a member of the Louisville Rotary, and president of the Louisville area Boy Scouts. He joined the Board in 1933 and served as President until he resigned because of work pressure in 1934. He died April 2, 1949.



James E. Powers became a Board Member:



James E. Powers—Director 1941 to 1942—May 26, 1895 to July 14, 1971—Born in Crestwood, Oldham County May 26, 1895. He was a bookkeeper for American Tobacco company and the he was in the oil business for 30 years with the Continental Oil Company. He served on the Board of Directors of STMFD from 1941 to 1942. He died in July 14, 1971.

## THE HISTORY OF OKOLONA FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1941, at a meeting of the "Preston Highway Improvement Club," Mr. E. P. White Jr., suggested that an O.C.D. pumping unit be purchased for the Okolona area to start a fire department. The pumping unit was mounted on a trailer and pulled with a hitch fastened to cars and trucks.

This first piece of firefighting equipment was originally housed in Mr. Claude Priest's garage. It was later moved to Mr. Roy Motherhead's garage and again moved to Mr. Joe Snyder's garage. In 1951 the group purchased a building at 8005 Preston Highway and converted it into a firehouse, which was used until 1960. At this time, a new firehouse was built at 8111 Blue Lick Road. This building was used until December 28, 1980, at which time we moved into this new 23,380 square feet building at 8501 Preston Highway.

In 1947, the Department purchased a new Ford truck and installed a front-mounted 500 gallon-per-minute fire pump and 500-gallon water tank on the chassis. At this time, the truck is still operational, but is no longer used for fire-fighting purposes.

In 1949, the Department separated from the Preston Highway Improvement Club and became an independent department called the "Okolona Volunteer Fire Department." On August 11th of the same year, after much hard work and dedication, the Okolona area received a fire insurance rate reduction from 10th class to 7th class.

In 1952 the Department started plans for another new truck, and on June 10, 1953, a new 500 G.P.M. midshippump truck was delivered at a cost of \$11,389.00.

In 1958, the "Okolona Fire Department" became a fire district and the same year a new Willys jeep was purchased with the help of the United States Forest Service. This jeep is used to fight woods and field fires, and is still in service today. In 1963, the Department purchased a new 750 G.P.M. midship-mounted pumper with a 750gallon water tank mounted under the hose bed.

On January 25, 1966, after many hours of hard work and community service by the firemen, the Okolona area was changed from a 7th class fire insurance rate to 6th class, as it is today. The general public has little idea of how many unpaid hours and personal sacrifices are necessary to maintain this rating. These efforts are in addition to the countless hours spent by the firemen on training and actual fire runs, which, in 1979, totalled 677 alarms. The Department is constantly striving to improve this insurance rating, and the future addition of paid firefighters combined with an ever-improving Fire Prevention Bureau promises to make rate reductions a reality.

By 1967, the Department's Fire Prevention Bureau had been organized and a new Ford Ranchwagon was purchased for use on inspections and official business. The same year, the Department bought another new truck which was our first 1,000 gallon-per-minute pumper. This unit was also a midship-mounted pumper and carries 500 gallons of water. The unit is still in service today.

In 1968, with 322 fire alarms and a growing Okolona community, the need for a second fire station became apparent. Plans were drawn up, and a new firehouse was opened at 10502 Preston Highway in November of 1969 at a cost of about \$73,500.00. The new firehouse was designated as Okolona Station No. 2.

At the same time Station No. 2 was being planned, another new truck was in the planning stages. It was delivered in October, 1969, at a cost of \$37,244.00. This unit was a 1000 G.P.M. midship pumper with a 500 gallon water tank mounted under a 1250-foot hose bed.

In 1970, due to increased growth in the Okolona area, the Kentucky Insurance Bureau (which sets fire insurance rates for fire districts) suggested that we buy an aerial ladder or elevated platform. The decision was mather to purchase a Snorkel with an 85-foot boom, which for several years was the largest elevating platform in the state of Kentucky. This apparatus was also ordered with a 1000 G.P.M. midship pump and was delivered on February 28, 1972, at a cost of \$102,677.00.

In 1974, Okolona added a four-story training tower next to Station No. 2 at a cost of approximately \$80,000 00.

In 1976, another new jeep was purchased at a cost of \$11,500.00. This unit carries 100 gallons of water, 50 feet of booster hose and will pump 100 gallons per minute. During the same year, a new 1,250 G.P.M. Ward La-France pumper was ordered for Station No. 2 at a cost of \$83,644.00.

In 1977, it was necessary to replace our old station wagon with a new one and a new 3/4-ton pickup truck to be used as a utility vehicle was purchased.

In 1978, the old 1963 750 G.P.M. truck was worn out and it was traded in on two new trucks. The first one was a 1,250 G.P.M. American LaFrance pumper at a cost of \$61,047.00. The second was a GMC "midi pumper" with a 250 G.P.M. pump. This truck was placed into servie as our primary rescue vehicle, carrying the "Jaws of Life" rescue tool along with other assorted rescue equipment. Cost of the rescue/pumper was \$27,884.00.

In April, 1980, the Department purchased three 1979 Ford LTD automobiles from Hertz Rent-A-Car for \$3,999.00 each, to be used as command cars for the Chief and two Assistant Chiefs.

Today, the Okolona Fire Protection District is composed of 65 excellent firefighters, 10 of which are the officers of the Department: 1 Chief: 2 Assistant Chiefs: 3 Captains, and 4 Lieutenants.

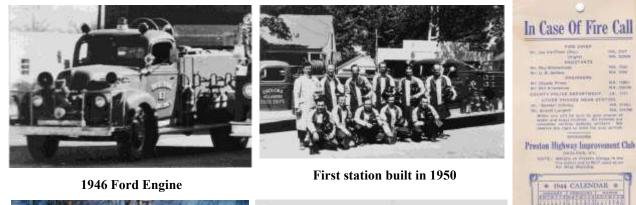
All of the firefighers are governed by a Board of Trustees, which is composed of 2 firemen elected by the body of firemen, three citizens appointed by the County Judge, and two Okolona property owners elected by the citizens of Okolona. **Courtesy Kyle Brown, Okolona Fire District:** 

Correction to the history by Kyle Brown: The first truck was a 1946 Ford bought as a cab and chassis only, they had put the old pump and tank from the OCD unit on a Ford Model B truck in 1944 (model B Fords were made abut 1932 I think), anyway, they took the old pump/tank off the model B Ford and put them on the new 46 Ford chassis. I guess they didn't like that set up much, because in 1947 they took it off and took the truck to Dayton KY for the install of a new American/Barton front mount PTO pump. Once the truck was back from Dayton they made a new water tank for the truck and built a new body around the new tank. Okolona did not have a fire truck available during this time, announcements were sent out and help would be sent from neighboring dept.

1941

I don't know what they did with the old pump unit? It was originally on a trailer and had a Dodge motor to drive the pump and was pulled by volunteers personal vehicles. Even when it was put on the Model B Ford, it still had the Dodge motor atop the old truck with the pump, they say the model B Ford was an old gasoline truck converted into the first fire truck.

The 1946 Ford (we still have) is not the first fire truck, but it is actually the second counting the Model B Ford? I refer to it as the first truck to keep it simpler. I can remember the stories I heard back in the 70's that the 46 Ford truck was an old ice cream truck converted... Motherhead's Ice Cream owner Roy Motherhead was real involved with the volunteer dept, legend probably came from this association... the current fire marshal from OFD actually printed this ice cream story on baseball type cards with the picture of the 1946 Ford truck... but truth is backed up by a log book in the station 1 trophy case, tells about the model B Ford and new pump and all.





First station built in 1950, photo 1958



Second station in 1963 built in 1960



Station 2, 1982, built in 1969



Station 1, December 1980 move in day



#### **Solicitation letter:**

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

ST. MATTHEWS, KY.

Dear Sir:

Because of the rapid growth of St. Matthews it is necessary to increase the equipment by the purchase of more hose, an additional pump for our 2nd truck or another pumper and also the construction of larger quarters for our equipment. This will entail several thousand dollars and we hope it will give us an opportunity of obtaining a further decrease in our fire insurance rates.

We expect to do this without asking for any contributions except the usual annual contribution to the Fire Association.

Will you do your part? We are asking you to make a contribution of \$3 for the year 1941. Mail your check or bring it to Mr. Jesse Ogden, assistant treasurer, Buschemeyer-Ogden Pharmacy, 3900 Frankfort Avenue.

Very truly yours,

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION,

Thos. L. Dolson, Secretary. BA Meyers - 511 Jola Phduck book - BAMeyers - SII own, address mil to 1217 Logan St glasse.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

January 3, 1941: St. Matthews Sun:

What was happening in St. Matthews at the time!!!!

I wish to thank you. St. Matthews Sun, for the splendid conviction you gave me in promoting my first Chardy Show in St. Matthews.

As you prohibly know, the Charity Show which was held have at the Vegue Theatre December 23 was a huge success.

Near publicity of this event went a long way m making this show the success that it was

I also wish to thank the American Legion, the charches of St. Maithews, Eev. Churles W Gwens, and all the civic clubs which supported the show, also want especially to thank the people of St. Matthews for their histories in sending ever 100 cans of food, plus many peckages and baxes.

The feed obtained by this means enabled many people to ent a good Christmas dinner, who otherwise would not have fared to well.

We of the Vegue Theatre are thankful we were able to be a part of this, and want it known that the Vegue belongs to St. Matthews and in always ready and valling to offer the facilities for any community preview which will benefit St. Matthews or its readents.

-FORD TRACEY.

January 3, 1941: *St. Matthews Sun*: Fire Sweeps Barns At Plainview Dairy, Blaze early Thursday causes damage estimated at over \$50,000. Fire departments from St. Matthews, Jeffersontown and also Louisville were called to fight a blaze yesterday morning which swept through three units of a large dairy barn of Robert C. Tway, Sr., at Plainview Dairy Farms on Hurstbourne Lane near Shelbyville Road.

The blaze was discovered at about 1:30 a.m. today, Thursday, shortly after the employees had started the morning's milking. The cause of the fire thus far is undetermined but conjecture is it may have been caused by spontaneous combustion in the baled hay in the loft.

James Henson, an employee who lives on the place, was the first to discover the fire and he was largely responsible for clearing the barns of the more than 425 cows housed within at the time, one of them said to have been valued at \$3,000 and the entire herd at about \$66,000.00.

Destroyed, however, were about 175 tons of hay, 50 tons of straw and several tons of other feeds together with the milking machinery and other items entailing a loss estimated at between \$50,000 and \$75,000 by the manager, Frank Poulouin.

The fire fighting was hampered by the fact the only water available was that from a milk cooling reservoir.

The barns were 274 feet long by forty feet wide, with white tiled walls and frame and asphalt roofs.

Plainview is one of the largest and most up-to-date dairies in the country and was something of a show place for interested visitors.

Courtesy, http://www.plainviewassoc.com/tway-house.html



The Tway house was built as the homestead in 1923 for Robert C. Tway on Plainview Farm, it was a large dairy farm with as many as 975 acres surrounding the home. Today it links Plainview with its heritage. When the Tway heirs sold the

property, the farm consisted of 630 acres that we know today as Plainview. The Tway house is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is a significant example of twentieth century Georgian Revival architecture.

The house is a two-and-one-half story brick Georgian Revival structure with a symmetrical five-bay facade and roof dormers. Two-story wings at each side of the main block are set back from the front facade. There is a large, columned portico across the front of the main block.

The paneled front door has sidelights, pilasters and a bracketed balustrade above. A round arched window with a fanlight is on the second story above the entrance. First story windows are floor-length. Flanked by shutters, they open onto the porch. Similar windows on one wing have fan lighted arches. The roof is pierced by four interior chimneys. The interior woodwork and paneling are finely detailed in the Georgian Revival style.

The farm is now the Plainview subdivision off Hurstbourne Parkway in eastern Jefferson County. The Tway house became the Plainview Country Club for subdivision residents at the time of the development. It is now owned and maintained by the city of Jeffersontown.

## Fire Sweeps Barns At Plainview Dairy

Disastrous blaze early today causes damage estimated at over \$50,000.

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Plainview is one of the largest and most up-to-date dairies in the county and was something of a show place for interested visitors. Minutes of January Meeting, held January 15, 1941-

### January 9, 1941, The Jeffersonian.

## Middletown Places Order For New Fire Equipment

Members of the Middletown Civic Club placed Wednesday of this week an order for fire fighting apparatus, for the town. This project under consideration for some time was finally decided ou and officially voted for, at the Tuesday night meeting of the club and the order accordingly. placed Wednesday.

.Ordered is a pumper and all necessary equipment to come from the Boyer Company, of Lagansport, Indiana, which should be at Midletown, ready for service, in about sixty days. . Speaking of the situation, this morning, T. D. Self of the Civic Club, stated that no organization of fire tighters had yet been effected, though a musible of volunteers had offered their services.

January 15, 1941: Board meeting:

Those present were officers "inter, Ogden, Boss, Schweitzer. and Dobson.

Treasurer reported balance of 447.13

On motion Fred C. Boss. I. Schweitzer, the following bills were voted to be paid

	Standard 011	13.52	Fulton-Conway
	Dobson Ptg. Co.	3.50	Memb. Dues
	Buschemeyer+Og.	.60	Gas & Elec.
	Lost time	10.45	Telephone
Balance	after bill paid	399.71	Phil Hunt, Com

9.00 aes. ec. 13.68 5.85 16 nt. Comm. 7.50

2.65

On motion L. Schweitzer, Fred C. Boss, it was voted due to the fact that our mailing list was so large, that the secretary be instructed to mail the 1941, contribution requests, and a nominal sum be allowed as compensation.

Wish to report herein that all the above notices above mentioned have been mailed and so far results are very gr gratifying.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned to meet again February 12, 1941.

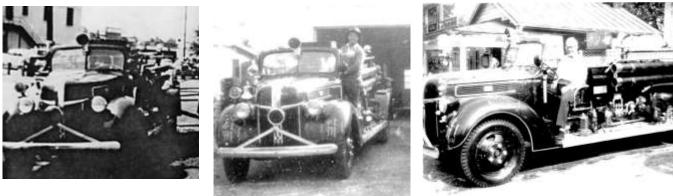
Secretary

Arritert

January 29, 1941: The department bought a 1941 Ford-Seagrave 500 GPM pumper which served from 1942 until 1957.

1941

January 29, 1941: The department bought a 1941 Ford-Seagrave 500 GPM pumper which served from 1942 until 1957.



R. M. "Dick" Wheeler Jr.







1941

#### 1941

January 26, 1941, The Courier-Journal: Edited-I think some missing.



DOG-GONE! ALSO MRS. N. E. GOSS' two sons, Edward, 20, getting a whopping farewell kiss, and Frank, 18, waiting his turn (and getting a preliminary one himself). The Goss family, 2737 S. Preston, went out to say goodby at St. Matthews to the two boys, who are members of the 149th Infantry, and to the fox terrier mascot of the outfit, which the brothers are taking along to Camp Shelby, Miss.

## **109 Depart** For Camp Shelby

#### By RICHARD RENNEISEN.

Weather-numbed, a crowd in which tears and gay farewells mingled bade farewell at the railroad station in the dusk Saturday afternoon to the 109 men of Headquarters Company and Anti-Tank Company, 149th Infantry, after a public turnout that halted everything in suburban St. Matthews. First complete Jefferson County

units to begin their year's training, the two National Guard companies were honored by a celebration that brought a long parade winding through town, headed by

flashing lights and wailing police sirens.

As the soldiers got aboard the L. & N. train which will take them to Camp Shelby, Miss., a chorus of well-wishing rang out. Most of the members of the two companies are residents of the St. Matthews area, and as roll call was sung out, many of the names long familiar in the neighborhood brought smiles and good-natured joshing from the crowd.

#### **Bands Turn Out**,

The boys carried full equip-ment, including "tin hats." They looked very business-like, indeed, and said goodby with smiles which, despite their buoyancy, seemed to be saying. "Maybe this will take longer than a year, but we'll do the needful!" The St. Matthews Fire Depart-

## St. Matthews **Bids Guards Noisy Farewell**

Bands Play As 109 Leave for Camp Shelby

(Continued from First Page.) speaker on a sound truck played World War airs, including "You're In the Army Now." and every-body seemed in exuberant spirits. Everybody was interested in the mascol of the 142th—a fox terrier, scrubbed to gleaming whiteness, on a leash and in har-ness. The dog belongs to 20-year-old Edward Goss, 2737 S. Preston, whose brother, Frank Goss, 18, is in the same outfit. "You gonna take the dog along?" somebody called. "Sure!" declared Ed, clutching the pooch under his arm despite the heavy load of equipment he was carrying. (Continued from First Page.)

The Goss hoys' father, N. E. Goss, who, with Mrs. Goss, was hugging and kissing the young-sters a fond farewell, said the dog reminded him of World War days.

February 2, 1941, *The Courier-Journal*:

## Funds Are Sought To Buy Fire Truck At St. Matthews

A drive for funds with which to purchase a new truck and enlarge its fire station has been started by the St. Matthews Voluntary Fire Association, an official of the association said Saturday.

Saturday. If the drive is successful, the spokesman said, fire insurance rates in the area will be reduced. The lower rates will apply to buildings within a radius of one and one-half miles from the fire station on Breckinridge Lane, near Frankfort Avenue.

The association recently purchased 850 feet of hose for the truck which will be financed over a period of two or three years. The association has fifteen trained firemen.

\*\*

#### February 12, 1941: Board meeting:

Minutes February Meeting, Feb.12, 1941

The following officers and directors were present; Winter, Boss, Schweitzer, Smithson, Dobson, Ogden Firemen; Young, J. Monahan, H. Monahan.

On motion Schweitzer, Smithson following bills were voted to be paid;

Louisville Gas & Flectric	14.43	FultonConway	11.90
Eureka Fire Hose Co.	62.14	Fureka F.H.Co.	9.74
Bi-Lateral Fire Hose Co.	499.80	L. B. Morris	6.65
Telephone	44.86	Postage	5.00
Masonic Home	3.50	Dobson Ptg. Co.	22.90
St. Matt. Hdwe. '	2.10	Phil Hunt	1.50
Total	bills Se	44.52	

So much of original bill of Bi-Lateral Fire Hose Company pertaining to 12" hose was deferred on account of unsatisfactory couplings.

The Board accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. Jos. B. Zehnder as a Director of the Assn.

Mr. John Monahan, Jr., appointed to board to serve as Director until annual election.

Mr. Lawrence Fitch, of Seagraves Corporation attended meeting and after lengthy discussion pro and con, motion Schweitzer, Smithson that we purchase Ford-Mercury-Seagraves equipped Pumper at a cost of \$3125.00, same to be paid for as follows;  $\frac{1}{2}$  on delivery in about 60 days, and balance in one year. Motion carried .

On motion Boss, Ogden it was voted to authorize Mr. Phil Hunt to start working on delinquents on or before May 1st.

Building problem discussed without any action taken.

Meeting adjourned to meet again March 12, 1941

Thomas & howon

Secretary

\*\* Treasure reported balance of 453.91 Depesits since 1st of month 680000 Bal at meeting 1133.91 February 21, 1941: *Jeffersonian*: Fire Destroys Home Near Anchorage. Fire believed to have been caused by defective electrical wiring completely destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Cunningham, on Dorsey Lane midway between Middletown and Anchorage, at 9 o'clock Tuesday night. The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association made the run, but was unable to cope with the blaze because it had gained too much headway.

Unofficial estimates placed the loss at more than \$5,000. The residence, a two-story frame structure, contained some very valuable antique furniture, *Jeffersonian* reporters were told.

At the time of the fire Mrs. Cunningham was using the telephone when the electric lights went out. A few minutes later the blaze was discovered in the upper portion of the building.

Just 15 minutes after Mr. Cunningham's home was destroyed, he received word of the death of his mother in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ogden (for express paid)

March 12, 1941: Board meeting:

Officers and Directors present; Winter, Schweitzer, Smithson. J. Monohan, Ogden, Dobson Meeting called to order by the President. In absence of Treasurer, asst treasurer reported approximate balance of \$1300.00 On motion by Schweitzer the following bills were voted to be paid; Smithson Bi-Lateral fire Hose Co. 270.50 Mr. Hardin Herr 26.00 Standard Oil Co. 38.53 7.00 Neil LaVielle Co. Superior Auto Grinding 2.00 Fureka Fire Hose Co. 20.00

Minutes of March Meeting

Total \$366.60

March 12, 1941

On motion by Smithson, Schweitzer, fire chief Young autorized to spend necessary funds to provide sleeping quaters for night man at fire house.

2.57

On motion by Schweitzer, Ogden , it was voted to allow Chief Young the sum of \$2.00 per month for gasoline.

There being no further business was adjourned to meet again April 9th.

Thomas & Dokum

Fire Destroys Home Near Anchorago

Fire bolieved to have been caused by defective electrical wiring completely destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Cunningham, on Dorsey Lane midway between Middletown and Anchorage, at 9 o'clock Tuceday night. The St. Matthews Voluntary Fire Association made the run, but was unable to cope with the blaze because it had gained too much headway

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1941

March 7, 1941: St. Matthews Sun:

Neither St. Matthews or Anchorage Fire Department made the run.

Middletown Residence Destroyed Dy Fire Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed a Co yearild variant frame residence west d Middletown on Eligibers U.S. Es m i al pon. Trum Thinnels of som na st concerne on dia County Polars trained of 97.2 11the bioso was \$10,800. roum house was the old bomestead of the Wedehind estate. Owners of the property could not be reached today by CHIN reportion for a stateman. According to peak residents the first was observed and renorte 1 by passemby. os nere this St. Planthere fire department append 1 at C blace and there present were un-able to checklight recent of the slowly burning five because of a lack of a water supply

March 14, 1941: *St. Matthews Sun*: The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department responded to a call at 1 p.m. Tuesday March 11, at Pewee Valley where the two story frame residence of P. M. Russell was completely destroyed by a fire of unknown origin. Damage was estimated by firemen to be about \$7,000.00 partly covered by insurance.

March 18 & 21, 1941, letters involving fire plugs:

FIDELITY AND COLUMBIA INSURANCE COMPANY And the Add InterCOLLINE STREETS. LOUISVILLE, IC. 251/25+ 3982 STREET, STREET, STREET, Derethy & Batantika Plannen Die and the second states Call ...... Leufeotite, Ferthule induce . Sr. Vilten F. Jeffer o. 2200 jõng Has Mas Might of Che Accention of I - T. T. Martin HAS LODG. - Hand The am pitch the In ronly to your lide etates Call on Long and the Call of the second seco Final-State, was when all it is rentri of Side Yeard very Errolys en the supe for 50th and 1000 there exists té ceal C.L.L. River, see They here Metotol by No. Country

1941

**April 9, 1941: Board meeting:** 

Minutes of April Meeting April April 9, 1941

Officers and Directors present Winter, Boss, Smithson, Ogder, J. Monahan. Schweitzer and Dobson.

Meeting opend by President.

Treasurer reported bank balance of approximately 1340.00

On motion by Ogden-Smithson the following bills were voted to be paid:

Atlas Auto Parts	1.23			
Standard Oil Co.	2.74			
Gas & Electric Co.	12.29			
Ochsner's Garage	10.00			
Busch-Ogden	.75	Total	27.01	

Discussed alteration to or reconstruction of fire house for for additional equipment. Mr. Ogden consented to allow the association to wreck the frame building between the present fire house and his store and erect a new building suitable for the new and old equipment, he to take the present building for his own use, after completion of the new building. This offer was made with the understanding that should the association disband, or he sell the property, or the territory become annexed to the city of Louisville, the building is to remain a part of the prop-erty or at his option we to have privilege of moving it. This agreement was accepted by the board.

Building Committee consisting of John Monahan. Fred Boss. Louis Schweitzer appointed to get bids on the construction of a new building and call a special meeting after several bids were received and proceed to award the contract to the lowest bidder.

Secretary instructed to write letter of authority for Mr. Lee Barbour, he to solicit funds for the association on the same plan as Mr. Phil Hunt.

No further business meeting was adjourned to meet again on call or May 14.

1 Choba

Secretary

April 25, 1941: Special Board meeting:

Special Meeting Epril 25, 1941

Meeting attended by John Monahan, louis Schweitzer, Fred Boss. Mr. Smithson, W.J. Ogden, Thomas L. Dobson.

Meeting called to order by Chairman of Building Committee John Monahan.

Bids were opened (for construction of fire house) and read and after discussion Chairman called for motions at the pleasure of the board.

On motion Schweitzerto award the contract to the lowest bidder, namely Mr. John Trautwein, of 3947 Grandview Avenue. St. Matthews. #4789

On motion Ogden-Dobson a vote of confidence and thanks was voted the building committee for their good work.

Secretary instructed to notify Mr. Trautwein of the acceptance of his bid of \$978.00 for the construction of the building. Also instructed to write letters to other bidders thanking them for their co-operation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P. M. -

Secretary

letter similar to this mailed to Renry Schuwsy, Sestport Road, St. Matt. Marshall Planing Mill 3. 3. Eversman, 1820 Alfresce Pl., Lou, Zy.

Mr. John Trautwein 3947 Grandview Avenue st. Matthews, Ky.

April 26, & 28, 1941: Letters:

Dear Mr. Trautwein;

This is to officially inform you that your bid of 0978.00 for the construction of building to homes fire apparatus of this Association, according to plans and specifications upon which you figured, was accepted.

This contract was awarded you at a duly called special meeting at which six (6) directors were present.

April 26, 1941

You will proceed with the least possible delay aremove building now on premises and erect new building.

Thanking you for your co-operation in this matter,

Te are

Youre very truly,

ST. MATTHET VOLUNTPER FIRE ASSOCIATION. Inc.

april 28, 1941

Robert J. Einman Co. 112 Breckinridge Lane 21. Matthews, Ky.

Gentlemen;

This is to inform you that the contract for the construction of building for this Association has been swarded to Mr. John Trautwein, of St. Mutthews.

"e thank you for your co-operation in this matter and beg to reasin,

Yours very truly,

ST. MATCHF": VOLUTTPES FIRT AS OCIATION, Inc.

Secretary

1941

Secretary

Standard Form No. 36 Approved by the President June 10, 1927

(Badder)

## STANDARD GOVERNMENT FORM OF CONTINUATION SCHEDULE FOR STANDARD FORM 31 OR 33 (SUPPLIES)

ITEM	ARTICLES OR SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT	AMOU	NT
Nø.	ARTINED OF CERTICES	Yountil		PRICE	Dollars	Cents
	The contractor agrees to respond imme- diately to each alarm. The following equipment and personnel is available to the contractor and will be utilized to the extent necessary for each call:	11	2 Bree	Hism kenridg chuwe	re Lan	e.
	The contractor is expected to familiarize himself with the location of the facility and also with the type of construction in- volved and the type of equipment installed in the building or buildings. Also, if the site area is enclosed by a fence, the con- tractor may secure permission from the Gov- ernment's local representative for the in- stallation of a special padlock on the gate in order that admittance may be gained when Government personnel are not on duty. This contract shall remain in effect for the period ending with June 30, 1944; pro- vided that it may be canceled by either party on thirty days' advance notice in writing.	Mars F. J. G 18.2 Low	hall Heeld Eve 6 Alt vis on Tra	rsma. Irsco	n - Ple	la

10-1900 [OVER]

#### May 14, 1941: Board meeting:

Minutes of Regular Meeting held May 14, 1941

Meeting opened by President Winter

legal gourum present

Bills amounting to \$91.57 authorized to be paid.

Motion made and seconded to pay Mr. John Trautwein for building fire house upon completion and acceptance of same. Carried

Mation made and seconded authorizing Mr. Bud Young to receive new pumper from Seagraves Corporation, he to present check to them in the amount of \$3125 less 20/0. Carried

\*\*\* Motion made by John Monahan, seconded by Mr. W. J. Ogden, that the secretary be authorized to borrow from The St. Matthews Bank, the sum of THRFF THOUSAND (\$3000) DOLLARS, with which to meet our current obligations. He to execute mortgage in their favor, for like amount against fire apparatus owned by the association. Motion carried without dissention.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned to meet again June 11, 1941.

\*\*\* Copy of this motion was delivered to St. Matthews Bank at time loan was applied for and mortgage executed by secretary.

May 15, 1941: Letter:

May 15, 1941

Jeagraves Corporation Columbus, Ohio

Gentlemen;

You are hereby authorized to deliver to Mr. K. D. Young, the Ford-Mercury-Seagraves Pumper which we ordered from you thru your representative Mr. Lawrence Fitch, during the month of March.

In as much as we were concred, delivered and instructed in St. Matthews, we expect this delivery to be made at your risk.

Mr. Young, has check in full payment for the above mentioned Pumper.

May we thank you for your cooperation in this matter and remain

Youre very truly.

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTFER FIRE ACCN.

Secretary

## 1941

### May 9, 1941: St. Matthews Sun: The Jeffersonian, May 15, 1941.



May 16, 1941: St. Matthews Sun: Stage Is Set For Safety Field Day Meet Saturday. Parade starts at 2 p.m., school patrols, county police, and others to perform on Legion Field. Plans have been finished for an entertaining "Safety Field Day" program to be held at 2 p.m. Satur-day at Legion Field in St. Matthews. The affair is being sponsored by Zachary Taylor Post No. 180 of the American Legion. The public is invited, Rollie Darnell, Legion official said today.

A giant parade will move promptly at 2 p.m. through the Lexington Road St. Matthews business section and continue to Legion Field. Motorized units in the parade will form on Eline Avenue north of Lexington Road, and all school patrol units and civic organization taking part in the spectacle will form on Eline Avenue south of Lexington Road, facing the latter thoroughfare. Charlie Staebler will be the parade marshal.

Heading the parade will be Col. Frank Cassel, chief of the Jefferson County Police Department. Follow-ing Col. Cassel will be units of the County Police Department, State Police headed by Capt. A. J. Bar-tholomew, and emergency truck of the Louisville Police Department under the command of Capt. Lee G. Cory; a crash truck from the Bow-man Field Air Corps Station under man Field Air Corps Station under the command of Chief W. T. Si-

mons, U.S.A., the St. Matthews Fire Department where "Bud" Young is Chief.

The marchers division will be led by the Mill Creek School Drum and Bugle Corps, followed by the school patrols of Prestonia and Cane Run Road; two school patrols sponsored by Shelby Post of American Legion; the Drum and Bugle Corps of Greathouse School Patrol, other visiting school patrols, the Junior Group of Ladies Auxiliary Unit No 180, Zachary Taylor Post; St. Matthews Civic Club, St. Matthews Business Men's Club, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Lyndon Consolidated School Drum and Bugle Corps, Lyndon School Patrol, Middletown School Patrol, Holy Trinity Band and School Patrol, Zachary Taylor Post, and Greathouse Junior Band.

At Legion Field the police, and fire departments of St. Matthews, Louisville and Bowman Field in conjunction with the school patrols, will put on an interesting performance. Admission will be free.

May 16, 1941: St. Matthews Sun: Dr. Feigel , Chicks In Early Fire.



Elamos of fine of 2:45 Cd mothing destroyo a two-c antobiles. parage and two r e Filte at Soft of shed and 1 Tr. P. I Marria Avenue.

Admission with the

Fagel. Sever. Stre young tools and clickens, nume several hee him were also butnet.

The volunteer fire crow arrived on the scene early and prevented damage being dens to the Feigel residence and other nearby homes and outbuildings.

Dr. Feigel was unable this morning to estimate the loss or to state how much inst ando was carried. Origin of the fire is unknown.

12 Large Crowd Sees 27 51 Safely Demonstration uy he nt Event sponsored by the al Zachary Taylor Post of 23 American Legion at St. 1d )y Matthows. D. Hundreds crowded Legion Field at St. Matthews Saturday 35 to witness a demonstration of a.salety measures sponsored by: n. Zachary Taylor Post, American 11z Legion. The program at the field k followed a parade through the business district of St. Matthews. v The occasion was the annual 1-Field Day of the Zachary Taylor х. school safety patrols. Carl Hulse-Υ. wede, safety chairman of the post, who was in charge of the house, fifth, program, said the post conducts safely patrol programs for all county schools east of Cannon's n Lane.

Safe road crossing was demonstrated by children; the St. Matn thews Fire Department extinguished a fire and carried out a simulated rescue of one of its members from a burning building; a Bowman Field crash truck crew exlinguished a fire in an old automobile, showing methods for control of gasoline blazes; county and State police units demonstrated first aid apparatus, and Louisville police and firemen displayed life saving equipment

Also included on the program were competitive drills by school patrols and drum and bugle corps. Middletown School won first place in a safety contest for the school year, with Holy Trinky, second; Lyndon, third; Dorsey Colored School, fourth, and Great-

Middletown also won first forthe best drilled school patrol. Mill Creek School was judged the best drilled drum and bugle corps, with Lyndon and Greathouse following in the order named.

Trophles were awarded by St. Matthews merchants, the St, Matthews Llons Club, Jefferson County police, and the sponspring American Legion post.



SCHOOL CHILDREN SALUTE AS THE AMERICAN FLAG IS RAISED

# By Legion Post

ary Taylor Post, American bilg, showing methods for con-Legion, demonstrated safety trol of gasoline blazes; county measures Saturday as hundreds strated first police units demonwatched at the Legion Field in St. Matthews

The occasion was the annual Field Day of the Zachary Taylor school patrols. The post conducts safety patroi programs for all the county schools east of Cannon's Lane.

road crossing; the St. Matthews Field Day Held Fire Department extinguished a fire and simulated rescue of one of its own members from a burning building; a crash truck crew from Bowman Field extinguisned With mimicked dangers, Zach- a fire started in an old automocity police and firemen displayed life saving equipment.

The program included also a parade and competitive drills by bugle corps.

## Middletown Wins **Two First Places**

Trinity, second; Lyndon, third; Dorsey, a Negro school, fourth: and Greathouse, fifth.

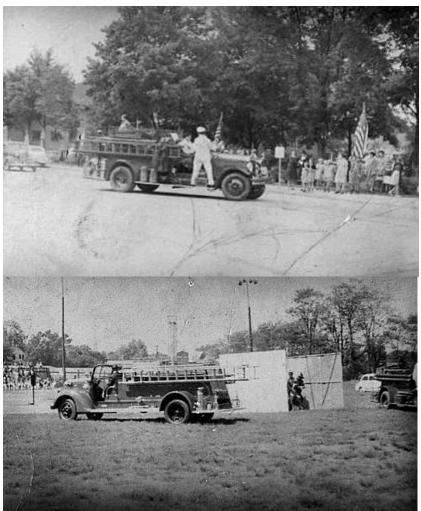
Middletown won a cup for the strated first aid apparatus; and best drilled school patrol. The best drilled drum corps went to Mill Creek School, Lyndon was second and Greathouse third,

Trophies were given by St. school patrols and drum and Matthews merchants, the town's Lions Club, Jefferson County ane. School year the Middletown Carl Hulswede is safety chairman Children demonstrated safe School won first place; Holy for the post.



AIR CORPS CRASH TRUCK CREW EXTINGUISHES GASOLINE FIRE

1941



May 23, 1941: St. Matthews Sun: Safety Meet Draws Crowd. First event is sponsored by Zachary Taylor Post of the American Legion on Legion Field. Hundreds crowded Legion Field at St. Matthews Saturday to witness a demonstration of safety measures sponsored by Zachary Taylor Post, American Legion. The program at the field followed a parade through the business district of St. Matthews.

The occasion was the annual Field Day of the Zachary Taylor school safety patrols. Carl Hulswede, safety chairman of the post, who was in charge of the program, said the post conducts safety patrol programs for all county schools east of Cannon's Lane. Safe road crossing was demonstrated by children; the St. Matthews Fire Department extinguished a fire and carried out a simulated rescue of one of its members from a burning building, a Bowman Field crash truck crew extinguished a fire in an old automobile, showing methods for control of gasoline blazes; County and State police units demonstrated first aid apparatus, and Louisville police and firemen displayed life saving equipment.

Soldy Moot
Dravis Crowd
First event is sponsored by Markery Taylor Pest of the Argenican Espire on Ecglon Field.
Hundreds counded Logion is at 51 Hindress Endedy witness a deconstruction of reaction receives connected by Laboy Treact black American based a low to through the based of the pression at the field is with a low to the through the based of the through of the based of the through the through the based of the through the through the based of the through the the based of the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the through the the through the the through the the through the through the the the the the the through the the the the the the the the the th
Fole read on hig was demon- and by children the S. Mat- bod & S. Sarahara and the bod & S. Sarahara and a stated second of courses out a course from a burning hulld- in a Bourse field creat truck on a State in a burning hulld- in a bits in a burning for the def C. So blums course and of C. So blums course and of C. So blums course and for a course of the course of the course of the bits in a first defining and the rates groups course in the first of course of the bits in a first defining and the rates groups course in the first of the course. Indifference of the course in the first of the course in the first of the course in the first of the course in the course of the course in the course of the course in the first of the first of the course of the course in the course of the course of the course of the course in the course of the course of the course of the course in the course of the course of the course of the course of the course in the course of the course in the course of th
Hiddleman olso wen hist for hest cills technol root 1400 when hest cills technol root 1400 when the base high cars and have const in Lyndon and Great was fol- ing in the order model "ophics were owned 1 by St. thewa merchants Co St. Mat- we Lions Club, Jefferen Coun- police, and the monsoring merican Legion pest.

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Trophies were awarded by St. Matthews merchants, the St. Matthews Lions Club, Jefferson County Police, and the sponsoring American Legion post.

#### May 23, 1941:

NOV 23 42 \$ 3,000.00 Louiseille, Kentucky, May 23, 1941 10 On or hefore one year ----- after date we promise to pay to The St. Matthews Bank ------or order with interest from \_\_\_\_\_\_Auto\_\_\_\_\_Auto\_\_\_\_\_\_ until paid, of the rate of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ per cent per annum, value received, payable \_\_\_\_annially\_\_\_\_\_ujgoliable and payable at the \_\_\_\_\_The St. Matthews Bank this being the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of this date mentioned in a \_\_\_\_\_\_ of this date from St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Asjaciation to The St. Matthews Bank to secure the payment of which a iden is retwined on the property therein concepted. ST. 19. THERE VOLDATERE FIRE ASSOCIATION Dray (23-1942. By Concept. Provident. No. 87039 1 By Tharsad The Secretary. IN F. MONTON & COMPANY, and , LOUGHLAR, 47.

Mortgage—Amount: \$3,000.00—Seagrave Pumper Motor 116884 - Serial #65455 Seagrave Pumper Motor 99T37415 Pump #C-3350, Serial CA-397

#### June 11, 1941: Board meeting:

Minutes of regular lieeting held June 11, 1941

Directors Ogden, J. Monahan, Dobson, Schweitzer, Smithson, Boss present for meeting.

On motion Boss, Schweitzer, the following bills were voted to be paid; Standard Oil Co. 4.02 Marshall Pl. Mill .60

Stock Yards Wr. Co.30.00Buschemeyer-Ogden.35Dobson Ptg. Co.2.00Gas & Flectric2.17R. C. Whayne4.10Telephone Co.5.50Seagraves Corp.52.50

#### Total bills \$180.04

Treasurer reported balance of app 613.09 after authorized bills were paid.

On motion of Schweitzer- Ogden it was voted to increase the authorized debt limit of the Association ## from \$2000 to 4000. Carried

Insurance question was discussed and held over to the next meeting

On motion of Schweitzer-Smithson it was voted to instruct the chief that all names of applicants for the fire company were to be presented to the board for acceptance or rejectionsfter investigation.

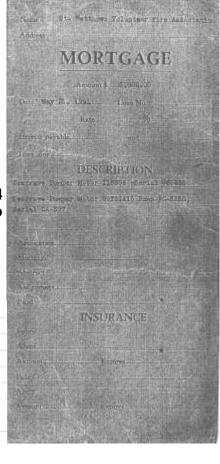
Names of those accepted to date were ordered to be posted in the fire house- Copy of letter and names attached hereto.

Cn motion Dobson-Schweitzer it was voted to purchase from Fureka Fire Hose Co., 650 ft 25inch fire hose at \$1.00 per foot, coupled.

Secretary authorized to furnish posters for annual meeting to \_\_\_\_\_ be held July 9, 1941 at Bethel Church Gym.

No further business, meeting was adjourned to meet again July 9.

Secretary



Minutes of regular liesting held June 11, 1941

Directors Ogden, J. Monahan, Dobson, Schweitzer, Smithson, Boss present for meeting.

On motion Boss. Schweitzer, the following bills were voted to be pa

biac.	<ul> <li>A second sec second second sec</li></ul>		
Jaru	Standard Oil Co. Stock Yards Wr. Dobson Ptg. Co. R. C. Whayne Seagraves Corp.	Marshall Pl. Mill Buschemeyer-Ogden Gas & Flectric Telephone Co.	.60 .35 2.17 5.50

Total bills 3186.04

Treasurer reported balance of app 613.09 after authorized bills were paid.

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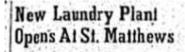
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Secretary authorized to furnish posters for annual meeting to be held July 9, 1941 at Bethel Church Gym.

No further business, meeting was adjourned to meet again July 9.

#### May 29, 1941, The Jeffersonian:



Llowellyn firm has its new \$40,000 plant in oporation.

Llewellyn Laundry is another St. Matthews inistitution now open for business. The plant at 128 Breekinridge Lane is a model for sightly appearance and is equip-ped with the most modern haundering machinery.

In anorarreing the Bundry as now in operation and officially open for business, E. A. Mall, secretary and treasurer, said today that, "While it is a drive-in plant, delivery service will be available also," The drive-in service is a convenience to the laundry's patrons who desire to drive in and deposit their bundles without leaving their cars. The company provides courteens attendants to receive bundles and deliver to cur.

When operating at its full en-pacity, the plant will employ from 20 to 30 people, according to J. S. Patterion, president, who said that it is intended to employ as many local people as possible. The new plant represents on investment of approximately \$40,-000, the officials said.

Secretary



#### 1941

#### June 5, 1941, *The Jeffersonian*:

#### Fiscal Court To Put Up St. Matthews Traffic Light

Installation of a traffic signal on U. S. 60 at St. Matthewa by the Jefferson County Fiscal Court was approved by the State Court of Appeals May 30.

The opinion declared such signals were necessary adjuncts to highways and that the statutes authorized counties to spend money for such purposes. ... County Attorney Lawrence S.

Grauman had challenged the Fiscal Court's right to spend \$500 for the purpose.

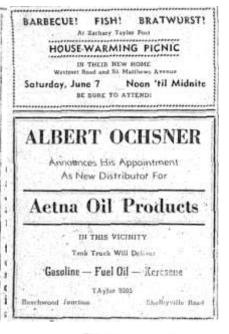
#### June 13, 1941:

#### St. Matthews Legion In Housewarming Picnic Sat.

Zachary Taylor Post American Legion is to have a "housewarming picnic" Saturday afternoon and night at their newly purchosed headquarters in St. Matthews.

The Post has just recently purchased the building formerly owned by the St. Matthews Produce Exchange, at Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue. They have remodeled and redecorated the building and are celebrating its acquisition.

The picnic is announced to start at noon. Dinner of barbeers, bratwurst or fish will be served. The posters announce prizes to be given away.



#### June 13, 1941

Mr. R. M. Young, Chief St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. St. Matthews, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Your attention is called to a ruling of the Association wherein all applicants for membership in the fire company must be approved and accepted by the Bosrd of Directors before they can be members of the company. Names of those desiring to become members must be submitted to the board by you or your assistant Chief, at a regular meeting.

The following wen have been approved and accepted:

R. M. Young Henry A. Monohan Martin Kamer John Beierle John M. Mohohan, Jr. Richard Herdt

Rudolph Lineback William F. Leitsch Wilmer R. Herdt George Wurster Fred Wootton T. H. Huffman, Sr. Roy C. Pennington

Your compliance and cooperation in the above is earnestly requested.

By order of the Board of Directors

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSN.

#### 1941



Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, A & P Supermarket is at right, The Vogue Theater at left, June 1941, Louisville Since The Twenties, 132.

July 4, 1941: *St. Mathews Sun*: Fire Chief Bud Young has called a meeting of the volunteer firemen of the St. Matthews Fire Association for Sunday morning at the firehouse.

July 24, 1941, The Jeffersonian:





An air view of the St. Matthews area gives some idea of the staggering growth of the community. This pieture, taken at 2,400 fest, fails to show large actilements in the general direction of Bowman Field and castward. Sudden popuity of the neighborhood is attributed to the fact that it is out of the flood ac. Many of the inhabitants are revenuers to Londoville, baving been night here by numerous noarby defense projects and the military expansion.

Courtesy https:// historiclouisville.weebly.com/east --somesub-



Photographic Archives, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville

1941 - Frankfort Ave east of Cannons iane west of Bauer. University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

July 2, 1941: ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BUREAU

## KENTUCKY ACTUARIAL BUREAU

LOUISVILLE, KY

G.H. PARKER, MANAGER

July 2, 1941

Dr. James Winters, Pres. St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. Heyburn Building Louisville, Ky.

Dear Sir:

#### St. Matthews Fire Department - Fire Hose

This is to confirm the conversation that we had with you today over the telephone regarding the personnel of the fire department and the amount of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hose that should be maintained.

In view of the fact that both pumpers are to respond to all calls, in order to properly man both pieces as per our letter of January 27, 1941, the membership of the fire department should consist of the chief and at least 20 men, allowing for absences due to illness, etc.

In answer to your inquiry regarding the total amount of hose to be maintained, we wish to say that both pumpers should carry at least 1200 feet of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hose, in addition to the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hose, and there should be at least 500 feet of hose held in reserve to replace the hose used at fires while it is being washed and dried.

An efficient and reliable means for calling the fire department is to be maintained at all times and the entire membership should hold regular monthly drills with the apparatus.

Dr. James Winters, Pres.

#### - 2 -

July 2, 1941

Just as soon as you inform us that all of the improvements have been completed, we shall plan to make an inspection and if satisfactory, extend the credit mentioned in our letter of January 27, 1941. If, in the meantime, we can be of any assistance to you in connection with this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Yours very truly,

Manager

July 9, 1941: Special Board meeting & Regular Board Meeting:

July 9, 1941

Minutes of Special Meeting(preceding regular meeting) held at Bethel Church Gymnasium.

Directors Boss, Dobson, Schweitzer, Monahan and Smithson present.

Total attendance 16 Treasurer's Secretaryic annual report read and accepted.

everetary a annual report road and devepted?

While waiting for attendance to enlarge some regular business was taken care of.

Upon motion of Schweitzer - Dobson, the following bills were authorized to be paid

Marshall Planing Mill	2.60	Telephone Co	4.86
Standard 011 Co.	8.41	Gas & Flee	2.27
McClain Electric Co	66.75	Seagraves	10.00
Reisert Insurance	145.00	Vogue Theatre	4.07
Buschemeyer-Ogden	1.38	Dobson Ptg. Co	4.50
Pohl Iron	and Wire	Works 27.45	
Total 277. 29			

Nominations for directors were accepted at this time and election followed. After many nominations and withdrawals Secretary was instructed on motion of Fred Wootton- T. H. Huffman to cast one vote to elect the following eight ditectors; W. J. Ogden, J. Ellis Powers, Louis Schweitzer, Fred C. Bose, John M. Monchan Jr., Wm. Ehlig, Thomas L. Dobson, William Smithson. This was done and a recess was declared, to soujourn to our regular meeting place at the Buschemeyer Ogden Fharmacy.

Thomas L. A.

Minutes) of regular meeting held July 9, 1941

Meeting called to order by the President.

Directors J. Monahan, Filis Powers, Dobson, Ogden, Boss, Schweitzer, and Winter present.

Henry Monshan appointed Chief to relieve Mr. Bud Young, Sec instructed to write Chief Young to that effect.

Flection of officers resulted as follows; John Monahan Jr., Pres. Louis Schweitzer Vice President, Thomas L. Dobson, Secretary, Fred C. Boss, Treasurer, ".J. Ogden Asst. Treasurer.

On motion of Hr. Boss and Hr. Powers, W.J. Ogden and Thomas J. Dobs were reappointed Process agants in compliance with state laws governing corporations.

Notion by Ogden- Schweitzer that we pay LaFrance Corp. bill of \$21.00, for two(2) fire extinguishers sold to householder for \$24.50. Carried

Notion by Winter-Powers that we send three (3) men to Firemens convention to be held in lexington, Hy., at a cost not to exceed \$50.00. Carried.

Dr. James F. Winter, past president was reappointed as director.

1941

### July 9, 1941: Meeting:

### **Articles Of Incorporation Change**

-Df on Tennecity J(D) V. La Value JP. In the conder.	term of the St. Matthews Volumtees (1, 1) which offices P. C. Vice Pr. aut ) the following recolution;		12-121 12 10
	telon of incorporation of the St.		
	ACTICLE VIII.	•	\$4,00
7.0 1.1 doine 6 10 5 11 2.1 -11 -11 -10 -0 11 11 10 10 10 10	is offerhand watch the said corporation of a second design of the second s	cation may any time incur	
1 Parts - (Parts - (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (	e	lation; the motion was	
	tean and a vota thereen van held v fever af teo election si mild reas		July 10, 10/1 The Courtin
Lenis II. Schneitzer Tiense Dotern W. Jeane Chem Jein D. Long an Jr.			July 10, 1941, The Courtier Journal
Fred C. Poss William Scitheon	01 801		2 Cars Collide,
And the following vote:	were cast against its adoption		2 Cars conde,
TOUR		25 B	Injuring Man
favor of the adoption of sub Nr. Louis Schnitzer moved to above sneed comporation access		ared edopted. Thereupen of articles of the find for such cases, wote being taken	And 2 Girls
	John D. Cond John T. Do	han Jr. Vice President	Crash Occurs
1922	NOTICING CH INCOMOL CICH		In St. Matthews
52. 1	ATERACION - TO THE STORES		
	ng fen fillel for some i fith Dipp tintion part of to part - Station <u>as</u> is		Three persons were injured at 6 p.m. Wednesday when two sutomobiles collided at Breckin-
	AFC71-7 7717.		ridge Lane and Willis Avenue, St. Matthews, and both automobiles
The birurat erount of a Ansociation") may an any fire	ininitederation of the second state (The. 2 georg for the formation (The.	Contract Palentacy 11re and ((2005.00) Callers,	were damaged considerably. Those injured were:
10 11 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	thread cost " the state of the row has	107 82 70778 20 W.s.	Martha Mustard, 15, Boston, fractured pelvis and contusions,
Jein E. Porsis, Jr. Tumins 1. 14 con Ro. Initiason Laula E. Secondiney	<ol> <li>Constraint and the set of the set of the s</li></ol>		in St. Anthony's Hospital. Ann Gerrish. 15, also of Boston, contusions, in St. Anthony's Hos-
CONVERSION C. INCOURT			pital.
COVERY OF FELTINESS	0		George Abbott, 25, of 211
the late of the of the second	ary Public in and farily finite and i in four distances in the second se	<pre>i = 1 the i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i = 1 is such i i = 1 is such i</pre>	Breckinridge Lane, chest injuries. The two girls were riding in the automobile driven east on Willis by J. H. Harrison, Jr., 16, of 2230 Village Drive. County police said witnesses told them
Siven under ry band $\varepsilon$ :	on you do not not not the the test	July 1941.	Harrison's car failed to stop for
In contration explored	a Rotary Fullie on Formation 7, 194		Breckinridge Lane, an arterial highway, and collided with Ab- bott's car which was traveling
	Fordin I. Berry		south on Breckinridge, Harrison
n Salafan	the second se	30 D	was uninjured.
ar Santucky, do eactify that Acticles of Accorporation to:	t of the Court - Court of John court, in on this do, $t = 10$ for this do, $t_{\rm s}$ , in the product to the form of the states, and a product the transformer of the states, and a perticipant the transformer of the states.	the fore-ofnet second.	The Boston girls were visiting Mrs. Sonia Uri, Brown's Lane, SL Matthews.
Witness ry Lord this 30	dia day of July 1907.		
	n. n. 200 (1993)	CLEDX	





July 15, 1941

Mr. John Manahan, Captain, St. Matthews Vol. Fire Dept. Inc., St. Watthews, Kentucky.

Dear Captain:

You recently placed with our Mr. O.L.Gore, an order for fire hose for which we would like to express our sincere appreciation. It is a pleasure to take care of your needs and we want to make velcame this opportunity to serve you.

The terms on the contract were written as "2  $\leq$  10th Prox. Net 60 days with 10 months additional at 65 interest" As you have arranged to pay one-half of the account within 60 days and the balance with 10 months additional and in order to make the necessary change in our records Wr. Gore recently visited you and obtained your permission to correct the terms on the contract to read as follows: "One-half payable in 60 days, balance additional 10 months at 6% interest".

We have scoordingly corrected our copy of the contract as stated above and this will conform with the change Mr. Gore informs us you have made on your copy of the contract.

Thanking you again for your valued patronage and trusting we may have the pleasure of further serving you when you may be in meed of additional supplies and equipment and with our best wishes, we remain

Very truly yours, ablai 61

E. A. Blair Credit Hanager.

July 17, 1941: Chief Bud Young resigned from the position of Chief, and H. A. Monohan served as chief for a couple of months while the board decided on a permanent Chief.

July 17, 1941: Letter:

BAB: JC

July 17, 1941

Hr. R. M. Young 3807 Harner Avenue St. Matthews, Ky.

Dear Mr. Young;

You are hereby notified that you have been represent from your position as thief of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. I feative this date this position will be filled by Nr. Henry Monchan.

We thank you for your services and cooperation in the past and 15' four further cooperation as necessary in turning the office over to your duly appointed successor Mr. Monohan,

.

Yours very truly.

ST. MATTHEW FOLUTERS FIRE ALEN. Inc.

For the President

reoretary

July 18, 1941: St. Matthews Sun: John Monohan, Jr., New Fire Association Head. John M. Monohan, Jr. 3909 Elmwood Avenue, was elected new president of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association and Louis H. Schweitzer, 237 Cornell Place, was named as the new vice president at a called meeting held Wednesday evening. The board of directors at the same meeting held at the Buschemeyer-Ogden Pharmacy, also re-elected Thomas L. Dobson, Thierman Lane for the office of secretary and Fred C. Boss, Lyndon, Treasurer. Dr. James E. Winter was chosen as a member of the board.

Henry Monohan, absent at the meeting, was selected as Fire Chief to succeed "Bud" Young. Mr. Monohan who recently resigned as assistant to the chief has agreed to accept the post for a period of two months.

Association officers voted at the called session to send three members of the fire fighting crew, including the Chief, to a school of instruction for volunteer firemen to be held at Lexington in the near future. (Am not confident in this date, may be September.)

John Monohan, Jr., Nov. Mito Accollation Fload

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August 15, 1941: WANTED MEN! Henry Monohan, chief of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department has called a special meeting of the body for Tuesday night August 26, at 7:30 at the fire house. At this meeting Chief Monohan would be glad to interview men over 21 years of age who would like to become members of the crew of firefighters. Men are needed now Mr. Monohan states, and here is a real opportunity for young men to render a worthwhile service to their community.

August 28, 1941, The Jeffer-

NEW COAL YARD 1.1769 **OPENS AT ST. MATTHEWS** A new coal yard, styled as St. Matthews Fuel Company, opened for business this week in St. Matthews, at 147 St. Matthews Avenue. 11 The new fuel concern, whose yard manager is E. M. LeCompte, will feature all-kinds of Eastern Kentucky coal. A special inducement to farmers equipped to haul their own coal is being made by the firm in a display message elsewhere in this issue.

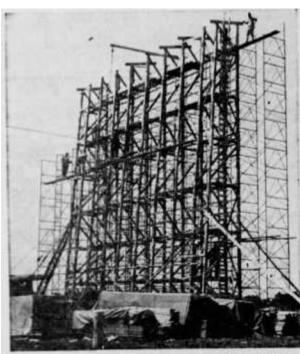
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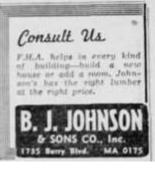
1941

#### August 10, 1941, The Courier-Journal



THIS IS HOW \$40,000 DRIVE-IN THEATER ON SHELBYVILLE ROAD WILL LOOK WHEN COMPLETED.





C.-J. Photo by Art Ablier. THE SCREEN, shown here under construction, is to be fifty feet wide and fifty-five feet high. Made of structural steel, it will have an office and a locker room built in its base. The projection room will be sunk into the ground 220 feet in front of the screen.

## **Drive-In Theater Under Construction** Near St. Matthews

AT LAST Louisville is really going to have an outdoor moving picture show where the customers sit in their automobiles.

Last year a former manager of the Mary Anderson Theater wanted to start one here but he couldn't interest men with money.

Six months age . Chicago company which operates a chain the general contractor. of such theaters negotiated for the purchase of twenty acres of land on the outskirts of Louisville, but regarded the price as too high and passed Louisville , watch the show through windup.

#### Fourteen Acres Leased

Now, however, Cleveland men have leased fourteen acres on the north side of the Shelbyville Road, just west of its junction with the road to Lyndon; they have formed a Kentucky corporation, The Louisville Drive-In Theater Corporation, and construction has already begun. Forty thousand dollars is being spent to build the place, which

is expected to open for business September 1 with space for 700 automobiles.

#### Screen 55 Feet High

The property was leased from Mrs. J. B. Arterburn, St. Matthews, for ten years with a privilege of a five-year extension. The Hebel-Hardin Company, realtors, handled the deal; Hoffman Building company is

Made of structural steel, the screen will be fifty feet wide and fifty-five feet high. The field in which the motorists will sit and shields will be a semi-circular ramp covered with crushed rock.

#### **Children** Admitted Free

The admission charge will be 35 or 40 cents for adults. Children accompanying adults will be admitted free. Refreshments will be sold while pictures are being shown.

The show's owners expect Loulsville's climate to permit operation of the theater seven and a half months a year.

#### August 18, 1941:

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BUREAU

KENTUCKY ACTUARIAL BUREAU

LOUISVILLE, KY

G.H. PARKER. MANADER

August 18, 1941

Mr. John Monahan, President St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. St. Matthews, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

#### Fire Alarm

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the recommendations made to your brother, the chief of the fire department, when he was in our office last Saturday morning to discuss means for providing a more reliable and efficient fire alarm service in your community.

In our letter of July 2, 1941 to Dr. Winters, who was then President of your association, we informed him that any credit for protection in your community is based upon the maintenance of a reliable and efficient method of calling the fire department. This is particularly true in view of the tremendous increase in the number of houses and the area involved.

We recommended that sleeping quarters for one man be provided in the new engine house and a telephone with a direct line to the public exchange. This phone to be used for fire calls only.

A reliable man is to be kept at the engine house at night for receiving and sounding the alarms. This is in addition to the telephone service maintained in Mr. Ogden's residence and drug store in order to supplement that service during the night when the drug store is closed and also to eliminate the loss of time inherent in the transmission of alarms over telephones.

We feel that this plan, while not the best, is under the circumstances a most economical and reliable method for calling the department, and we hope it will be carried out.

Yours very truly,

Manager

Dictated by Mr. Clemens:DH

#### August 19, 1941, The Courier -Journal

Train Decapitates Man.

James J. Moore, 72, of 3944 Gilman, St. Matthews, was decapitated at 1:30 p.m. Monday by an inbound L. & N. passenger train near Chenoweth Lane. The engineer said Mr. Moore was walking across the tracks.

Members of the family said Mr. Moore, a retired plumbing supplies salesman, had gone to a hardware store for some paint. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mattie G. Moore; a son, George E. Moore; two daughters, Mrs. Charles Peege and Miss Helen Moore; a brother, Joseph H. Moore, of Erlanger, Ky., and three grandchildren.

On the danger list at the City Hospital was William Caine, 19, Kosmosdale, "who suffered a broken arm and skull injury Sunday night when hit by a car on Dixie Highway near Kosmosdale, County police said the driver was Willis Sattler, 23, Cincinnati, who was not held.

Gordon Pryor, 34, a truck driver, 1213 S. 6th, was arrested at 2:30 p.m. Monday on Eastern Parkway on charges of drunkenness in a public place and reckless driving. Police said he was driving erratically. September 1941: John M. Monohan Jr. became Chief of the Department. He remained Chief for the next 36 years until he retired in 1977.

At this time the department started a "training program."

During the War Years it was hard for the department to move ahead, because all the attention was on the war, but they did it anyway. They slowly became financially sound, training improved, equipment was kept up and new equipment was always being added.

No Board Minutes from August 1941 to August 1945

Then many missing in 1946, all of 1947 and half of 1948.

I have no explanation for the missing minutes.

There is a reference in the October 1948 minutes that John Monohan was to see Tom Dolan about the old minute book. Then there is a notation at bottom from December 1948 saying he has the book.



Appears to be garage fire during this time frame.

1941

September 11, 1941, The Jeffersonian:



September 25, 1941, The Jeffersonian:

## St. Matthews People Discuss Incorporation

The St. Matthews Civic Club held a meeting Wednesday night when the matter of whether of not the town should be incorporated was discussed. This matter persists in coming up from time to time.

At the meeting Wednesday night at Holy Trinny Hall. Dr. C. L. Wunsch, president of the Club, stated that the Club itself is neutral relative to incorporating.

The town has had such phenomenal growth during the past two years, both toward Louisville and out into the open spaces of the County, that it seems inevitable for it soon either to be incorporated as a municipality or be taken into Louisville. Which it is to be and which would be better for the residents is a most question.

Officers of the Civic Club espeet to have Mayor Schollz come out in the near future and esplain just what is to be expected it annexation takes place.

\*\* - \* \* - \* \* - \* \* - \* \* - \* \* -NEW SHOE STORE IN ST. MATTHEWS SHOES FOR THE ENTIRE TAMILY! child Boys, Old Boys, and Belgeroup on Birds, was do "before 20" - London a nor growther war, and has been block and ballwarden block was be-ordered and ballwarden block was be-OPINING -FRI. & SAT., SEPTEMBER 1928 COLATION - New H THOWER SHOES ISHOWERS BOYS SHOP! 1912 FEANRFORT AVENUE Elies Huilding St. Matthews.

October 9, 1941, The Jeffersonian:

\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*

Firemen's School To Be Conducted Here Fire the first Myer out the Jolle Dan Stand Verhilling Fight 13partment and to be that the mail of his de reations of would believe a training why and sucht of the work inductions faithful 27 Practice start what also he staged durken the Lot Mr Marra stated. Court It is from the State Fire Marshall where i to be the instructor and more he men in the variant for a of fire-fighting. Members of Loth the Michilles town and St. Marth #4 fire anpartments are lo be my ited to attend the firemen's sensel, according to Mr. Myers.

September 11, 1941, The Courier-Journal

## St. Matthews Group Vetoes Incorporation

### 150 At Meeting Decide To Look Into Annexation

Growing pains, which have given St. Matthews full urban flavor — and troubles, too caused a meeting Wednesday night, sponsored by the town's civic club to vote against incorporation.

The town was incorporated in 1936 and was dissolved a year later.

A somewhat puzzled group of 150 persons gathered at Holy Trinity Hall to "hear what it was all about."

#### Says Club Neutral.

Dr. C. L. Wunsch, president o fthe St. Matthews Civic Club, sponsors of the meeting, presided. He explained that the club itself was neutral on the question.

"We are going to have Mayor Joseph D. Scholtz out here again next month to tell us what the city can do for us if it annexes us," Dr. Wunsch said. The suburb can be annexed whether or not it is incorporated, it was explained.

Carl Hulswede, resident of the suburb, wanted to know why the question of incorporation came up annually. He said the club was started as a protest against incorporation.

#### **NOTE 5 fire hydrants**

#### Town's Growth Cited.

A protest to incorporation was sounded by Louis Schweitzer. He said he is not against annexation.

The town has grown from 4,000 population to 15,000 in a short time, said Mr. Schweitzer, noting that its residents pay more for water, gas, electricity, garbage service, five hydrants and other services than Louisvillians do. He said if the town is incorporated a vote of 51 per cent of the people is necessary to permit annexation by the city.

Several others said they were satisfied with the town's present status and that they had moved from Louisville to escape taxes. R. B. Freeman proposed a resolution which resulted in the vote on whether to seek to incorporate the town.

#### Parking Brought Up.

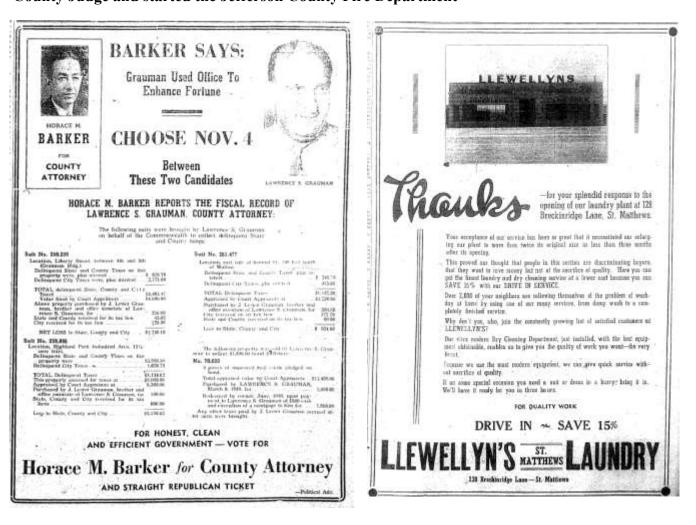
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Sandwiched in with the discussion of incorporation or annexation was one of parking. The state's safety engineer, the discussion developed, has ordered angle parking abolished.

County Attorney Lawrence Grauman, a resident of the suburb, and County Commissioner James Henning were spectators.

-

# October 30, 1941, *The Jeffersonian*: November 6, 1941, *The Jeffersonian*: Grauman is future STMFD board member, Barker became County Judge and started the Jefferson County Fire Department



#### November 20, 1941, The Jeffersonian



November 26, 1941, The Courier-Journal:

## G. J. Wurster Dies In Lexington Hospital

George John Wurster, 51, of 3919 Frankfort Avenue, pro-prietor of the St. Matthews Hardware Store at that address, died at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Veterans Hospital, Lexington, where he was taken Monday following an illness of several weeks. A veteran of the World War, Mr. Wurster was active in civic affairs at St. Matthews, where he had operated the store for twenty years. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alpha Wurster; a brother. Fred Wurster, and a sister, Mrs. Bertha Gutermuth. He is a member of Zachary Taylor Post, American Legion, the Lions Club, and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Courtesy, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, collection of R. G. Potter, P 3224, unknown Date.



1941

December 4, 1941, The Jeffersonian





#### September 19, 1993, The Courier-Journal, 125th Anniversary. December 8, 1941.

#### 1941

December 8, 1941, The Courier-Journal



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HAWAII, U. S. A.

#### Union Shop Voted For Captive Mines

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**Parliament Called** 

To Meet Today

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Late Bulletins

Continued on Phys. 6, 5 minute 1



#### December 14, 1941, The Courier-Journal

## \* **Special Civilian Defense Registration!**

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY 8 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

2.000

Volunteers for Civilian Defense Are Needed. Read Instructions Carefully as to WHERE to Register!

500 Volunteers Are Needed to Serve As AUXILIARY POLICEMEN

These volunteers will serve in their own police districts, will erreive first aid training at the start, and then training in police methods. They will be subject to emergency call; will perform lesser, but necessary dation, thus freeing regular policemen for more specialized work. Register in your home police dis-trict station. Locations:

First District: 1966 Bardstown Road Record District: Uny Balt Third District: Uny Balt Pourch Wittersch: This and Main Sta-Forch Bratersch: Silk and Lovering

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

Residents of Jefferson County, outside of the city limits of Louisville, are requested to register at the location in the following list which is nearest their home:

R. Mathews at County Police Realignation in Amethods Jeffernantown at Town Holl Middletown at Hiddletown Garage Anchorage at Fire Station Finance Bidge at County Building Frentonia at Griffin's Service Station and Garage

#### INDIANA PLANS SIMILAR

Clark and Floyd Counties in Indiana, containing the cities of Jeffersonville and New Albany, are perfecting plans along the lines of the Defense Council's and expect to announce details of their registration soon

#### Remember!

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

#### DEFENSE COUNCIL of the METROPOLITAN AREA of LOUISVILLE

### ×

500 Volunteers Are Needed to Serve As AUXILIARY FIREMEN

These volunteers will serve in their own neighb fire station. Training will consist of first aid follow by schooling in five protective and fighting methods, They will be subject to emergency service, andating as directed in fire disaster work. For this service, register in your neighborhood fire station. Locations:

Mendingenderstein IIII & Gelferman Romen Rag, Ca, Na, Sociell S, etch Rag, Ca, Na, Sociell S,

#### 1,000 Volunteer Men and Women Needed to Serve As

AIR RAID WARDENS

These solutions will serve in their own neighborheads. Their daty will be to carry to each heate in their territory such instructions as they receive from their superior officers in the air raid warden services to seelet in eliminating basards of incendiary bomb fires, and to be solicitous for the welfare of their particular area. For this service, register at Civilian Defense Registration Office in the Jefferson County Armory,

#### December 28, 1941, The Courier-Journal



THE SMASHED BODY of the automobile in which Mrs. Clarice Kaiser, 34, of 587 Sunset Road, met her death yesterday is shown being inspected at the scene of the tragedy by County Patrolman L. F. Wiser.

## Woman Driver Dies As Train Hits Auto

## Woman Driver Dies As Train Hits Auto

### Engine Drags Car 772 Feet

Mrs. Clarice Kaiser, 34, of 537 Sunset Road, was killed almost instantly at 9:04 a.m. yesterday when her automobile was struck near St. Matthews by the crack L. & N. Bain, the Azalean, She was the wife of Edward F. Kaiser, distillery district manager.

#### Engine Drags Auto.

"The car which Mrs. Kaiser was driving was standing at the Hubbard's Lane crossing, and just as we got there shot on to the tracks," County Patrolman Edward Young quoted Engineer E. R. Booth, 4547 Southern Avenue, as saying.

The Kaiser sedan was dragged 772 feet and wrapped so tightly around the front of the engine that it had to be pulled off with chains, Deputy Coroner M. Rodger Dougherty said. The train, bound for Cincinnal, was delayed forty-five minutes.

Joseph Greenwell, Shelbyville Road farmer, said that thirtyfour minutes before the crash he saw a woman in an automobile at the side of the road by the crossing. Later a switch oiler, seeing the car, waved the driver across, but told Dougherty the woman drove down the road and turned around.

Besides her husband, Mrs.

Kaiser is survived by two children, Donald G. Kaiser, 11, and Bonnie Jean, 4, and her father, Clarence M. Bachus, 2319 Carolina.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, at Neurath's Chapel. Burial will be in Cave Hill Cemetery.

#### Wiper Pierces Hand.

His hand pierced by an automobile windshield-wiper when he attempted to brace himself against an impending head-on collision, Harry Bruce, 19, of Kosmosdale, was admitted to City Hospital at 10:30 p.m. yesterday following a minor accident on Dixie Highway about two miles south of Kosmosdale.

County police, who said they were forced to administer chloroform while the wiper was being extricated, quoted Bruce as saying the device "somehow pinned my hand and penetrated it when the windshield broke." The driver of the other car, who was uninjured, was listed as Dominich Abbinante, 40, of Mobile, Ala.

A skull fracture suffered Christmas night when he was struck by an automobile on Jefferson near 15th resulted in the death at City Hospital yesterday of Ellis Williams, Negro, 28, of 2231 Eddy. It was the city's fifty-seventh traffic fatality in 1941, as compared with forty-nine this time last year. The driver was Malcolm P. Taylor, 30, of 1200 W. Market.

#### **Board Of Directors**

Fred C. Boss Edwin W. Davis, end July 1941. Thomas L. Dobson William E. Ehlig, start July 1941. John M. Monohan Jr., start Feb. 1941. W. Jesse Ogden James Ellis Powers, start July 1941. Louis H. Schweitzer William Smithson, end July 1941 Dr. James Emil Winter

#### Officers

1941 Chief Raymond A. "Bud" Young\* end, July 1941. Chief Henry A. Monohan\* July, Aug, 1941 Chief John M. Monohan Jr., start Sept. 1941. Assist. Chief H. A. Monohan Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt\* Captain Rudolph L. Lineback\* Captain John M. Monohan, Jr.\* Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer\*

#### **Firefighters**

- J. P. Arnold T. A. Baker John A. Beierle\* Jim Brangers Raymond Crabtree J. B. Crouch John Feierbend Charles H. Hahn Bernard F. Handel W. Rich Herdt\* Ted H. Huffman Jr. Ted H. Huffman Sr.\* John W. "Bud" Jansen Henry R. Kennedy
- William F. Leitsch\* Byron S. Martin George W. Nichaus R. C. Pennington\* Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer O. M. Steinmann George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry John F. Westerman Fred William Wootton, Jr.\* George John Wurster\*

\* listed on a list provided by STMFD for Annual meeting to approve.

#### 1942

The department built a new fire house at 115 Breckinridge Lane, directly next door to the old one, to give them more room. This new station would serve as their quarters until 1952.

St. Matthews was incorporated, (became a city in the 1950s) and had to dispose of all debts. To do this they raised tax rates and paid off everyone. They wound up with \$560.63 and decided to give it to the fire department.



Moved into new fire house at 115 Breckenridge Lane:

Photo by Basil Willis

The equipment of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. To report a fire dial "0', and ask for St. Matthews Fire Dept. 1942

#### January 1, 1942, The Jeffersonian:





## February 5, 1942, *The Jef-fersonian*:

### Trolley Coaches To Brown's Lane

Extended service to County area via city railway system to be inaugurated.

Added Banchortation facilities for the SL Matthburg area appromised by the Lonswille Raitway Company, whit proposes the extend its Walmar Street trolley roaches out Shelbyyrile Road to Brown's Lone. With a continuous lane mit to that point persengers may ride on downtown to the central business district of Loubylle without the necessity of switching or transferring. The Jeffersonian learned today that pew coaches have been ordered and that the newly extended service is to be started, probably within the next two weeks.

Arrangements have been made for the Louisville Rallway Company to purchase the necessary franchise from the County for operating their buses in that area bayond the city limits. Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3724&CISOBOX=1&REC=4 Booker & Kinnard, Photo of street intersection made at St. Matthews KY, Royal Photo Company, January 1, 1942, ULPA R 07088 00 n



Courtesy,

http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3725&CISOBOX=1&REC=5 Café and Steiden stores, January 1, 1942, Royal Photo Company, ULPA R 07088 01 n View of wide road from the middle of the road. Buildings line both sides and cars are parked along the curs. To the right signs for RC Cola and a café (Wilkens Café—Firefighter) are painted on the exterior of a building. On the left are the corner of a grocery store and a corner shop labeled "Steidens Stores."



Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3732&CISOBOX=1&REC= St. Matthews Tire Service, January 2, 1941, Royal Photo Company, ULPA R\_07088\_02\_n



Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3726&CISOBOX=1&REC=20 Street in St. Matthews, Kentucky January 1, 1942, On the right are signs for "Roby & Clemens," "Frankel's Drugs," "Liquors," and other businesses. On the left is the St. Matthews Motor Company Sales and service building and a service station. Beheind the motor company is the St. Matthews bank. , ULPA R 07088 03 n



Courtesy, https://historiclouisville.weebly.com/east--somesuburbs.html#PhotoSwipe1536980957473

1942 - Shelbyville Road, near Breckinridge Ln. Top looking east to light at St Matthews ave. Bottom looking west, White Castle on right. University of Louisville Photographic Archives

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION TER C. HUXEL & CO. St. Matthews, Ky ppliances Jan. 28 MANUTACTURERS OF "HUXBAR" IT SALVAGES . DOES NOT DESTROY . George H. 11bers (non-contributor) 230 EAST FRONT STREET 4167 estport soud 1-24-1942 CINCINNATI, OHIO dthere. 1. Cief of the Dept. St. Mathew Ky. Fire Run 5:40 A. H. Jan. 14 825.00 Dear Chif. Will for place be so thind January 16, 1942: St. Matthews Sun: Two Fires Entail Loss Estimated At **\$2,700.00**. Two fires sent the St. Matthews Fire as to check into something for me Department out Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday We have your department credited with 1. Thisher, morning to fight blazes on St. Matthews Avenue just east of town. The Tuesday blaze resulted in an to to some misunderstanding with our saleman estimated \$200.00 damage to the servant quarters in that territory we are haven a boy difficulty at the Herbert Agar home. Approximately \$2,500 was lost when a frame outbuilding supporting liv-Checking the Hundbard in fur section ing quarters owned by George Wilbers caught fire If you have 1. please being it to the attention of destroying a cow, chickens, automobile, and plumbing tools. The fire boud or return same (collect on the 4) as we are having trouble as you throw obtaining maturily Thanking you for early reply ad hoping to see you y' and when I get down your way BILLS ARE DUE WHEN PRESENTED Remit by Check to the A er Pay at Buschemeyer-Opdan Drug Store J Ceman Very Truly Jours ing to the Support of the As ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMPANY EUREKA FIRE HOSE DWORDH OF UNITED STREES RUBBER COMPANY

Rockefeller Center 1230 SIXTH AVENUE - NEW YORK

January 27, 1942

Hr. Thomas L. Dobson, Secy. St. Matthews Fire Dept. St. Matthews, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

We desire to again refer to your account as follows:

October 7, 1941 due one-half within 60 days, balance within one year from date of invoice Interest 2,25 2505,25

It is no doubt on oversight that the payment of half of the account has not been paid, as we were stylead at the time the order was placed that each for one-half the secount was on hand, and if you would kindly have check sent us at this time in the amount of [325.40, we assure you it would be highly appreciated.

Thanks for your kind personal attention, and the anticipated remittance, and with best wishes, we remain.

Very truly yours ba A. Blair E,

EAB :N

January 30, 1942, The Courier-Journal:

# **Raid Warning** System to Get **Tryout Today**

### Whistles, Sirens and Bombs At Key Spots In Falls Cities **To Put On Dress Rehearsal**

Everyone in the Louisville metropolitan area-both sides of the river-is expected to hear one or more assorted loud noises today as the area's multi-method air raid warning system is put through a dress rehearsal morning and night.

Two wildcat steam whistles, six clinary steam whistles, fine ige auvers and bosinis fored from true Lourville fire stations will erform on a definite schedule, the fire station of the schedule, the schedule of the schedule, the schedule of the schedul erdinary steam whiches, fear large strens and bossits fired from sta four Louisville fire stations will perform on a definite schedule, beginning at 13 a.m., while ninety

beginning at 11 a.m., while howery stationary observers, city em-former, and two groups of de-former officials in each chark the modificity of the sciencial throughout the area. The first text will last from 11 a.m. until 2.45 p.m. while the science with chart at 6 p.m. This state in the science of the state of the science of the state of the science of the

stringing out of the neite-makers over a considerable period of time is for tax purposes only. If arouny plates ever appreach the city they'll all let go at once. Explicit instructions is person-rel responsible for the sounding of such of the warning methods have been prepared and sent and by Roy W. Barks, director of vocks for the city and the De-ference Council, with the assistance of K. F. Bechangeler, works di-partment engineer in charge of partment engineer in charge of part weining preparations. zaid warming preparations.

The line-up is as follows: 11 A.M.—Firing of three smoke of order barbies at the second three up from months at the sta-on, Barbiesen Road and Mary-

Matthews |Ere station | M. MarDares Dre station will see second between each: 11.30 A.M.-Bombs Prevn Gre station, Previou and Macrett;

#### Water Company Whielde.

11 45 A.M .- Three thirty-see 10 10 A.S. Pleve there only one contribution from welderst whothey, Crement Hill Ritchion, Lonivelle Walter Company: 12 Sour-Boole, from 50, and

ville Shops; I P.M.-Air siren, U. S. Naval Gun Mounting Plant, Strawberry

Later; [13] P.M.-Electric sizes, 54 Heisers, Fire Blacton; 1.30 P.M.-Electric sizes, K. & I. Terminal Rationad, 21st and

Formaniani and a statistic con-light: 1-80 P.M. - Stream which cod. 2 P.M. - Stream Which & Jetter-sontille Quartermaster Depot; 2:15 P.M. - Steam which is finan-siter Parent Company, New Al-barrier, New Al-Marchine, New Al-Marchine,

2.30 P.M .- Steambeat whiatle, Monon Veneer Company, load an-chored in river at New Albaev, 2.48 P.M.-Nieam whisfle, Peter Klerner Furniture Company, New

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Alhany. The same order will be fol-lowed doubing the night here which will be identical in all re-spects to the day best with the exception of the substitution of bombs making grown and red flares instead of anoske clouds to gether with the detimation.

#### Observers to Check Nuise,

Each wheerver has been equipped with a report shart on which he will check as "good." "fair," "poor," or "not heard" the result of each schechuled warning.

"This text should really give to a good idea of the efficacy of the system as adopted as far to-gether with some suggestions perfore with some suggestions for improvement or modultation's hand on the reports of the ob-servers." Mr. Schimpefer de-rlared, "It may be that some areas are insufficiently covered by the sound waves while others may have more volume of council than is meressary.

## **Fire Damages** Judge's Home

Fire of undetermined origin caused slight damage at 8:15 p.m. yesterday at the residence Judge Churchill Humphrey, 4095 Massie Avenue.

The blaze was extinguished by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

The fire was at the rear of the house, according to county police at the scene.

Another fire of undetermined origin destroyed the roof of the Church of God in Christ, 1231 Zane. The Rev. R. R. Booker, pastor, said he was unable to estimate the extent of damage.

#### February 6, 1942, *The Courier-Journal*:

## **Another Ex-Inmate Says** He Did Work for Jailer

#7 (A Ernest Neichter, 20, of 2516 Frankfort Avenue, said n it yesterday he had been an occasional employe at the Brookside Inn, operated by Jailer Martin Connors, when he was serving a two-year jail term for attempting to break into the Frankel-Obrecht Drug Company at St. Matthews.

renn Mr. Neichter, now a truck driver for a wholesale grocery firm, said he had been to Conz nors' camp "a couple of times" shortly before his release, Feb-ruary 10, to do some carpentry work on booths, without pay.

n · o i i d

Luther Darden was living at the ramp when Neichter worked there, Neichter said, adding that be knew little about the Negro or his duties at the camp. Pre-viously Durden did "odd johs" about the jail, E., -

#### Lost His Privileges.

Son of Andrew W. Neichter 8 4

Son of Andrew W. Neichier, br., former 34. Matthews inv chief, Neichler inree years ago confessed to starting reveral fire, in St. Matthews, including the \$150,000 fire at Holy Trinity Church. He said that he lost his "out-side privileges" at the jail when he was arcested for reckless driv-ing while returning from the State Fair in September of 1940. Mr. Connors said he had given Neichter permission to leave the jail to get glasses and that he aed

ERNEST NEICHTER gave the prisoner \$3.50 to pay for their repair. January, 31, 1942

January 31, 1942

Fureks Firs Hose Co. 1230 mixth Avenue Walter C. Huxel & Company Hew York, H. Y. 230 F Front Street Attention Mr. F. A. Blair Cincinnati, Ohio Dear Er. Blair; Attention Capt. Huzel nour letter of the 27th received and contents noted and in reply thereto wish to state that our annual drive for funde is now taking place and we feel that this oblightion will be taken care of in the near future, possibly around the middle of February or sconer if possible. Your letter of the 27th received and contents noted Dear Captain; Your letter of the 24th received and contents noted and in reply wish to state that I am informed by the Assistant Chief of this department, that the bar of which you write was returned to your representative. Sorry to have troubled you thus far, but it was un-avoidable, so we ask you to bear with us just a little longer, please. sorry I cannot give you any further information regarding it. Yours very truly. Yours very truly. SZ. MATTHPIS VOLUNT"PE FIRP ASEN. ST. MATTHE'S VOLUST FR FIRP ASSN. Scoretary Secretary

January 16, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: Two Fires Entail Loss Estimated At \$2,700.00. Two fires sent the St. Matthews Fire Department out Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning to fight blazes on St. Matthews Avenue just east of town. The Tuesday blaze resulted in an estimated \$200.00 damage to the servant quarters at the Herbert Agar home. Approximately \$2,500 was lost when a frame outbuilding supporting living quarters owned by George Wilbers caught fire destroying a cow, chickens, automobile, and plumbing tools.

February 6, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: Arson Seen In Humphrey Fire—Guard Posted At Judge Humphrey's Home While Police Continue To Investigate Cause. Arson was suspected when fire was discovered Sunday night at the home of Circuit Judge Churchill Humphrey, 4095 Massie Avenue. The alarm was promptly answered at 8:15 by the St. Matthews Fire Department which notified the County Police and the State Fire Marshal, when the rear porch was found to have been soaked with coal oil. The coal oil container was later found according to John Monohan, Jr. of the department. Fire spread from the porch to the cornice, causing less than \$25.00 damage. Mrs. Humphrey discovered the blaze and called the maid, who fought the flames with water until firemen arrived. A guard has been posted at the Humphrey home while

further investigations of arson are being conducted by police.

Judge Churchill Humphrey (1885-1970) of the circuit court in Louisville, Ky., a navy lieutenant in the First World War and a lieutenant commander.

Photo, Courtesy, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, ULPA 1994.18.2257, Churchill Humphrey and Lafon Allen of Louisville, Kentucky.



Photographic Archives, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville

February 13, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: The Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies Auxiliary of Zachary Taylor Unit 180 met Friday, February 6 and made 700 arm bands for Auxiliary Firemen. The other auxiliary units in the city are making 3,600 arm bands for Civilian Defense. More will be made as needed. These will be used by Auxiliary Police, Firemen, and Air Raid Wardens.

KEEP IN MIND AT THIS TIME THE COUNTRY WAS AT WAR—H. A. Nelson, Chief Air Raid Warden in our area worked with all the appropriate agencies. There were many BLACKOUT's practices. Sirens from the police and fire departments were used to notify citizens.

Courtesy Kentucky Historical Society, Earl Quinn dressed in Civil defense uniform, Louisville, KY, w1990ph2.a12JEFA2.jpg Typical Uniform



February 20, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: Fire Association Mails 3,000 Letters Asking For A Subscription. Latest reports from the St. Matthews Fire Association state that subscription to help pay for the new fire equipment are rapidly pouring in. 3000 letters have been sent to residents urging them to renew their donation for fire protection. The largest part of the fire debt should be paid by this summer if all goes well.

March 6, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: A blaze at the White Castle was quickly brought under control by the greater St. Matthews Fire Department at 10 o'clock Tuesday night. Grease in the ventilation system was said to have been the cause, no damage.

Courtesy, St. Matthews The crossroads of Beargrass, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, White Castle

System, Inc. Archives at Ohio State University, Courtesy of Doris Edlin, Assistant area manager who worked in old #9 during its existence. 3809 Frankfort Avenue, unit #9

March 12, 1942, The Jeffersonian:

#### Around St. Matthews

You may still volunteer for Air Raid duty by calling H. A. Nelson at The St. Matthews Bank, TAylor 1713 or at his home, TAylor 7925.



April 23, 1942, *The Jeffersonian*:

## St. Matthews First Civilian Area To Blackout Monday

At 9:12 Monday n i g h t, two minutes after the red light flashed on at the Louisville City Hall Control Center and the first trial blackout in this area was begun, St. Matthews was completely darkened. This was the first civilian area reported to have all of its lights out. Bowman Field being the first area.

H. A. Nelson, Chief Air Raid Warden, who personally covered most of the territory in St. Matthews himself, stated that the blackout was practically 100 per cent effective and personally extended "thanks and appreciation" to all wardens and to every citizen for "fine cooperation." Mr. Nelson urged that the work be continued so that, if possible, the next blackout, scheduled for sometime next month, would be even better.

Mr. Nelson was especially gratified that there were no accidents of any kind during the trial. St. Matthews was warned to douse its lights by whistles atop the Masonic Home, the Palmer Ashestas and Rubber Company, and by sirens at the Fire Department and on police cars. There were 230 atr raid wardens on duty, each warden being assigned from two to four Boy Scout messengers. 12 Drum and Bugle Corps In "Biggest Parado" On May 9

## Parade of 12 Drum and Bugle Corps on May 9

Annual Field Day at St. Matthews sponsored by Zachary Taylor school patrols and County Police.

Calenel Carl Huisewede, American Legion, promises the biggest parade in the history of Greater St. Matthews to open the annual Field Day sponsofed by Zachary Taylor School Patrols and Jefferson County Police. This Field Day will be held at Legion Field on May 9 and will present prominent speakers, safety demonstrations, competitive drill, music on a large scale, and even an incendiary bomb demonstration, using a special house built on the field. There will be no charge for attendance.

Parade units will leave Eline Avenue and Lexington Read at two o'clock and march to Legion Field for the display. Twelve Drum and Bugle Corps will march with twenty-two school units and two full bands. In the parade also will be the Louisville, Jefferson County, and State Police: United States Air Corps, St. Matthews Fire Department, Kentucky Military Institute troops, Louisville Women's Ambulance Unit, Louisville School Patrols and their Drum and Bugle Corps.

A varied program will be preented at Legion Field. John F Hagner, Fifth District Cummander, American Legion, will speak. School Patrol and Fire Department demonstrations will in low. County Judge Mark Beauchamp is to address thosely present, being followed by the radio patrol of the Louisvillely Police and the K.M.I. cadet drill. Lieutenant Jones of the State Pictoway Patrol and Fire Chieft W. T. Simons, Bowman Field, are mehaded and will proceed an addo as by Colonel Frank Caseoli 14 County Chief of Police. An actual) incondiary bomb demonstration is in the offing as well as Jefferson. County Police Sergeant J. H. 5 Ward's talk. Thu Louisville 1 Women's Ambulance Coms will !! drill, Wilson W. Wyatt, Mayor of Louisville, will speak. County 1 School Patrols, Drum and Bugle # Corps, and the Louisville Patrols will form three divisions for an C inter-group competitive drill. St. 1 Peter Clave Drum and Bugle Corps, a colored organization, will 16 parade.

One hundred and twenty-five dollars in cups, donated by St. Matthews clubs and merchants will be awarded the School Patrols of the area, by County Chief, of Police Frank Casedl, Colongl George Johnson, Colonel Carl Holsewede and Robert W. Wilson, State Communder of the American Legion.

May 1, 1942, St. Matthews Sun, & The Jeffersonian, May 7, 1942: The Parade was May 9, 1942

1942

July 23, 1942, The Jeffersonian:

"Where Is That Use Stamp?" Holy Trinity Picnic WORTH WAITING FOR! The Courty's Biggest and Best Planned For July 11 COUNTRY CHICKEN SUPPER - AND PICNIC Saturday is the big day! In 1004 other words, ternorrow is when Hely Trialty Church St. Matthews the annual pienic and chicken suppor of Holy Trinity Church lakes place on the church SATURDAY, JULY 11 War Bonds and Other Prized Fun for Sverycael No-BUPPER-SW grounds. Elmo Nolan and John Pfiester. general chairman and assistant. respectively, have been busy with plans all this week and they expect a large crowd. Keep in mind that \$275 is War Bonds, besides other miscellaneous prizes, will go to the 5 lucky ones. Last year the pienic was such a sectors that 1,600 supports were 1 -Says the officer to this motorist in the check-up being made or Highway 60 is round up those failing to buy the S5 car stamps forred, but tomorrow's big event is holded forward to with such r expectation that it is planned to serve at least 2,000 suppers-perchance more. These who attended , ć last year's pienic have not for-1 1 gotten that country chicken-the feature of the pience-which is ± а supplied by Stoker's Poultry. Ð House. And don't forget tuclay's parade in connection with Satn.) urday's pinnic. The parade, a TURTLE SOUP 1 patriotic one in that it is to be diconducted without gasoline, will form at 6:30 p.m. at the church. D. Those in the parade will walk, BRATWURST SUPPER some riding on hay wagons (the horse definitely is not on his way out yet). Given By 52 Se don't forgot about Satur-BE, HEL CHURCH MEN'S CLUB t day-it's a date. And you won't Ŀ. be forry. b BAIN OF SHINE ON CHURCH LAWN 1: IN ST. MATTHEWS

BASEBALL

SECTION 2

### July 2, 1942, The Courier-Journal:

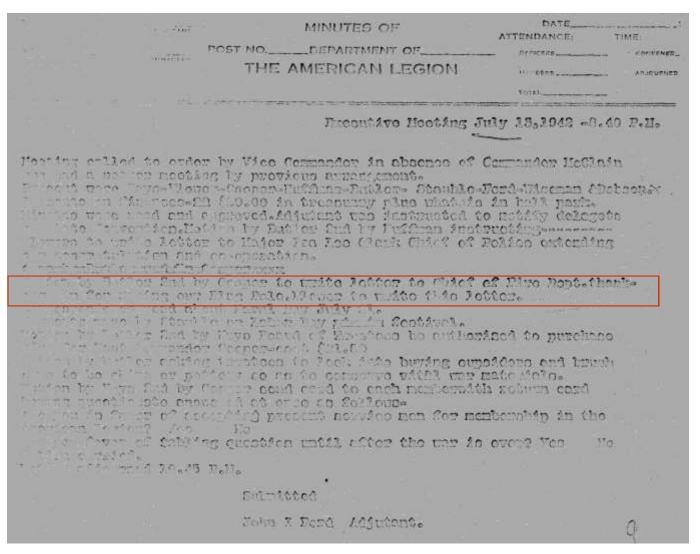
DURNAL, LOUISVILLE, THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 2, 1942.





Brews' I-Man Band Warms Up for Parkway 'Concert' Before he played for the Charley Grimmi Night crowd at Parkway Field Wednesday, Grimmi, the veteran Milwankee manager, took a few warmup strums on his hanjo. He was apparently in good spirits for the secanism, for his team downed the Colonds 9-1 in the twilighter.

# July 13, 1942: The American Legion—Motion by Butler 2nd by Cooper to write letter to Chief of Fire Dept. thanking him for fixing our flag pole Flewer to write this letter.



Courtesy https://historiclouisville.weebly.com/east--somesub-



1942 - Massie Ave, unpaved with farm at left on north side.

July 28, 1942, The Courier-Journal



CLIPPER BRINGS PICTURE OF PALMER-BALL BOYS — The four sons of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Palmer-Ball, St. Matthews, sent this picture to The Courier-Journal by clipper from Hawaii. Left to right are Marion, Benedict, Nicholas and Lawrence.

# 4 Sons Escape Japs and Censor

After the Japanese attack on Hawaii the four sons-two sets of twins-of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Palmer-Ball, who escaped uninjured, had their picture made together. They sent it to The Courier-Journal by clipper. It arrived here Saturday. The envelope bore the marks of a censor, but he had permitted to pass, probably with a knowing grin,

After the Japanese attack on Hawaii the four sons-two sets of twins-of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Palmer-Ball, who escaped uninjured, had their

covered from an operation.

Fighting side by side during the Japanese attack on the Hawaiian Islands were the Palmer-Ball boys.

### August 6, 1942, The Jeffersonian:

## To Dedicate New St. Matthews Armory

Governor Johnson, County officials and military men to participate Saturday.

The new National Guard Armory is to be dedicated at St. Matthews, Saturday, with high State and local officials, Regular Army officers and members of the Kentucky Militia participating.

Dedicatory ceremonies at 3 p.m. for this, largest of eight fireproof, all concrete Armories in the State, will be preceded by a parade starting at Cannon's Lane and Lexington Road. Parade will proceed out Lexington Road to the Armory, where Gov. Keen Johnson will give the main speech of acceptance.

. Brief talks also will be given by Brig. Gen. John A. Polin, Adjutant General, under whose supervision the Armory program was carried out; Mayor Wilson Wyatt will share the program with the Governor.

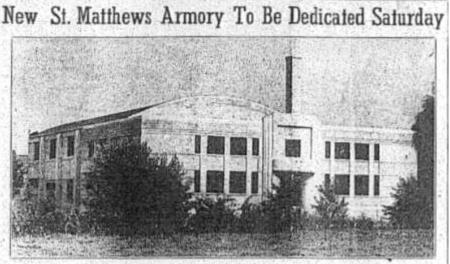
Among others to take part in the ceremonies are County Judge Mark Beauchamp, the Jefferson County Commissioners, Col. Butler N. Briscoe, Commanding Officer at Fort Knox; Col. George P. Johnson, Commanding Officer of Bowman Field; Col. Leo Glenn, Commanding 2nd Regiment Active Militia; Col. Malcolm Crump, Commanding Officer 1st Regiment Active Militia; Lt. Col. G. Lee McClain, Bardstown, Inspector General on the Adjutant General's Staff; Lt. Col. James Norris, Ashland, Inspector General on the Adjutant General's Staff.

Dan Talbett and Lt. Gov. Rodes K. Myers will be among these taking part also.

Air Corps Band from Bowman Field.

Following the parade and a speaking program, the Armory will be opened to the public for a inspection during the afternoon and evening. Arrangements for the dedication were made by a committee including H. A. Nelson, president Chamber of Commerce of St. Matthews; Maj. Lee Deatinger, Capt. T. J. Keeling and e

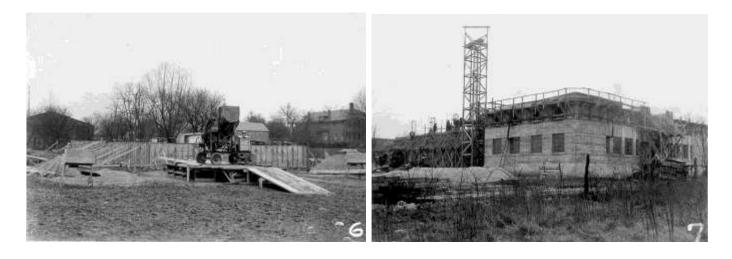
Capt. Robert J. Meyer, Adjutant General's Staff. The new Armory will be occupied by Headquarters Co. 1st Regiment, under command of Capt. Keeling. Built by the State Armory Corp. with W.P.A. assistance, the structure provides 5,000 square feet of drill floor. besides ample space for offices, class rooms, locker rooms, radio room and lavortories. The building cost \$76,000 exclusive of the ground which was donated for armory purposes by the residents and civic clubs of St. Matthews. Other Armory Buildings of concrete design completed throughout the State are located in Williamsburg, Springlield, Harlan, Carlisle, Richmond, Lexington and Harrodsburg, providing Kentucky with one of the most modern Armory systems in the nation.



Governor Keen Johnson will accept this building for the State at Sit. Matthews Saturday,

The St. Matthews Armory was built from 11/23/1940 to opening 7/16/1942. Several firefighters for STMFD served at the Armory during its time. Goodman-Paxton Photographic Collection, 1934-1942: 64M1: digitized 6-23-2000 Goodman, George, 1876-1961 Created by Goodman, George, 1876-1961









Today

# Governor Attends Dedication Of Armory At St. Matthews

## Mayor Wyatt Also Is Speaker

The new \$81,000 armory on Sherrin Avenue in St. Matthews, which is to be the permanent home of the 149th Infantry, Kentucky National Guard, when it returns from the war, was dedicated yesterday as a "useful community center, besides an armory."

"I am especially proud to be here today," Gov. Keen Johnson said. "b e c a u s e this ceremony marks the completion of a program begun two and a half years ago, when we decided to build eight armories in various sections of the state."

#### Militia to Use Building.

The Governor said he was glad to be able to bring the armory, which was built with state and W.P.A. funds, to St. Matthews, a "community that appreciates it," and emphasized the building would be very useful at this time to train active militia.

"I am delighted to have the armory available when the National Guard returns home, and we are fortunate to have it to enable these patriotic individuals in the active militia to prepare for whatever emergency may arise," he said.

The Governor spoke of a trip to Camp Shelby, where he "thrilled to the enthusiasm, morale and discipline of Kentucky troops," and was told that in their regiment only 16 of 280 Kentuckians had failed to qualify as marksmen.

#### Urges Show of Gratitude.

Mayor Wilson W. Wyatt urged the people to show their appreciation to the Governor for the armory by bringing participation in the active militia to full strength.

Adj. Gen, John A. Polin said that much of the credit for bringing about the armory belonged to the loyal citizens who purchased the land and donated it for the armory site, enabling the 149th Infantry to surrender



THE NEW ST. MATTHEWS ARMORY gets the onceover by, from left, Mayor Wilson Wyatt, Gov. Keen Johnson and Ad. Gen. John A. Polin.

their old headquarters on the second floor of a St. Matthews building.

#### Parade Opens Program.

And while the National Guard is gone, the active militia is keeping the home fires burning, he said, before elaborating on the record of Kentuckians in every war in which this country has participated. Col. George P. Johnson, com-

Col. George P. Johnson, commanding officer at Bowman

Field, and County Judge Mark Beauchamp spoke briefly. The festivities began with a

The festivities began with a parade, which formed at Cannon's Lane and Lexington Road and marched to the armory, and ended with an inspection trip through the building during which H. A. Nelson, St. Matthews banker, and master of ceremonies, advised the gathering:

ing: "If you want to dance, just drop your nickels in the juke box and go to it."

11

November 13, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: Fire Injuries Father As He Saves Children. Alan Chanell received burns Wednesday morning when he lowered his daughter Elizabeth, 8, and son Allen Jr., 7, from a first floor window when his home at 162 Whiltshire Avenue caught fire. The St. Matthews Fire Department answered the call promptly at 5:30 a.m. John Monohan, chief of the fire department estimated the damages to be approximately \$2,500.00. The home owned by the Atlas Plaster Company was insured. Mr. Channell was awakened by his wife, who escaped injury, when smoke poured into the bedroom.

September 3, 1942, The Jeffersonian:



November 5, 1942, *The Jeffersonian*:

	STMFD Firefighter			
Stutzenberger Home Destroyed By Fire	WILLIAM LEITSCH DIES OF HEART ATTACK St. Matthews lost a beloved			
Old County landmark with all its contents razed Wednesday.	when William F. Leitsch died of a heart attack while parking his car in front of the Buschemeyer-			
Fire of undetermined origin— but supposedly the effects of de- fective wiring—caused the com- plete destruction, Wednesday about noon, of the-beautiful old eight-room Stutzenberger home on Brownsboro Road near Spring- dale Church. The ladies in the home were attending the auction at the home of a neighbor. Mrs. Fred Wester- man; while W. W. Stutzenberger was digging potatoes in the field when the fire broke out. When Mr. Stutzenberger came in for lunch he discovered the entire building filled with smoke and the front part ablase. Fred Stutzenberger, another brother, whose home was just across the pike, summoned the St. Mat- thews Fire Department, but owing to the already developed blaze and the scarcity of water neither the building not its contents could be saved. This home was near 100 years old and a land- mark in the community. Included in the loss were all the furniture—except one old building	Ogden Pharmacy, 3900 Frankfort Avenue. Mr. Leitsch, grain inspector for the Louisville Board of Trade for the past seventeen years, recently moyed from 120 Sherrin Avenue into his new home at Lyndon. He was a member of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Asso- clation and Scoutmaster of the Holy Trinity Scout Troop; also of the Holy Name and "Poor Souls" nocieties of Holy Trinity Church. Mr. Leitsch, 31 years of age, was a graduate of St. An- thony's Parochial School and has lived in St. Matthews for the past seven years. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Kathryn Leitsch (nee Kearnes); one son, William, Jr.; two daugh- ters, Mary Elsie and Edith Pat- ricla; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leitsch; and a sister, Mrs. Catherine Lane.			
living room suite—all clothing, a practically new baby grand plano, valuable books and records and 250 barrels of patators. The loss estimated at \$10,000 is covered by insurance. The nearby wash house was also burned.	The funeral was conducted from the St. Matthews Funeral Home at 8:45 Tuesday morning and from Holy Trinity Church at 9 o'clock. Burial was in St. Louis Cemtery.			

November 13, 1942: *St. Matthews Sun*: Fire Injuries Father As He Saves Children. Alan Chanell received burns Wednesday morning when he lowered his daughter Elizabeth, 8, and son Allen Jr., 7, from a first floor window when his home at 162 Whiltshire Avenue caught fire. The St. Matthews Fire Department answered the call promptly at 5:30 a.m. John Monohan, chief of the fire department estimated the damages to be approximately \$2,500.00. The home owned by the Atlas Plaster Company was insured. Mr. Channell was awakened by his wife, who escaped injury, when smoke poured into the bedroom.

November 12, 1942, The Jeffersonian:

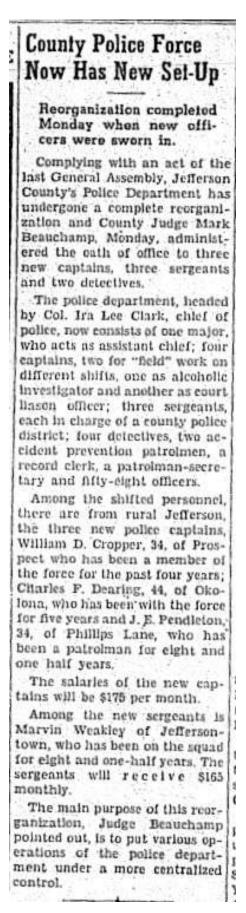
November 5, 1942, The Courier-Journal:

## Stutzenberger Home Destroyed By Fire

Fire destroyed the ten-room Stutzenberger home on Brownsboro Road at Springdale at 1 p.m. yesterday, causing about \$9,000 loss, which was partially covered by insurance.

Fred Stutzenberger said he believed the fire was caused by defective wiring. The seventy-fiveyear-old home was almost consumed before the St. Matthews volunteer fire department arrived.

The two-story frame dwelling, a pump house, furniture, clothing and 150 barrels of potatoes were listed in the loss. December 3, 1942, The Jeffersonian



Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: Hubbard Lane North towards Rail Road tracks, 7/9/1942—Traffic from Shelbyville Road backs up to this point now!!! Louisville Builders Supply would have been on the right side at the tower. City of Richland on the left in the future.



Courtesy http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3539&CISOBOX=1&REC=18 Streitmann Biscuit Company photo of Mr. Roby & window display, Roby & Clemens grocery store or market, 3816 Frankfort Avenue. May 29, 1942, ULPA R 07291 n



### 1942

### Courtesy http://www.buechelfire.com/history.htm

### **Buechel Fire Department Started**



Home History BFPD Leadership Statistics Recruitment Explorer Post Training Fire Prevention Photos Links Contact Us



## A Brief History of the Buechel Fire Department

In 1942 the Office of Civil Defense contacted the Buechel Civic Club with the offer of equipment to support volunteer fire suppression. Buechel Civic Club members; Frank Binford, Elmer "bud" May, Thurston, Norbert, and Roy Schmidt, Clarence Range, and several others formed the Buechel Volunteer Fire Department.

The first piece of fire apparatus was built from a 1936 Chevrolet truck that was donated to the Civic Club by Walter Heib. Civil Defense donated a 500 gallon per minute fire pump and fire hose mounted on a trailer. several resourceful members of the department mounted the pump and a 300 gallon tank onto the truck using the spare parts of the no longer needed civil defense trailer as bracing. The truck was stored in Roy Schmidt's garage.

In 1945 Frank Binford was elected the department's first Chief, and Thurston Schmidt was elected Assistant Chief.

On April 23rd 1946 a piece of property was purchased behind the building that now houses Fern and Moody's Liquor Store at the corner of Bradford Drive and Bardstown Road. On this land the first firehouse, a single story two-bay building, was completed in September of 1946.

For some general information about Buechel, Kentucky view the Wikipedia article.

Buechel Fire Protection District 4101 Bardstown Road Louisville KY 40218

Phone 502.491.0085

For Additional Contact Information Click Here



JeffCoFire.com



LouisvilleKY.gov



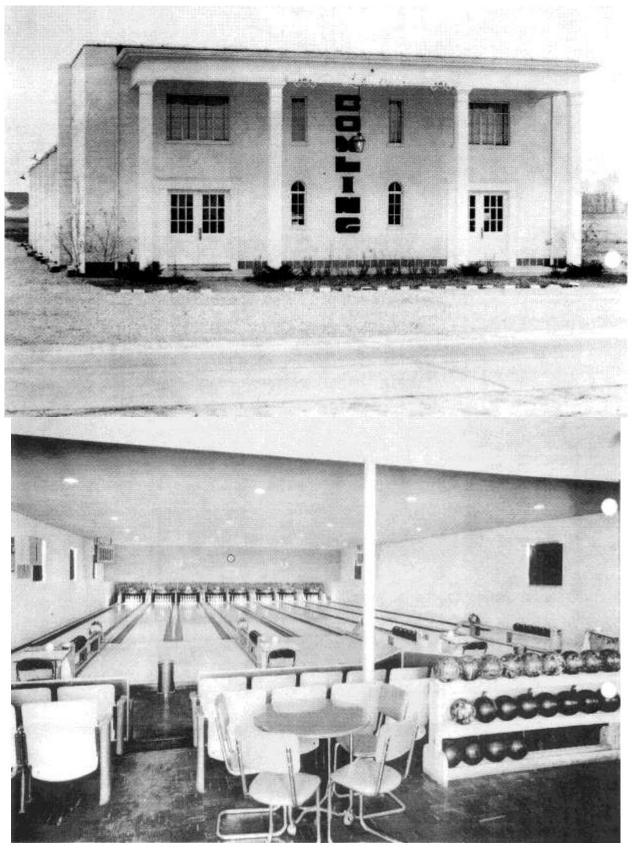


NFPA.org

NationalSafePlace.org

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### **Board Of Directors**

Fred C. Boss E. W. Davis Thomas L. Dobson, end William E. Ehlig, end L. Churchill Matthews John M. Monohan Jr. W. Jesse Ogden James Ellis Powers, end Louis H. Schweitzer Dr. James Emil Winter

### Officers

1942 Chief John M. Monohan Jr. Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt Captain Rudolph L. Lineback Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer

### **Firefighters**

J. P. Arnold T. A. Baker John A. Beierle Jim Brangers Raymond Crabtree J. B. Crouch Ed Foley Charles H. Hahn W. Rich Herdt Ted H. Huffman Sr. John W. "Bud" Jansen Henry R. Kennedy William F. Leitsch

Byron S. Martin Carl R. Meiser George W. Nichaus R. C. Pennington Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer O. M. Steinmann George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry John F. Westerman George R. Westwood **1943 Subscription Bill:** 

# ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association is soliciting your subscription of \$ 5.00 for membership in the Association.

Members of the Association are privileged to summon the fire department, to respond to alarm of fire, at any time during the year of 1943 without additional charges of any nature. Non-members will be charged a fee of \$25.00 for responding to each alarm of fire.

Your subscription may be paid at the Buschemeyer-Ogden Drug Store or mailed to the Association at 3900 Frankfort Avenue.

> ST. MATTHEWS VOL. FIRE ASSN. John M. Monohan, Jr., Pres.

Received of.

Address-

s for the year of 1943.

Treasurer

1943 Sample page of dues collected.

300 200 200 2.90 ler 3.00 0 300 × R.R. 1 5.00 03 00. to On 1000 1000 20400

January 15, 1943, The Jeffersonian:



January 29, 1943: *St. Matthews Sun*: Fireman To Give Dance. Saturday February 6, has been set aside for The Hoosier Ordnance Plant Fireman's Athletic Club dance which is to be held in the Continental Ballroom of the Henry Clay Hotel from 9:30 until 2. Raymond Bud Young former member of the St. Matthews Fire Department is a member of this group. Music is to be furnished by Jimmy Robertson's Orchestra.

February 21, 1943, The Courier-Journal: EDITED

Superintendent Orville J. Stivers was authorized to pay \$25 to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department as the school board's 1943 subscription to provide fire protection service to school property in the area.

### March 4, 1943, The Courier-Journal



uated from the Army Air Forces school at Kelly Field, Texas, in

1937. Before entering the Air Forces he operated a private fly-

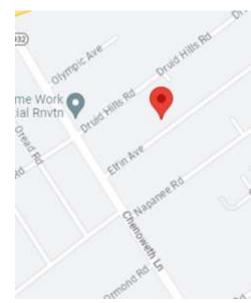
ing school.

MAJ, J. R. DELAUNE Nonchalant in crash,

minor bruises in the forced landing and two hours after the accident he took off on another flight. The plane, a twin-engine photographic model, crashed into the lot at 130 miles an hour and was demolished by the flames and crash.

field warned Major Delaune that the right motor of his plane was aflame shortly after he took off. "I know it," the major, a veteran flier, told the tower nonchalantly, and circled the St. Matthews area several times looking for a spot to land.

### 5/7/2023 internet

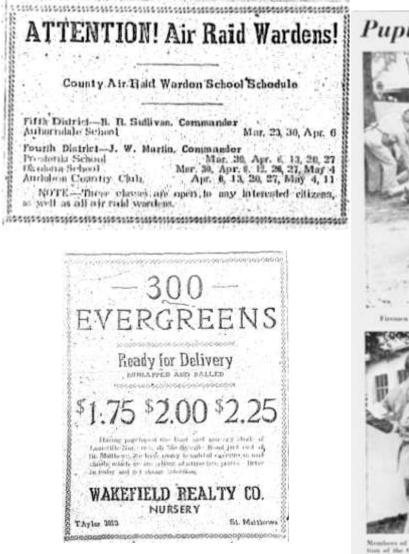




### 1943

### March 26, 1943, *The Jeffersonian*:

### May 16, 1943, The Courier-Journal:



April 11, 1943, The Courier-Journal



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### 1943



June 11, 1943: *St. Matthews Sun*: Lightning Damage Amounts To \$300.00. Lightning struck the home of Clyde Branham, 3937 Gilman Avenue, Sunday afternoon. The bolt passed through the upstairs corner of a bedroom, destroying most of the room, and into the living room. Damage was estimated at \$300.00. Mr. and Mrs. Branham and small daughter, Nancy, were not at home. Mr. Branham is employed at the Taylor office of the Southern Bell Telephone Co.

STMFD Letter Head



DR. JAS. E. WINTER, President JOS. B. ZEHNDER, Vice-President THOMAS L. DOBSON, Secretary FRED C. BOSS, Treasurer

### July 7, 1943:

Form C"N-12

OFFICE OF DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION Division of Motor Transport

This is to certify that the undersigned has received fro ddreep of operator) gals of "T" mileage ration operator) 900 (value (mulaber) 530092 councus from Ration Book No. -07 (value) (number) gala. bulk coupons or other rationing documents which would have entitled him to receive \_\_\_\_ gallons of motor 10 fuel, issued by OPA Local War Price and Rationing Board No.

Address

July 16, 1943, The Jeffersonian:

St. Maithews Residents To Get War Gas Rehearsal

Residents of St. Matthews are requested to visit the war gas demonstration at the St. Matthews Armory, Tuesday evening, July 20, at 8 o'clock, when chief warden John M. Krebs and his assistants will arrange that every visitor will have an opportunity to try on a gas mask and experience its use in a chamber of simulated war gases.

The program is part of the office of civilian defense plan to acquaint as many as passible with information concerning the adjustment and wearing of gas masks and the detection of gasses and behaviour during a gas attack. The equipment will be brought to St. Matthews in the gas-trailer which is making a lour of the local defense zone under the supervision of Dr. John D. Trawick, health official.

All wardens of the St. Matthews area are asked to report in helmet and arm-band. Headquarters for the air-raid warden service in this area has been established at the St. Matthews Armory.



1111

This was an extremely important day in the history of STMFD. Alan Douglas Ring "Al" was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Al joined the department in 1964 was active a firefighter until 1990. He served in many capacities during this time form training officer, PIO, Lieutenant, Captain, Major and President of the Board of Directors. From 2009 to Present am the Departments historian and archivist. That's about 52 years of service.



Just kidding

## **1943** August 1943: American Legion donated to STMFD.

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August 13, 1943, The Jeffersonian:

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IN ST. MAT	THEWS
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# Louis Bauer, St. Matthews Banker, Dies

Louis Bauer, Sr., 83, of 3931 Frankfort Avenue, one of the incorporators and president of the St. Matthews Bank since it was founded in 1916, died at 12:50 a.m. today in St. Anthony's Hospital. He was stricken with a heart attack at 4:30 a.m. Monday at his home.

He was born in Louisville on the Old Brownsboro Road and educated in public schools. He operated a carriage-making factory with two brothers, Henry Bauer and the late John Bauer, for many years.

### St. Matthews' First Postmaster.

The brothers sold the factory to start Bauer's Tavern, which was located on the site of the St. Matthews Bank until 1916.

When the bank was organized it bought the property on which the tavern stood and "Uncle Louie," as he was familiarly known, was elected president.

He has not missed a monthly board meeting although he gave up active direction of the bank affairs four or five years ago. He was the first postmaster of St. Matthews.

LOUIS BAUER. Funeral services for Louis Bauer, Sr., 84, of 3931 Frankfort, president of the St. Matthews Bank, who died at 12:50 a.m. Saturday at St. Anthony's Hospital, will be held at the residence at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at 9 a.m. Barial will be in St. Louis Cemetery. Survivors are two sons, Irwin P. Bauer and Louis H. Bauer, Jr.; four daughters, Mrs. Ben Traut, Mrs. Courtney E. Brown and Miss Eva Bauer and Miss Leona Bauer: two brothers, Henry Bauer and Albert Bauer; a sister, Mrs. J. W. Heskamp, and three grandchildren.

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### August 27, 1943, *The Jeffersonian*:

# Brown's Lane is On Construction List

## Fiscal Court allows amendment of 1943 highway program to include part of road.

Alided to the program of highway construction in deflerson County for 1043 is Brown's Lane, or at least that part of it running from U. S. 60, at St. Matthews, to the north fork of Beargrass Creek, or a distance of almost one mile, The Fiscal Court requested this week that the amendment to the highway construction plans be made to include this road when it learned that \$35,000 would remain of the State Highway allotnient after the completion if Farnaley Road at Shively; and Phillips Lanc.

Crittenden Drive and Grade Lane are almost completed and the court considered Brown's Lane the logical selection over the other four remaining projects because plans have already been drawn and rights of ways are already in process.

The decision rests with the State Highway Department and the request has been filed with Robert J. Hagan, state advisory highway commissioner. Hagan promised immediate submission of the proposal to the State Highway Department.



Son of Articles of Incorporation signer Alex Staebler.

October 21, 1943, Taylor Drug Co of dispensary at St. Matthews Store, courtesy U of L Digital Collection, ULPA R\_07837\_n, Royal Photo Collection.



### October 21, 1943, The Courier-Journal



### October 21, 1943, The Courier-Journal

# Train Crushes Auto; Tears Up Track

dropped several feet from raised

track and the boiler was knocked

loose. Several wheels and trucks

Hundreds of curious St. Matthews residents gathered at the

scene, but were kept away from

close proximity to the wreckage

by county police and military

DR. W. H. FANE now at BEN SNYDER'S

were tern off.

authorities.

#### **Continued** from First Page

rouz, 18, of 28th and Market; Miss Mary Jo Strobel, 16, of 131 Chenoweth Lane: Miss Lois Sturgeon, 15, Massie Avenue, and Frank Leo, 18, of 440 S. 1st They were on the way to Cherckee Park for a wiener roast, Miss Zena said.

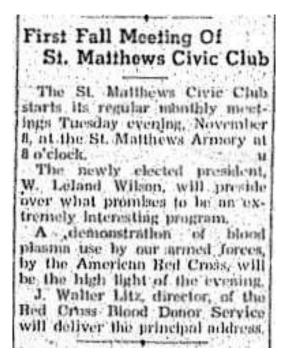
#### Engine, 2 Cars Derailed.

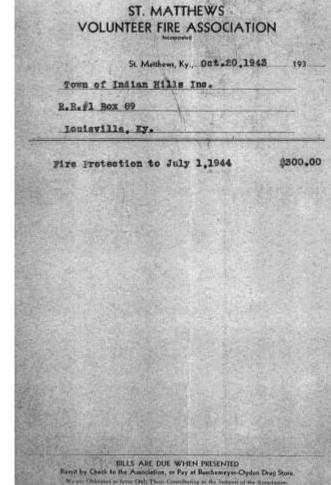
The engine and two cars were derailed on the track designated as northbound by the L & N, and traffic was stalled for several bours. The southbound track from Cincinnati was cleared for traffic before midnight, L & N, authorities said.

Long strips of track were twisted by the derailing and one section about fifty feet was tied up lice one loop of a hair ribbon. The automobile, ground between engine, wheels and roadbed, was pulverized.

When the engine derailed it

November 5, 1943, *The Jeffersonian*: Future STMFD Board Member





1943

### October 20, 1943:

**Courtesy City of Indian Hills:** 

## Indian Hills – Country Club History

"Indian Hill Farm is a fine tract of rich, rolling land, with springs of the purest and best water bubbling up in the most convenient places on every part of it. The whole of it is down in grass, which is mostly bluegrass, though or chard grass is deemed worthy of no little attention. Indian Hill received its name in consequence of an event that took place away back in pioneer times. It was when there was only a fort to be seen where Louisville now stands that the savages to the number of three hundred encamped on and around the spot now occupied by Mr. Veech's residence."

From John Duncan, "Indian Hill Stock Farm" The Courier Journal, 14 December 1877 The history of Indian Hills-Country Club is colorful and appealing. Sometime before 1785, John Veech, born in Ulster, Ireland arrived by flatboat with his wife, Agnes Nancy Weir at the Falls of the Ohio. He was following his profession of surveyor, later buying Indian Hill farm, building a log cabin, and becoming known as a famous Indian

fighter (along with one of his sons). His grandson, Richard Veech, made his reputation as a breeder for trotting horses which he continued until the advent of the automobile, when the property became a working farm with potatoes being the main crop. In 1924, 300 acres of Indian Hill were sold to a subdivision development syndicate and 200 acres to the Louisville Country Club. Both developments were designed by the Frederick Law Olmsted landscape architectural firm and incorporated his important design features, for which the "Father of Landscape Architecture" is most famous.

Indian Hill Farm originally was composed of 502 acres and was held in the Veech family for 118 years through six generations. In 1806, the Veech family carved their log cabin from the wilderness, then built a plantation house in the simple lines of the late Georgian style, to which they later added an addition in the florid style of the Victorian era. (Zachary Taylor, the 12th President of the United States, owned a portion of Indian Hill Farm or adjoining land that wild later he acquired by the Veeches for a 19 year. Period - 1814 to 1833)

would later be acquired by the Veeches for a 19 year Period – 1814 to 1833). Around 1872, R. S. Veech bred trotting horses at "Indian Hill Stock Farm" and within ten years his operation was the second largest producer in the state of Kentucky. In an article by Agnes Veech Viser for the Second Presbyterian Church Bulletin, she writes, "He was best known as a distinguished horse breeder and the reputation of Indian Hill Farm spread. There were usually 50 to 60 brood mares on the farm. From 1878-1885 businessmen and horse breeders from the East often formed private car parties to visit Louisville before the Lexington Trot meeting. The horses

were housed in a large barn situated about where Rolling Lane crosses Pennington in Rolling Fields." After the exciting horse breeding boom was past, the Indian Hill property was farmed, producing mostly potatoes, which were sold at the St. Matthews Produce Exchange, on the largest potato markets at that time. About 1911 Dr. Annie Veech, and her brother, James Nichols Veech, contacted the firm of the famous 19th century landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, the designer of Central Park, to prepare a plan dividing the land into large plots of 10 to

15 acres each. World War I brought a suspension to further development plans by the Veech heirs. Thirteen years later, in January, 1924, Dr. Veech sold 200 acres to the Louisville Country Club for its development and her brother, James Nichols Veech, sold 300 acres to a syndicate including I. T. Axton, R. S., J. K., and D. R.

Reynolds, and Paul F. Semonin who divided the acreage as Indian Hills- "The Home Community Adjoining The Louisville Country Club". The Olmsted firm designed the development plan, which incorporated the design features of the elder Olmsted's early work. Those features include: "sweeping, curvilinear streets and gently rounded intersections which follow the natural contours of the hilly terrain. Every effort was made to save existing trees and preserve each site's natural beauty, while suggesting the planting of additional native trees and shrubs to strengthen the romantic character of the property. Expanses of green space were left open, not only for its beauty but to promote a sense of community." Continuing his respect for native species, Olmsted generally used "sycamores, maples, oaks, American Linden, redbud, and dogwood and shrubs like honeysuckle, mock orange, and barberry." Their designs were known for the layers of plant material crowned by a canopy of stately trees. Beeches were plentiful on the original estate and in a large part of St. Matthews and Crescent Hill.

**Olmsted Residential Friends - Indian Hills** 

Sources:

- United States Department of the Interior: Olmsted Job =7449 Indian Hills Development Company
- The Courier Journal

St. Matthews The Crossroads of Bear grass by Samuel W. Thomas

 Second Presbyterian Church Bulletin Frederick Law Olmsted & His Louisville Legacy "The discovery and replanting of a century-old lost kandscape" Article by Witold Rybczynski

and you was another and by a was officer

# \$75,000 Garage Fire Destroys 27 Autos

Flames which swept the St. Matthews Motor Company. Frankfort and Chenoweth Lane, early yesterday destroyed twenty-seven automobiles—six of them late 1942 models causing a loss estimated at \$75,000, which officials of the company said was covered partly by insurance.

The fire, fed by gasoline and a large quantity of antifreeze solution, spread quickly through the garage, shop and storeroom. It started about 7:30 a.m., and spread so rapidly that fire-fighting equipment was summoned from Louisville, Bowman Field and Middletown to aid the St. Matthews firemen.

W. S. Bullard, manager of the company, said the fire apparently was caused by a short circuit in a drop light which his son, William Bullard, was using in the shop to repair an automobile. The machine on which Bullard was working caught fire, his father said, and smoke soon filled the shop. The younger Bullard pushed six automobiles from the garage to safety.

### **Repair Parts Destroyed.**

The fire destroyed or rendered useless about \$18,000 in repair parts when it gutted the stockroom, the company manager said. Eighteen of the automobiles which were burned were owned by the company and nine were those of persons who had left them for repairs.

Bullard said five of the automobiles stored on the second floor fell through to the ground floor when fire burned away the ceiling. It was almost two hours before the fire was brought under control, but the firemen prevented it from spreading to the office of the company.

The company is owned by

Summers-Herrmann, Inc., 3d and Breckinridge. Turner A. Summers, president, said the building loss was about \$30,000.

### Power Off For 2 Hours.

Power lines in the vicinity were burned and electric lights were cut off for two hours in the section between Brownsboro Road and Shelbyville Road. Power was shut off along Westport Road, and the St. Matthews substation of the Louisville Gas & Electric Company was disabled for a time. Service on the Louisville Railway Company system from Crescent Hill to St. Matthews was delayed for about two hours.

Flames and smoke billowed over St. Matthews for several hundred feet and crowds jammed the heart of the suburban district. Raymond Herick, 31, a Middletown volunteer fireman, was cut on the hand when a garage window near him was shattered.



Late November 1943: *The Louisville Times:* St. Matthews Garage, 17 Cars Destroyed In \$75,000 Fire. Fire which broke out at 7:30 a.m. today in the shop of St. Matthews Motor Co., Frankfort and Chenoweth Lane, destroyed the shop, storeroom, storage garage and seventeen automobiles, causing damage of about \$75,000.00.

Firefighters from Louisville, Bowman Field, St. Matthews and Middletown fought the gasoline and oil fed flames for more than two hours.

William Bullard, 28, St. Matthews, shop foreman at the garage, said the fire started when a drop light he was using short-circuited and set fire to an automobile he was repairing. When his attempts to extinguish the fire proved

futile, he pushed six automobiles from the garage before he was overcome by smoke. He was burned slightly before rescuers brought him from the building.

A Middletown volunteer fireman, Raymond Herrick, 31, received a hand cut when a garage window shattered near him.

Firemen said about ten of the automobiles fell twelve feet from a second-floor storage space to the first floor when flames ate away the floor.

Firemen were able to prevent the blaze from reaching the office of the company.

Turner A. Summers, president of the company which is owned by Summers-Hermann, Inc. Third and Breckinridge, said damage to the building was about \$30,000 and loss of stock about \$45,000. He said the loss was covered by insurance. In addition to the automobiles destroyed, eight were

biles destroyed, eight were damaged.

Flames and smoke from the fire shot several hundred feet high, attracting hundreds of spectators. Frankfort Avenue traffic was completely blocked.

Courtesy, Ekstrom Library of the University of Louisville, R 7088.03

NOTE: St. Matthews Motors is on left of photo.





December 3, 1943: *St. Matthews Sun & The Jeffersonian*: Motor Company To Rebuild As Soon As Possible, Disastrous fire destroys twenty-seven automobiles and causes damage estimated at \$75,000.00. Fire last Saturday morning swept the St. Matthews Motor Company plant at Frankfort and Chenoweth Lane, destroying 27 automobiles and gutting the building. The loss was estimated (\$75,000.) partially covered by insurance.

November 26, 1943:



November 26th, 1943.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. Assn. Attention of Mr. John Monohan, Bres.

Dear Mr. Monohan.

On Thankagiving afternoon a fire got beyond control of one of our neighbors and as many were absent from their homes, my wife called the St. Matthews Fire Department. They made a run out here, assisted in extinguishing the flames in about 10 minutes , thereby relieving the danger of sparks from burning leaves along the back fences from spreading to the homes. This fire was along the back of the fences of the residences on the east side of Argerburn Road about two miles from St. Matthews.

I called my friend Mr. Tony Eline this morning and he referred me to you. In the course of the conversation, it developed that for a small fee the several neighbors in this community can become members of the Fire Department Association. Will you please advise me the amount of the fee or membership dues so that I may take this up with the neighbors. Also advise what the charge was for the services by the Deparement for their assistance in extinguishing the fire.

Yours very truly,

Altor Kins.

## St. Matthews Motor Company to Rebuild

Disastrous fire destroys 27 autos and causes dumage estimated at \$75,000.

Fire last Saturday morning swept the St. Matthews Motor Company plant at Frankfort and Chenoweth Lane, destroying 27 automobiles and gutting the building. The loss was estimated at \$75,000, partially covered by insurance.

The blaze was started, it is said when William Bullard, son of W. S. Bullard found the car upon which he was working, on fire A drop circl developing a short circuit is said to have been the initial cause.

Six machines were pushed to safety by young Bullard when the flames reached proportions that made other salyaging impossible.

Fire departments from St. Matthews, Bowman Field, Middletown and Louisville answered calls for assistance. Power lines in the neighborhood were damaged and electric current cut off for two hours over a great part of the St. Matthews area. Baymond Herick a firm

Raymond Herick, a fireman from Middletown was cut on the band by broken glass from a shattered window.

Officials of the company stated that the plant would be rebuilt as quickly as possible.



R.H.Hoskins, Anchorage, Ky. R.R. 1 Box 133 1943 Indian Hills Agreement

December 4, 1943:

St. Metthews Volunteer Hue Association ne e sector d'Altra Ind. 1- deservito d'Altra Ind. 1- deservito d'Altra Ind. entit iss ony close conversion, the Do. methods the Tent. sprans to produce free provincian white the pressure gauge se and find an police prison, from the own further there and 1. THE ALL AND A CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR STORE CODE the is again them prode

December 12, 1943, The Courier-Journal: EDITED

Countyites, If Annexed, Will Face Higher Taxes and Cheaper Services

COSt 18 \$9. To the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department a "contribution" of \$3 a year is made. 42-4 ..... ....

The Worthington Fire Department was started.

December 17, 1943, The Jeffersonian:

# New Fire Fighting Unit is Organized At Worthington

Citizens form department to operate in three-mile radius; Oldham County residents co-operate.

The latest addition to the list of Jefferson county fire-fighting units is the Worthington Fire Department which has recently purchased pumper and truck and a 2,500 gallon capacity tank.

The community group sponsoring the enterprise is headed by Bruce Sims, president; Wilbur Littrell, vice-president; J. P. Doughty, secretary and treasurer; Carl Chamberlain, fire-chiel.

The first work on the project was started last September when at the suggestion of a resident plans were laid and the subject broached to the community at large. Response was spontaneous and more than \$2,500 was subscribed in a short time.

According to a recent announcement the fire company will operate in a three mile radius of Worthington although it is possible that this range will be enlarged to take in additional subscribers.

Thirty or forty Oldham county residents living within the prescribed radius have already subscribed to the new department which will be maintained by voluntary contributions.

### The Worthington Fire Department was started.

### March 30, 1967, The Voice Of St. Matthews:



1943

FIRE DRILL: Members of the Worthington Volunteer Fire Department stage a practice drill at their headquarters on Brownsboro Road. In fore-ground by the quad door is Fire Chief Carl F. Haunz Jr.

#### Formed in 1943 by air raid warden

# Four are may esci double

First grades at Zachary Tay lor, Wilder, St. Mulliews and the new Brownsboro Boad elementary schools "testative-ly" have escaped double sesstons to September and Lyndor sions to september and Lymdon may except, but the situation st the other schools in the area "doesn' book good." This is the way john Hamsey, assistant County school sup-

erintendeed, sized up the nil-uation to a Voice-Jeffersonian reporter this week.

"Overall it just doesn't look good," he sahl, that the St.

# **Worthington Fire Department** protects 870 homes and farms

#### BY AL HECREARY

Fire which threatened a large farmhouse on Wolf Pee Branch Road on a bot August night in 1943 was the spark which stimulated action toward the formation of the Worthington

Volunteer Fire Department, It was during the durk days of the war in the Parific. The Allies were locked in a death struggle with Hitler's forces in Europe and problems on the home front exerced rather un-important by comparison, But the late Walter Shackle-

ton, then chief air raid warden 211 eastern Jefferson County, suddenly. recognized the area's vulnerability to firebe if from enemy bombs, .na-botage or natural causes.

In mid-September he called a meeting of persons interested and concerned mough to discuss fire protection."Some 20 men living along Browns-born Road's saatern extremity attended.

From that original meeting plans progressed. Then on Christmas Eve the Worthingtos Community Association wax chartered. its chief funciture: the establishment and development of the volunteer fire department. Bruce films was the organi-

sation's first president, Carl Chamberlain was the department's first chief - a job he held for 17 years.

### Wosn't easy

B wasn't easy in 'bulld' a fire department during World War II, recalls Carl F. Hauna, Jr. - the depart-ment's chief since 1950.

"I was just a youngster, then, but I can remember," he said as he poured through old records for a Volce-Jeffersonlan reporter.

bit sinilar reporter. "There were about 20 men available. The first thing that had to be done was to have a firs station and some equipment. Those guys begged and horrowed material tobuild the fire station at Brownshore Road at Ballardsville Hoad. It's still there today. We use It as an musiliary beadquar-ters."

recently-built headquarters building is at the corner of Brownsbors and Goose Creek Roada,

"You know, we were not supposed to be able to get building materials in those days. I remember one of the some acts on the some metal window frames. He poured some acts on the frames; made them rust and look ald

Inspectors wouldn't Impound them,

""We had a heckuya time getting any fire fighting equipment. I remember Mr. Shackleton was able to get un nome civil defense equip-ment. He got us a pump and nome hose we carried around on a truck bed."

Chief Haunz - who operates a farm just across the Oldham County line - spoke of the sarly days of the department, "We fought a fire in Crest-wood one time. We were short wood one time. We were short on water. Luckly the fire was near the L 6. N tracks. We slapped a train going through lowered our hose hato the train's water tender and got enough water to get the fire under control."

#### Serves large area

In three days - just after<sup>1</sup> World Wur II - there were about \$50 homes within the three-mile radius of the fire

Today there are \$70 homes in Worthington's 12 square -miles area which extends from 51. Thomas Seminary on the west to Haung Lane all Ball-ardswille Road; out 1-71 to Sleppy Hellow; out Westport Road to Collins Lane, west to House Lane, including Goase wek Road.

Ined.

men are at work or away available for a fire, nancing a volunteer fire department is no easy task. "It was really close for a while," says the Chief, "Par-ficularly in the early tays when we had to beg and bor-row every dime we had to build the first headquarters and hards to reach a set of the set of the build the first headquarters and begin to acquire some fire-fighting equipment," When a volunteer fire de-

partment is recentled as be-ing cotabilished it then qual-lifes for 53000 annually from Flacal Court is matching funds, earmarked for equip-ment maintemance. This means the denomination of the second means the department must raise \$3600 on its own to qualify for Fiscal Court's contribution

#### Sliding scale

Today there are some \$70 homes and farms in the Wor-thington fire department's thington fire department's area, Each owner is invited to become a member in the Worthington Community Azsociation. Fees or dues range from \$5 to \$300 a year based on the property evaluation. Hemes follow a sliding scale up to \$20 a year. The higher dues are charged to highly mechanized farms, Currently the fire department can count on approximately \$15,000 a PW47 The department will fight a fire on a member's property ы at no additional cost. But fight-ing a fire on a non-member's property will cost him \$250. 11

Ninety-four per cent of the property owners are memt i bers. "I don't believe most people pi out here realize what a bar-gain they are getting, itemem-÷. gain they are getting. Hemem-ber, these mon who serve as fire lighters get absolutely nothing for their services. To operate a paint fire depart-ment would require 3000 thousand a year. This means," the Chief points out, "the peo-ple in the area are getting a Coortioned to near 18 20 101 13 da 4.

Continued to page 18

vex Hoad, he chief can depend on some men for duty, including two assistants, Dan C. om and O. Fulton Tapp, he problem is this, he es-

We need 20 men to handle average-sized fire. Each our men averages about -Bith of his time in the a. The rest of the time men are at work or away one reason or the other, refore, we really need too n in the department to as-w us that we can have 20 periods for a fire." The Worthington Fire Department was started.

March 30, 1967, *The Voice Of St. Matthews:* 

# Fire department's history recalled

Continued from page 1 regular edition.

\$215 thousand department for \$15 thousand,"

Suppose a gay wants to become a volunteer firefighter? It takes 52 hours of training (an hour each Monday and Tuesday for six months) to become fully qualified. But within a month a man becomes what is termed "usable" - if he trains faithfully. The training sessions are hold at the fire house on Brownsboro Road al Goose Creek Road.

The fact there are no fires to fight doesn't mean the personnel are not busy. Equipment must be kept in a constant state of readiness; therefore, one night a month is maintenance night. All the equipment, mobile and otherwise, is carefully inspected. There's more. Ed Harvey, the department's officer in charge of fire prevention conducts periodic inspections in all commercial buildings and he'll inspect homes on request.

#### Periodic inspections

At the Springdale Presbytertan Church kindergarten there are periodic inspections and fire drills.

Chief Haunz is wondering about the proceedure at the Brownsboro Road Elementary School new under construction at Barbour Lane. He assumes his department - in cooperation with the State Fire Marshall's office - will conduct inspections and fire drills. Every now and then the dopartment will be called on to pump water out of basements during heavy rains.

Constant effort by a relatively small group of dedicated men, nearly 24 years after the fire on Wolf Pen Branch Road, has built a highly - efficient department that can boast some \$85 thrusand in capital investment.

The equipment today consists of a 1958 Chevrolet pumper, a 1963 Ford quad (ladder, hose and heavy equipment) and a 1942 Mack pumper that is used primarily for lighting field fires. In addition there are 4050 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose; 3750 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose and 1400 feet of one inch hose.

But there are problems, "Our lease on the property where the original fire house stands is up in two years," said Chief Haunz. "I guess we'll have to cross that bridge when we get to it."

Other officers of the association are J.P. Knopf, vicepresident; Ray Belcher, secretary and Kurt Broecker, treasurer.

Anybody want to become a volunteer fire fighter? Call Chief Haunz (241-4421), He'll sign you up before you can say Worthington Volunteer Fire Department.



### **Board Of Directors**

Fred C. Boss E. W. Davis L. Churchill Matthews John M. Monohan Jr. W. Jesse Ogden Louis H. Schweitzer Dr. James Emil Winter

### Officers

1943 Chief John M. Monohan Jr. Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt Captain Rudolph L. Lineback Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer

### **Firefighters**

J. P. Arnold T. A. Baker John A. Beierle Jim Brangers Raymond Crabtree J. B. Crouch Ed Foley Charles H. Hahn W. Rich Herdt Ted H. Huffman Sr. John W. "Bud" Jansen John "Jack" T. Kempf Henry R. Kennedy

Byron S. Martin Carl R. Meiser R. C. Pennington J. C. Reed Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer O. M. Steinmann George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry John F. Westerman George R. Westwood January 14, 1944: *St. Matthews Sun*: Child Dies When Crib Is Set Afire. George Parker Beam, Jr. 18 months old, 610 Wallace Avenue, died from the result of burns suffered when the crib in which he was playing caught fire. They think the child found a match and played with it. The mother had gone to the bank leaving two daughters 10 and 12 years old sleeping.

January 9, 1944, The Courier-Journal

### Child Ignites Match; Is Burned to Death

A match with which 18-monthold George Parker Beam, Jr., was playing in his crib ignited the bedclothing and burned the child to death about 9:15 a.m. yesterday at his home, 610 Wallace. St. Matthews, Coroner John M. Keaney reported.

The coroner said two sisters of the infant, Elizabeth Anne, 12, and Lillis, 10, asleep in another room, smelled smoke and found the child burning in the crib. Mrs. Beam, wife of an architect, had left to go to a bank. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at St. Matthews Funeral Home and burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.

But for her mother's quick action, Mary Loraine Swaner, 4year-old daughter of Mrs. Sofia Swaner, 2102 Wilson, might have burned to death when her clothing became ignited from an open grate fire. Mrs. Swaner, hearing her daughter's screams, grabbed a blanket and extinguished the flames. The child was taken to General Hospital, where she was on the danger list with second and third-degree body burns.

#### January 19, 1944, The Courier-Journal

# 4th War Loan Campaign Gets Off To \$1,658,400 Start In Louisville

As the Fourth War Loan got under way yesterday officials of the Louisville and Jefferson County drive chalked up \$1,658,400 in total sales for the day, R. R. Williams, city and county campaign director, revealed.

The War Loan quota here is \$42,000,000,

"This is a most encouraging start, because a close check shows that this represents sales of the 'E' bond, the type which we must raise \$5,500,000,000 nationally during the drive," Williams said.

The first of numerous meetings by civic groups, luncheon clubs, schools and other organized groups was held by the Optimist Club yesterday noon at the Kentucky Hotel. Appearing on the War Loan program were Dave Appollon and his three Filipinos; Pfc. Louis E. Van Overbeke, wounded war veteran, of 224 S. Peterson, and Capt. E. C. Sibley, of Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot. John J. Hession presided and music was by the 567th Army Band from Bowman Field, under direction of Wessel Ploene.

Thomas S. Van Hoesen, chairman of the Louisville Lions Club bond sale committee, sold \$10,000 worth of bonds to members yesterday at the weekly meeting at the Brown Hotel.

#### Hospital Campaign Started.

Another War Bond meeting, scheduled at the Kentucky Hotel at 10 a.m. today, has been called by W. W. Wachtel, president of Calvert Distilleries. Wachtel is general chairman for the sale of War Bonds in the liquor industry.

A number of women's clubs and schools throughout the state have



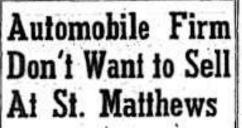
C.-J. Phois.

SPARKING THE FOURTH WAR LOAN OPENING at Optimist Club meeting were Capt. E. C. Sibley, Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot, Pfc. Louis E. Van Overbeke, 224 S. Peterson, and Dave Apollon, of the National Theater.

enlisted in the Hospital Equipment Campaign, Lisle Baker, publicity chairman for the state, announced yesterday. Baker said that this activity makes it possible for groups to outfit Army hospital units through the purchase of War Bonds. Group purchases may be designated for field ambulances, a m b u l an ce planes and even hospitals, as well

as a number of specialized items ranging from hospital linens, surgical dressings and drugs to X-ray machines, blood transfusion apparatus and mobile food carts. Costs vary from \$25 for a metal

Costs vary from \$25 for a metal airplane stretcher to \$300,000 for a \$1,000-bed general hospital, Mrs. W. Leland Wilson, 502 Bauer Avenue, St. Matthews, is chairman for this division.



Fiscal Court puts problem up to State Highway Department before taking further action.

Louis Herrmann and Turner Summers of the Summers-Herrmann Co., an automobile agency, in St. Matthews, were present at the Monday session of the Fiscal Court to protest the action of the Louisville-Jefferson County Zoning Commission in refusing to issue a permit for the company to rebuild their plant after it was destroyed by a recent fire.

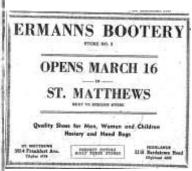
H. E. Kelting, secretary of the St. Matthews Civic Club, was also present urging the razing of all buildings on the property in question as a matter of traffic safety, stating that the building had obscured a view of the railroad crossing which was a definite hazard to life and limb. The auto firm officials cited their losses prolonged by the delay in securing a permit to rebuild, assuring the court that they did not wish to sell, the location being satisfactory for their business, and pleading the lack of any equally satisfactory site, as well as the impossibility of securing priorities allowing them to put up an entirely new plant. They indicated that condemnation proceedings were the only means by which the county or state could acquire the property.

After much discussion of rightof-way lines by Ben Ford, surveyor, J. A. Reed, State Highway engineer and Carl Berg, of the Zoning Commission, the court referred the matter to the State Highway Commission, asking that the decision of that office be given on the question of acquiring the property as part of their grade crossing elimination program.

In the event the State Department declines to take any action within a week, the court will probably issue a permit for rebuilding on lines determined at the conference of surveyors.

U. S. Engineers appeared before the court asking that permission be given to trim back a number of trees on County property along Johnson Lane. These trees constitute a hazard to bombers landing and taking off at Standiford Field, it is said. The court referred the matter to the Jefferson County Air Board agreeing to indorse any decision made by that body.

County Road Engineer A. D. Zehnder reported that new routing of Lover's Lane would eliminate the necessity of crossing the Haag property and dividing that farm in half as objected to by the owners.



March 18, 1943, The Courier-Journal

### Water Fails; House Burns

The Worthington Fire Department's new pumper went to its first fire yesterday, but a shortage of water hampered the volunteer crew's efforts and a twostory frame structure on the Von Allmen Dairy Farms, Springdale Lane, north of Brownsboro Road in Jefferson County, burned to the ground. Damage was estimated by the owner, Emil Von Allmen, 1506 Cherokee Road, at \$15,000.

The Worthington department arrived at the scene promptly and soon had the blaze under control. Then, according to firemen, the water supply from two cisterns failed and they were unable to save the place.

The fire department had received the pumper under the Office of Civilian Defense program.

Families of two employes of the farm, John Glab and March Harris, lived in the nine-room home.

**1944** February 21, 1944, *The Courier-Journal*: EDITED Henry Monohan



Dully Bishop, right, Henry Monohan and Mrs. Maurice Radmacher made an incongruous picture, but an attractive one, and appropriate on autos and watched the first part of the show, awaiting the Gay Ninetics event. They said people of the Gay Ninetics awehreed in 100-degree temperature.

April 7, 1944: *St. Matthews Sun*: Apartment House Saved From Total Destruction. The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department answering a call to 3511 Lexington Road Wednesday morning found the apartment of the owner, J. A. MacMilan in flames. According to reports the excellent work of the volunteers was effective in controlling the blaze before the entire building was destroyed. No estimate of the structure loss was available or of the furnishings. Origin of the fire was undetermined.

May 12, 1944, The Jeffersonian: July 7, 1944, The Jeffersonian:



1944

#### 1944 October *The St. Matthews Sun*, The St. Matthews Civic Club—

Another committee was given the task of arranging for a night watchman at the fire station and the installation of a telephone. This expansion of the fire department was pressed as a matter of economy because of the lower insurance rate that, it was said would result.

ST. MATTHEWS CIVIC CLUB VOLLI DOWN ADSOLUTIO (Continued From Fars 1) Other officers effected were: Vice president, Louis Schweitzer; second vice president, 14th Fred M. Euricel: directors, J. M. Draite and Jennes T. Reburtson, E. M. Andriot and C. T. Flercitt were holdover directors. Louis J. Schweitzer, the new vice president divected the attention of the club to the unsightly and sometimes unsanitary faller camps thus have sprung up in the community, particularly those in the neighbotheed of Ltringion Road and Elmon Avenue, and a committee headed by Schweitzer was appointed to look into the receivility of "Lin mating or correating the conditions of these (Tata. Piston Flowers was appointed chairman of a committee with TANDAR I Andriat no 1 Trank Contoher or mombran, that herve the selies. of the Lodisti'le and Sectoreon County Pleasing and Meaning Commission in meand to regulafinns adopted for ( a £1. Directiows Contraction (10) Another committee was riven the Casic of successing for a little italehmen ab dhe siza cheffen past he installed of a following is emperation of the fina fictures. LINE VES WEEKS OF STREET containing be seen of the to we dive Line all the State of the state " al result. L'autous to the election of of Dours the child heard 1 ha. Mertony theritany, a reduced from The Courses proved on the Jonhandle cost to 1 faith the sound Live Live Lottines give a relation minister of the sound of Encrican halfs for the suffet of onvessed Directio.

County Clerk Clern Theisen, last week by County Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., that trucks used by community fire departments are required to pay a \$40.00 truck li-cense although they are used in public service just as non-license paying fire trucks in Louisville, received little encouragement when presented to state officials.

This week C. W. Williams, State Motor Vehicle Registration Supervisor, with offices at Frankfort wrote Theisen in answer to the latter's query, that the law on the subject was specific and lucid in that it definitely did not name community fire department be free from such license fees.

Commissioner White stated yesterday that he intended to consult with various officials in an effort to learn if there was not some manner in which this license could be absorbed without adding to the burden already placed on small communities.

# December 1, 1944: St. Matthews Sun: County Fire Trucks Must Pay For License. ACCORDING TO MOTOR REGISTRATION OFFICIAL—The protest made to **County Fire Trucks Must Pay For License**

#### ACCORDING TO MOTOR REGISTRATION OFFICIAL

The protest made to County Clerk Clem Theisen, last week by County Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., that trucks used by community fire departments are required to pay a \$40 truck license although they are used in public serice just As non-license paying fire trucks in Louisville, received little encoursgement when presented

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suit with various officials in an effort to learn if there was not some manner in which this license could be absorbed wittenut adding to the burden stready placed on small communities,

The subject will probably be one of the principal topics at the meeting, of county fire departments to be held Wednesday evening, December 13, at the Hikes

The subject will probably be one of the principal topics at the meeting of county fire departments to be held Wednesday evening December 13, at the Bales Graded School in Buechel.

December 8, 1944, *The Jeffersonian*:



Halled as another progressive step in Jefferson County progress, a meeting of representatives from eleven volunteer fire departments in the county will be held Wednesday evening, December 13, at the likes Graded School, at 8 o'clock. Commissioner E. P. White, Jr. who called the meeting at

the suggestion of several coun- effective firs protection." ty leaders interested in the question of county firs protec- the meeting. White emphasized tion, said yesterday, that from present indications every volunteer fire fighting group in the county would be represented.

"In addition," said White, "we hope that other communities who do not have, but need fire fighting units will send representatives to discuss cooperation between to the meeting. They will learn the city and county departments, just how they can develop a and a representative from the neighborhood unit, and what is State Fire Marshal's office has needed to give county tesidents been invited.

Among guests who will address the attendance of Carl Berg, engineer for the Planning and Zoning Commission, who will show maps illustrating the extent to which Jefferron County has developed fire protection,

A member of the Louisville Fire Department will be present

#### December 15, 1944, The Jeffersonian:

to hits hits hits hits hits hits NEW YEAR'S EVE あってき ままま あいまたあいまい ZACHARY TAYLOR POST AUXILIARY 115 ST. MATTHEWS ARMORY SUNDAY NIGHT, DEC. 31 GOOD MUSIC . FUELIC INVITED For Reservations WA. 1943 HL 1566-W TA. 2548 TA. 1955 

# **County Fire Fighters** Effect Organization

#### N. B. SUBLETTE IS ELECTED THEIR FIRST PRESIDENT

Ten Jelferson County volunteer fire departments were represented at a meeting held at Hikes Graded School at Buechel, Wednesday night, and formed the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Association of Jefferson County.

N. B. Sublette, of Middletown, was elected president;

Frank Binford, of Buechel, will meet shortly to plan a provice president, and Davis Mc-Afee, of High View, secretarytreasurer.

The meeting which was called by County Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., at the suggestion of residents interested in unifying the fire protection interests of the county, was attended by seventyfive representatives of county, city and state fire department offleet.

Commissioner White opened the meeting and introduced the following speakers who addressed the audience on various sapects of Are protection. Capt. William Simona, instructor from the State department; Capt. Rabert Bur-dine, of the Louisville Fire Department; Capt. J. Paul Ward and Lieuts, L. M. Bray and Ed. Lurding from the State Fire Marshal's office; Walter fihackleton, of the Worthington department and copedinator of civilian defense for the Louisville area; Joseph Strotman, mayor of Shively; Carl Berg, engineer for the Louisville and Jefferson County Plasning and Zoning Commission; and Ken-neth P. Vinsel, director of the Louisville Area Development Asabelation. An executive committee with a

representative from each volumteet department in the county to- | TIGN by horse cab is \$2 per mile; gether with the elected officers | there are no taxia

gram for the new organization.

Among the matters discussed at the meeting was the license fee imposed on fire trucks by the state which unincorporated communitles must pay. Commissioner White is in correspondence with state officials in an effort to have the license fee removed from apparatus operated by community cooperation.

The eleven fire departments in the county are headed by the following fire chiefs: Buechel, J. H. Butterman; Worthington, H. O. Sime: Middletown, G. H. Hancock; Camp Taylor, E. C. Stonefield; Okolona, William Kreutzmani Lake Dreamland, Gilbert Hartlage; Shively, Fred Huber; 5t. Matthews, John Monohan; Jeffersortown, Lawrence Miller; High View, William Nesenith.

Anchorage, which was the only community not reptraenfed at the meeting, is under Fire Chief Charles Polk.

#### MUS. NEWMAN ILL

Mrs. E. H. Newman, of 51. Joseph's Avenue, libitely, 10 reparted off the danger list at Bit. Juseph's Infirmary, where the suffered an attack of pleurisy and pneumenta.

IN PARIS, TRANSPORTA-

December 29, 1944: St. Matthews Sun: Fireman Get Thanks. Dr. J. A. Ohlson, 229 Cornell Place, has asked that the thanks of Mrs. Ohlson be added to his own, for the prompt and skillful manner in which the St. Matthews Fire Department responded to call, and worked to save furniture and to extinguish the blaze that threatened to destroy his home. The fire was discovered by Mrs. Louis H. Schweitzer, a next door neighbor, who turned in the alarm. Damage to the amount of \$2,500.00 was caused by the fire before it was brought under control.

December 1944: Jefferson County Volunteer Fireman's Association—eventually—Firefighters Inc. The following will be the history of this organization as we have it until around 1974.

In December of 1944 a group of 11 county volunteer fire departments got together and formed a County Association to improve efficiency by cooperation. Their first big problem that they tried to solve was why they couldn't get free license plates for fire trucks. The first members were Highview, Jeffersontown, St. Matthews, Buechel, Worthington, Middletown, Okolona, Lake Dreamland, Shively and Anchorage.

Unfortunately the early history of the Association is not recorded. We know that St. Matthews has been a member since the forming in 1944 and that many of the offices of the Association have been held by St. Matthews firefighters. The first officers of the Association were President, B. N. Sublette from Middletown, Vice President, Frank Binford from Buechel, and R. D. McAfee from Highview, Secretary/Treasurer. The purpose of the Association was to work together more closely and to try and solve mutual problems together.

By 1952 the Association had grown to about 15 members, with Fern Creek, Camp Taylor, Lyndon, Harrods Creek, South Oldham, South Dixie and Pleasure Ridge park coming on board. The officers that year were President Billy Smith of Lyndon, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President W. E. Rives of Buechel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Henry Riddle of Middletown, Ted Travelsteed, Secretary from Lake Dreamland and Thurston Schmidt Treasurer from Buechel. Don White from Lyndon.

In 1952 the Association helped lower rates from  $62\notin$  to  $42\notin$  and another  $18\notin$  drop if you were in 1,000 feet of a hydrant and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from a firehouse. The Association was also helping to provide training for the departments. They had Captain C. B. Durbon from Louisville Fire Department giving each department in the County 10 hours of training per month. They also got the county to adopt an ordinance that fire hydrants should be 750 feet apart.

All we know from 1953 is that John M. Monohan, Jr. became President of the Association. Also that J. V. Kaster of St. Matthews was secretary.

In 1954 Captain V. A. Beam became President of the Association.

In 1957 the Association was still providing training help for the departments.

In 1958 the Association helped Mr. O. Bond set up Central, an answering service for fire calls.

In 1959 the name of the Association was changed to Firefighters, Inc. They also bought a \$600.00 freezing blanket for Children's Hospital.

In 1960 Firefighters, Inc. again provided some training help for the departments. Then in 1961 they tried real hard to get a County training facility built, but this effort failed. Bob Brenzel of St. Matthews worked with training during this time.

In 1963 and 1964 Firefighters, Inc. was instrumental in the establishment of County Alarm, a centralized dispatch center for all the Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Departments. It is still in operation, (as of 1974). (Note: County Alarm was operated by the Louisville Fire Department's Fire Communication Bureau from 1964 through 1992. In 1993, county fire dispatching responsibility was transferred to the Jefferson County Police Radio Room.)

In 1965 Firefighters, Inc. Worked up a City/County back up plan, which worked out very well and still is used today (1974).

Hospital visitations were the product of work in 1967 and this lasted about 4 years.

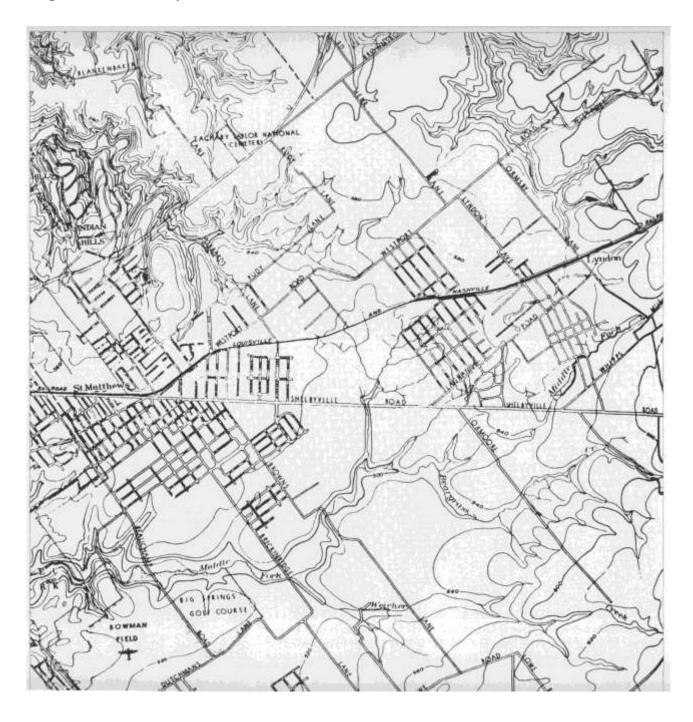
Over the years the association has been involved in many areas. It helped the County set up an Arson Bureau. It has been involved with state legislation and also county ordinances such as the 1974 hydrant ordinance. They have constantly worked with the County Police for better relations. They have built and maintained a film library for all members. They also have worked for a better insurance rate for firefighters and citizens.

Over the years they have developed a softball league, training systems and worked closely with Civil Defense.

In 1974, after months of work a Disaster Plan for the County was approved. Also this year Al Ring from St. Matthews became President of the group.

There will be a separate section on Firefighter's Inc.

Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, Topographic Map of Jefferson County, Kentucky, Published by The Louisville & Jefferson County Planning & Zoning Commission, May 1944.



Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=4048&CISOBOX=1&REC=10 Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company Photo of truck & building, 100 Chenoweth Avenue, January 14, 1944. ULPA R\_07923\_00\_n



Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=3079&CISOBOX=1&REC=5 Kentucky Insulation Company of Bauers Road House under repair, 3612 Brownsboro Road, December 19, 1944. Royal Photo Company, ULPA R\_08338\_n



September 2, 1944, The Courier-Journal:

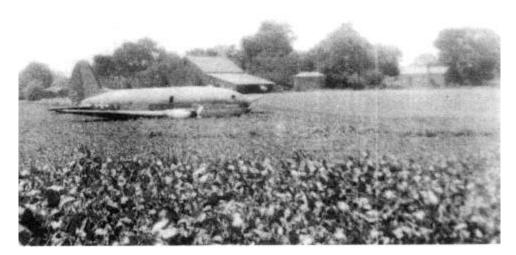
#### Plane Makes Forced Landing. A Troop Carrier Command Transport plane with three officers and three enlisted men aboard made a forced belly landing in an alfalfa field three miles northeast of Bowman Field at 11:30 a.m. yesterday, on the

R. W. Hite farm on Westport Road. The plane was only slightly damaged and none of the occupants was injured. 1944 Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: North side of Westport Road, east of Washburn Avenue, Cargo Plane crash, WWII, Hite Farm. Where the farm and the Windhurst neighborhood in Windy Hills is located today. NOTE FROM CHARLIE ARRINGTON FROM THE KENTUCKY AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WAGGENER class of 64): The air-plane is a Curtiss C-46. Curtiss-Wright at Standiford Field built 438 of these between 1944 and 1945 plus they modified other C-46s from the Curtiss Buffalo production line beginning probably in 1943. The plane has bellied in and is probably little damaged since it came down on dirt. More than likely it was taken apart and returned to the factory. It must have been minor since it did not make any of the accident list. Also one of the Troop Carrier Outfits training at Bowman Field used the C-46. The airplane was really too big for Bowman and that is why only one TC used it. I believe that was in 1944. NOTE FROM AL RING, we do not know if STMFD made a run on this but it is very probable. but it is very probable.





This was north side of Westport Road, east of Washburn Avenue. Cargo plane crash, WWII, Hite Farm.



These are pictures from 1975 to 1979 of Al Ring's back yard at 6605 Tottenham Road in Windhurst, now Windy Hills. I also owned the lot next door and eventually built a house on it.

Note barn in plane picture and the one near my backyard. The are the same.



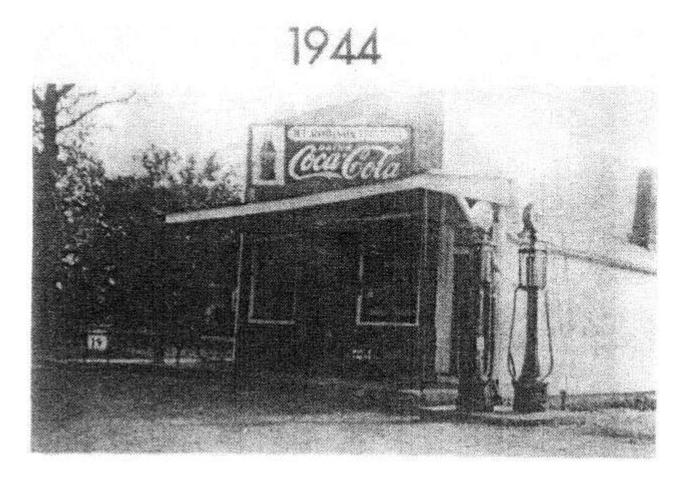
1944 This picture was taken June 17, 2023. Can't see much of the barn, but it is definitely "the barn."



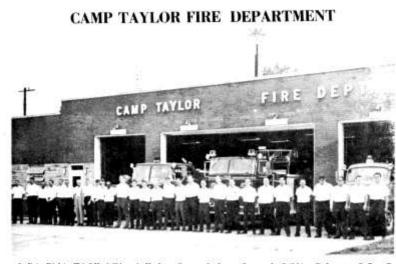


Courtesy, Lyndon Lore, A Historic Account Of The Lyndon Community With Numerous Illustrations Of A Bygone Era We fought fires in the Lyndon area all the time.

The Mel Keelings took over the store in 1944 and ran it until they moved into their new Market on Violet Avenue. The building at the corner of LaGrange Road and Lyndon Lane, next to the Postoffice, was also a grocery for many years. After returning from the war in 1945 Eddie Boss constructed the first store building on the south side of LaGrange Road. He had a hardware store there, and it is still being used for that purpose. As the community grew and demands were made, other stores came to Lyndon along with a great number of filling stations. One can count seven Gasoline Stations within one block. One former resident of Lyndon Lane sadly called it "Gasoline Alley".



Courtesy, Lyndon Fire & Rescue, 1971 Fire Fighters Olympics magazine & http:// camptaylorfire.org/History.aspx



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

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

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

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

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

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

October 4, 1946, *The Jeffersonian*:



Permi lell in Bight-Charine Steffer, and serie Magniall Greet, Inchinisti H. Unitario faman di E. Porti, Faminano W. W. Taylor, forman Willers Bains, engineer: William Bains Jordan, Andreas M. Martellel, Stateman I. Waldwan, Internet C. Baynan, reput Dather, Eprivan L. Jonas, explaint L. Kreiten, Brennet,

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#### **New STMFD Board Member:**

Eugene N. "Bud" Andriot—Trustee 1944 to 1947—1903 to October 22, 1953—Born in Louisville in 1903. He was very active in starting the St. Matthews Potato Festival. At the age of 20 he started the Hoosier Transit Company. Later he became the secretary of the Trans Continental Carrier Co., and was president of Andriot Equipment Company. He was a member of the Board form 1944 until 1947. He was active in helping the Department in buying property for a fire station at 117 St. Matthews Avenue. He was the son of Lawrence J. and Ruth Newfield Andriot and died at the age of 50.



**New STMFD Board Member:** 

William Leland Wilson—Director 1944 to 1974—1890 to December 14, 1974—Mr. Wilson was born in Mancado, Minnesota in 1890. He moved to St. Matthews in 1925 and went to work for the General Foods Company. He joined the Board in 1944 and served until his death in 1974.

December 14, 1974: W. Leland Wilson dies: W. Leland Wilson, 84, died Saturday, December 14, at 12:40 p.m. in Kentucky Baptist Hospital. Long a director of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association he was the department's vice president.

The 84-year-old Mankato, Minn., native lived at 502 Bauer Avenue in St. Matthews. He had retired from General Foods Corp., in 1955, and remained a member of the Christian Church.

Active in Masonic affairs, he was a 50-year member of Valley Lodge 511, a member of the Louisville Council for Royal and Select Masons, and of the King Solomon Chapter, Royal Arch Masons.

He is survived by his wife, the former Billie Brumley. Burial was in Cave Hill Cemetery on Monday afternoon, with members of the fire association as pallbearers.



**OFFICERS** of the newly organized Voluntary Fire Fighters Association of Jefferson County planning a unified county front are, from left, B. N. Sublette, Middletown, president; Frank Binford, Buechel, vice president, and R. Davis McAfee, secretary-treasurer.

# **County Fire Fighters Elect Middletown Man**

B. N. Sublette, president of the Middletown Civic Club and honorary chief of the town's Volunteer Fire Department, was named president of the newly organized Voluntary Fire Fighters Association of Jefferson County at the group's first meeting last night at Hikes Graded School, Buechel.

Frank Binford, funeral director and assistant fire chief of the Buechel Volunteer Fire Department, was elected vice president and R. Davis McAfee, High View attorney, was elected secretary-treasurer. Eleven Voluntary Fire Departments from county towns were authorized to name one member each to a board to assist the officers.

#### Meeting Called By White.

County Commissioner E. P. White said he called the meeting to attempt to organize Voluntary Fire Department leaders wishing to improve fire-fighting efficiency through co-operation.

State fire marshal's office, explained that free licenses could be obtained only if the fire trucks were owned and operated by a governmental unit.

#### 11 Municipalities Co-operate.

Other speakers who addressed the volunteer firemen were Capt. William Simons, instructor, State Fire Training School; Capt. Robert Burdon, Louisville Fire De-partment; K. P. Vinsel, director of the Louisville Area Development Association, and Carl Berg, of the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission. Municipalities represented at

Even before formally organiz-ing, the group began a fiery dis-cussion of the Fire Departments' failure to obtain free State li-censes for equipment. J. Paul lona, Lake Dreamland, Shively Ward, supervisor of field men, and Anchorage.

#### SECTION 2-8 PAGES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1944

# Mother Saves Son As Train Rams Car

The wife of a St. Matthews minister carried her 3-yearold son to safety a split second before a train demolished the automobile she was driving at 6:10 p.m. yesterday at the Chenoweth Lane crossing in St. Matthews.

So close to the collision was earlier this week Carl Berg. Mrs. Sarah Owen, 24, of 3914 Gilman, holding her son, Ronald Owen, that the impact of the crash hurled them to the ground, it was reported by her husband, the Rev. M. R. Owen, pastor since September of the St. Matthews Methodist Church.

Mrs. Owen had driven onto the tracks when the automatic crossing gates lowered and trapped the car. County police were told.

#### Luck Averts Tragedy.

Mother and son were under treatment for shock last night by a physician.

Luckily, Mrs. Owen got out of the car on the side from which the westbound Chesapeake & Ohio train was approaching or she might not have been able to get clear of the wreckage, her husband said.

Mrs. Owen was returning home after driving her husband to the church at Breckinridge Lane and Grandview Avenue.

Joe Allen, Lexington, was engineer on the train, County police said. There have been numerous accidents at the crossing and City-County planning engineer, said there was immediate need for grade crossing separation in St. Matthews.

#### **3 Hurt In Accidents.**

In another accident, Edward J. Bennett, 78, of 678 S. 39th, was in critical condition at General Hospital with injuries suffered at 6:30 a.m. when he was struck at 39th and Broadway. Driver of the car. Robert G. Loran, 65, of 4132 Virginia, was arrested on reckless driving and assault and battery charges. Bennett received head injuries and a broken leg.

John Burkhead, 70, of 859 Water Street, was in serious condition at General Hospital with a fractured pelvis suffered at 8:20 p.m. when he was struck at Shelby and Main by a car driven by Hollis Christie, 42, of 847 S. First. Police said Burkhead was crossing Main against the traffic light.

Mrs. Velma Brooks, 35, of 2918 S. Fourth, was in St. Joseph Infirmary with a head injury received at 5:30 p.m. when she was hit by an automobile driven by Howard Pardue, 23, of 315 E. Breckinridge, at Fourth and Hill.

#### **Board Of Directors**

E. N. "Bud" Andriot Fred C. Boss L. Churchill Matthews John M. Monohan Jr. W. Jesse Ogden Louis H. Schweitzer William Leland Wilson Dr. James Emil Winter

#### Officers

1944 Chief John M. Monohan Jr. Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt Captain Rudolph L. Lineback Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer

#### **Firefighters**

T. A. Baker John A. Beierle Jim Brangers Raymond Crabtree J. B. Crouch W. H. Crouch Ed Foley Charles H. Hahn W. Rich Herdt Clarence Hicks Ted H. Huffman Sr. John W. "Bud" Jansen John V. Kaster John "Jack" T. Kempf Joseph L. "Joe" Kempf

Henry R. Kennedy Byron S. Martin Carl R. Meiser J. C. Reed Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry John F. Westerman George R. Westwood

#### 1945

In 1945 Board Member Jesse Ogden died, so his son ran the alarm system for a couple of months until it was moved. This alarm system was owned by a Mr. Long, and M. T. Hopkins. They owned the Long and Hopkins Real-Estate office, Belmont Cab, and a Building and Supply Company. They were located in the Belmont Cab office, about where the old St. Matthews Exchange was located. The siren was moved to the top of the old Schuler building (Consolidated Sales), and they answered the phone, and set the siren off from there. They also had a direct line from the office to the fire house so when the first firefighter got to the fire house he could call them for the location of the fire.

The Board held many discussions during the year on a new fire house location.

The department joined the I. A. F. C.—International Association of Fire Chiefs (1873)

#### About the IAFC



The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) represents the leadership of over 1.2 million firefighters and emergency responders. IAFC members are the world's leading experts in firefighting, emergency medical services, terrorism response, hazardous materials spills, natural disasters, search and rescue, and public safety legislation. Since 1873, the IAFC has provided a forum for its members to exchange ideas and uncover the latest products and services available to first responders.

#### **IAFC Vision**

We will be the premier provider of leadership, support, and education to fire and emergency services through excellent customer service and by working profitably.

#### **IAFC Mission**

We will provide career and volunteer chiefs, chief fire officers, and managers of emergency services organizations throughout the international community with information, education, services, and representation to enhance their professionalism and capabilities.

#### **IAFC History**

- Founded in 1873, the International Association of Fire Chiefs is the ninth oldest association in the United States. The IAFC is a professional, member-supported organization with over 12,000 members, representing 1.2 million firefighters.
- The IAFC supports the emergency services family of men and women around the globe. We listen
  to needs and respond to them quickly. We are proud of the firefighters and rescue personnel
  who serve us, and equally as proud of the work that we do and the programs that we offer on
  their behalf.

1945 Courtesy, Deputy Chief Rob Storrie, Fern Creek Fire Department: Fern Creek Fire Department Started

Started in 1945 as part of community club, by local business men and community leaders.

### **First Pumper**













A FLEET OF FIVE-With the addition of a new semi-good (bock new right) Fern Creek Fire Department new boasts five places of fire-fighting equipment. The truck corries six ladders and pumps at the rate of 1000 gallens per minute. Picture was taken atop the FC Community Center Building which boase the fire department. (For a closer view, see Page 6.) JUNE 18, 1964

# County Fire Fighters To Meet January 17

At a meeting held of the executive committee of the Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Wedbesday night, January 3, by-laws for the new organization were prepared for approval by the next general meeting of the association, Wednesday night, January 17, at 8 o'clock at the 51. Matthews Armery.

Other matters to be taken up at this meeting are possible reductions in fire insurance rates and questions concerning the cooperative maintenance of county fire departments.

A representative of the Actuamial Bureau of the National Board of Fire Underwriters will be present to give information relative to methods of securing lower rates.

The committee will recommend membership dues of \$1.00 per year for active and anociate members.

All members of county fire departments and residents contributing to the support of such departments are eligible for membership and invited to attend the meeting.

### County Firemen Adopt By-Laws

At a meeting held Wednesday night at the St. Matthews Armory, the new Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association met and adopted by-laws unanimously for the organization.

N. B. Sublette, president of the association, stated that all eleven of the county five dapartments were represented, Camp Taylor and Middletown sending the largest delegations.

The by-laws which had been previously endersed by the executive committee contain proviaions for future conduct of the association and the general program of the organization.

Among the matters discussed were methods of turning in firealarms, and arrangements are underway for cooperation with the county police and the Louisville Fire Department for available assistance,

Davis McAfee, of High View, stated to The Jeffersonian that the association had long-range plans in view for blanketing the county with an effective system of fire protection.





Vol. 38. No. 38

JEFTERSONTOWN, KY, FROMAY JANUARY 28, 1948

Every Friday at \$2.50 Per Yes

COUNTY RESIDENTS! IN CASE OF FIRE CALL: JA. 1171 OR WA. 5351

January 19, 1945, *The Jeffersonian*:

January 14, 1945, The Courier-Journal

# E. S. Monohan, Financier Dies Visiting Wife In Hospital

Edward S. Monohan, Jr., 62, Brown's Lane, a director of the First National Bank and the Kentucky Title Trust Company since 1930, died of a heart attack at 6:50 p.m. Saturday at St. Joseph's Infirmary.

He had gone to the infirmary to visit his wife who had undergone a major operation on December 17. Monohan had parked his car and was walking to a rear entrance when he succumbed.

Monohan also was a director of the Price Chemical Company, the Bourbon Stock Yards and the Gardeners & Farmers Market Company, and had formerly served as a director and vice president of the St. Matthews Bank.

#### Was Proud of Big Farm.

He farmed all his life and took great pride in his large farm on Browns Lane. He was a member of the Pendennis Club, the Louisville Boat Club and the Holy Spirit Catholic Church. He was a brother of the late John M. Monohan, formerly president of the First National Bank.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Eleanor Monohan; four sons, Edward S. Monohan III, Cincinnati, Ohio; Lt. (J.G.) Charles O. Monohan, overseas; Thomas S. Monohan, Louisville, and James S. Monohan, Army, Rhode Island; a daughter, Mrs. Bruce Baxter, Louisville, and seven grandchildren.



E. S. MONOHAN, JR.

1945

February 23, 1945, *St. Matthews Sun & The Jeffersonian*: Volunteer Firemen Ask For County Department — Will Present Resolution to The Fiscal Court—





Much interest has been aroused in Jefferson County by the announcement that an establishment of a county fire department was possible and legal under a recently enacted state statute.

Inquiries have been received at The Jeffersonian office

from residents who have wanted to know just what measures were being taken to insure prompt action, what affect the county department would have on fire insurance, rates and how complete such a county fire fighting organisation might be.

Answers given were limited by the amount of information available, but conversations with B. N. Sublette, chairman of the Jelferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association, and Davis Me-Afee, secretary, indicated that steps were being taken to insure better county fire protection.

A meeting is to be held Tuesday evening, March 27, at the Hikes Graded School of the county fire association, to which all persons interested in the establishment of a Jefferson County Fire Department are invited. At that meeting the proposal which is to be placed before the Fiscal Court will be discussed and probably drafted,

Several residents have protested that although they live comparatively close to present county community departments that the fire insurance rates are no lower than before they had this protection. In many cases this is because such fire departments are prohibited from answering calls outside a prescribed area.

The opinion of those who have made some study of the situation is that with the establishment of an efficient county fire departmeni a substantial saving will be effected in fire insurance rates. - A member of a county volunteer department stated that his opinion after consultation with several authorities was that the amount saved to county property owners in lower insurance rates would far exceed the cost of setting up and operating a fire department. The extent to which the pro-posed fire department will be developed depends on the importance the Fiscal Court places on the project. If the Court adopts an effective plan, placing com-(Continued On Page 2)

COUNTY RESIDENTS ASK FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Continued From Page 1)

plate equipment and personnel at, strategic points in the county, and giving such aid to present and future volunteer organizations that will assure the effectiveness of these community units, it is possible that a county-wide coverage can be obtained.

However, much depends, said Chairman Sublette, on the general demand of the people. "I hope all communities having voluniter, departments will be represented next Turesday evening at our meeting," said Sublette, "And we are anxious for representatives from other sections that realize their need of fire protection to be present. I would like to see many farmers attend. Their interest in protection from fire is very great because they have so much at stake."

Sublette is planning to visit Fayette county this week to inspect the county fire department there. He will report the findings of his visit at the Tuesday meeting.

### Volunteer Firemen Present Petilions

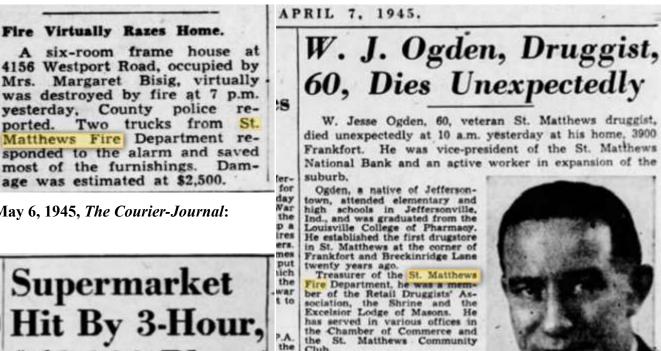
Over one hundred county residents met with the Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Tuesday night at Hikes Graded School and heard N. B. Sublette, chairman, report on his findings in regard to the establishment of a county fire department as provided by Kentucky law.

With the exception of the Anchorage Fire Department, every volunteer fire-fighting unit in the county was represented.

Davis McAfee, secretary of the organization, reported hundreds of petitions signed by county residents asking the Fiscal Court to set up a county fire department in Jefferson County had been delivered to the association.

It was decided by unanimous action to present these petitions to the next session of the Fiscal Court, Tuesday, April 3.

An alarm of fire was sounded while the firemen were holding forth, and a fire which destroyed a nearby garage and two automobiles, was prevented by the prompt action of the Buechel fire department from spreading to the nearby dwellings.



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May 6, 1945, The Courier-Journal:



Contents of the building, onestory brick and steel, included an extra large quanity of foodstuffs brought in for the regular Saturday buying rush, the manager, Lewis Smither, 3810 Hy-cliffe, said. Temporary quarters are being sought until a new building is erected.

The building was gutted by the fire despite efforts of the St. Matthews Fire Department and two Louisville fire companies. Six lines of hose were used. Firemen believed the blaze started at least an hour before a passing truck driver spotted it. The building is owned by Mrs. Charles Truehart, Indian Hills Trail.

The loss was covered by insurance.

Frankfort. He was vice-president of the St. Matthews National Bank and an active worker in expansion of the

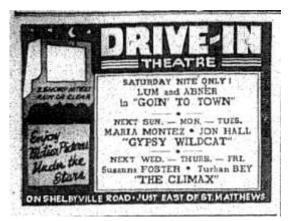
Treasurer of the St. Matthews Fire Department, he was a mem-ber of the Retail Drugsists' As-sociation, the Shrine and the Excelsior Lodge of Masons. He has served in various offices in the Chamber of Commerce and the St. Matthews Community Club. Survivors are his wife. Mrs.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Marie Buschemeyer Ogden; a son, John H. Ogden; a sister, Mrs. Allie O. Carter, Louisville, and two brothers, Earl Ogden, Louis-ville, and C. Erdman Ogden, Jeffersonville. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Monday at Ratterman's Chapel. Burial will be in Resthaven Memorial Park.



1945

May 4, 1945, *The Jeffersonian*:



May 5, 1945: *The Courier Journal*: 3-Hour, \$62,000 Blaze Destroys St. Matthews A. & P., Contents. A raging three-hour fire destroyed the A. & P. supermarket at 3726 Lexington Road early today, with \$62,000 loss to the large building and all contents.

The one-story brick and steel building 120 by 125 feet, was gutted by the holocaust which caved in the roof, toppled the front wall and made twisted wreckage of the interior. The sidewalls and back wall were left standing.

Damage to the building was estimated at \$22,000 by Charles Truehart, Indian Hills Trail, whose wife owned it.

A. & P. Vice President J. B. DeJarnett figured loss of stocks and fixtures at \$40,000. He expressed hope the market could be rebuilt. Meanwhile company officials sought a temporary location in that area.

Contents included extra large quantities of foodstuffs brought in for the Saturday shopping crowds, said Manager Lewis Smither, 3810 Hycliffe.

A passing truck driver spotted the blaze at 4 a.m., when the building was already a mass of flames from front to back.

The St. Matthews Fire Department and two fire companies from Louisville responded and laid six lines of hose, but were unable to check the blaze.

Despite the early hour, 300 to 400 spectators were attracted by the fierce flames and heavy smoke.

Fred Wooten of the St. Matthews department expressed belief that the blaze started at least an hour before discovery. Cause was undetermined.

Courtesy *The Louisville Times*, May 5, 1945:



Rubble, twisted girders and scorched walls are all light today by a disastrous \$62,000 fire. Passeraby there was left of the St. Matthews A. & P. super- a inspected the debris after three fire companies market at 3726 Lexington Rd., swept before day- fought the blaze for three hours.



Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=4307&CISOBOX=1&REC=1 A & P Tea Co, Exterior photo of building, Royal Photo Co, a one story white brick building, dated March 16, 1945, ULPA R\_08589\_01-n

Below, Interior, same date, ULPA R\_08589\_00\_n





Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/item\_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=4307&CISOBOX=1&REC=1 A & P Tea Co, Exterior photo produce department, 3730 Lexington Road, Royal Photo Co, a one story white brick building, dated March 16, 1945, ULPA R\_08477-n

Courtesy, http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/ royal&CISOPTR=2712&REC=14 A & P Tea Company, Super Markert, undated, I think this must be the new store built to replace the one that burned, R\_09133\_01-n and R\_09133\_02\_n



Courtesy *The Louisville Times*, May 5, 1945: 3-Hour, \$62,000 Blaze Destroys St. Matthews A. & P., Contents. A raging three-hour fire destroyed the A. & P. supermarket at 3726 Lexington Road early today, with \$62,000 loss to the large building and all contents.

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May 6, 1945: *The Courier Journal*: Supermarket Hit By 3-Hour, \$62,000 Blaze. Grocery Destroyed On Lexington Road. Fire of unknown origin caused \$22,000 damage to the building and \$40,000 damage to the stock of the A. & P. Supermarket, 3725 Lexington Road, at 4:18 a.m. yesterday. The blaze was extinguished after a three -hour fight by firemen.

Contents of the building, one-story brick and steel, included an extra large quantity of food-stuffs brought in for the regular Saturday buying rush, the manager, Lewis Smither, 3810 Hycliffe, said. Temporary quarters are being sought until a new building is erected.

The building was gutted by the fire despite efforts of the St. Matthews Fire Department and two Louisville fire companies. Six lines of hose were used. Firemen believed the blaze started at least an hour before a passing truck driver spotted it. The building is owned by Mrs. Charles Truehart, Indian Hills Trail.

The loss was covered by insurance.

Note from Ralph Kempf, (2009), The A & P grocery was located at Macon and Lexington Road near the end of WWII. Late one cold night it went up in flames and was totally involved (May 1945). After considerable time of pumping water on the fire, Joe Kempf and another fireman, whose name I do not recall, started moving into the store. A high shelf gave way and tossed several cans off. One, a can of peas, hit between Joe and the other firefighter, landing in the very cold water. Since the can was very hot it exploded and splattered Joe and the other firefighter with peas.

May 10, 1945: *The Louisville Times*: A. & P. Fire Believed Set – Court of Inquiry Call Is Considered. The \$62,000 fire which destroyed an A. & P. supermarket at 3726 Lexington Road early Saturday appears to have been of incendiary origin – the work of a firebug, State investigators said today after several days of investigation.

The probers, Deputy State Fire Marshal Charles M. Keith, in charge of this district, and Lt. Edward Lerding, assigned here from Frankfort, said they were continuing the investigation and were considering calling a court of inquiry.

Main indication that the fierce blaze was kindled, they reported, is the rapidity with which it spread through the brick and steel building, turning it into a heap of rubble.

Keith and Lerding said the fire was discovered by Mrs. Frances Meisner, Westport Road, who was driving past with her husband just before 4 a.m. She said the flames were waist-high and confined to one spot.

Less than 10 minutes later, by the time she had telephoned firemen and county police and returned to the scene, the store was ablaze from front to back, roof and all.

John F. Westerman and Henry Kennedy, St. Matthews firemen, were quoted by the investigators as saying the heat was so intense when they first arrived that they could not come within 254 feet of the building.

First theory that the fire had started among 14 cases of matches in the store faded when a number of the cases were found water soaked and un-ignited.

Store Manager Lewis Smithers, 3810 Hycliffe, was quoted by Keith and Lerding as saying a woman told him she had heard someone running through her yard nearby just a few minutes before the fire was discovered.

Other evidence toward an incendiary origin, the probers reported, was the fact that the fire became so hot, despite the short interval, that five 15-inch steel girders and six-inch steel girders were warped and twisted almost beyond recognition.

Also, they said, the building was airtight with permanently closed windows, a factor which usually makes fires spread slowly for lack of a draft. Undamaged was \$10,000 cash in a fireproof safe.

#### 1945

Grocery Destroyed On Lexington Road

\$62.000 Blaze

Supermarket

Hit By 3-Hour,

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# A.&P. Fire Believed Set

Court of Inquiry Call Is Considered.

The \$62,000 fire which destroyed an A. & P. supermarket at 3726 Lexington Road early Saturday appears to have been of incendiary origin—the work of a firebug, State investigators said today after several days of investigation.

The probers, Deputy State Fire Marshal Charles M. Keith, in charge of this district, and Lt. Edward Lerding, assigned here from Frankfort, said they were continuing the investigation and were considering calling a court of inquiry.

Main indication that the fierce blaze was kindled, they reported, is the rapidity with which it spread through the brick and steel building, turning it into a heap of rubble.

Keith and Lerding said the fire was discovered by Mrs. Frances Meisner, Westport Road, who was driving past with her husband just before 4 a.m. She said the flames were waist-high and confined to one spot.

\* \* \*

Less than 10 minutes later. by the time she had telephoned firemen and county police and returned to the scene, the store was ablaze from front to back, roof and all.

John F. Westerman and Henry Kennedy, St. Matthews firemen, were quoted by the investigators as saying the heat was so intense when they first arrived that they could not come within 25 feet of the building.

First theory that the fire had started among 14 cases of matches in the store faded when a number of the cases were found watersoaked and unignited.

Store Manager Lewis Smithers, 3810 Hycliffe, was quoted by Keith and Lerding as saying a woman told him she had heard someone running through her yard nearby just a few minutes before the fire was discovered.

Other evidence toward an incendiary origin, the probers reported, was the fact that the fire became so hot, despite the short interval, that five 15-inch steel girders and six-inch steel posts were warped and twisted almost beyond recognition.

Also, they said, the building was airtight with permanently closed windows, a factor which usually makes fires spread slowly for lack of a draft. Undamaged was \$10,000 cash in a fireproof safe.

May 11, 1945: St. Matthews Sun: A & P Will Rebuild. As soon as temporary quarters can be found the A & P Super Market destroyed completely by fire Saturday morning, will be re-opened. According to Lewis Smithers, manager, plans are also going forward for reconstruction of the store at its location on Lexington Road at Wendover. Credit is given to the St. Matthews Fire Department which prevented the spread of fire to adjacent buildings. Two Louisville companies an-May 11, 1945, The Jeffersonian: swered a call for assistance.

## **Court Delays Action On Fire Department**

The committee appointed several weeks ago by the Fiscal Court to draw up a suggesteil plan for the establishment of a county fire department made its report to the court last Monday but no action was taken.

Meeting the approval of the majority of the court members, County to coordinate and assist department be made available to the present volunteer depart- all sections of Jefferson County

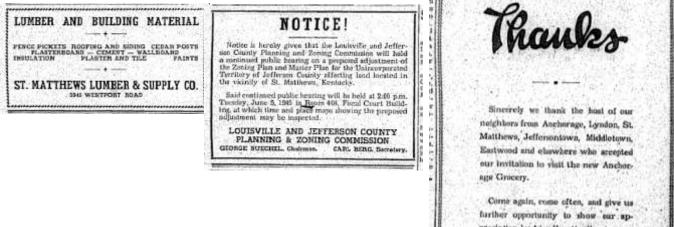
That sufficient equipment be purchased to supplement the apparatus now operated by volunteer fire fighters. That the Flacal Court furnish equipment or financial aid to the amount of 50 percent of the sum raised by any would take action on community in establishing a fire tion next Monday. department and that a plan be effected whereby elaterna, ponds effected whereby claterns, ponds iderably concerned over the or reservoirs be installed to sup-ply ample water reserves. And ing forward to better firs protecthat the services of the county fire tion in the county.

and receiving praise from Judge Mark Beauchamp the resolution provides that a competent fire chief be employed for Jefferson County to coordinate and assist

outside of incorporated areas. County Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., who encouraged the organization of local volunteer fire-fighters, said yesterday that it was probable that the court would take action on the resolu-

'Meanwhile the county is con-

#### May 25, 1945, The Jeffersonian:



preciation by friendly attention to your quest for bitter foods and better service,

manning and services

MR. AND MRS. L. SMITHER "ANCHORAGE GROCERY

ANNOUNCEMENT

The St. Matthews Produce Exchange is now operating under the ownership and management of the JOS. DENUNZIO FRUIT CO., Inc. Potatoes, fertilizer, coal and other farm supplies will be handled as in the past.

MR. LAWRENCE FRICK will act as manager of the St. Matthews Produce Exchange and as secretary of the Louisville Growers Cooperative Association

St. Matthews Produce Exchange ST. MATTHEWS, RENTUCEY DIVISION OF JOS. DENUNZIO FRUIT CO., INC.

> \*\*\*\*\* 11418

June 1, 1945, The Jeffersonian:





June 29, 1945: St. Matthews Sun: Firemen Hold Election. The annual election of officers of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department will be held Wednesday, July 11, 1945 at 8 o'clock at the Holy Trinity gymnasium John M. Monohan has announced. He is president of the organization. Refreshments will be served.

August 24, 1945: St. Matthews Sun: John Monohan Talks at Rotary Luncheon. John Monohan president of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department was guest

speaker at the regular luncheon meeting of the St. Matthews Rotary Club, Wednesday, at the Beargrass Christian Church.

The matter of local fire protection and the manner in which citizens can cooperate to make the fire department effective was stressed by Monohan, who told the club that he was certain that a reduction in fire insurance rates can be obtained before long because of increased service by the volunteer department.

A new fire house an urgent is need, said Monohan, who urged every citizen to cooperate in securing modern and 🖢 quarters adequate equipment.

August 31, 1945, The 0 I. Jeffersonian:



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partment, and latterly in charge of fire prevention at the Corrisi Wright plant, it said to be thoroughly conversant with all features of fire-fighting, and while he is servicy in helping to bring the

without a department to pre-vide over, he will act in an ad high standard of efficiency and in visory capacity to, and as liaison officer between the county volunteer fire departments and the Fiscal. Court which has an undetermined relation to the community organizations.

Meeting with the executive committee of the Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's As-sociation last week at Buechel, Thompson explained that be of personnel. cause his office was entirely new and that he had no procedents to follow, it would be necessary for him to move slowly at first in represented except Worthington determining just what his pro- and Lake Dreamland. gram would be.

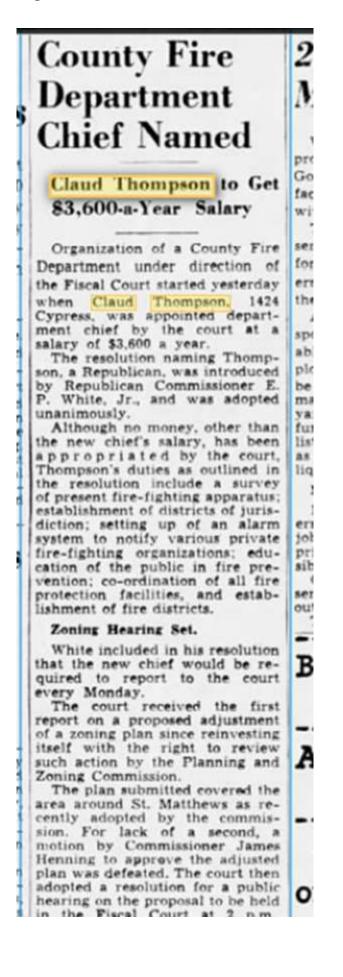
promoting the organization of more volunteer fire departments. After a complete survey of the county from a fice-prevention angle is made, Thompson said the

next step would be a list of suggestions to existing departments with regard to water supply, the digging of ponds at points acces sible by roads, and the training

Much enthusiasm was played at the meeting where every county department was

A regular meeting of the mem-mers of all the county fire de-First, said the new chief, a ment of all the county fire de-comprehensive survey must be partments will be held at the St, made of the county, existing fire-Matthews fire house. Wednesday fighting agencies, population den-silites and omergency needs. Thompson stated also that he be-lleved that his office could be of office. July 17, 1945, The Courier-Journal









1945

New Board Member—George E. Miller—Director 1945 to 1980 —1898 to September 10, 1988—Mr. Miller was born in Leavenworth, Indiána in 1898. He was a credit manager for a department store and then went with a major manufacturing company as credit, sale and office manager. He joined the Board in 1945 and served the Board of Directors in many capacities.

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 has been employed with credit offices of various department stores and manufactures 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.



New Board Member—Rudolph "Rudy" C. Schlich—Director 1945 to 1948—February 2, 1892 to April 25, 1973—Born in Louisville February 2, 1892. He lived in Ohio for many years before returning to St. Matthews. Mr. Schlich worked for his father at the Paul Schlick Engraving Company and later for his son at the Schlich Insurance Agency. He served on the Population for the Schlich Insurance Agency.

Board form 1946 to 1948. He died April 25, 1973.

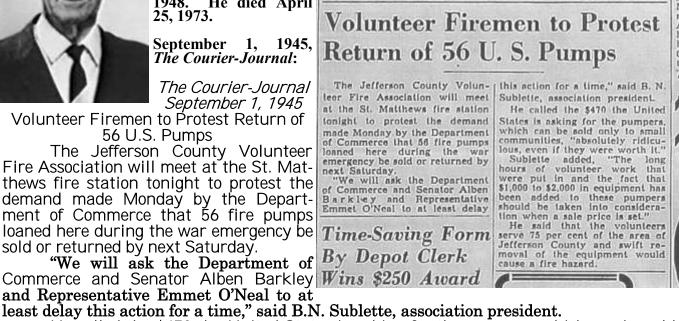
September 1, 1945, The Courier-Journal:

The Courier-Journal September 1, 1945

Volunteer Firemen to Protest Return of

56 U.S. Pumps The Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Association will meet at the St. Matthews fire station tonight to protest the demand made Monday by the Depart-ment of Commerce that 56 fire pumps loaned here during the war emergency be Time-Saving Form sold or returned by next Saturday.

"We will ask the Department of Commerce and Senator Alben Barkley Wins \$250 Award and Representative Emmet O'Neal to at



He called the \$470 the United States is asking for the pumpers, which can be sold only to small communities, "absolutely ridiculous, even if they were worth it."

Sublette added, "The long hours of volunteer work that were put in and the fact that \$1,000 to \$2,000 in equipment has been added to these pumpers should be taken into consideration when a sale price is set."

He said that the volunteers serve 75 per cent of the area of Jefferson County and swift removal of the equipment would cause a fire hazard.



Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, A & P Supermarket is at right, The Vogue Theater at left, June 1941, Louisville Since The Twenties, 132. **NOTE Letterhead** 

## St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

3900 FRANKFORT AVENUE ST. MATTHEWS, KY.

Minutes of Meeting of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was hold on Wednesd y, September 5th, 1945, 8:15 p.m. at the Fire Hall, with president John Monohan, presiding. All officers and directors were present except L. C. Matthews, Secretary, and Fred Boss.

The president read several articles from magazines and other sources regarding government grants for fire houses.

Mr. George Miller moved tentative plans for a fire bouse be drawn, to be accepted by the directors, with foundation for two stories - possibly a hall in the rear and an apartment on the second floor. Main floor for fire equipment to be 35 feet by 70 feet. Seconded by Louis Schweitzer. Motion carried.

George Miller moved an architect be selected by appointed sommittee to ascertain cost and idea for plans. Seconded by Louis Schweitzer. Motion carried.

President appointed George Miller and R.C.Schlich to above committee.

Dr. James Winter moved that a committee be appointed to contect Mrs Marshall and offer up to \$2,000.00 for lot located on the North West corner of Willis Ave. and Breckinridge Lane. This lot to be used for fire house if acquired. Seconded by Louis Schweitger. Motion carried

Dr. Winter was appointed chairman of this committee.

Mr. E. N,Andriot moved that rate per run be increased to \$100.00 for the first hour and \$25.00 per hour or any portion thereof for each piece of equipment used at a fire. The time is to be computed from depature of equipment from hall to return. Seconded by Louis Schweitzer. Motion carried.

Mr. E. N. Andrict moved that a committee be appointed to contact all service clubs in the community regarding a drive for funds. Seconded by Louis Schweitzer. Notion carried.

President appointed Lel nd Wilson, L. C. Matthews and Louis Schweitzer on this committee.

President announced the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, Sept. 12,1945 at 8 p. m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15.

Lelend Wilson, Secy Pro Tem

September 12, 1945, The Courier-Journal:

# Volunteer Firemen to Protest Return of 56 U. S. Pumps

The Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Association will meet at the St. Matthews fire station tonight to protest the demand made Monday by the Department of Commerce that 56 fire pumps loaned here during the war emergency be sold or returned by next Saturday.

"We will ask the Department of Commerce and Senator Alben Barkley and Representative Emmet O'Neal to at least delay

Time-Saving Form By Depot Clerk

The Jefferson County Volun- this action for a time," said B. N. er Fire Association will meet Sublette, association president.

He called the \$470 the United States is asking for the pumpers, which can be sold only to small communities, "absolutely ridiculous, even if they were worth it." Sublette added, "The long hours of volunteer work that

were put in and the fact that \$1,000 to \$2,000 in equipment has been added to these pumpers should be taken into consideration when a sale price is set."

He said that the volunteers serve 75 per cent of the area of Jefferson County and swift removal of the equipment would cause a fire hazard.

November 6, 1945, The Courier-Journal:

#### Fire Damages Gerlach Home.

The second floor and roof of the home of John Gerlach, 720 Breckinridge Lane, were swept by fire early yesterday, causing damage estimated at \$1,000. The blaze, fought by the St. Matthews Fire Department and a pumper from Louisville, was believed started by sparks from a flue.

### Barkley Offers To Help Fire Group Get Equipment

September 18, 1945, The Courier-Journal:

Confidence that the Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Association would be enabled to obtain fire equipment lent by the Government during the war emergency was expressed yesterday by Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., after he read a letter from Senator Alben W. Barkley to the Fiscal Court.

Barkley wrote that it would take Congressional action to dispose of the equipment if it is Government property, but that he would draw the matter' to the attention of the Surplus Property Board and to the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

## **County Fire Fighters Face Loss of Pumpers**

A number of county volunteer fire departments have heen organized with pumpers furnished by the government when there was a possibility that enemy plane attacks might penetrate this nation.

Furnished through the Office of Civilian Defense, these pumpers were supplied on condition that the communities

furnish truck chassis to carry them. Some hose and other equipment was provided.

In every instance, it is said, communities accepting the pumpers were assured that after the war this equipment would be left in the hands of the agency that provided the funds to supplement the pumper. In some instances the volunteer, departments besides furnishing crews paratus. expended several thousands of dollars for housing, water tanks,

additional equipment and material, all with the conviction that the pumpers were a permanent installation.

This week came the news that Uncle Sam wants his pumpers back. The Department of Commorce has included them in their list of surplus war supplies and county fire departments are faced. with the loss of their main ap-

At a meeting held Wednesday night at St. Matthews the Jefferson' County Volunteer Firemen's Association discussed the matter at length and chairman N. B. Sublette of Middletown proposed moon to the that steps be taken to acquaint Jeffersontown the government officials with the dilemma and secure a postpanement of the order until a plan can be worked out whereby the county organizations will not be abruptly stripped of their equipment.

Telegrams were sent to Senator Alben Barkley, Congressman Emmett O'Neal and the Department of Commerce explaining the situation and asking for odvice. Among the county volunteer fire departments affected are Worthington (2 pumpers), Mid-dictown, Bueche), High View, Okolona, and Lake Dreamland.

## **Thompson to Suggest County Fire Station**

Following a survey made of Jefferson County from a standpoint. of adequate fire protection, Fire Chiel Claud Thompson will ask the Fiscal Court to approve the establishment of a twentyfour hour fire station at Pleasure Ridge on property now owned by the county.

immediate area, the proposed by the county practically in the fire department, would be able center of the Third District. I am to act as an auxiliary to a number of volunteer departments in the Third Magisterial District.

"The purpose of my office," said Chief Thempson, "is to reduce the fire hazard in the county. I am sure that I will have the understanding cooperation of every resident in accomplishing the highest degree of effectiveness along this line.

"After a careful examination of the problem of county fire protection I am prepared to praise very highly the volunieer departments that have been doing an excellent and unselfish job of pro- fire-fighting. tecting their neighbors from loss through fire.

communities with no protection County complete fire protection whatever and where attempts to organize local volunteer depart- Iral 24-hour station in each magments have failed for some reason. or other.

"Pleasure Ridge is one of these he explained.

Chief Thompson said yester-day that besides serving the have been high and protection have been high and protection have been high and protection going to ask the Fiscal Court to establish a 24-hour station there with two competent engineers, one on duty at all times. With a 750 gallon pumper, and two auxiliary water tanks and a crew of trained volunteers 1 believe we can give a maximum of protection in this area."

> Thompson explained that one of the most necessary operations in the county is the mapping and study of available water supplies in every community. 'He said he would urge the digging of ponds at farms strategically located for

The cooperation of volunteer units will make it possible, said "But, I also find a number of Thompson, to give Jefferson without exorbitant cost. "A con-0 isterial district is a goal I hope 1 to see reached in the near future," f

IEN MEET: IN HOSTESS ston was host the monthly 1.S.C.S. Mea-S. C. Meadleman and ok part in the a followed by ssion and re-

to enjoy the badames H. T. : A. Hummel, J. Willis, R. Roemele and Lucy Part-rt and Mary

**October 3, 1945: Board meeting:** 

## St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

3900 FRANKFORT AVENUE ST. MATTHEWS, KY.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1945.

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Matthews Fire A ssociation was held on Wednesday, October 3, 1945, at the Fire Hall with President, John Monohan presiding. All directors were present except Louis Schweitzer and Dr. James E. Winter.

The Secretary read the minutes of the September 5 Meeting and a motion was made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Schlich that they be approved as read. Motion voted and carried.

Motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Boss that the Secretary secure a paid assistant for part time work at a salary of \$25.00 per month and that she be employed for as long as the directors deem her services necessary. That an ad be placed in the St. Matthews Sun if necessary to secure the assistant. Motion voted and carried.

Mr. Andriot reported on securing an Architect, Mr. Gray for drawing up the plans for the new Fire House. He advised that Mr. Gray would like to have a rough sketch of the lay out desired by the Association.

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, November 7 at 8:00 P. M. at the Fire House.

Motion made for adjournment by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Matthews. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 P. M.

L. C. MATTHEWS SECRETARY Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, New Nanz & Neuner Co. Greenhouses, north of present site of Pearson Funeral Home on Breckenridge Lane in 1945. ZV 10-45 U file, Jefferson County Historic Preservation and Archives.





Courtesy http://www.pearsonfuneralhome.com/

Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, The Colonial Boarding Kennels on the north side of Shelbyville Road, east of LaGrange Road, 1945. The site is under the northeast quadrant of the Watterson Expressway—Shelbyville Road interchange. ZV227-45U, Jefferson County Historic Preservation and Archives.



Courtesy http://www.nps.gov/nr//travel/aviation/bow.htm Aerial view of Bowman Field c. 1945 Photo from National Register collection, courtesy of Kentucky Heritage Council



#### 1945 Courtesy, https://historiclouisville.weebly.com/east--somesuburbs.html#PhotoSwipe1536980957473



3214 Frankfort Avenue - 1946 - Jim Casper Liquor Store. Louisville Metro Archives & Records Center



3212 Frankfort Avenue - 1946 - Edward Meisburg Drug Store. Louisville Metro Archives & Records Center.

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by The Courier Journal and Louisville Times Company, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort. Cadets were in line for their final formation before summer vacation, above at the Kentucky Military Institute in 1945. The school closed in 1973, and Ten Breock Hospital now occupies the grounds.



### FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 7 to OCT. 13

October 7-13 is Fire Prevention Week and a campaign to decrease fire hazards in the home and public buildings is being conducted throughout the country.

In Jefferson County, Fire Chief Claude Thompson and representatives from the State fire marshals office are visiting schools, distributing pamphlets and showing motion picture films describ-ing common fire risks and methods of eliminating the danger of disastrous conflagrations.

## **Chief Thompson Asks Fire Prevention Aid**

This week is national "Fire Prevention Week" and County Fire Chief Claude Thompson has been making the rounds of munity schools; distributing literature and posters, and speaking to pupils and teachers on methods of climinating fire hazards.

Chief Thompson found, hej danger of firs by increased cau-tion on the part of individuals.

tion is a science, and careful study and practice of this science will result in the saving of life and property. There is no better place to instill the knowledge that is needed to combat the danger of fire than the school room.

"Three films depicting graphischool fatulties and students and helieves that an effort will be made in the county to reduce the sontown High School Monday marning. They were repeated un-til every student h ad viewed them, Principal J. H. Priestly was "The school can do much to-ward making the county safer cooperative and interested and against destructive fires," said Thompson, "After all, fire protec-fire prevention information." fire prevention information." "Every school in the county will

he visited," said Thompson "and we will make return calls wherever requested.

An official of the state fire marshal's office accompanied the local fire chief on his rounds.

#### November 7, 1945: Board meetings:

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Ass'n

A meeting of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was held Wednesday, November 7, 1945, at the Fire Hall.

Meeting opened at 8:25 with Mr. John Monohan presiding. Mr. Monohan explained that Mr. Whitehead, the owner of the Fire House, has an opportunity to rent the Fire Hall for \$50.00 per month. The Fire Association does not pay rent.

Leland Wilson and Louis Schweitzer were appointed to contact Mr. Whitehead regarding the Fire Association's use of the Building and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Garton of the Spring Hill Community Club offered the Association \$125.00 per year more or less - a flat rate for fire protection in the territory he represented - three streets Spring Hill Road, Alton Road and Hillsboro Road. He stated this amount was not final but a tentative fee.

Mr. George Miller moved that action on Mr. Garton's offer be postponed. Seconded by Mr. Schweitzer. Motion carried.

Mr. Monohan told of the co-operation of the St. Matthews Sanitary Sewer District officials in supplying the Association with a complete list of the property owners in this section.

It was agreed that the Secretary's Assistant, Mrs. Margaret B. Marsh, 106 S. Birchwood, Ta 3828, Louisville, be bonded for \$1,000.00.

The Secretary was requested to write a letter to the Metropolitan Building and Loan Association stating that the employment of Mrs. Marsh by the Fire Association is not in any way connected with her other duties.

It was announced that Terry's Texaco Station, the Metropolitan Building and Loan Association and Frankel-Obrecht Drug Company will be collecting stations for the dues of the Fire Association.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Leland Wilson, Secy Pro tem

November 23, 1945, The Courier-Journal

# 3 Caught In Building Shoot Their Way Out

Three men trapped in the Landohr Bowling Alleys, Shelbyville Road, one mile east of St. Matthews, at 4 a.m. yesterday by County Patrolmen John Burk and George Moss escaped after a rapid-fire exchange of shots with the patrolmen.

The trio was discovered when the patrolmen investigated an automobile parked in the rear of the building. The shooting started when Moss, who went to the front, fired a shotgun blast through a window when he saw one of the men make a motion for a gun.

#### \$25 Stolen.

In the rear, Burk unloaded his gun one, reloaded and emptied it again as the trio, guns blazing, ran the door toward their automobile. Burk said one of the men must have carried an extra set of keys or the ignition on the car was wired, as he removed one set of keys when he examined it.

A pinball machine and cigarette machine were broken into and \$25 stolen, Burk reported. No one was injured in the exchange of shots, but several windows were broken by stray bullets.

Wounded during a shooting that followed an argument Wednesday with a neighboring cafe owner, Robert Jackson, 55, of 1212 S. First, operator of Jackson's Cafe, 1629 W. Market, remained in a serious condition at Kentucky Baptist Hospital last

night with a bullet lodged against his spine.

Police said Jackson was shot after an exchange of words with Thiemann English, 37, operator of a cafe at 1616 W. Market, over theft of \$500 in cash, \$20 from pinball machines and \$100 worth of cigarettes from Jackson's Cafe. English and his father, Morse English, 68, crossed the street to Jackson's cafe when they heard someone had accused them of having a part in the robbery, police reported.

### Muto Denies Yamashita Hurt -Women, Children

Manila, Nov. 23 (Friday) (U.P.-Japanese Lt. Gen. Akira Muto said today that Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita had never given orders for punishment of women and children suspected of guerrilla activity and denied the charge that 60,000 Filipinos had been killed by the Japanese.

Muto, chief of staff to Yamashita, testified on the second day of his cross-examination before an American military commission trying Yamashita on war crimes

#### November 9, and December 5, 1945, letters:



#### Dec. 5, 1945.

G. T. Dick Insurance Agency, 3903 Frankfort Ave., St. Hatthewa, Kentucky.

#### Dear Mr. Dickt

I am attaching hereto both the Employer's and Employees I am attaching hereto both the Employer's and Employees questionnaire in regards to the application of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association for \$1000.00 Bond on Marguerite Brown Marsh. We shall appreciate your seeing that proper Bond is issued protecting the Association, and I feel that a Bond from December 15, 1945 to December 15, 1946 will be very satisfactory. If further information is required, please get in touch with me, otherwise I shall be looking for the early receipt of confirmation of this Bond. Bond.

Sincerely yours,

**County Fire Fighters** Want Paid Supervisor

The East Jefferson Lions Club whose membership is composed largely of Jeffersontown, Fern Creek and Buechel residents, has appointed a committee to present a petition to the Jefferson County Fiscal Court asking for paid personnel to be stationed at county fire departments.

While the action in which the Guest Preachers To dub is particularly interested pertains to the three volunteer fire departments in the communifire departments in the communi-ties named, any affermative step taken by the Court will include other units in the county. Chok efficials trained that the

Club officials stated that the opinion of its members was that 24-hour service was essential at county fire departments and while manned in the main by volun-teers, as in the past, the county should furnish a bufficient num-ber of men to insure constant watch and immediate answer to fire culls.

The paid members of each com-munity staff would be responsible, under the Lions' plan, for the maintenance of equipment and apparatus and for training volunteers.

County Fire Chief Claud Thompson, appointed recently, could not be reached for a state-ment, but it is believed he will recommend the favorable action by the court.

Chairman N. B. Sublette, Middietown, of the Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association was also not available for comment

**Occupy** Pulpits

sage at the Jeffersontown Methodist Church, Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and Rev. Gamble of Buechel will preach at the Fern Creek Methodist Church at both morning and evening services, 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Rev. Huddleston, who left on Monday of this week, is in Sul-phur Well, Ky., Metcalfe County, where he will spend about ten days in a revival meeting at the Sulphur Well Methodist Church.

W.S.C.S. MEETS WEDNESDAY

Mrs. C. A. Hummel will be hostess to the W.S.C.S. of the Jeffersontown Methodist Church Wednesday, Nov. 14, when they will meet at her home for their regular monthly missionary meeting. The meeting will begin at 2 o'clock. All members are asked to be present. Visitors are always welcome.

L. C. HATTHEWS, SEC. ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTERR FIRE ASSOCIATION

#### 1945

# 3 Caught In Building Shoot Their Way Out

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#### **Board Of Directors**

E. N. "Bud" Andriot Fred C. Boss L. Churchill Matthews George E. Miller, start John M. Monohan Jr. W. Jesse Ogden, died April 6, 1945 Rudy C. Schlich, start Louis H. Schweitzer William Leland Wilson Dr. James Emil Winter

#### Officers

1945 Chief John M. Monohan Jr. Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt Captain Rudolph L. Lineback Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer

#### **Firefighters**

T. A. Baker John A. Beierle Jim Brangers Raymond Crabtree W. H. Crouch Ed Foley Charles H. Hahn W. Rich Herdt Clarence Hicks Ted H. Huffman Sr. John W. "Bud" Jansen John V. Kaster John "Jack" T. Kempf Joseph L. "Joe" Kempf Henry R. Kennedy

Byron S. Martin J. L. Martin, Jr. Carl R. Meiser J. C. Reed Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry John F. Westerman George R. Westwood R. M. "Dick" Wheeler, Jr. Robert W. White January 1, 1946: Claude Thompson, County Fire Chief said they were going to buy 3 fire trucks, and hire 6 men, 2 at each of the 3 fire houses.

In 1946, the County Government decided they would furnish fire protection in the county, so they bought 3 fire trucks, and put one in Middletown, one in the center of the County and one out in the Pleasure Ridge Park area and called this the County Fire Department. Needless to say this just didn't work and by 1950 it folded.

1946 was the first St. Matthews Potato Festival.

January 11, 1946, The Jeffersonian: need rest of article

### County Fire Chief Asks Xmas Caution

"Many families that will be reunited this Christmas for the first time in many winters may be separated again by fire, unless people are more careful than they have been other years," Fire Chief Claud Thompson warned today. He pointed out that December has the worst fire record of any month in the year and many of these fires occur during the holdings.

There's no need to do away with the festivities, "but we do need to take same precautions," the Chief declared.

"To begin with, the Christmas tree burns very easily when it is dry. So set it up in a basin of water, away from heat, open finnes, or electric societs. And put the tree where it won't block exits.

"Another thing to be careful about," continued the Chief, "is the decorations used on the trea and walls. These days people can buy safe decorsilons, such as glass balls for the tree, metal tinnel, and flame - proofed wreaths."

The Chief, was particularly emphatic about open flames, "Candles and unprotected fireplaces may look preity to some people," he said, "but I call them dangerous at any fime, and particularly at Christmas. Protect the fireplace with a screen, and don't use candles at all.

"Electrical decorations are safe if they are in good condition and carry the approval label of Underwriters' Laborataries and if care is taken not to overload the circuit," he continued. "Christmas wrappings left lying around are as dangerous as they are colorful so pick them up are soon orful so pick them up are soon orful so pick them up are soon as the packages are opened. Be a careful smoker, and provide plenty of ash trays for your guests. And then, just because socidents can happen in spile of everything we do, keep your fire oxtinguisher handy, where it will [Continued on Page 3.] ÷

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January 18, 1946, The Courier-Journal:

Courier-Jas BIDS for a firehouse at Pleasure Ridge, urged by County Fire Chief Claude Thompson, left, will be taken despite the opposition in Fiscal Court yesterday of Walter Sheckleton, right, representative of volunteer fire-fighting units.

### **Bids On County Firehouse<sup>4</sup>** And 3 Pumpers Authorized

January 22, 1946, The Courier-Journal:

The Fiscal Court yesterday authorized a call for bids on construction of a new firehouse at Pleasure Ridge and on purchase of three new pumpers-steps designed to lead to establishment of a County Fire Department.

Before the action was taken, surt members heard Walter court Shackleton, representing the Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Association, plead that establishment of three proposed fire sta-tions manned by paid firemen in the county would "lead to dis-integration of the present 11 volunteer county units." County Fire Chief Claude

#### Land Swap Suggested

Louisville should try to swap the land on Zorn Avenue which the Federal Government plans to purchase from the Louisville Water Company for a veterans hospital for Lincoln Park, the Fiscal Court agreed yesterday.

Thompson replied that the pro posed Fire Department would "embrace and support volunteer units.

#### **Bid Call Authorized.**

By a 3-to-1 vote the court authorized Stratton O. Hammon, architect, to ask bids for the Pleasure Ridge building, expected to exet \$10,500 to cost \$19,500.

County Commissioner Miles Thacker voted against the meas-ure, declaring, "I want a copy of matters coming before the court and I won't vote on matters I'm' not informed on "

Thacker declined to cast a vote State Militia.

on the proposed purchase of the three pumpers, to be located in the county's three magisterial districts. Commissioners Edward Torstrick, E. P. White, Jr., and Judge Horace Barker voted in

#### **Budget** Causes Concern.

favor of the measures.

Court members expressed concern over budget matters when it was revealed that pay increases to many County employees and creation of new jobs has reduced the \$79,000 contingent fund to \$33,000. Nearly half this fund is made up of a \$16,000 repayment from the Health Department.

The commissioners refused re quests for increases in wages of recorders in each of the magisterial districts from \$200 to \$250 a month.

A proposal to repair the County Jail was tabled until legality of use of money from the contingent fund for the work can be determined by County Attorney Sam Steinfeld. Purchase of kitchen equipment, mattreases and beds

An offer to rent the auxiliary armory on Cedar for 65 months at an annual rental of \$3,600, made by Dad's Root Beer Company, Chicago, was taken under advise-ment by the Court. The building is now leased for \$1 a year to the

## **Barker** to Have **Court Take Up** Fire-Unit Plan

A program and County policy toward volunteer fire units, reccommended by the Jefferson County Volunteer Fire Association, will be proposed to the Fiscal Court at its meeting Fiscal Court at its meeting Thursday, County Judge Horace Barker said last night. The proposal was presented to Barker by B. N. Sublette, presi-

dent of the association, and Walter Shackleton, civilian defense co - ordinator. Recommendations include blanket \$1,000 accident coverage for volunteer firemen. Ray Baer, County recreation

director, discussed with Barker co-ordination of school, health. police and recreation facilities to combat juvenile delinguency.



## **Dixie Highway Gets First Fire Station**

The first 24-hour fully equipped, full salaried fire station to be established in Jefferson County will be crected at Pleasure Ridge on the Dixle Highway, midway between Shively and Orell. This location is the choice of Fire Chief Claud Thompson,

who pointed out to the Fiscal Court that besides serving a large area which has no volun-fore Jefferson County has suffiteer fire organization, the Pleasure Ridge Department will be able to make runs effectively anywhere in the 3rd Magisterial District.

Chief Thompson said yesterday that the new station was the first project in a program for fire pre-vention in Jefferson County and that he hoped to see, in time, a sufficient number of fire stations operated 24 hours to serve the entire county.

Some opposition was voiced by a few individuals, among them, Shackleton, a member of a volunteer department in the Worthington section, objected to the new plan of regularly established fire departments, saying that such professional organizations would discourage the several volunicer units in the county.

Chief Thompson declared however that Shackleton's objections were baseless. "The county fire departments and the volunteer groups will be expected to sup-plement each other. I expect to see the integrity of the volunteer organizations preserved and as for effectiveness, that of the volunteers should be increased.

"My job," said Thompson, "is decrease the fire hazards in ! Jefferson County. My purpose is to save lives and property. I have to membership a high opinion of the volunteer Chapter of Pi Ki units and would like to see more fraternity at the

clent fire-protection and the couniy will not be able for many years to blanket the county with 24hour stations."

Mrs. W. T. Settles To Direct Choral Club

Mrs. W. T. Settles was ap-pointed this week to direct the Jeffersontown Choral Club which has recently been organized by Miss Fannie Stoll, music instructor at Jeffersontown High School. The choral club, a part of the recreation program at Jeffersontown, meets every Wednesday evening, at 7:30, at the school.<sup>1</sup> All young people and adults of the community, who enjoy sing-ing, are invited to join the group. Recommended by Mrs. Stoll,

Mrs. Settles received her appointment from Ray Baer, county ecrreation supervisi

**New Fire Station** 

**Planned At Buechel** 

torney for the department.

pumping equipment.

personnel.

Roy Schmist, chairman; J. H. Butterman, treasurer: Maurice Luker, secretary; Dr. J. V. Mc-Mahon, R. Thurston Schmidt, Bill Rice and J. Rudy Fredenberger. Oldham Clarke was named at-

The department plans the erec-

Recent fire losses in the county have stimulated the effort in many sections to procure adequate fire-fighting equipment and

tion of a fire station at a central point in the community and the purchase of new and modern

SAMUEL FREN PI KAPP. Samuel Frentz College of Comn versity of Kent and son of Mr. Frentz, Wattern sontown, has ju

February 1, 1946, *The Jeffersonian*:

### Fire Fighting Lessons **Planned For Police**

County Fire Chief Claude Thompson announced this week that arrangements had been made with County Police Chief Tom Dover for the training of county patrolmen in fire fighting and handling fire apparatus. Chief Thompson told The

Jeffersonian that the overall plan for county fire protection provided for the establishment of a number of 24-hour stations which would also be used at disinct headquarters for police.

"It is pearible," said Thompson, to give the county adequate fire protection economically although it will lake time to complete the fall program. Chief Dover has soured me of his interest and rooperation in the establishment of stations to be used as head-quarters for both police and firemén.

"Our plans include fire-fighting "Our plans include fire-fighting instruction for members of the rounty police force which will mable them to assist in the op-ration of volunteesy apparatus and county equipment. "I would like to remind the unbits at the firm that is in-

mblic at this time that it is imanallie to place county equipnent everywhere it is needed in he county. This phase of county levelopment has been neglected o long that a huge liability has recumulated. Finances prevent of fire stations actually needed,

we must proceed gradually acing a few stations at strattic locations, and depend on the lunteer fremen who are doing excellent job to bear the brunt the responsibility.

the responsibility. "The volunteer organizations ill be a necessary feature of unty fire protection for many ars and with their unstinted operation, I hope to see the fire is in Jefferson, County consider-by decreased.

The Buechel Volunteer Fire De-partment has been incorporated and the following directors chosen for the coming year: here fire protection is a

.....

.....

#### February 1, 1946, The Jeffersonian:

1946



### How St. Matthews Got Its Name

The distinguished president of the Louisville baseball club phoned me the other day and requested that I communicate with him. When I received the message I presumed that he desired to ask me what I knew of some former baseball players; but it was otherwise. He desired to know how St. Matthews acquired its name.

In 1839 a great-aunt of Marshall Bullitt had an Episcopal church built here. It was burned down. The name of this church was St. Matthews. The property on which it was situated reverted to this lady. In 1854 a post office was established here by the United States and the act creating it denominated it St. Matthews. The name of the railroad station was first Gilman's. It was afterwards changed to St. Matthews. A NATIVE OF GILMAN'S POINT. St. Matthews. Ky.

> RUTHERFORD R. HOPPE ATTORNEY ATLAW Selo FRAMFORT AVENUE ST. Marrietee 7. Kv. March 5, 1946.

March 5, 1946:

Mr L.C. Matthews, Tyler Building, Louisville, Kentucky.

Dear Sir:

TELEPHONE TA GET

An you requested I am enclosing a list of the various owners of property in the business district in St Matthews.

This gives you the lot and block number of each piece of property as shown on the maps in the County Commissioner's office; the name of the owner of said particular property; and the assessed value of said property.

You will note I have drawn a free hand map of said district showing the lot and block numbers of the various property so that it will be easier for you to locate the owners of each particular piece of property. All you will have to do is to locate the lot and block number on the map, and then refer to mild said numbers on your list and the name of the owner will be opposite these numbers together with the assessed walue of said property.

The date I am giving you was taken from the records in the Commissioners office and they are anywhere from four to six weeks behind in posting the conveyances. In other words any conveyances made during the last six weeks may not show on this list.

Should there be any further information you desire, kindly call me and I will be glad to furnish you with same if possible.

Yours truly,

- Juthuford I topy

March 6, 1946: *The Courier-Journal*: Volunteers sue county to stop purchase of 3 fire trucks. They did this through their Association. A temporary restraining order was given. George Miller, from our Board offered to give the County some land for a firehouse if they left St. Matthews alone.

Fiscal Court.

x As **year** per your request we wish to place before your court the proposition which our directer Mr. Geo E. Miller roughly submitted to you today.

3/4/46

It is our desire to purchase a lot suitable for a building which will house the County pumper and our two peices of fire equipment this lot to be donated to the county for a fire house and police station the building to be erected by the county a suitable busilding to house the departments and equipment as set forth above.

Our fire association will continue to function as before and it will not be necessary for the County oned pumper to make any runs unless absolutely needed to back our department up with in the St. Matthews area which is from city limiuts to Hubbards lane, Beargrass Creek to Brownsbero road.

Our volunter fireman will continue to take care of all man our equipment and will cooperate in every way with the two paid men which you will have stationed at the firehouse 24 hours a day.

This plan was worked out by our directors after we had the oportunity to study the county plans and as St. Matthews area has the largest population in the county everybody including Mr. Sublette and The Buechel fire department feel that the first house and equipment should be put in the heart of St. Matthews first. You remeber Mr, Sublette of the Middletown group was present when Mr. Miller offered this proposition and came forward to express how he felt about our propsition.

As Mr. Miller explained to you we have some lots under consideration but we do not want to buy same until your honarable members approve the location.

We suggest you appont one member or committee to meet with our committee and look at the **territory** locations and agree on same and we will immediately buy said lot and donate it to the county. At this time we want to thank you for spirit in which you **received** Mr. Miller suggestions and assure you this association is going to cooperate with the program 100% March 7, 1946, *The Courier-Journal*:

## Volunteers Sue Court To Halt Engine Purchase

Maneuvers between the Fiscal Court and the Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Association reached the confusion stage yesterday when the volunteers sued the court to prevent purchase of three fire engines, while two volunteer units offered to donate land for firehouses and police substations.

Chancery Judge Lawrence Speckman granted a temporary restraining order to prevent the purchase, sought by J. H. Butterman, Bucchel; J. M. Monohan, Jr. St. Matthews, and H. B. Sima, Brownaboro Road, and set next Wednesday for a hearing on a permanent injunction.

Notice of the restraining order was served just before the Fiscal Court session opened. It caused an amendment to be made to the order authorizing purchase of the pumpers from the Seagrave Corporation, and delayed start of construction of a combination firehouse - police substation at Pleasure Ridge.

#### County Gets Choice.

George E. Miller, representing the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, offered to donate land in the center of the community for a fire station and gave the County its choice of sites. He proposed that the volun-

He proposed that the volunteer's equipment be housed with that of the County. There was only one condition to the offer, he said, that County equipment not be used for fighting st. Matthews fires.

County Judge Horace Barker suggested the unit submit its propesal in writing. Then B. N. Sublette, president of the volunteer association, said similar recommendations from other communities would be ready next Wednesday, when the association will meet at 8 p.m. at Hike's School, Buschel.

#### Butterman Makes Offer.

Butterman, one of the filers of the injunction suit, said he would give land at Buechel for a fire station.

a fire station. The Wehr Construction Company was authorized to build the Pleasure Ridge firehouse and police station, but work will not commence until after the injunction suit is heard. County Attorney Samuel Stein-

County Attorney Samuel Steinfeld submitted an amendment to the order purchasing the fire pumpers that makes the deal conlingent on the 1946-47 budget providing funds for payment of the equipment when it is delivered. Franklin Fitch, attorney for the company, said the condition was satisfactory. One argument of the injunc-

One argument of the injunction suit is that there is no pro-

vision in the 1945-46 budget for fire pumper purchases.

Two motorcycles for the County police were purchased by the Fiscal Count at a price of \$642.57 each from the Cunningham Motorcycle Company, 1818 W. Broadway, although low bidder was the Indiana Motorcycle Sales & Service Company, Shively, at \$478.80 each.

Police Chief Tom Dover in a written recommendation said that the police force now has six cycles of the type purchased in operation and servicing will be facilitated if all those used are the same type.

Repair of the four court rooms of Magiatrate Rollin Gibbs was authorized after Gibbs explained that plaster falls from the walls and must be repaired every year or two. Other minor repairs also were approved.

### Armed Bandit Robs Richmond Store of \$3,200

Richmond, Ky., March 6 69-An armed bandit who waited until all employees except the manager had left the store tonight took \$3,200 in a robbery at the Kroger Grocery and Baking Company store here. Chief of Police William J.

Chief of Police William J. Mason said Ernest Holbert, store manager, reported he was alone in the grocery counting the day's receipts when the bandit came up behind him and ordered, "Stick 'em up."

Holbert stated the loot included \$1,500 in receipts for the day, \$1,200 previously on hand and \$500 normally kept for making change.

#### Burning of Dormitory Causes Housing Lack

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Shelbyville, Ky., March 6.—An acute housing shortage today confronted Lincoln Institute near Simpsonville after destruction by fire last night of a three-story dormitory.

dormitory. Damage was estimated at around \$90,000. Origin of the fire was undetermined. Starting in the basement, the flames soon

#### 1946

DINICIONS

**NOTE Letterhead** 

#### March 11, 1946: Board meeting:

#### ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



P. O. Box 115 St. Matthews, Ky.

Margh 11, 1946

Minutes of the Heating of the St.Natthews Volunteer Pire Ass'n, held on Merch 6th, 1906 at the Pire Heang.

The Meeting was called to order by the Prusident Wr. John Monchan. The Treasurer was unable to attend so his report was passed to the next menthly meeting.

There were is minutes swillable for the last meeting, held on Pabruary the 6th, 1946.

More two wears and Br. John Moneken reperted on a meeting they had with Mr. Hartin and Br. Jemman of the Artusrial Bargou. Mr. Hartin and Mr. Jemens advised Chief Thempson teff the County Fire Department that they did not approve of the Jointy satus as put forward and that if any of the present Valuation Departments were formed out, all orealt extended because of much Departments would be concelled and tenth also rates would apply. If the St.Mathews Valuation Fire Area is day, that the lights would be extended to end a helf allow.

Wr. George Biller reported an a meeting with the sounty Placel Court held on March etc. 1944 and advised of a propertiem which he had make to the placel court to incorporate the denty place Departments Service and action with our association service in the St. Matthew area. Nr. Willer submitted a latter to be mailed to the Placel Service with all our associations as to the Goonty Fire opeartment satup in this area.

Mr.Millar's latter was appreted unanimumly by the directors present, and the Sedretary was instructed to rmill said letter to the Fiscal Georg.

Dr. Hinter is to check on the Clinic aption with Dr.dex and it ha finds that their option is not geing to be exercised and feels that this property an be obtained thus them for our building, a special meeting will be called to approve such ections.

"ORCANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

#### ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION





constitution dela M. Monchan, Jr. E. Laiand When Prod. H. Bost L. Chandill Matthew Loale H. Schwätter St. Jave

DIRECTORS

P. O. Sox 515 St. Matthews, Ky.

Fere -2-

Minutes of Worth oth, 1946 meeting.

4 mation rade by Nr. Matthews and securical by dr. intor to assume the business property enters (1.50 per thousand Dollar valuation as an rised on the Junny tax books with a monimum charge of \$10.00 per piece of property. Mation voted and on ryied.

Mation made by Mr. George Willer and seconded by Wr. Wilson to submit to the spring Hill also in writing the following prope-#141en:

68.00 per house less 20%, with a minimum of \$200.00 peid at one time to the Fire Association.

Metton woted and corried unanimously by these present.

Notion made by Mr.Miller mesended by Mr.Netthews to give a party for the Volunteer Firmman of all statesistics ofter the next meeting. Notion value and corrige unanimously by these present.

Warbers present: John N. Novekse, Jr., S.Leisnd Wilson, L.Guardhill Sotthews, Leals H.Schweitzer, George S.Willer.

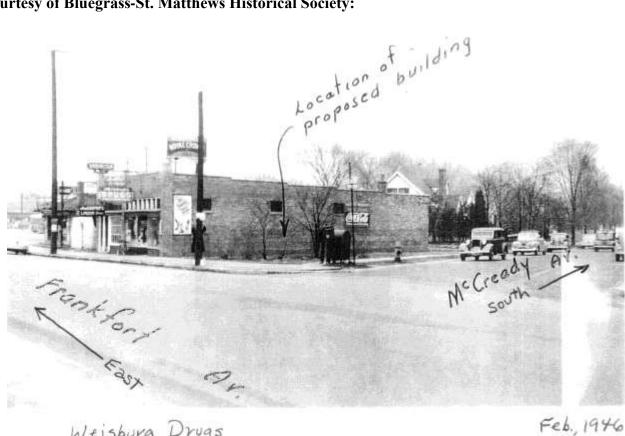
L.Churchill Matthews, trets r

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: Kentucky Model Shop before move to Wallace strip stores, August, 1946



**Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:** 



WEISburg Drugs

#### March 14, 1946, The Courier-Journal

## 6-Foot Officers To Walk Beats In St. Matthews

Six 6-foot plainclothes patrolmen have been put on a "roundthe-clock walking beat" to clamp a lid on crime in the St. Matthews commercial district, County Police Chief Tom Dover announced yesterday.

The men, assigned to the district in addition to the regular squad cars, are ex-servicemen and "look like officers," Dover said. He urged St. Matthews citizens to burn porch lights at night and not to be alarmed if police should beam a flashlight up residential driveways.

#### **Calls for Quick Reports.**

Jefferson Countians also were asked to report break-ins and other violations to County police "Make it fast, so immediately. the police have a fair chance of catching the offender," Dover said.

Explaining he had received several reports of men seeking to give rides to women or bobbysoxers, he requested that police be given the license numbers of the cars of men trying to make pick-ups.

March 15, 1946, The Jeffersonian:

## **Sublette States Case Of Volunteer Firemen**

B. N. Sublette, of Middletown, and J. H. Buttermann, of Buechel, appeared before the Fiscal Court recently with a restraining order, signed by Judge Lawrence Speckman, forbidding the purchase of three fire pumpers by the Court.

Earlier, it is said, a meeting was held with Walter Shac-

kleton, of Worthington, and former County Commissioner Sublette, of Middletown, chair-man of the Jefferson County Volwere laid for the injunction.

That fire protection is inadequate for the 100,000 residents of the county is undisputed. A number of volunteer departments, many of them organized since Pearl Harbor with the encouragement, of civilian defense authorities, have done and are doing excellent and public spir-Ited work in serving their immediate communities.

Recently the appointment of County Fire Chief Claude Thompson an experienced fireman with 26 years of fire-fighting behind him, encouraged county tax-payers to believe that this long neglected side of county welfare was to be given expert and professional attention.

It was generally accepted that the appointment of a fire chief was a step toward establishment of county fire stations with modern equipment and full time personnel, and the county at large was pleased with the information that the Fiscal Court had decided to buy three pumpers as a start and to set up a fire station in eachmagisterial district in the county.

At this point however objecttions were raised by some mem-bers of volunteer fire-fighting units who protested the purchase of the pumpers.

Questioned concerning the viewpoint of the volunteers, B. N. Pursuant to a resolution passed

James W, Henning and repre- uniter Fireman's association, sentatives of the local actu-rial bureau present and plans location of county fire stations at points away from population centers.

"A station at the county quarry on the Brownsboro Road," said Sublette," is not located at a strategic point. "It should be closer to St. Matthews. The one to be placed near Nwburg is not located properly,

"We object also to the manner in which the volunteer departments are ignored in the county fire chief's plans, After all there are eleven volunteer departments in the county. Members of these departments have given their time and money to the cause of preventing disastrous fires. They should be considered.

"Out of these appropriations for fighting fire the Fiscal Court should provide funds for improving the equipment of the volunfeer departments."

Sublette said that the Middletown Volunteer Department declined to be a party to any action against the court.

#### J'town Civic Club To Talk Buses Again

More discussion relative to bus service in the County is expected to take place next Monday evening, when the regular March meeting of the Jeffersontown Civic Club will be held, beginning at 8 o'clock.

1946

March 16, 1946, The Courier-Journal:

#### **Barker Urges County to Buy Fire Gear** Would Purchase Items From Volunteer Units County Judge Horace M. Barker announced yesterday that he will propose purchase by the County of fire apparatus owned by the volunteer fire units of SL Matthews and Middletown. Then a plan will be made to provide fire protection for SL Matthews, Middletown, Eastwood, Anchorage, Jeffersontown and Lyndon, Barker said. He said he will propose that one of two pumpers owned by St. Matthews be left there and the other one be made available to another community. To support the St. Matthews unit, one of the large new pumpers recently or-dered by the County would be stationed at a combination fire and police substation at Middletown. The County could arrange with Anchorage to give fire protection, for a monthly fee, to O'Bannon and Lyndon, Barker ex-plained. The plan would give ample fire protection to approximately 40 per cent of the county in which more than half the outof-city population is centered, he said.

#### The Courier-Journal March 16, 1946

Barker Urges County to Buy Fire Gear Would Purchase Items From Volunteer Units

County Judge Horace M. Barker announced yesterday that he will propose purchase by the County of fire apparatus owned by the volunteer fire units of St. Matthews and Middletown.

Then a plan will be made to provide fire protection for St. Matthews, Middletown, Eastwood, Anchorage, Jeffersontown and Lyndon, Barker said.

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The County could arrange with Anchorage to give fire protection, for a monthly fee, to O'Bannon and Lyndon, Barker explained. The plan would give ample fire protection to 40 per cent of the county in which more than half the out-of-city population is centered, he said. April 1946: Board meeting: C. M. Matthews resigned because of moving, George Miller took over as Secretary.

## St. Matthews Incorporation Asked; **Civic Club Proposes Annexation**

Mass Meeting Set for Tuesday

A few hours after a petition was filed in Jefferson Circuit Court seeking incorporation of SL Matthews as a City of the third class, the St. Matthews Civic Club board of directors last night. voted to recommend that the community be annexed to Louisville instead.

The latter action, taken at a special board meeting, is expected to precipitate lively discussion at a mass meeting at 8 p.m. next Tuesday at the St. Matthews Armory where incorporation versus annexation will be debated.

The petition asked incorpora-tion of an area of approximately even square miles in which 9,702 residents live.

#### Confers With Taylor.

E. N. Andriot, president of the St. Matthews Civic Club, told the board of directors he had con-ferred with Mayor E. Leland Taylor on the matter of annexation yesterday and that the May-or said he did not want to "antagonize" residents of the community by forcing annexation upon them, but if they wanted to be joined with Louisville he and other City officials would study the matter.

This resolution was adopted by the civic club's directors and will

June 7, 1946, The Jeffersonian:

be presented to the club's membership for consideration

"In view of the fact that the people of St. Matthews must choose between incorporation and annexation, the board of direc-tors of the St. Matthews Civic Club recommends annexation as being much more desirable and beneficial to the people of SL Matthews

#### More Than 1,000 Sign.

petition. The incorporation filed by attorney Franklin P. Hays, was presented in behalf of James R. Engle, on attorney, 3925 Winchester Road; J. M. Roby, 107 Oxford Place, and Howard D. Louden, 4027 St. Ives Court, and 1.001 other signers. Hays said the signers represented one tenth of the population affected, the necessary percentage for such an action.

A hearing on the petition will be held in Jefferson Chancery Court, probably before Judge Scott Miller, on Friday, April 26, and there were reports from St. Matthews that strong opposition would be presented against incorporation.

The petition for incorporation asked that the Chancery Court appoint a Mayor, chief of police, and 12 councilmen to serve tem-porarily until an election.

#### Area Is Defined.

The area sought for incorporation, as set out in the petition, is bounded by Cannon's Lane on the west, Brownsboro Road on the north, an unnamed street two blocks east of Hubbard's Lane on

the east, and Browniee Road on the south.

Incorporation as a third-class The fight raged in St. City would make St. Matthews comparable with Bowling Green and Winchester, the petitioners said. Incorporation was asked in the petition on the basis of need for fire and police protection and street paving and repair. Filing of the petition came aft-

several recent attempts at in corporating. At one time, several years ago, St. Matthews was incorporated as a sixth-class City but reverted to unincorporated status as result of a suit.



Matthews over sewers, annexation or incorporation, for a long time.

April 5, 1946, The **Courier-Journal** 

approximate area of St. Matthews affected by the incorporation proposal.



#### 1946

# **St. Matthews** Grocery First In U.S. **Conforming to A&P's Postwar Plan**

forming completely to the food total to eight departments, and frozen foods - fruits, vegetables, chain's postwar store blueprint the enlargement and re-equip- meats, fish and ice cream-diswill be opened Tuesday at 3929 Frankfort Avenue, in St. Matthews.

fections of many varieties packed department 50 feet long.

THE first A & P Supermarket which include the addition of in cellophane containers; a de-in the United States con- three departments, bringing the partment devoted entirely to ment of others. The additions are played in open self-service re-a candy department, retailing con- frigeration cases, and a bakery

The new building which will house this food department store is of steel, glazed tile and glass brick, 92 x 165 feet. Its 15,180 square-feet of floor space makes it one of the largest retail markets in the South, according to J. B. DeJarnatt, vice-president in charge of A & P Food Store operations in this area.

#### Cost \$125,000

The structure was built to company specifications under a lease arrangement with the owner, the Eline Realty Company of St. Matthews. The Stoner Construction Company was the general contractor. Cost of the building and equipment is estimated at \$125,-000.

Features include an aluminum ceiling, interior wall finish of buff-colored glazed brick and white tile board, fluorescent lights in strip arrangements throughout the store, a mezzanine floor to be utilized entirely for employee recreation rooms and lavatories, and complete air-conditioning.

Adjoining the building is a paved parking lot, 80 x 200 feet, which will park 100 cars.

#### **Old Store Burned**

The chain of circumstances that caused the food chain to put its first postwar store in St. Matthews began May 4, 1945, when the company's supermarket at 3730 Lexington Road was destroyed by fire. While awaiting construction of the new building, the store was operated in a part of Eline's Garage, on Breckinridge Lane. Construction delays permitted the company to obtain fixtures and refrigeration equipment called for in its postwar store blueprint, with the result that all elements-the specially designed building and new Matthews store.

#### **3** Departments Added

The store that burned had 7,200 square-feet of floor space, or less than half that of the new structure. It employed 25 persons. Ninety will be employed at the new store. The makeshift store on Breckinridge Lane will be closed at the end of business tomorrow.

The set-up of the new store contains a number of innovations,

#### July 10, 1946: Annual Board meeting:



Meeting of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association July 10, 1946.

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association which was held Wednesday, July 10, 1946, at 8 p.m. for the election of Directors for the years 1946 and 1947 was open to the public.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

There were no minutes taken of this meeting.

(Signed) G. E. Miller Acting Secy.

1946

## **Three Veteran Louisville Fire Captains Appointed to New County Department**

### Equipment Due Oct. 1

Three former Louisville Fire Department contains were etteployed as captains of the Jefferson County Fire Department.

Salertai to the Fistal Court unite J. D. Thompson, 42, of 1111 8 Studie; William Garis, ST, of 1128 Ellison, and George Andivision, 22, of \$104 Suscery,

County Fire Chief and a border of any its supjects on the pay roll so troy could become soppointed with the magnitude district each will be responsible for before trion partners parthood last spring arrive set actual fire-tation storts. The equipment is superind October 1.

#### Two Druw Pension.

Thompson described the three yours experience.

Gurb stull Andresse are ret permonth from the City Fire Departsand, who said his brother was in charge of Consolidated-Vidhas a first picturium at Blandlind Fold during the way.

Chief Thompson said the new mould receive \$175 a empirates would previoe \$275 a monitor. Therefore said her did with believe the payments of Gark and Antiress, who early worked for the Louisville For Department 22 years, would be affected by their need tobe. J. D. Thompson worked for the City department aver 17 rears.

#### Thompson Cites Law,

The permits law, Chief Thomason soid, inquires a process to be all years old and to bays here a mamber of the City department 27 young to be slightle.

Directory of the Court, include trig the Courty sudge, the Com-missioners and the County At-turing Islid closed sensens both include and after the regular moving, which was delayed \$5 minutes by the first cloud mos. plan. Court efficially was idestayed adjourned before the sec-

and price maring. Land of Middletowia offered as the sile of a police industation and

against paying port of the hospitalization for all County emplerest because they are prohibited by fitate law from paying part for three paid \$3,000 a year, or from puying for any of the many persons employed for a brem at a fixed salary. They votari, however, to allow pay-pell deductions for hespitalization for any employee who wants it.

A proposal of the Daniel Boose No. all American Veterins of a world war 11, to provide playground equipment on the Courtbrine lown for the benefit of mod-truck reached shildren, was paperted as "thursughly im-

Sam Priddy, sleek of Quarterly Court, provided a heavy movane in the court's business and maked tof more effice help.

#### Archilert Wants STL606.

Noney January 2 his office has collected \$21,354 in fines in 1,344. co-d cases and 1,700 criminal cases, Providy sold. There were 900 synth and 800 criminal cases hamilted in the same period last year, according to his records, County Attenney Sam Steinfeld was asked to give an opposor on legality of employing cleaks in the office, which is sufficient by cluture to employ only free deputies.

A request for Walter Wagnes. echilert, for payment of \$11,000

firshouse was accepted by the Jr., controller, and Steinfeld, to Found Court. The controllationers wated Courted conference to the

County's contract with Wagner. He was employed to draw plans and supervise construction a year ago, when a need for more office space was listed by County attlstals as an amargancy.

The court created another new job, that of sizewineper, on recommendation of Tinnell. The storeheaver would be perpendible for receiving all goods ordered. and making it "Property of Jet-formen County," Timnell en-plained, Much County property is not an marked, he added. The amount of salary was not immechanely decided.

#### Dump Project Pushed.

Gordon Winhurn, rights-rdway agent for the court, was authorized to obtain signatures of 14 opners of property that would be affected by the propresent Big Euro public during non-Accouldtown and Sf. Andrew's Chiprels roads The property nervers requested straightening of the creak, which resulted in the proposal to family the coucked section left if the stream is alonightenev!.

County officials were elected officers of the new Jefferson County Equipment Corporation. monormalit, organized to smable purchase of much machinery on

bank mans to the corporation. Officers are Judge Horare Barker, president; Commissioner Edward Torotrick, vice-president; For completed plans for a new Count Attorney Steinfeld, secre-tors, was referred to John Tinnell. James Torney, treasurer.

### **Constable Admits Gunplay** Followed 'Couple of Drinks'

Three was scone target proctice with pistole serviced the Courthouse early but Sunday mounting, Second Magisterial Dirtriet Constable Edgar R. Geiger admitted perfection, but R want's as had an the russics made it.

Getger and he stopped by the office shout 2 a.m. and joined his deputien in "a couple of distant sectors.

They started admiring a new 32-cultur recolver he had, Geiper explained, so they decided to try it cut. All the absetting was done at the ground outside the Courthouse, he declared. Courthouse goosip had a Coun-

ty potrolman being shot at and the Second District office pockmarked with bullet heles.

Magistrate Herman Jorgis sald he had beard reports there was a little shouting because the men had been drinking, but it quieted from with subsety hurt ars ha distri't want to investigate further.

Geiger identified the deputies involved as William Ebbs, Ha-hert Silliarell and T. I. Bates.

- - - - - - Good Ford Is Good Health - - - -

September 6, 1946, The Jeffersonian:

## **County Fire Staff Has 100 Years Experience**

The combined experience of the four men comprising Jefferson County's fire department staff at the present time amounts to 98 years and 3 months of supervison, training and organizing in the Louisville Fire Department.

County Fire Chief Claude Thompson with 26 years ex-

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## 'Rainbow For Girls' Fire Dept. Completes **County School Survey**

The Jefferson County Fire Department has completed a survey of county schools and made a number of recommendations to Mi; the school board.

Chief Claude Thompson said this week that while none of the county schools presented any

great fire hazards that in many cases there were minor corrections that would do much to eliminate the probability of fire damage.

"Our inspection" said Chief Thempson, "was conducted nocording to the regulations approved by the National Associa-tion of Public School Business Officials, the National Board of Fire Underwriters and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

The inspection of schools is department routine as is the examination of places of public entertainment and churches. Wherever we can point out even minor fire huzards we are halping to safeguard life and property."

Recommendations contained in Gurle and George Andrews the school fire, inspection report tinquisiters at must of the schedis. Forever, Paul. Yest regarding flue repairs: fire alarms, tusce methods of preventing and lightchanged to lower amperage, ad , ing costly, timber first in the ditional exits; doors changed to county forest area where donaally open outward; moving stoves such firet destroy trees and antnway from walls) the cutting of mais.

da weedA the eleaning of besements III and starway recesses and other ab. similar prechutions which will probably be effected immudiately 19by the school hoard; in

It was also creek unit at least 121 one fore drill each month be held 584 in all achools. mic

Blanks have been distributed to all school, principals, solving, com-1021 plete reports on fire prevention. in' methods as now practiced. 1at

Wh Principals of the various schools the are usked also to see that a ed. monthly inspection be made by Ca the school custodian in company with a member of the faculty.

THE Inspection of county churches 1pp is not progress under the direction of Chief Thompson and CDT Go Captains, J. D. Thompson, Wm. nf:

The county fire department has included the provision of fire ex- bees in consultation with County | ſ ĩ, do

> Mrs. Johnson's death Wednesew Mexico. She had been in ill ealth for quite a while.

perience as a fire fighter, most of this in specialized work, is matched in length of practice by Capt. William Gurk, recently appointed in charge of the Second County District with headquarters at the-R Newburg fire station, now building, who served in the Louisville Fire Department for 26 years and for 22 years was superintendent of training at the instruction stafet tion at 20th and Garland, During the war Captain Gurk was lientenant at the Standiford Airfield Fire Station.

Captain George Andrews, appointed in command of the third county district at Pleasure Ridge, where the new fire station will soon he completed, is a veteran fireman with 2414 years service, most recently in charge of Hock and Ladder Company No. 2, in Louisville.

Captain J. D. Thompson, of the first county district. Torother of the chief, who will take charge of the station to be crected at Middletown, has 21% years under his belt as lieutenant and captain in the Louisville Fire Department and as captain of the Standiford Airfield Fire Department during the war.

It is evident that the county in its initial stage of organizing the county fire department will be served by a staff of able, efficient liremen, whose services would be an asset to any fire organization. That county companies will be stream-lined is-a cortainay and according to Chief Thompson's plans rural Jefferson County will possess a fire prevention and fire fighting program second to wand

#### September 11, 1946: Board meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was **Beld** on the lith day of September, 1946 at eight o'clock in the evening.

The following directors were present:

John M. Monchan Jr. W. Leland Wilson E. N. Andriot George Miller J. P. Terry Louis H. Schweitzer R. C. Schlich

Er. John Monchan, President, presided at the meeting, and Mr. R.C.Schlich, Secretary, acted as secretary of the meeting.

The President announced that there being a quorum present the meeting would proceed with the transaction of business.

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on the 8th day of August, 1946, were read and approved.

Nr. Wilson reported that the St. Matthews Sun had made no charge for inserting the notice of the annual meeting of members of the association. He further stated that the "write-ups" concerning the association will appear in that paper during Fire Prevention Week in October.

Mr. Monohan stated that the directors should at this time give serious thought to formulating an effective plan for soliciting membership in the association for the year 1947.

Upon motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Wilson and unanimously carried it was RESOLVED, that the President appoint a committee of three to formulate a plan for soliciting membership in the association and for collection of dues and that this plan be submitted to the Board of Directors for its approval.

The President appointed Nr. Miller, Nr. Terry and Nr. Schlich to this committee.

Wr. Andrict proposed that the association organize and sponsor a Junior Fire Department. After much favorable discussion of this idea, upon motion by Mr. Andriot, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously carried it was RESOLVED, that a committee of two be appointed to draw (Minutes - 9-11-46)

-2-

up a plan for organizing a Junior Fire Department consisting of boys 14 to 16 years of age, to assist the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association in fire prevention measures, traffic regulation at the scenes of fires, reporting of new residents in the area and general betterment of the community and that the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association take necessary steps to have the recommendations of the committee, when approved by the directors, carried out.

The President appointed Mr. Andriot and Mr. Wilson to this committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Monohan, seconded by Mr. Schweitzer and unanimously carried that the Association purchase a table and twelve folding chairs for use in the fire department building.

Upon motion by Mr. Schweitzer, seconded by Mr. Schlich and unanimously carried the sum of \$25.00 per month was appropriated for entertainment and welfare of the active members of the fire department.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned.

Secretary.

# L & N to Build Tower At Chenoweth Crossing

Word has been received by County Commissioner E. P. White, Jr., that the L. & N. Railroad Company has decided to take steps toward providing safety devices at the Cheno-Lane crossing, in St. Matthews, which has been a traffic hazard for many years.

The railroad company promises to erect a lookout tower

## Set-Aside War Goods Sale Begins Sept. 15

A twp-week "top priority" drive to sell current stocks of surplus goods set-aside for veterans will begin September 15, it; was announced today by War Assets Administration. Whenever practicable, sale of set-aside items, is restricted to one to a veteran.

Veterans will be able to buy these goods at sales in every section of the country as well as through War Assets Administration Regional offices.

War Assets Administration cautioned veterans to remember, however, that set-aside items are in short supply and will not meet the demand of the thousands of traffic tangles at this point and veterans who want them.

Because some regions do not have certain set-aside items, new stocks will be allocated as far as possible to the various regions and sub-alloted to the states on the basis of veterans population ! figures.

from which the guard gates will be operated and traffic delays avoided.

Many complaints were made to the Fiscal Court of trains switching for 10 to 15 minutes or more, with traffic blocked until the main line and switches werecleared. Commissioner, White visited the scene and found these complaints justified.

Notices sent the railroad company brough no response until finally word was sent that traincrews blocking the crossing would be arrested and held for violation of the traffic law.

This ultimatum brought prompt. action and the L. & N. came forward with the proposals which promise some relief from the more safety for the public. The letter to Commissioner White contained an appeal for the

Commissioner to refrain from ordering any arrests of train crews until the company had an opportunity of correcting the situation.

1946 September 19, 1993, *The Courier-Journal*, 125th Anniversary.



#### **October 2, 1946: Board meeting:**

The regular meeting of the board of directors of St. Matthews Volunteer rire Association was held on Wednesday, October 2, 1946 at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Directors annes

The meeting was called to order by President John Monchan.

The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Boss, seconded by Mr. Wilson &Md a petty cash fund of \$5.00 was set up and Mr. Boss, treasurer, was ordered to turn that amount over to Mrs. Marsh, assistant secretary.

On motion by Mr. Boss, seconded by Mr. Wilson the and unanimously cafried it was resolved that the president, Mr. Monohan, have the lease for rent of the fire house recorded in the books of the Clerk of Jefferson County.

There being no further business to come before the meeting 't was on motion duly made and seconded adjourned.

#### The following directors were present:

John M. Monohan, Jr. W. Leland Wilson E. N. Andriott Fred H. Boss R. C. Schlich

#### d. St. Matthews Fire Dept. n ¢ Has Admirable Record ١, e ÷.

"The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, one of the e oldest in Jefferson County, has been functioning for 27 years.

đ Organized in 1919, the first truck purchased cost \$1,200, and 5 it was 12 years before the debt was cleared. In 1931 a growing n tommunity demanded expanded y service and a new modern truck đ wirs bought and the old appa-14 ratus was given as part of the ment. purchase price. 5

12 to the equipment which, with of the department and to further ٤ other purchases of hose, ladders, hats and miscellaneous items made the St, Matthews Fire De- ino pay, performing their unselfish pariment one of the highest developed fire-fighting units in the county.

. Throughout, the years the department has been entirely financed through the cooperation of residents and with the rapid development of the area, many; expenses have been incurred that ] were not part of the program. In recent years the growth of St. Matthews has added new expunses to the fire department such as increased insurance on equipment, rent, heat, light, telephones. alarm systems and replacement of thews Volunteer Fire Association wornout materials.

It has been pointed out that the volunteer fire department is one tion at the Frankel Drug Comcooperative venture that pays pany, Mrs. Marsh of the Metroheavily on the investment. In ad- | politan Building and Lean Assodition to lowering insurance rates | clation, Terry's Service Station or

property has been cut to a minimum through the effective efforts of the members of the depart-

Recently a program Was In 1941 a new truck was added [ launched, to improve the service lower insurance rates.

The volunteer firemen receive service in the interest of the entire community, Summer or winter at any, hour of the day and night the fire alarm brings these local citizens out of store or office, perhaps out of bed to undergo risk and discomfort, saving their neighbor's homes or places of business.

The spirit of the volunteer firemen is in no small part due to the example of their chief, who is also president of the fire association, John M. Monohan.

Residents may join the St. Matand participate in the benefits of membership by making applicaover a large area, loss in life and the Whitehead Drug Company.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of it. Natthews Volunteer rire Association was held on Weunesday, November6, 1946 at 8 o'clock in the evening.

The following directors were present:

John M. Monohan, Jr. h. Lelsnä wilson fred H. Boss Louis H. Schweitzer E. N. Andriot J. P. Terry R. C. Schlich Geo. A. Miller The minutes of the regular meeting of the

Board of wirectors held on October 2, 1946 were

read and approved.

On motion by Hr. Willer, seconded by Mr. wilson itxmem and unanimously carried it was ordered that notices for all unpaid bills be sent as the out at the same iimexmithxmotices/forxthose state-

ments of dues payable in January. It was further sgreed that 3 notices for dues On motion by Mir. Miller, seconded by Mr. be sent out.

Schweitzer and unanimously carried it was resolved that the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association conat a cost of \$100 tract for the back page apace/for its advertisement in the program of "Now and Then", a play to be sponsored for the benefit of St. Matthews Recreation Center and that hr. Andriot obtain this space from Mr. Frankel of Frankel Drug Comapny who has already contracted for that space. Mr. Monohan was instructed to obtain the necessary photographs of the fire apparatus to be used in the advertisement.

We have no second page.

November 14, 1946, The Courier-Journal



1946

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was held on Wednesday, December 4, 1946 at 8 o'clock in the evening.

The following directors were present:

John M. Monohan Jr. Geo. A. Miller Louis H. Schweitzer E. N. Andriott R.C.Schlich

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Mirectors held on November 6, 1946 were read and approved.

It was suggested that Mr. Andriott get a letter from Kentucky Inspection Bureau and one from Capt. Arusenklaus to the effect that the Jefferson County rire departments would not be recognized as sufficient protection to insure the same insurance rates as are now in effect in St. Matthews.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Schlich were appointed a committee on dues and assessments.

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was on motion duly made and seconded adjourned.

December 4, 1946, The Courier-Journal

### 12 Patients Escape Fire At Sanitarium

Fire at 9:15 a.m. yesterday forced a dozen patients from Hord's Sanitarium on LaGrange road, Anchorage. There were no injuries, according to L. A. Butterfield, superintendent. He estimated the loss at \$5,000. The blaze, of undetermined origin, started in the attic of one of five buildings at the institution. The St. Matthews and Middletown Fire Departments fought the fire.

1946: A blaze at the Chamberlain Company of America caused damage estimated at \$4,000 to \$5,000.00 and was contained to a one story warehouse.

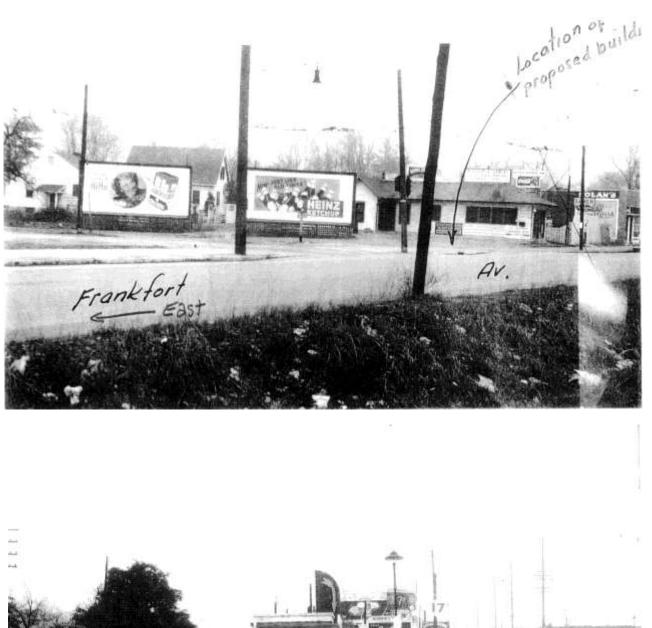
Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, ZV 234-46, Jefferson County Historic Preservation and Archives, Southeast Corner of Frankfort Avenue ad Cannons Lane.



Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, Opening Day of new A & P after devastating fire in May of 1945 that was located on Lexington Road, the new store at 3929 Frankfort Avenue. Royal Photo, Co. University Of Louisville Photographic Archives.

1946

Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: "The Loop", catch feeder bus into St. Matthews, transfer from Louisville downtown, February 1946—Looking East, where Frankfort Avenue & Lexington Road come together October, 1946





.

New Board Member-James "J P" P. Terry-Firefighter 1939 to August 26, 1966, Lieutenant, Captain, Director 1946 to 1984, Trustee-December 6, 1912 to December 15, 1988-Born in Rochester, Kentucky in 1912. He married Marie Humphry in 1938 and they had two daughters. He opened his Terry's Texaco Service Station in 1939 and ran it for 33 years. He was a member of five bowling leagues, Lions Club, ST. Matthews Business Association, and has won many community service awards. Mr. Terry joined the department in 1939 and served as firefighter, Lieutenant and Captain before retiring in 1966. He joined the Board in 1946 and served until his death in 1988.

> August 20, 1980: *The Voice*, Terry says "no" to retirement, by Ruth Mayer: Is a familiar face of forty years leaving Terry's Texaco service in St. Mat-thews? 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 me-I.P. TERRY chanic 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 1930. 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 \$1,200. 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 station 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 under-standing 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 Terry's 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 1964. He retired as a captain. He has served on the Fire departments Board of **Directors since 1946.** 

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. He further stated that he

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

# Terry given man of year award

J.P. Terry was the recipient of this year's Man of The Year Award of the St. Matthews Lions Club.

The sward was presented to Terry at a dinner meeting of the club June 20 at the St. Matthews Community Center. 7/13/67 The award went to him for "Mistinguished service, loy-ally and devotion to the ob-jects and furtherance of Lion-ism."

He was cited for his active interest in the civic, business, and social welfare of the community.

Terry, a service statton own-

er, is a captain in the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and a member of its board of directors.

Hels & charter member of the St. Matthews Business Association. He has been in bus-

iness in the city 27 years. An active bowler, he is pre-sident of Ten Pins Major League and vice president of Ten Pins Classic League.

He is an honorary member of the Licos Chub and has been a key supporter of its fund drives for charitable causes. He and his family re-side at 119 Ridgeway Ave. Courtesy, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass*, 1999, by Samuel W. Thomas, Elines's first garage on the east side of St. Matthews Avenue behind family residence that fronted Shelbyville Road. 1946, ZV 35-46U, Jefferson count Historic Preservation and Archives.



December 28, 1946, The Courier-Journal:



#### **Board Of Directors**

E. N. "Bud" Andriot Fred C. Boss L. Churchill Matthews, April resigned (moving) George E. Miller John M. Monohan Jr. Rudy C. Schlich Louis H. Schweitzer James "JP" Terry, start William Leland Wilson Dr. James Emil Winter, end

#### Officers

1946 Chief John M. Monohan Jr. Assistant Chief Richard C. Herdt Captain Henry R. Kennedy Captain Rudolph L. Lineback Lieutenant Marty A. Kamer Lieutenant John F. Westerman

#### **Firefighters**

T. A. Baker John A. Beierle **Jim Brangers** John H. Cauthorn **Raymond Crabtree** W. H. Crouch **Ed Foley** H. "Curt" Fry, Jr. Charles H. Hahn W. Rich Herdt **Clarence Hicks** Ted H. Huffman Sr. John W. "Bud" Jansen John V. Kaster John "Jack" T. Kempf Joseph L. "Joe" Kempf

Byron S. Martin J. L. Martin, Jr. Carl R. Meiser J. C. Reed Frank R. "Randy" Robertson Jim Edward Sauer George J. Stoll, Jr. James "JP" Terry George R. Westwood R. M. "Dick" Wheeler, Jr. Robert W. White Raymond K. "Ray" Wilson