

# St. Matthews Fire Protection District

## 1968

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 deserve 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.



**1968: The booster tank in S-3, 1963 Seagrave pumper, was blown and required repairs.**

**January 9, 1968, Rules And Regulations For St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department**

**Preamble**

Members of the fire department should understand that these rules and regulations are not intended to cover each and every case which may arise in the discharge of their duties. A great deal must necessarily be left to the intelligence and desecration of individual officers and members and it will be their claim to promotion and reward according to the degree to which they show that they are possessed of the necessary qualification, and to their zeal, activity and judgment on all occasions.

It should be remembered by each member of the department in carrying out the rules and regulations and obeying the orders of the officers that these rules and regulations were adopted and the officers were elected voluntarily by the membership for the sole purpose of having a better organization. Each member is a member of this department because he voluntarily chose to become a member, and because he had an interest in his community. Observance of these rules can result only in a more efficient department and a better understanding by the men as to their various positions.

**Article I—Officers And Committees**

Section 1. The Chief and Assistant Chief are appointed by the Board of Directors and are responsible to them.

Section 2. Four Captain Officers and four Lieutenant Officers shall be elected by the active members and serve for a period of two years.

Section 3. Four firemen (other than officers) shall be elected to a fireman's committee and serve for a period of 1 year. The firemen receiving the most votes shall serve as the chairman of the committee.

Section 4. Membership Committee consisting of three (3) active members and one (1) officer shall be appointed by the Chief for a period of one year.

Section 5. The Fireman's Committee shall hear all grievances and if in the Committee's opinion, a grievance warrants action, it shall be presented to the Chief and / or the Membership and disposed of satisfactorily. The word grievance shall not be construed to include suggestions pertaining to firefighting, equipment, or training.

Section 6. This committee or any member may attend Board meetings, shall not have a vote in any decision the Board makes.

Section 7. The chain of command is Chief, Assistant Chief, Captains, Lieutenants, and Fireman. In the absence of an officer, the fireman riding the officer's seat of the first responding apparatus is in charge of the emergency.

**Article II—Elections**

Section 1. The elected officers and committees are to be elected at the first meeting of each year by secret ballot by the active members present at the meeting. Elections shall not be held unless a quorum of one-half (1/2) of the active membership is present. Any vacancies are to be filled by special election.

Section 2. Two Captain Officers and two Lieutenant Officers shall be elected at each annual election to fill the open officers position.

Section 3. No one is eligible for an office or committee unless he has been an active member for a least one year.

Section 4. The nominations for an officer shall be from the floor, a list of a minimum of four (4) and an open minimum are to be submitted and the candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be appointed. In case of a tie vote, a run-off shall be cast. Nominees for any officer or committee must be present to accept

**NOTE: pages 3 and 4 are missing.**

Section 9. All members will be personally responsible, except for normal ware, for all department property issued to them and are required to return all department property issued to them on termination of their membership or on demand of the Firemen's Committee.

Section 10. Any officer may be impeached for the abuse of his authority or for misconduct in office. Any member may be expelled for misconduct. Any member desiring to impeach an officer or expel a member must submit a written charge to the Firemen's Committee at least one month before a vote thereon is taken. The Firemen's Committee shall serve a copy of the charge upon the accused at least two weeks before such vote is taken. Any officer or member may be impeached or expelled by a three-fourths vote of a quorum membership. (Quorum to consist of one-half of the active membership.)

Section 11. Any member may be referred to the Firemen's Committee for corrective action for any of the following offences:

1. Disobedience of any rule or regulation.
2. Neglect of duty.
3. Any act of insubordination.
4. Intromission of duty.
5. Unauthorized use of the siren or red lights. These items are to be used only when answering an alarm by the St. Matthews Fire Department.
6. Three (3) absences from Tuesday night training in succession without permission of cause.
7. Not responding to an emergency when available and able.

1968

## **January 9, 1968, Rules And Regulations For St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department**

The offense must be made in writing to the Firemen's Committee who will set up a hearing for the accused. The hearing will be open for testimony for and against the accused. After the formal hearing, the four (4) members of the Firemen's Committee will vote in secret with the majority ruling, and take corrective action. The absence of any member of the Firemen's Committee at a hearing will be filled by members of the Membership Committee. A tie vote by the Firemen's Committee will refer the member to the membership to be compelled or cleared by section 10 above.

Guide lines for corrective action will be as follows:

1. First offence of Do's and don'ts—Future work duty for member.
2. Disobedience of Rules and Regulations, second offence of Do's and Don'ts, and any action engrossing the SAFETY of others—deprive the member of his rights as a member for a stated period.
3. Repeat offense of #2—repeat corrective action or refer the member to the Membership to be expelled.

Section 12. Any member who has his driver's license revoked will be temporarily suspended from driving the equipment until his driver's license is reinstated.

Section 13. Any member who has been dropped from the rolls can be reinstated only by complying with Article III of these Rules and Regulations.

Section 14. At no time will dues be collected from the active or inactive membership.

### **Article V—Engineers**

Section 1. Engineers shall be qualified by the Officers and approved by a Chief Officer. They shall be qualified for their driving and mechanical ability and shall be thoroughly familiar with the operation of all the apparatus.

Section 2. The Engineer of each piece of apparatus shall make an inspection of his apparatus after each run and complete the service check sheet. Apparatus discrepancies shall be co-signed by an officer.

Section 3. No member shall drive the fire apparatus except the qualified Engineers unless directed to do so by an officer.

Section 4. Each Engineer shall be thoroughly familiar with the territory to be served, including the condition of routes during the different seasons and the location of all water supplies.

Section 5. Engineers shall observe speed limits which are consistent with safety, considering traffic, weather, and road conditions. Special care shall be taken when approaching all intersections, the apparatus being kept under control at all times.

### **Article VI—Rules And Regulations**

Section 1. No amendments shall be effective until presented to the Firemen's Committee in writing. The Committee will post the amendment and it shall not be effective until adopted by three-fourths of the members present at the second regular meeting after notice has been posted.

### **Article VII—Inactive Members**

Section 1. Any active member upon reaching the age of sixty-five years will be transferred to the inactive membership of the Department.

Section 2. Any active member for reasons he deems best may transfer to the inactive membership for a period of one year. Inactive members with less than ten years active service will be dropped from the Inactive Membership after a period of one year unless he has reached the age of 65.

Section 3. All inactive members shall be permitted to participate in all activities of the department.

Section 4. Inactive members shall have the privilege of attending all meetings of the department, but shall not have a voice therein.

### **Article VIII—Activities**

Section 1. The membership may actively participate in one fund-raising drive for charity per year. The drive is to be selected each year by the membership, at the annual election. A chairman and an assistant will be elected to head this activity at the annual election.

Section 2. Any requests made to help on any other drive shall be denied. However, with the Chief's permission, the use of the station will be permitted upon formal request as a collection headquarters.

### **Article IX—Firemen's Fund**

Section 1. A fund shall be created for the entertainment of the firemen. This fund shall be administered by a committee of two members elected by the membership for a period of one year. This committee will include one officer and one fireman. Nomination must be a minimum of two (2) officers and two (2) firemen with an open minimum.

Moneys for this fund shall be derived from any donations made directly to the firemen, or as the Committee so designates.

1968

**January 9, 1968, Rules And Regulations For St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department**

**Article X—Do's And Don'ts**

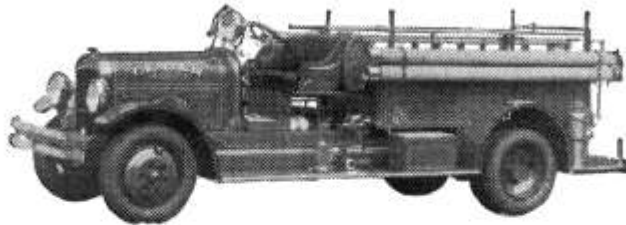
Section 1. the following are established do's and don'ts for the St. Matthews Fire Department. They may be changed by a Chief Officer decree or by a major vote on any Tuesday night by a quorum of present members.

1. Do follow the run schedule for emergencies.
2. Do not enter the radio room during an emergency if it is properly occupied.
3. Do not exceed the established maximum number of firemen to respond per apparatus on emergencies.
  1. S1, S2, and S3—five men (2 in front seat and 3 on tailboard).
  2. S4—seven men (2 in front , and 5 on tailboard).
  3. S5—seven men (2 in front, 2 on tailboard, and 3 on seat).
4. Do not listen in on incoming fire calls.
5. Do not drink beer before 9:00 p.m. on any training night.
6. Do not take alcoholic beverages to the front of the firehouse.
7. Do not park in front of firehouse unless on emergency, or on official business. Washing of cars is official business.

**January 11, 1968: Board meeting**

**ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION**

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Directors of the  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn., held January 11, 1968.

**Directors Present**

George E. Miller	W. Leland Wilson
Lawrence Grauman	Fred Boss
John Monohan	John Emrich
J. P. Terry	

Minutes of last meeting, held December 14, 1967, read by Secretary George E. Miller, seconded by J. P. Terry, that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that Mr. E. T. Trautwein correct letter as per instructions of Mr. Lawrence Grauman of changes in wording in proposition submitted to board.

Mr. Noah Pullem and John Dumas, the architect, met with the board to discuss the new building plans. They agreed to return as soon as they finished their outline.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned by W. Leland Wilson, acting for Secretary George E. Miller, who left early.

Respectfully submitted,

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy. *EB*



1968

January 11, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

## Woman injured In house fire

A 57-year-old St. Matthews woman was seriously burned Monday night when her clothing caught fire in an apartment at 163 Thierman Ln. where she lived alone.

She is Mrs. Louise O. Williams who was taken to Kentucky Baptist Hospital with third degree burns over a large portion of her body. Her condition was reported as serious Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Williams, according to St. Matthews Patrolman Sam Spalding, apparently dozed while she was smoking in an overstuffed chair over which a plastic protective covering has been placed.

January 10, 1968, *The Courier-Journal*

## Building Code Wins Approval

The St. Matthews City Council last night adopted a building code and created the post of building inspector.

The building code is similar to present business and commercial construction regulations, Mayor Bernard F. Bowling said. The adoption of the code is part of an effort to reduce fire insurance rates for the **St. Matthews Fire District** by \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year.

Fees for building permits will be brought in line with Jefferson County fees, which are higher, Bowling said.

The code will become effective next week, City Atty. J. W. Jones said.

In other business, the council authorized the mayor to sign a contract with the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department for about \$1,800 for a year's protection of what is roughly the city's Warwick Villa and Camelot areas.

# OVER 50 YEARS

1913 *progress* 1968

BUILDING FIFTY YEARS with ST. MATTHEWS

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**ELINE REALTY CO. REALTORS**

WE ARE THE ONLY REALTY FIRM IN ST. MATTHEWS TO OFFER YOU A COMPLETE SERVICE. WE HAVE THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS - THE BEST OF THE CITY AND THE BEST OF THE COUNTRY. WE HAVE THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS - THE BEST OF THE CITY AND THE BEST OF THE COUNTRY. WE HAVE THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS - THE BEST OF THE CITY AND THE BEST OF THE COUNTRY.

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OVER 45 YEARS IN SAME LOCATION

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OVER 45 YEARS IN SAME LOCATION

\* MEMBER: NATIONAL REAL ESTATE BOARD

\* 895-2463

January 18, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

**MARINE PFC Patrick McNally**, son of Mrs. Neel D. McNally, 5831 Elmwood Ave., has completed two weeks of training under simulated combat conditions at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He was scheduled for more advanced training before being assigned to a permanent unit.

STMFD firefighter

January 25, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

## Firemen given Jaycee award

For the first time in his history of making annual citations, the St. Matthews Jaycees have presented the Distinguished Service Award to an organization.

The latest award went to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Fire Chief John Monohan, Jr., accepted the award in behalf of the department at a meeting of the Jaycees Monday night. He was accompanied by his son, John Monohan, III, also a member of the department.

## Area high school gets fire scare

Students at Westport High School got a five-minute break from classes Tuesday afternoon while a small blaze was extinguished in a boy's restroom. As a precautionary measure, the 3,000 students vacated the building.

The alarm was sounded about 1 pm after a student reported the plastic over a fluorescent light was smoldering. Richard Cullen, assistant principal, used a fire extinguisher and there was no further damage.

The fire was out when members of the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department reached the scene. The school is at 8100 Westport Rd.

STMFD responded

February 1, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

## St. M. fire runs

Tuesday, Jan. 23 -- 11:07 am, 4017 Plymouth Rd., auto; 12:55 pm, standby for Lyndon.

Wednesday, Jan. 24 -- 6:32 am, 4008 St. Ives Co., furnace; 2:33 pm, false.

Friday, Jan. 26 -- 10:28 am Willis Avenue and Shelbyville Road, auto; 5:18 pm, Shelbyville Road Plaza, rescue.

Saturday, Jan. 27 -- 10:30 am, 108 Travois Rd., malicious false.

Sunday, Jan. 28 -- 12:51 pm, 9000 Herr Ln., standby.

Monday, Jan. 29 -- 11:40 am, The Mall, malicious false; 2:06 pm, 3903 Hillsboro Rd., auto.

1968

**January 29, 1968: S-1, a 1947 Seagrave pumper, was involved in an accident at the intersection of Winchester Road and Breckinridge Lane (while responding to a run), no one was injured. Rich Herdt and Bob Walling pictured.**



1968

February 8, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

**SUNOCO** *Grand*  
**OPENING**

**THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 8, 9, 10**

**FREE** 5 Bottle  
CARTON

With Purchase of  
10 Gallons  
or More  
Gasoline

**WIN! WIN! WIN!**  
**TRUNKLOAD OF PEPSI**

**9** INSTANT WINNERS  
(Passenger Cars Only)

**PEPSI**

**1968**

St. Matthews Sunoco Incorporated  
Shelbyville Road and Hubbards Lane

## Fire runs

Thursday, Feb. 1 -- 3:07  
pm, Shelbyville Road Plaza,  
malicious false; 7:29 pm, 401  
Mockingbird Valley Rd., tree.  
Friday, Feb. 2 -- 10:34 pm,  
The Mall, malicious false.  
Sunday, Feb. 4 -- 12:36 pm,  
Hubbards Lane and Shelbyville  
Road, auto.  
Monday, Feb. 5 -- 2:26 pm,  
rear of The Mall and 4700  
block Brownsboro Road, both  
malicious false; 3:52 pm, The  
Mall, dumpster; 4:54 pm, 120  
S. Hubbards Ln., salamander.

February 8, 1968: Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association held February 8, 1968:

### Directors Present

W. Leland Wilson	Fred C. Boss
George E. Miller	J. P. Terry
John Monohan	Lawrence Grauman

Minutes of last meeting, held January 11, 1968, read by President Monohan.  
Motion made by J. P. Terry, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that they be accepted  
as read.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that we table fire  
house building to next meeting night.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by J. P. Terry, that Mr. Boss buy  
\$5,000.00 certificate of deposit in Citizens Union National Bank.

There being no further business motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by  
W. Leland Wilson, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.



1968

February 22, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:



SEAMAN Lawrence C. Pilcher, Jr., whose parents live at 603 Macon Ave., is attending Hospital Corps School at Great Lakes, Ill., after completing nine weeks of basic training at the Naval Training Center, also at Great Lakes.

Future STMFD firefighter

**Announcing**

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 WESTPORT ROAD & THIERMAN LANE PHONE 896-9292

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**MARATHON'S New Hostess**  
 Marilyn Mulliken

**Featuring "Old Kentucky Hospitality"**

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- \* Free Pick Up & Delivery Service
- \* Free Coffee \* Treats for the Kiddies
- \* The "Very Finest" Customer Service
- \* HOURS: 6 A.M. 'TIL 10 P.M. — 7 DAYS A WEEK!

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 We guarantee the finest service and products available in the area. If you are not completely satisfied, we will refund your money or replace the product. No questions asked. This guarantee is in full force and effect at all times.

**MARATHON**

## Fire runs

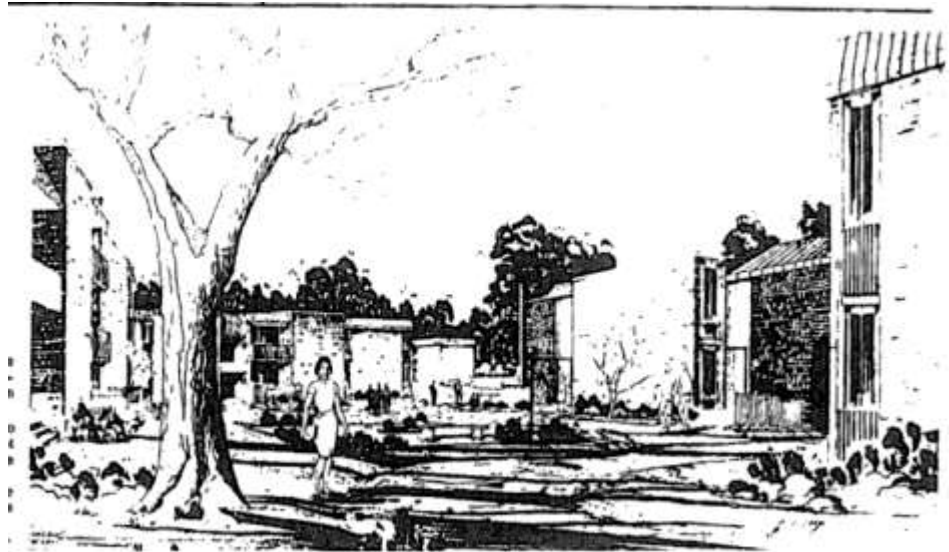
Sunday, Feb. 11 -- 4:21 pm, The Mall, malicious, false.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 13 -- 2:10 pm, G.E.S. Store, 1001 Breckinridge Ln., malicious false.  
 Wednesday, Feb. 14 -- 11:50 am, standby for Louisville Department at Floyd and Jeffersonstown Streets.  
 Friday, Feb. 16 -- 8:59 am, 127 Arrowhead Rd., overheated furnace motor; 4:53 pm, 3505 Hycliffe Ave., refrigerator; 6:23 pm, 209 Sage Rd., grease on stove.  
 Saturday, Feb. 17 -- 11:08 am, 515 Brookview Rd., weeds; 3:49 pm, 275 N. Hubbards Ln., fied; 4:08 pm, Brownsboro Road, weeds; 5:10 pm, Brownsboro Road, trash; 8:58 pm, Hubbards Lane and U.S. 42, scalehouse, Jefferson County yards.

February 29, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

## Fire runs

Saturday, Feb. 24 -- 12:25 pm, Holiday Manor and U.S. 42, field; 2:44 pm, U.S. 60 and Watterson Expressway, auto.  
 Monday, Feb. 26 -- 12:21 pm, 3939 Frankfort Ave., malfunction of alarm system; 5:33 pm 4521 Shelbyville Rd., photographic machine.

March 7, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:



THE ENTRANCE to Mallgate, a \$7 million apartment-town house complex to be built on Sherrill Lane near the Mall is shown in this architect's sketch. Construction is expected to start in the fall. Plans slated before years, end. Story on page A-11.

1968

**March 5, 1968, Stories from Ken Reising:**

**4302 Winchester Road      March 5, 1968      12:56 Pm**

One of the things I learned growing up in St. Matthews was that springtime in our part of Kentucky was a big tease! Usually the last week in February or the first week in March was, sunny, warm and dry with afternoon temperatures in the 70's. Sometimes the winds would kick up during this time, also. This allowed the dead grass and weeds to dry out, but the ground beneath them stayed wet and muddy. After a week of weather like this, it usually turned cold and rainy again. This warmth, and the following rains allowed the new grasses to sprout and replace last year's growth. All was green by the first week of April. This was all well and good for people who loved the outdoors, but it posed a major problem for the local firefighters, especially the volunteer units in all parts of the county. Even though St. Matthews is a major suburb of Louisville, we were blessed with several large tracks of fields in 1968, which are developed today. Just to name a few; behind Zachary Taylor National Cemetery on Brownsboro Road, Ridgeway and Westport Road, North Hubbards Lane at Westport Road at the nursery, behind Holy Trinity Church, from the Shelbyville road Plaza and Mall westward all the way around to Cannons Lane (this tract included the Monahan Farm, and C.C. Moore's Horse Farm west of Breckinridge Lane).

I was home, when the run came in by radio. It came in as a field fire behind 4302 Winchester Road. I went to the firehouse at 117 St. Matthews Ave. and made S-3 ( 1963 Seagrave, 1250 GPM pumper, with a auxiliary high pressure booster pump). (S-1 was off the track; undergoing repairs form the accident it was involved in on January 29<sup>th</sup>.) As I recall I was the only one on the tailboard, with Lt. Dehart in the right seat, and Lt Jack Handle diving. It was a beautiful, sunny, warm day.

When we arrived on the scene we found out the field fire behind this location had extended to a single bay frame garage, with an automobile in it, at the rear of the property. Lt. Dehart instructed me to pull the booster line on the right side, and take it to the garage to attack the fire. He stayed at reel and helped to pull the line off. When I got to the garage I saw we had fire at the rear of the structure about half way up the wall that had extended to the front of the auto. We used the low- pressure booster and attack the fire knocking it down in short order. We spent the rest of the time mopping up in the garage and extinguishing the field fire. S-4 (750 GPM quad) also arrived on the scene. If I recall correctly this was my first working fire that I was on the nozzle of the initial attack. We rolled the booster line back on the reel ( thank God for electric rewinds, only one we had at the time), and returned to the firehouse.

When we got back to the firehouse we filled the booster tank on S-3 and put the truck back in service. We had no more that washed the truck down when the tone hit for another run.

**Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.      August 1, 2011**

1968

**March 5, 1968, Stories from Ken Reising:**

**Behind Holy Trinity Church    501 Cherry wood Road    March 5, 1968    1:40 Pm**

We were knocked out (dispatched) on a field fire behind Holy Trinity Church on Cherrywood Road. For those who are not familiar with the area at this time, the field behind the church went down a steep hill towards a woods and a creek. Just south of the church property new houses had been built.

I rode S-3 with Lt. Jack Handle driving and Lt. Dehart riding officer. We arrived on the scene with a working fire in the field with waist-high weeds behind the church. We could not reach the fire from a paved surface, and the fire was threatening to communicate to nearby houses. The fire was spreading quickly due the dryness and terrain, and it was obvious we would need water to put it out. Brooms were going to work, and S-3 did not have a Johnson Pump, that I recall. The decision was made to take S-3 off of the hard surface, use the auxiliary high pressure booster pump powered form a PTO so we could drive the truck and use the booster at the same time. I was manning the right side booster and Lt. Dehart used the left side. we stayed up on the top of S-3 at the hose reels. We went down the hill towards the woods to extinguish the fire. All went very well, and the spread of the fire was stopped, and finally extinguished. We felt good about our great stop.

We turned S-3 around and proceeded to climb the hill back out to the paved surface. This is when our problems began. As we drove up the hill we started sinking into the muddy ground beneath us. The further we went the deeper we sank. I was on the tailboard, and the tailboard was on the ground. We were stuck in the mud, all the way up to the running board. All six tires were buried up to the hubs. There was no moving, and no digging out. WE WERE 10-10, OUT OF SERVICE DUE TO BREAKDOWN!!!!

Luckily the only wrecker big enough to pull us out was in St. Matthews, Tony's Wrecker Service on Chenoworth Lane at the L&N Railroad crossing. We called them and they came and winched us out with the towline off his boom while he stayed on the hard surface. When we got out we had a muddy mess up in the undercarriage of S-3. We went to the closest hydrant, and connected a soft suction to its outlet. We used our booster lines to clean the mud out from under S-3 so the mud would not cause and problems with the running gear. We filled the booster tank and washed the mush off of the street. We returned to the firehouse and very thoroughly washed S-3 and put her back in service. I was supposed to be at work at 4:00 Pm. Needless to say I was very late this day.

**Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.    August 1, 2011**

March 7, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

# Construction to begin soon on Mallgate apartment complex

Construction is to begin soon on an apartment - town house complex -- "a town within a town" -- on Sherburn Lane near The Mall.

The complex, called Mallgate will cost an estimated \$7 million and will be the largest of its kind in the Louisville area.

Harry W. Rosen, of Chevy Chase, Md., the builder-developer said work will begin "as soon as the ground has thawed" to permit pouring of concrete foundations.

He said model units in the complex are slated to be opened in spring or early summer. The entire project is to be finished before the year's end.

## 32 townhouses

The complex will contain 540 apartment units. The apartment "clusters," all two and 2 1/2 stories high, will be built in five general areas and each will have an interior courtyard. Included in the development will be 32 townhouses.

Rosen said the development will be of contemporary design. All buildings will have brick facing.

All units will be air conditioned and will be carpeted throughout.

A clubhouse with adjoining swimming pool and a recreation building for youngsters also are included in the plans.

Architectural features of the units include balconies, patios and specially designed windows. Each of the townhouses will contain a fireplace, a powder room, a laundry room and a family room, as well as the standard rooms.

"These apartment will have

the features of the finest homes," said Rosen. "The development will be a town within a town."

Rental will range from \$110 for efficiency apartments to \$250 for the townhouses - per month.

Utilities will be included in the rent in all units except the townhouses. In those an extra charge will be made for electricity, but gas and water will be free.

## 99-year lease

Rosen said he has obtained a 99-year-lease on the 24-acre site for the complex. The owners of the ground, which is in the county, are Shelton B. and Alice M. Arterburn and Covington Arterburn. They also own the ground on which The Mall is built. Rosen said the site was chosen because of its "general attractiveness" and convenient location. Closeness to shopping facilities, to the airport and to the thoroughfare system are some of the attractive factors, he said.

In addition, Rosen said, a survey by his company Mallgate Associates, showed a need for apartment housing in this area.

"This is the most desirable site in Jefferson County," he said, "and Louisville is the greatest city in America."

A mortgage commitment of

more than \$5 million has been obtained from the Prudential Insurance Co. of America, Rosen said. An interim loan has been arranged with the

## Girl Scout cookie sale begins Sunday

More than 8,000 Junior, Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts will be participating in the annual cookie sale of the Kentuckiana Girl Scout Council beginning Sunday, March 10.

The sale will be held in connection with the observance of "National Girl Scout Week" that ends March 17.

Cookies will be available in chocolate, peanut butter, butter shorties and mint.

Mrs. Norman Crabtree, 4531 Fox Run Rd., is council-wide chairman of the 1968 sale.

Area chairmen include Mrs. Frederick Bierly, 3921 Staebler Ave., St. Matthews; Mrs. Helen Denn, 124 Maple Ave., Pewee Valley; Mrs. Jack Clar, 422 Wood Rd., Lyndon, and Mrs. Raymond Thornton, 4713 Lacareme Dr., Jeffersonton.

Fifth Third Union Trust Co. of Cincinnati.

The only other St. Matthews area apartment complex comparable to Mallgate in size and cost is Jamestown on Breckinridge Lane.

The first section of Jamestown, completed in 1966, contains 22 apartment buildings, costing \$3,800,000. The second section, now under construction, will contain 15 apartment buildings costing \$1,900,000.

The second section is due to be completed in August of this year. The two sections will contain a total of 356 units. Jamestown is on a 27-acre tract.

## Native of Oklahoma

Rosen, 43, is a native of Oklahoma City. He has built apartment complexes in various sections of the east.

The architect for Mallgate is Horowitz Seigel Associates of Silver Spring, Md. The Lantz Co. of Louisville is the engineer.

Richard Her of the law firm of Bullitt, Dawson and Tarrant handled the legal transactions.

Subcontractors for Mallgate include the George M. Eady Co. Jefferson Piping Co., Houck Plumbing Co. and Arrow Electric Co., all of Louisville General Electric Co. will supply appliances for the units.

## Fire runs

Friday, March 1 -- 2:57 pm, 43300 block Norbourne Blvd. trash and field fire.

Saturday, March 2 -- 6:55 am, railroad right-of-way, malicious false.

Sunday, March 3 -- 2:35 pm, 4300 block Darbrook Rd., field.

Monday, March 4 -- 4:03 pm, standby for Lyndon Department.

Cumberland Falls, with drop of 68 feet, is the high falls east of the Rocky Mountains and south of Ning Falls.



1968

March 7, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:



HERBERT L. MULLINS



JAMES W. BURTON

## St. M. Police Department promotes Burton, Mullins

Two patrolmen in the St. Matthews Police Department have been promoted to sergeants. They are James W. Burton, 31, of 1905 Houns Ln., and Herbert L. Mullins, 33, of 2100 Houns Ln.

The appointments became effective March 1, according to Police Chief Kermil Cook. With the promotions the department once again has three sergeants -- one for each shift. The other sergeant is Claude W. Combest.

Cook said Burton and Mullins were promoted on the basis of efficiency and leadership ability.

The department had been in

the process of reorganization several months, Cook said. Mullins has been on the force since 1960. A native of London, Ky., he is a graduate of Hazelgreen High School.

Mullins is enrolled in the law enforcement course of Eastern State University. The course is conducted at the Louisville Police Headquarters.

Burton has been a member of the department since 1960. He is a former fingerprint technician with the F.B.I. in Washington, D.C., and the Kentucky State Police.

Burton also is taking the Eastern State University law enforcement course.

March 14, 1968, *The Voice Of Jeffersonian*:

## Weed and trash fires plague county firemen

Weed and trash fires that have been plaguing most of the county's volunteer fire departments during the past few weeks have resulted in a warning to property owners from Richard M. Trautwein, director of the Jefferson County fire protection program.

"This is the time of year when most individuals decide that it is time to rake up the last remaining leaves, gather some collected debris, and then cause it to be burned," Trautwein said.

"Unfortunately, very often this results in a grass fire, because of the highly inflammable nature of grass and weeds prior to the spring growing season. In addition, there are generally high winds at this time of the year and this further aggravates an already dangerous problem," Trautwein continued.

"Jefferson County has adopted standards of safety that very carefully regulates the burning of material and requires that it be done under very carefully controlled conditions and at least 25 feet from any building or structure."

1968

March 14, 1968: Board meeting:

March 20, 1968: Letters:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the directors of the  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn., held March 14, 1968.

Directors present

Fred Boss	W. Leland Wilson
John Monohan	Henry Monohan
George E. Miller	John Emerich

Minutes of last meeting, held February 8, 1968, read by President Monohan. Motion made by Fred G. Boss, seconded by George E. Miller, that they be accepted as read.

There being no further business motion made by W. Leland Wilson, seconded by Fred Boss, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.

March 20th, 1968

3912 Olympic Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky  
40207

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Ave.  
St. Matthews, Kentucky 40207

Dear Volunteer Firemen,

I wish to thank you so much for your prompt response to my plea for help on March 14th, 1968, when the motor in my furnace burned out.

It is a helpless feeling when you find your house filled with smoke, and not knowing where it is coming from.

Although the City of Draid Hills contribute to your Fire Department, I am sending you my check for \$10.00, in appreciation of the fine work your men did and are doing.

Thank all the men who unselfishly came and helped.

Sincerely yours,

*Lucile Shuster*  
(Mrs. W. P. Shuster)

J. J. B. HILLIARD, W. L. LYONS & CO.

MEMBER NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE  
418 WEST JEFFERSON STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40203

TELEPHONE  
583-8400

March 20, 1968

Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr.  
Chief  
St. Matthews Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear John:

At the end of this month Harrods Creek Fire Department is having a special intensive training corps conducted by Major Dehler and Major Catlett. The first two meetings will be on general fire fighting tactics, pumps, and hydraulics, with the third meeting being a thorough indoctrination in flammable liquids and the fourth session being on a Saturday afternoon at which time we will practice actual fire fighting with flammable liquids and LP gas.

These training dates will be Monday, March 25, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, April 3, 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.. The first three sessions will be at the Number 1 House located in Harrods Creek with the Saturday session set tentatively for the large field behind the Number 2 House at Lime Kiln Lane and River Road.

I would be happy to have you or any two officers that you might select attend as observers in the event that you might want to evaluate this training program for possible future use by your Department in the event that your training officers are not already familiar with it.

Sincerely yours,

*James Ross Todd*  
James Ross Todd  
Chief  
Harrods Creek Fire Department, Inc.

ss

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

1968

March 28, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Drug store here looted

Theft of merchandise valued at between \$200 and \$300 from the Frankel Klapheke drug store, 4001 Frankfort Ave., between 10 and 11 pm Sunday was reported to St. Matthews police.

The loot included 15 fifths of the more expensive whiskey, 10 wrist watches valued at prices ranging between \$7.95 and \$15, \$75 in cash and three boxes of cigars.

Entrance was gained by cutting a hole through the ceiling from a second floor office. The thieves lowered themselves into the store by means of a rope and made an unsuccessful effort to open the safe.

Police Sgt. Herbert Mullins and Patrolmen Kenneth Cosby and Samuel Spalding went to the scene in response to a burglar alarm that had been sounded in an undetermined manner. They said the cutting of the hole in the ceiling did not affect the alarm system.

Mullins said the intruders left tools and the rope behind as they made their escape, apparently by way of the second floor office.



## Bottleneck 'villain'

A major cause of vehicular traffic bottlenecks is improper turns by motorists at street intersections.

Last fall, the State Highway department designated left-turn lanes at several intersections along Shelbyville Road to speed the flow of traffic.

But many motorists following old driving habits, are not using the newly designated lanes to make left turns but are using them as through lanes.

In the photograph, looking south toward Breckinridge Lane from Chenoweth Lane, a typical violation and the resulting tie-up -

is in progress.

Car #1 has used the left-turn lane to cross Shelbyville Road, forcing car. #3 to wait. Car #2 is in the through lane but must wait also. Car #4, which has turned right onto Breckinridge Lane is being forced to the curb by car #1.

April 5, 1968, The Courier-Journal edited article on storm

safety, only six inches of the car was visible above the water.

Kley had heard of Angermeier's plight while monitoring a police call.

Lightning also got into the act early

yesterday, striking the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard M. Smith, 3511 St. Germaine Court, and that of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Miller, 3326 Allison Way.

St. Matthews firemen went to the Smith house where a small fire had broken out but reported only slight damage. Louisville firemen made a run to the Miller home but reported no fire and damage only to a chimney.

## Damage

STMFD Firefighter

1968

April 11, 1968: Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held  
at the firehouse April 11 1968.

Directors Present.

W. Leland Wilson                      John Enrich  
Jno Monahan                          Lawrence Grauman  
Geo Miller                              J. F. Terry

Minutes of last meeting held March 14 1968 read By Pres.  
Monahan Motion made by John Enrich seconded by Geo Miller that  
they be accepted as read.

Motion made by J. F. Terry seconded by W. L. Wilson whereas  
John Monahan Jr has reported to the board that he has been  
advised by Mr. Dumas architect that said Mr. Dumas is willing  
to prepare plans for the erection of a new firehouse and  
and after preparing the plans to give the board of directors  
the approximate figure at which the new building can be erected  
and for his services he is to be paid \$2,000.00 and if the  
estimated cost submitted by Mr Dumas is within the amount of  
money budgeted by the board of directors for the erection  
of the building and the association so advise Mr. Dumas  
he Mr Dum as will complete the plans and prepare the specifications  
and take bids to be opened by the board of Directors  
at the fire house at a designated date and time and if the  
Board accepts a bid and awards the contract to the lowest  
bidder.

Mr Dumas will supervise the erection of the building  
and in addition to the \$2,000.00 will be paid compensation to  
be agreed upon by Board of Directors and further if the estimate  
of Mr. Dumas of the cost is not within the budgeted amount he is  
not to receive any additional compensation and if his  
estimate is within the budget but no satisfactory bid is  
received within the budget Mr Dumas is not to receive any  
further compensation other than the \$2,000.00 mentioned for  
preparing the plans and specifications and taking bids .

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

April 11, 1968: Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Therefore be it resolved That Jon M Monahan Jr  
Pres. be and is now authorized in the name and for and on behalf  
of the Association to enter into a contract with Mr. Dumas  
on the terms and conditions explained and set forth above.

Motion made by Geo E. Miller and seconded by Mr. J. F. Terry  
that Mr Grauman receive \$50.00 per month retainer fee  
for legal service to the Association . This limit is not set  
if Mr. Grauman has to go into court or has any special  
services additional compensation will be paid above this monthly  
amount

There being no further business motion made by  
J. F. Terry seconded by Geo. Miller that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E Miller                      Secy.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"



1968

April 26, 1968, The Courier-Journal    STMFD responded



Staff Photo by Charles E. Zirkle

**FIREMEN WATCH** a blaze that destroyed thousands of gallons of aging whisky last night in two warehouses of the Grosscurth Distilling Co. A third warehouse of the complex on Echo Lane between Eastwood and Fisherville in Eastern Jefferson County also was threatened by the flames and shooting sparks.

## Aging Liquor Burns

# 2 Whisky Warehouses Destroyed in Blaze

Two warehouses containing thousands of barrels of aging whisky were destroyed in a fire last night in eastern Jefferson County.

Nine fire departments battled to keep the fire from the last of the trio of Grosscurth Distilling Co. warehouses on Echo Lane between Eastwood and Fisherville.

A nearby resident said an explosion in the rear of Warehouse B, the central building of the complex, started the fire between 5 and 6 p.m. The buildings were 35 years old.

The Louisville Fire Department reported dispatching the first units from the **Eastwood Fire** Department to the scene at 6:13 p.m.

### Fields, Woods Catch Fire

Neighbors who claimed knowledge of the operation said Warehouse B contained 4,500 barrels and Warehouse A held 3,500 barrels of whisky 4 to 8 years old.

An area resident said the whisky stored by Grosscurth is marketed in Kentucky as 10-year-old Kentucky Supreme and in the Carolinas under the brand name Sir Walter.

Warehouse B had burned to the

ground and "A" was collapsing by 8:15 p.m.

When the walls of Warehouse B collapsed amid the flames, rows of stacked barrels could be seen slowly disintegrating.

The third building had been thoroughly watered down and did not appear to be threatened. But large showers of sparks were being belched from flames that leaped nearly 200 feet into the air.

The sparks set nearby fields and wooded areas afire, sending firemen scurrying to stop the spreading flames. No homes appeared to be threatened.

No serious injuries were reported, but at least six firemen had to be treated for exhaustion as the fire burned hot enough to drive back watchers at a distance of 75 feet.

"I'm just worn out," said one of the prostrated firemen.

Methodist Hospital reported last night that two men who were at the scene of the fire were treated for smoke inhalation. They were James Allen, 18, of 12718 St. Clair, and Douglas Rapson, 20, of 1705 Kings Lane, Middletown. Allen also was treated for back burns.

### Official at the Scene

A hospital spokesman did not know if the men were firemen.

Light from the flames was so bright that a book could be read by it a half-mile away. A county patrolman said the glare could be seen brightly from the Watterson Expressway.

Utility poles along the roadway also caught fire. At least one area resident said the fire had disrupted telephone service.

Other fire companies at the scene were from Jeffersonton, Simpsonville, St.

### See FIRE

Back page, col. 1, this section

## s Down ing Act

other states have similar laws. (Indiana has no such law.)

Charles H. Deters of Covington, attorney for the Kentucky Milk Market-

## Fire Destroys 2 Warehouses

Continued From Page One

Matthews, Lyndon, Middletown, Shelbyville, Buechel and McMahan.

The company was sold in December 1959 by the Grosscurth family to Conrad Inc., a St. Louis wholesale liquor company, and Irving Berlin, a Chicago whisky broker.

C. H. Grosscurth remained an executive of the distillery. Grosscurth was at the scene but could not be reached for comment last night.

"It's a shame," said an onlooker, sniffing the whisky in the air. "The stuff in Warehouses A and B was aged, the four-to eight-year whisky. But the stuff that survived in Warehouse C was new unaged whisky."

Another observer moaned: "I helped build both those warehouses, back in about '33 or '34. Now they're gone."

1968

April 28, 1968, The Courier-Journal—STMFD did not respond but did back up Lyndon at their Station 1.



Staff Photo by Charles Pease

**HOSING DOWN** a jumbled pile of furniture, a Lyndon volunteer fireman stands outside Bingham Building at Central State Hospital in Anchorage

yesterday. Some 54 patients were forced from the building by smoke from a basement fire, but no injuries were reported.

## Patients Flee As Fire Hits Central State

Fifty-four patients were evacuated from an infirmary at Central State Hospital in Anchorage late yesterday afternoon after fire broke out in a basement storage room.

The patients were taken from the 3-year-old Bingham Building, which houses the main medical facility on the mental health institution's grounds, to a nearby gymnasium.

No one was injured in the evacuation which took one minute, according to Dr. Ray H. Hayes, hospital superintendent.

The fire was detected by an automatic alarm system in the storeroom at 5:15 p.m., hospital engineer Gene Goodbud said. About \$5,000 worth of new furniture was destroyed in the storeroom.

Firemen from Anchorage, Middletown, Lyndon and Eastwood put out the fire.

Chief Robert Martin of the Middletown Fire Department and Chief Donald White of the Lyndon Fire Department said the cause of the fire was not determined.

The fire, they said, was confined to the hospital basement, although the other two floors of the building were damaged by smoke.

The patients were moved back into the hospital as soon as the smoke was cleared from the building.

May 2, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Whisky, warehouses destroyed in fire

About 8,000 barrels of whisky and two warehouses were destroyed by fire of undetermined origin at the Grosscurth Distilling Co. in eastern Jefferson County last Thursday.

The total loss was estimated at around \$1 million.

The distillery, on Echo Lane between Eastwood and Fisherville, had not been in whisky making operations for two years.

Members of the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department reached the scene about 6:20 pm. Eight other volunteer fire departments were dispatched before the flames were brought under control and extinguished.

It is believed the blaze started in the middle building of a three-warehouse complex between 5 and 6 pm. A resident of the neighborhood reported hearing an explosion about that time.

The warehouses that were destroyed contained 4,500 and 3,500 barrels of whisky although the full capacity was between 8,000 and 10,000 barrels.

Another warehouse, the distilling plant, a bottling house, an office building and a barrel house were saved after they were watered down by firemen. The remaining warehouse was the largest of the three, a company spokesman said.

He added that a check of the company records would have to be made before the exact amount

of loss was determined. Value of the whisky was placed at \$1.75 per gallon and barrels at about \$25 each. Each barrel had a capacity of 50 gallons.

Other firemen sent to the scene included volunteers from Jeffersontown, St. Matthews, Simpsonville, Lyndon, Middletown, Buechel, McMahan and Shelbyville Departments.

They also extinguished numerous small blazes in nearby fields and wooded areas that were started by sparks.

The company's product is marketed in Kentucky as 10-year-old Kentucky Supreme and in North and South Carolina under the brand name of Sir Walter.

The company was sold in December, 1959, by the Grosscurth family to Conrad, Inc., a St. Louis wholesale liquor company, and Irving Berlin, a Chicago whisky broker.

C. H. Grosscurth, who was at the fire scene, remained as a company official after the sale.

Two firemen, James Allen, 18, of 12710 St. Clair Dr., and Douglas Rapson, 20, of 1705 Kings Ln., both of Middletown, were treated at Methodist Evangelical Hospital for smoke inhalation. Allen also was treated for back burns.

Four other firemen were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation and exhaustion.

Courtesy, 50th Anniversary, Middletown Fire Department, 1049—

In 1968 we responded to a whiskey warehouse fire in Eastwood. We lost a lot of hose that day. The dome on the red light melted it was so hot. John Bosler had on a white shirt and the heat scorched the shirt. St. Matthews sent out their aerial truck but we did not have enough water to supply it. Jeffersontown was pumping from the creek into one 2½ line. We had to crimp gutters so that it would spill on the fire.

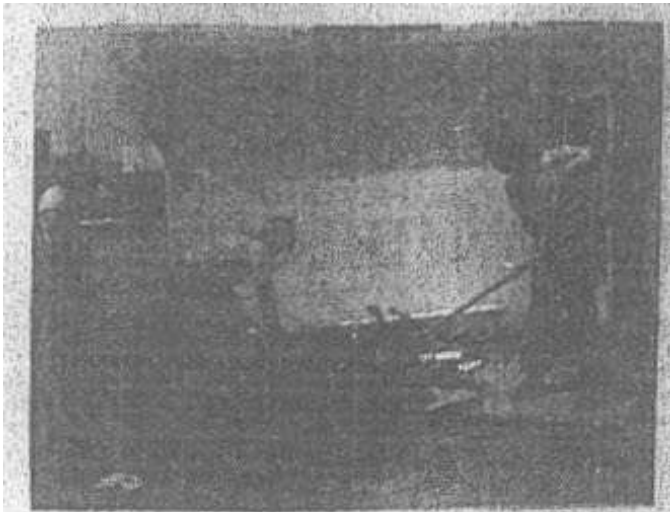
May 2, 1968 Tobacco Plant in Shelbyville, Ky. By Jerry Schreck:

My first working fire. I rode the tailboard of S-5 and we played snorkel all night. Chief Monohan aka "Wrinkles" was at the association meeting when he got the news that he had two trucks in Shelbyville and I would have given anything to have seen the look on his face. The fire was five blocks and was probably what Hell looks like.



May 9, 1968, *The Voice, Jeffersonian*:

Backed up Lyndon on both these fires.



PUTTING THE AXE to smoldering paneling taken from the Dairy Queen store at 3624 Lexington Road after a fire that caused an estimated \$10,000 damage Monday are Louisville firemen, Mike Childress, center, and Allen Helm, Captain Curtia Allen supervises.

## Fire at Dairy Queen causes \$10,000 damage

A fire that started in an exhaust fan in the kitchen caused an estimated \$10,000 to the Dairy Queen store at 3624 Lexington Rd. Tuesday afternoon.

The fire broke out about 12:30 and was extinguished in about two hours by firemen from Quad 5 of the Louisville Fire Department.

Donald McKinzie, owner of the store, said the loss was covered by insurance.

Kitchen equipment, the heating and cooling system, paneling, tiling, and part of a wall and a section of the roof were damaged.

McKinzie said he expected to reopen the store in several days.

## Fire guts second story of house

A fire of undetermined origin caused between \$20,000 and \$25,000 damage to a house at 2111 Ashcraft Lane Saturday night.

The fire apparently broke out in a second-story bedroom. The second floor was gutted and furnishing on that floor destroyed.

In addition, there was water damage on the first floor.

The owners, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stiebling, were not at home at the time the fire broke out, but their two sons, Mark, 15, and Chuck, 8, were. Neither of the boys were injured.

The Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department extinguished the blaze.

Mrs. Stiebling said the damage is covered by insurance.



FIREMEN CHOPPED through the glass panel of the door at left to put out the fire that gutted two classrooms at Wilder Elementary School April 29.

## Pinotti case ordered held for grand jury

A Jefferson County grand jury was to hear the case of Stephen B. Pinotti, 19, of 307 Woodbine Ave., charged with setting fire to two classrooms at Wilder Elementary School Monday night, April 29.

The case was ordered held for grand jury deliberation yesterday after a hearing in Jefferson Quarterly Court Tuesday afternoon.

Pinotti, charged with malicious burning of a building other than a dwelling, was arrested at the school the night of the fire.

He also was charged with breach of peace. On that

charge he drew five days in jail. The sentence already has been served.

Assistant County School Superintendent Jack Dawson estimated damage to the Wilder School classrooms at \$2,000.

The fire ruined ceilings, floors, windows, blackboards, a folding partition, desks, and textbooks at Wilder School, 1912 Harr Lane.

Classes for sixth-grade students using the two classrooms were held in the cafeteria and auditorium until repairs were finished last Thursday.

STMFD made this run



1968

May 9, 1968: Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of  
the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association  
held May 9, 1968 at Fire House

Directors present

George E. Miller  
Fred Rose  
John Moschan  
John Eulich

Minutes of last meeting, held April 11, 1968, read by President Moschan. Motion  
made by Fred Rose, seconded by John Eulich, that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Fred C. Rose, that we consolidate the  
banking to one account at the First National Bank.

Motion was made at last meeting, held April 11, 1968, by J. P. Terry, seconded by  
W. Leland Wilson, that Fred Rose be instructed to charge ten gallons of gas per  
week for his car.

There being no further business, motion made by John Eulich, seconded by Fred Rose,  
that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy

May 22, 1968: Report:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
JUNE 1, 1967 THRU MAY 22, 1968

BALANCE - JUNE 1, 1967		\$ 8,874.23	
RECEIPTS			
Subscriptions	\$ 29,841.00		
Contributions - Jefferson County	1,800.00		
Savings Accounts Transferred - Net	43,000.00		
Note Proceeds	30,000.00		
Interest	2,877.66	127,518.69	
TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE			\$136,392.92
DISBURSEMENTS			
CAPITAL			
Payment on Note	\$ 46,000.00		
Property - Lyndon Way	64,629.00	\$110,629.00	
EXPENSES			
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 105.00		
Firemen Training School	500.00		
General Expenses	2,786.82		
Insurance & Taxes	3,345.15		
Legal & Accounting			
Interest	811.71		
Office Supplies & Expense	65.48		
Radio System Expense	1,014.53		
Salaries	2,244.55		
Supplies	3,096.08		
Truck Expenses	2,264.11		
Utilities	2,619.21	20,450.64	
Total Disbursements			131,079.64
CASH BALANCE - MAY 22, 1968			\$ 5,313.28

BROWN & STEWART

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

May 23, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:**PAYS NO TAXES, HAS NO POLICE FORCE**

# Unique 'city' steps quietly into second century of service

By Joseph Oglesby  
Editor

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

The community has a population of 250 with an age range from 4 to 106 years. It pays no taxes, has no police force, and conducts its business quietly in a setting of elm and oak trees and Kentucky bluegrass.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Oldest resident**

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

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

Since he took charge of the home in 1963, the infirmary has been expanded from 18 to 138 beds.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Supervising the farm operation is Harry A. Larkins.

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

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

Officers of the home are G.A. Heuser, chairman of the board; David D. Schneider, president; John E. Tilford, vice president; DeMerville P. Jones, treasurer, and J.C. McClanahan, secretary. Grand lodge officers who serve as ex-

Continued to page B13

## Unique 'city' near here

Continued from page 1

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

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

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

The event will be open to the public.



### Shady retreat

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



### Go away!

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

1968

May 30, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Lyndon Little League season opens with parade

By Ollie Venor

Little League baseball officially started another season in Lyndon Saturday May 25. The opening of the season was kicked off with a parade consisting of the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department and a very large entourage of Little League players and coaches.

The Lyndon and St. Matthews fire departments made a joint familiarization tour and in-

spection of the Lyndon Elementary School.

The St. Matthews Department also displayed the equipment known as a "Quint" and explained how it could be of mutual benefit to Lyndon if the need should ever arise.

The truck is equipped with a 75-foot aerial ladder but can also be used as a pumper.

June 3, 1968, Bid:

E W AUGUSTUS  
JOHN DOUMAS  
ARCHITECTS  
128 BRECKENRIDGE LANE  
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY 40207

Page 2

For a resume of building materials and finishes included in this estimate, see attached Outline Specification and architectural drawings.

These preliminary estimates were predicated on a number of things:

- (1) We assume the rock conditions are such that the basement as shown is feasible.
- (2) The costs were based generally on a scale applicable to Union General Contractors at today's prices for labor and material. You are aware of the current tendency in accelerating costs and for that reason it is difficult to say exactly how long the reasonable accuracy of such an estimate will be valid or at what point in time it would have to be revised in view of new conditions.
- (3) The items we included in our work as architects and the scope of the mechanical work was based upon a reasonable survey of the requirements received from you and from information in the Fire House Design Manuals you provided. Certain judgments and some guessing was done of necessity. When we proceed with the final development of working drawings and specifications, we would restudy in great detail with you and your representatives all the many things that have to be considered.

If you require additional plans or have any questions, let us know.

Very truly yours,

JOHN DOUMAS  
JOHN DOUMAS

JD:era

E W AUGUSTUS  
JOHN DOUMAS  
ARCHITECTS

128 BRECKENRIDGE LANE  
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY 40207  
3 June 1968

Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr., Chief  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
3909 Elmwood Avenue  
Louisville Kentucky 40207

Re: Preliminary Estimate of New Fire House

Dear Mr. Monohan:

We are sending you under separate cover a set of preliminary architectural drawings, Sheets A-1 through A-6 (revision date 24 May 1968), which were the basis for the following estimated costs:

GENERAL CONTRACT WORK	\$118,700.00
MECHANICAL WORK	56,300.00
TOTAL	\$175,000.00

The following are the square foot areas of the various parts of the building:

Apparatus Room and Hose Tower	7700 sq. ft.
Basement (2200 sq. ft. @ 1/2 square footage)	1100 sq. ft.
First Floor	2897 sq. ft.
Second Floor	1365 sq. ft.
	13,062 Total sq. ft.

This total square footage divided into \$175,000.00 results in an average cost per square foot of \$13.40.

The breakdown on the Mechanical Work:	Electric	\$23,800.00
	Heating & Ventilating	14,680.00
	Plumbing	17,820.00

Costs not included in this estimate are:

Fire Hydrant on the site:	\$2500.00
Air Conditioning:	
Second Floor Apartment	
Alarm Office	
Office in Director's Room	
Class Room	
Basement Recreation Room	\$3600.00

(contd)

1968

June 4, 1968, Letter:



**CITY OF LOUISVILLE**  
**KENTUCKY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**DIVISION OF FIRE**  
1135 WEST JEFFERSON STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40203  
584-8191



June 4, 1968

John Monohan, Jr., Chief  
St. Matthews Fire Department  
3909 Elmwood Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207


Dear Chief:

As Chief of the Louisville Division of Fire, I wish to express my appreciation to your Department for your response within our city during the civil disorder situation Monday, May 27, 1968.

Your response again points out to the citizens of the dedication of all firemen.

Please thank the men of your Department for me.

Yours truly,

  
E. S. Dodson, Colonel  
Chief, Division of Fire

I do not remember what we did.

Courtesy—[http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/nkaa/subject.php?sub\\_id=87](http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/nkaa/subject.php?sub_id=87)

Rioting in Louisville, KY (1968)      Start Year : 1968

In the 1960s, racial tension had been growing in Louisville. On May 27, 1968, a rally took place at 28th and Greenwood to protest the arrest of Charles Thomas and Manfred G. Reid. Earlier that month, on May 8, Patrolmen James B. Minton and Edward J. Wegenast had stopped Thomas, a schoolteacher, because he was driving a car that was similar to one used in a burglary. The stop was made in an African American neighborhood. A crowd began to gather, and Patrolmen Michael A. Clifford and Ralph J. Zehnder arrived as backup. Reid, a real estate broker, was nearby and questioned the arrest. Patrolmen Clifford ordered Reid and others to get back; he was poking Reid in the chest with his finger. A scuffle occurred between Clifford and Reid. A crowd of 200 or so African Americans gathered and began yelling at the officers. Reid and Thomas were arrested. Three weeks later, a rally was called in response to the arrests; 350-400 people attended. There were several speakers, and a rumor circulated that Stokely Carmichael would be speaking. At the end of the rally a confrontation occurred between some who had attended the rally and the police who were patrolling the intersection of 28th and Greenwood. The skirmish escalated, growing into a full-fledged riot in the West End, lasting for almost a week. Six units of the national guard, over 2,000 guardsmen, were ordered to Louisville. Looting and shooting occurred, buildings were burned, two teens were killed, and 472 people were arrested. For more see K. H. Williams, "'Oh Baby... It's Really Happening:' The Louisville Race Riot of 1968," [Kentucky History Journal](#), vol. 3 (1988), pp. 48-64; "Troops and Negroes Clash in Louisville Disorder," [New York Times](#), 05/29/1968, p. 17; and the many articles in the [Louisville Times](#), [Courier-Journal](#) and other local papers beginning May 28, 1968.

1968

June 6, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## 17-unit apartment to be built here

Plans to construct a 17-unit apartment building at 4301 N. Church Way were announced this week by Charles A. Brown, Jr., of the real estate firm of Brown, Nollemyer, Inc.

Brown said the building will be of brick construction with French Provincial design on a 140 by 120-foot tract. It will contain one-bedroom apartments and have central heating and air conditioning systems. The structure is estimated to cost in excess of \$120,000 and is expected to be ready for occupancy by Oct. 1.

Joseph D. Travis & Sons Co. is the general contractor. Last year, the same real estate firm erected a 17-apartment unit at 3815 Grandview Ave.

# OPEN HOUSE

## JUNE 7TH - 8TH

AL RING'S  
**HUBBARDS  
LANE  
ENCO**

The Hub City Bldg.  
8  
Phone 396-9120



**SERVICENTER**

DRIVE IN AND HAVE A  
**FREE Coca-Cola**  
WITH US

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
A 6-BOTTLE CARTON  
(No Deposit)  
COCA-COLA  
with fill up of 5 Gallons of gasoline  
or more



*Hey Kids*  
**FREE  
BUBBLE GUM**  
(When accompanied  
by 10 coins)

COME IN AND  
REGISTER FOR

### PORTABLE COLOR TV

The Funniest Answer  
To Register.  
You do not have to be  
present at the drawing  
to win.  
Drawing June 8th at  
8 P.M.



Sign  
OF  
*Happy Motoring!*

STMFD firefighter

INSURANCE SHOULD BE  
PLACED UPON ACCEPT-  
ANCE OF THIS OFFER

*St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association*  
**UNIFORM SALES AND PURCHASING CONTRACT**  
(SEE SIZE OF MEMBERS ONLY)  
This is a legally binding contract. If not understood, seek competent advice.

**LOUISVILLE REAL ESTATE BOARD**  
Incorporated  
418 West Jefferson Street  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

June 7 1966

**HARRY W. NEAL, REALTOR**  
Member of Louisville Real Estate Board

We ~~XXXX~~ **XXXX** give for the following described property in St. Matthews  
Jefferson County, Kentucky, 261 168.70 feet more or less, located on the West side of  
Soars Avenue ~~XXXXXX~~ **XXXXXX** South corner of Lyndon Way  
~~XXXX~~ **XXXXXX** with all improvements thereon, and known as No. \_\_\_\_\_

the sum of Sixty Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and 00/100-----Dollars (165,250.00)  
payable as follows all cash. Further subject to all conditions and contingencies as set out on  
Page 2 of this contract, which is hereby made part of this contract.

An unencumbered, marketable title to said property to be conveyed by deed of General Warranty, with the usual covenants such as  
any title company will insure, except covenants of record, restrictive covenants of record as to use and improvement of said prop-  
erty, and except applicable regulations imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, AND EXCEPT:

As evidence of good faith binding this contract, a deposit of 1000.00 is made herewith to be applied on purchase price  
upon passing of deed or refunded should this prove untenable or if this offer is not accepted.  
Should the title to said property prove defective, according to the terms of this contract, the seller is to pay the examination costs.  
Possession of the above described property to be given date of deed  
The offer to pay the regular real estate commission as recommended by the LOUISVILLE REAL ESTATE BOARD.  
In the event this contract covers an exchange of properties, the owner of each piece of property involved, agrees to pay you the regu-  
lar real estate commission as above, on the agreed value of the property owned by him. *Annex 54%*

We have read the entire contents of this contract and acknowledge receipt of same. We are not relying on verbal statements  
not contained herein. We further certify that we have examined the property described hereinabove; that we are thoroughly  
acquainted with its condition and accept it as such.

Unless accepted by 6 P.M. on 17th day of June 1966, this proposition  
is null and void.  
I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this contract.  
*John M. Marshall* *St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assoc.*  
The above proposition is accepted this 15th day of June 1966.  
I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this contract.  
*W. L. L.* *B. L. Lanning*

June 7, 1968, Contract.

1968

June 13, 1968: Board meeting:

Minutes of the Board of Directors of The St. Matthews  
Vol Fire Ass'n held June 13th 1968 at fire house.

Directors Present

Fred Boss                      Lawrence Grauman  
Geo E. Miller                John Emrich  
W. Leland Wilson.

Minutes of last meeting held May 9 1968 read  
by President Monohan motion made by Fred C. Boss seconded  
by John Emrich they be accepted as read.

Motion made by Lawrence Grauman seconded by Fred C.  
Boss that we buy \$5,000.00 in 6 months certificate at 5 1/4%  
in Avery Building And Loan Ass'n.

President Monohan was instructed to meet with  
Dumas and Augustus and agree on the additional charges above  
the \$2,000.00 they would expect if we called for bids after  
they completed specifications and the price was out of our  
budget and we would withhold until a later date and ask for new bids  
Then they would be paid the balance for overseeing the  
construction of the building all the charges not to ~~exceed~~ exceed  
the 5% commission on the price which the bid is made for. *It finally*  
Mr. Monohan is to report back to the directors for their approval. *by*

Motion made by Geo E. Miller and seconded by  
W. Leland Wilson That President Monohan make an appointment  
at the earliest possible date with Mayer Bowling and J. W. Jones  
City Attorney of the City of St Matthews to discuss financing on new  
fire house either in the Evening or early Saturday Morning .

The Directors appointed the following member  
on the committee to meet with Bowling And Jones.

Geo. E. Miller      John Monohan      Lawrence Grauman.

There being no further business motion made by Geo Miller  
seconded by Fred Boss we Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

*Geo E. Miller*  
Geo E. Miller      Sec'y.



1968

June 13, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



### Firemen's reunion

Past and present members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department positioned themselves on and around the stations' 1931 pumper for this photo at their first reunion, held last Saturday at the Zachary Taylor Post of the American Legion. The reunion included a picnic and baseball game. From left, John Kempf, Henry Kennedy, Raymond Young (former chief), Byron Martin, Richard C. Herdt (former asst. chief), Charlie Hahn, John Westerman, James P. Terry (former captain), John M. Monohan (present chief), and Bernie Handel.

Left to right: John Kempf, Henry R. Kennedy, Raymond Young, Byron Martin, W. R. Herdt driving,, Charles C. Hahn, John F. Westerman, J. P. Terry, John M. Monohan, Jr., Bernie F. Handel.



June 13, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# New St. Matthews fire house to be erected this summer

Construction of a new station for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department is slated to begin this summer.

Fire Chief John Monohan said Tuesday that deed restrictions on the department's new station site have been removed, clearing the way for construction.

The four-bay station is to be built at the corner of Lyndon Way and Sears Avenue.

Architect plans are now being drawn up by John Doumas.

The two-story building will be erected in two phases.

The first phase will include an apparatus room, a kitchen, a classroom, a recreation room, and toilet facilities, -- all on the ground floor. An apartment will be built on the second-story over the office area.

The second phase will include a radio dispatch room and additional apartments and classrooms. These units will be on the second level.

The building is to have a brick front with concrete-block or steel walls.

"The headquarters will be functional but as elaborate as our budget will allow," Chief Monohan said.

The building will be designed to take care of the department's needs for at least 10 years.

The apparatus room (the central location for the fire-fighting equipment) will have four bays, facing Lyndon Way, and will measure 85 by 85. The office-apartment section will be 33 feet wide and 135 feet deep.

The lot on which the station will be located is 174 wide -- along Lyndon Way -- and 274 feet -- down Sears

Avenue.

The present fire station, at 117 St. Matthews Avenue, is to be sold or leased.

The move to the new station will give the department more space and allow fire units to reach fire scenes faster, according to Chief Monohan. The present facility is located in a highly congested area.

Monohan said the transfer of the deed to the property was held up because of a restriction that called for only one-family residences in the area. That restriction was removed by court action, he said.

The cost of the new building hasn't yet been determined.

ARMY Specialist Four Maurice R. Rakestraw, II, 21, whose parents live at 4027 Elmwood Ave., has been assigned to an artillery unit near Cam Ranh, Vietnam. He is a supply specialist.

STMFD Firefighter



1968

June 14 & 15, 1968, Letters:



BERNARD BOWLING  
MAYOR

June 14, 1968

Chief John Monahan  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Asso.  
P. O. Box 115  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear John:

I read in yesterday morning's Voice that construction of the new fire house was contemplated by late this summer. As of this date, the City has not received any plans for the drainage and construction of Sears Avenue between Geschl and Lyndon Way. The attached letter of 1/29/68 is self-explanatory.

Respectfully,

*Bernie*  
Bernard Bowling  
Mayor

BB:sk  
Enc. 1  
cc: Mr. R. Lee Durning  
Mr. John Barker  
Mr. Harry Jones

*file 6/17/68*

June 15, 1968

Louisville Two-Way Radio  
1018 South Sixth Street  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association has a full time dispatcher. The following are the hours the office will be occupied;

Monday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am to 12:00 Noon
Thursday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Upon leaving the office Mrs. McFarland will notify you as well as when she arrives. Also, during a fire when she is on the radio other than her regular hours she will notify you that she will take all in coming calls for the fire dept.

Sincerely yours,

emm

*E. Lee McFarland*

June 20, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Landmark to hit dust in fall

A St. Matthews area landmark will be razed this fall to make way for a new White Castle restaurant at the corner of Chenoweth Lane and Westport Road. The landmark is the 2-story brick building now occupied by Contractor's Carpet City.

Erected in the 1920s, the building first housed the Schuler Hudson and Essex dealership and the Heskamp Blacksmith and Wagon shop.

During World War II a Ford agency, Summers-Herrmann was operated there.

The back portion of the tract has a much longer history, though. A blacksmith shop, originally in a frame building, was located there as early as 1850.

Contractor's Carpet City will be given 90 days to vacate the premises, according to Arnold Fuller, area manager of the White Castle system.

## Accepting bids

White Castle now is accepting bids on the new building and will begin construction in October or November with completion set for spring.

The new restaurant will be 45 by 45 feet and will have entrances on both Chenoweth Lane and Westport Road.

The building will have the traditional white tile surface and "castle" architecture.

The White Castle System has leased the tract for 15 years, with options for renewal, from the Summers' estate, Fuller said.

The White Castle restaurant present-

ly located in the 3800 block of Frankfort Avenue will be torn down. The lot it now occupies and part of the tract of the new site will be turned into a parking area with a 50-car capacity for the new restaurant.

A small one-story building just west of Contractor's Carpet City has been purchased by the Summers' estate. The small frame building also will be razed

to give complete clearance for the new parking lot.

A 20-foot strip of land on the eastern fringe will be given to the State Highway Department to allow construction of an additional traffic lane on Chenoweth.

Fuller said between 25 and 30 employees will operate the restaurant.

The manager will be Mrs. Doris Edlin, assisted by Mrs. Neil Spinson.



## Landmark's fate sealed

A St. Matthews area landmark, the old Schuler Hudson and Essex building at Chenoweth Lane and Westport Road, will be razed this fall to make way for a White Castle restaurant. The present occupant, Contractor's Carpet City, will have 90 days to vacate.

## GOOD NEWS

for the owners of Imported Cars!

KOSTER-SWOPE  
BUICK SALESROOM

KOSTER-SWOPE'S NEW  
IMPORTS BUILDING

DRIVE-IN ENTRANCE  
IMPORTS SERVICE

FRANKFORT AVENUE

## KOSTER-SWOPE'S NEW Imports Service Center

OPENS MONDAY  
FOR PARTS AND SERVICE  
ON IMPORTED CARS

(SEE DIAGRAM ABOVE)

\* Formal opening of Imports Building announced later

**KOSTER-SWOPE**  
IMPORTS

3712 Frankfort Avenue in St. Matthews

895-2451

1968

June 26, 1968, *The Courier-Journal*:

# St. Matthews Approves Pay for Fire Service

The St. Matthews City Council last night approved a contract that will provide the **St. Matthews Volunteer** Fire Department \$1,525.81 a month for service during the coming fiscal year.

The payment rate is 2¼ cents per \$100 assessed valuation of property in St. Matthews, the same rate paid last year.

In other business, the council approved three zoning changes:

✓ From A One-Family District to C-2

Office on Shelbyville Road at MacArthur Drive. The change will permit the conversion of a building formerly used by Our Savior Lutheran Church, 4217 Shelbyville Road, to a two-story office building. The city-county Planning Commission recommended denial.

✓ From B-1 One-Family to C-1 Apartment for two lots in the 3800 block of Washington Avenue in the Elmwood subdivision for construction of a two-story, four-unit apartment building.

June 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

**ROSE SALE**  
ALL OUR FINE ROSES  
NOW ON SALE

BUY 1 Get One  
for 5¢

WHILE  
THEY  
LAST!

SEE US FOR  
ROSE FERTILIZER  
INSECTICIDE  
and  
DISEASE CONTROL

**EVERGREENS INC.**  
275 Hubbards Lane 895-0572

## Youth pleads guilty to setting fire

Stephen B. Pinotti, 19, of the 300 block of Woodbine, has been sentenced to three years in the State Reformatory after entering a plea of guilty to setting a fire at Wilder Elementary School, 1915 Herr Ln., April 29.

The sentence was handed down Friday, June 21, by Jefferson Criminal Court Judge J. Miles Pound.

The fire, which ruined two classrooms, caused damages of about \$4,000.

Pinotti also pleaded guilty to setting four other fires in Louisville.

Judge Pound gave his suspended sentences on the other counts but ordered that Pinotti be placed on probation for five years after serving the three-year sentence.

STMFD responded on this run

1968

July 3, 1968, Letter:

July 3, 1968

Major William J. Vollmer  
City Hall Annex  
Fire Alarm Office  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Sir:

Upon receiving fire calls for the St. Matthews Fire Department, we are requesting that all communication be done by phone, as our alarm office is not occupied 24 hrs. a day.

Thanks for your co-operation.

Yours truly,

*John Vonohan*  
John Vonohan

Chief ST. M.P.D.

*letter  
copy sent to Mayor Vollmer 12-10-68  
reminding him of our request again. Jmm*

Jmm/JH

July 4, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: STMFD future firefighter

### Jason Handel attends Easter Seal camp

Jason B. Handel, 16, of 3516 Hycliffe Ave., is among 40 deaf and hard-of-hearing youngsters currently enjoying a two-week stay at Camp Kysoc in Carrollton.

The children arrived at the camp Sunday, June 30, and will remain until Friday, July 12. Camp Kysoc, operated by the Kentucky Easter Seal Society, is in its seventh year of providing camping facilities to physically handicapped children. More than 600 children are scheduled to benefit from its programs this summer.

Activities for the youngsters include barge and boat rides, fishing, swimming in a heated pool, cook-outs, nature lore, campercrafts and group living. Contributions to the annual Easter Seal Campaign help finance the programs at Camp Kysoc.



GRAND OPENING: Mayor Bernard F. Bowling prepares to cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the Hudson Furniture store in Shelbyville Road Plaza last Saturday. Others in photo, from left, City Councilmen Harry Jones, Millard French, and Louis Herm and store manager Jerome N. Lock.

1968

July 10, 1968: Annual Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthew Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of Annual meeting of the directors of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn., held July 10, 1968.

Directors Present

George E. Miller	Fred C. Boss
John Monohan	Lawrence Grauman
John Eulich	Henry Monohan
	J. P. Terry

Minutes of last meeting held June 13, 1968 read by Judge Lawrence Grauman.  
Motion made by Henry Monohan, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that they be accepted as read.

Terms of present directors and expiration dates:

Henry Monohan	1970	John Monohan	1969
Fred C. Boss	1970	Lawrence Grauman	1969
George E. Miller	1971		
W. Leland Wilson	1971		

Directors whose terms expire this year, 1968: J. P. Terry - John Eulich.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by Henry Monohan, that J. P. Terry and John Eulich be elected for four years and will serve until their successors are appointed.

Officers whose terms expire are:

John Monohan, Jr.	President
Fred C. Boss	Treasurer
George E. Miller	Secretary
W. Leland Wilson	Vice President.

Motion made by John Eulich, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that John M. Monohan be elected as president.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that W. Leland Wilson be elected Vice President.

Motion made by J. P. Terry, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that George E. Miller, be elected secretary.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

#2



117 St. Matthew Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Motion made by Henry Monohan, seconded by J. P. Terry, that Fred C. Boss be elected treasurer.

This was unanimous each of the officers elected, except Mr. Wilson, were present. Mr. Wilson being absent because of illness. All elected officers accepted, except Mr. Wilson who was ill.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by J. P. Terry, that John Monohan be elected chief and W. Richard Hardt be elected assistant chief.

Financial report for year will be submitted after the audit or next meeting.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by J. P. Terry, that Mr. Monohan instruct Dennis the architect, to proceed with specifications.

There being no further business, motion made by Lawrence Grauman, seconded by John Eulich, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

July 15, 1968: Letter:

July 15, 1968

Louisville Two-Way Radio  
1012 S. Sixth Street  
Louisville, Kentucky

ATTENTION: MR. BOND

Dear Sir:

This is a letter requesting that at the time of a fire we would like for the County Police to be called. Their no. is; 582-2281. This is the only call you will be expected to and this is to be done only when Central turns in a fire. All other times the dispatcher on duty at the office will take care of this.

Sincerely yours,

*John M. Monohan*  
John M. Monohan  
Chief St. M. V. F.D.

emm/Jm



1968

July 11, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Father of firefighter Russ  
Rakestraw

## Rites held for businessman

Maurice R. Rakestraw, 53, of 4027 Elmwood Ave., proprietor of the Rakestraw Equipment Co., 4400 Bishop Ln., died Sunday, July 7, in the Kentucky Baptist Hospital.

A native of Berlin Center, Ohio, Rakestraw was a member of the City Salesmen's Club, the American Materials Handling Society and the River Road Country Club.

Surviving are his widow, the former Louise Parsons; a son, Army Specialist Four Mau-

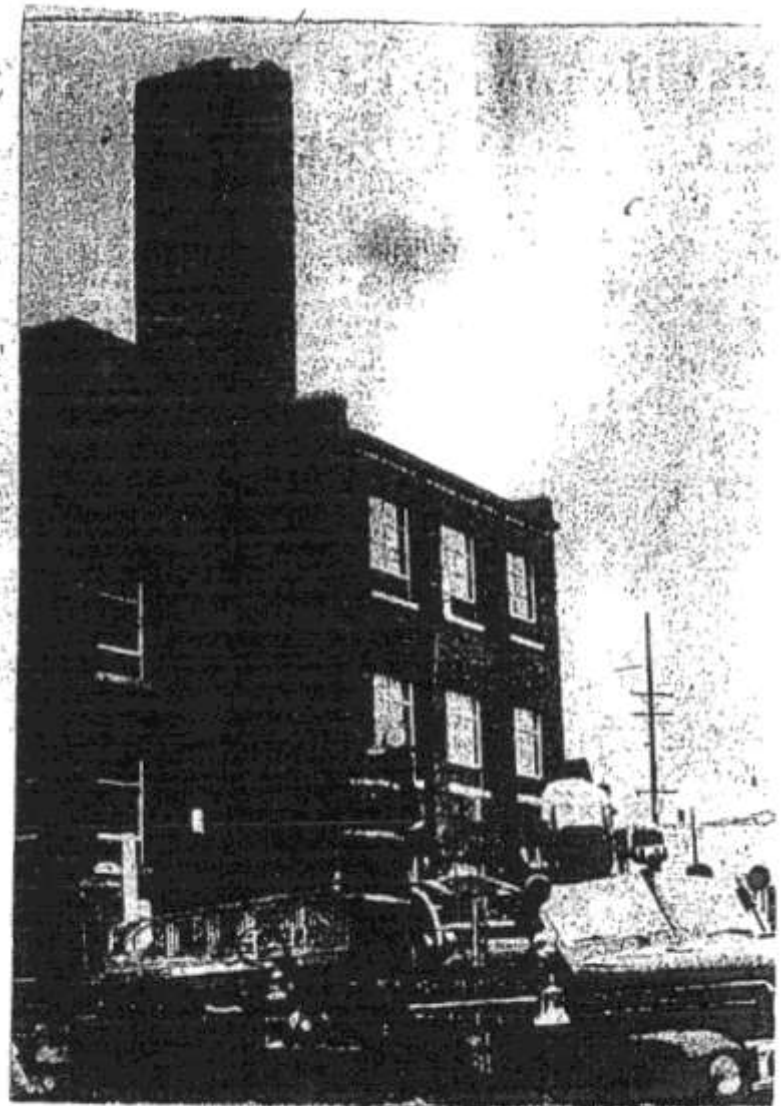
rice Russell Rakestraw, II, stationed in Vietnam; a daughter, Miss Sally Parsons Rakestraw; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley M. Rakestraw, Maitland, Fla.; a brother, Dale L. Rakestraw, Santa Monica, Calif., and a sister, Mrs. Carol Rakestraw Skaggs, Maitland.

Funeral services were held Wednesday morning in the Broadway Baptist Church on Brownsboro Road. Burial was in Cave Hill Cemetery.

July 18, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

MAJOR Paul H. Melsner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Melsner, 3702 Plymouth Rd., has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service against the enemy in Vietnam. Major Melsner, a 1950 graduate of Flaget High School, is a logistics staff officer with the Air Force Advisory Group in Vietnam.

Son of former STMFD firefighter.



BARRICADES were placed around the rear portion of the new section of Bethel United Church of Christ, 115 Meridian Ave., last Thursday after lightning struck the top portion of the chimney shortly before 5 pm. St. Matthews volunteer firemen answered the call and helped to barricade the area. The full extent of the damage has not been determined because of strikes in the construction industry. Telephone service was disrupted, but has been restored.

1968

July, 1968, Lightning Strike at Bethel Church, courtesy Malcolm McMakin.



1968

July, 1968, Courtesy Malcolm McMakin. We believe this is around 6 p.m. on "Red" Davis's boat, owner of St. Matthews Feed & Seed, who used to take firefighters on rides on the Ohio. May be downstream from a point above 18 mile island. (Not sure of who's boat this is.)

Walt Franck, Chief John Monohan Jr., Phil Iwan, Bill Colson, John Noon, Jack Handel, Bob Walling and Jim McFarland. Below STMFD fire station





1968

**July 18, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:** Replaces Blackburn — Blonde takes hot job at fire house  
By Joseph Oglesby, Editor A fire burns in Elsie McFarland's eyes when she discusses her job.

In fact, she's hot on the subject.

Elsie's the new radio dispatcher for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

And that's a job that would make most women tear out their hair.

Elsie even takes her work to bed with her. Fortunately, her husband, Jim, and their two children are as wrapped up as she in volunteer fire department operations.

The family lives above the fire station on St. Matthews Avenue, and Jim's a volunteer.

So when a fire call comes late at night, both Elsie and him make a mad dash from their four room apartment to their posts.

Runs barefoot: They keep clothes and shoes nearby so they can slide into them quickly.

"Sometimes I forget to put on my shoes and just run barefoot to the station," said Elsie.

All the finer points of makeup and hair fixing are lost in the shuffle.

The children, Beverly, 11 and Jim Jr., 9, have learned to sleep through it all. Just the family's dog, Brandy, wants nothing to do with fires or firemen. The fire station siren triggers his vocal chords, and unless his confined, he chases the volunteers around the station in a volley of barks.

Elsie, who formerly was a radio dispatcher for the Middletown Volunteer Fire Department, took the St. Matthews job June 3. She replaces Roy Blackburn, who has become a real estate broker.

Elsie's regular hours are 9 to 5 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 to 12 Wednesday and Saturday.

But hers is not 40-hour work week. Whenever a fire call comes in and she's at home, she scurries to her radio command post.

Closes doors: Her first duty is to summon volunteers through and alert over the base radio station.

Then Elsie turns on the siren and posts all the information about the fire on a blackboard.

(The siren's so loud, she has to close all the doors in the office to be able to send and receive radio messages.)

She then notifies county police of the fire and then waits for the volunteers to rush in.

While they're at the fire scene, she stays at the radio in case she's needed to dispatch additional units.

Her job's over when the all clear comes from the officer in charge at the fire location.

"All firemen's wives should be required to take over the dispatcher's job for six months," said Elsie.

"Then they would know how complicated the job can be."

Elsie said it takes volunteers an average of only 60 seconds to get to the station after an alert has been sounded.

The cleanup operation after a fire takes much longer, she said, sometimes up to half an hour. Truck and equipment must be cleaned and checked to be sure they're in top order for another un.

Information center: Besides handling the radio, Elsie keeps all the department's records up to date and takes care of contracts with sixth class cities for fire protection.

In addition, she's an information center. She said the department receives many calls for information.

"A lot of people think we're attached to city hall, and I'm asked questions about such things as stray dogs and street locations."

Before becoming a radio dispatcher at Middletown—where she and her husband lived in the house attached to the fire station, Elsie worked for W. T. Gant and Gateway Supermarket.

"Those jobs weren't nearly as exacting as the fire department," she said.

Elsie's made one big discovery since she's been doing fire department work. "When we're going to a fire", she said, "I can dress almost as fast as my husband."



July 18, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## REPLACES BLACKBURN

# Blonde takes hot job at fire house

By Joseph Oplesty  
Editor

A fire burns in Elsie McFarland's eyes when she discusses her job.

In fact, she's hot on the subject.

Elsie is the new radio dispatcher for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

And that's a job that would shake most women's hair on their head.

Elsie even takes her work to bed with her. Fortunately, her husband, Jim, and their two children are all wrapped up as she in volunteer fire department operations.

The family lives above the fire station on St. Matthews Avenue, and Jim's a volunteer.

So, when a fire call comes late at night, both Elsie and Jim make a mad dash from their four-room apartment to their posts.

## Runs barefoot

They keep clothes and shoes nearby so they can change into them quickly.

"Sometimes I forget to get my shoes and just run barefoot to the station," said Elsie.

All the floor polish, makeup and hair lotion are kept in the station.

The volunteer, however, is and Jim Jr., a have learned to sleep through it all. But the family's dog, Brandy, wants nothing to do with Elsie or Jim. The new station street telephone vocal chords. And, when he's confined, he chews the volunteer's ground beef station.

in a volley of barks.

Elsie, who formerly was a radio dispatcher for the Middletown Volunteer Fire Department, took the St. Matthews job June 2. She replaces Roy Blackburn, who has become a real estate broker.

Elsie's regular hours are 9 to 5 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 to 12 Wednesday and Saturday.

But there is no 40-hour work week. Whenever a fire call comes in and she's at home, she scurries to her radio command post.

## Closes doors

Her first duty is to summon volunteers through an alert over the base radio station.

Then Elsie turns on the siren and posts all the information about the fire on a blackboard.

(The siren's so loud, she has to close all the doors in the office to be able to send and receive radio messages.)

She then notifies county police of the fire and then waits for the volunteers to rush in.

While they're at the fire scene, she stays at the radio in case she's needed to dispatch additional units.

Her job's over when the all clear comes from the officer in charge at the fire location.

"All firemen's wives should be required to take over the dispatcher's job for six months," said Elsie.

"That's a very complicated

Continued to page A-8



ELSIE MCFARLAND

# Blond takes hot spot job

Continued from page 1

the job can be."

Elsie said it takes volunteers an average of only 90 seconds to get to the station after an alert has been sounded.

The cleanup operation after a fire takes much longer, she said, sometimes up to half an hour.

Truck and equipment must be cleaned and checked to be sure they're in top order for another run.

## Information center

Besides handling the radio, Elsie keeps all the department's records up to date and takes care of contracts with sixth-class cities for fire protection.

In addition, she's an information center. She said the department receives many calls for information.

"A lot of people think we're attached to city hall, and I'm asked questions about such things as stray dogs and street locations."

Before becoming a radio dispatcher at Middletown -- where she and her husband lived in the house attached to the fire station -- Elsie worked for W.T. Grant and Goldway Supermarket.

"These jobs weren't nearly as exciting as the fire department," she said.

Elsie's made one big discovery since she's been doing fire department work.

"When we're going to a fire," she said, "I can dream almost as fast as my husband."



July 25, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: STMFD responded to "Blood wash off."

## TRAGEDY ON BRECKINRIDGE LANE

# Who killed William Henry Davidson?

By Joseph Oglesby  
Editor

For a whole hour, it appears, nobody took the trouble to stop to take a look at Bill Davidson.

It would have been so easy, because Bill wasn't going anywhere last Saturday. He lay in a large pool of blood. Similar pools and spots of blood trailed from the body 103 feet.

His watch was cracked, too, with the hands stopped at 2:00.

Several cars hit Bill, including one that may have dealt the death blow, police said. But nobody had stopped.

Other cars had swerved to miss the body, whose blank eyes lay open under the stars, but those drivers didn't stop, either.

Drive-in movie houses were coughing up their customers, people were heading merrily home from taverns and lovers were spinning sweet words.

And quite a few motorists -- perhaps 10 or maybe as many as 50 -- must have passed Billy.

But they ignored him.

It wasn't until shortly before 3 am that a Vietnam war veteran, heading home, braked his car and got out to try to help Billy.

But R.P. McDaniel of 1427 Martan Ave., was far too late.

"I was coming in from a drive-in movie after taking my girlfriend home," said McDaniel.

"I saw two cars ahead of me swerve and then drive on. I thought there might have been a hole in the road."

### Spots body

Then McDaniel spotted the body. He got out of his car and examined Bill. "He (Bill Davidson) was pretty broken up," said McDaniel. "But I had seen dead men in Vietnam and it didn't bother me too much."

About the same time Frank Colson, of 3611 Winchester Rd., pulled up in his car.

Colson went to his home nearby and called police.

St. Matthews police sergeant James Burton and patrolmen Sam Huber and James Robison arrived at the scene at 3:03 am.

They identified the victim as William

Henry Davidson, 31, of Box 233, Crestwood. He was a truck driver.

A relatively short man -- he was 5 feet, five inches -- he was wearing dark blue work pants, a dark blue shirt and tan high-top work shoes.

There was no money in his pockets.

The body was lying on its left side and was approximately one-tenth of a mile from the north exit of the G.E.S. store parking lot.

The body was in the north bound lane of Breckinridge Lane and was stretched out with the head facing south and the feet facing north.

Billy was lying about one foot west of the white center line.

A small particle of bone was found about 25 feet north of the body and there were blood stains south to north a distance of 103 feet. The head lay in a pool of blood.

A blood-soaked handkerchief with an "F" initial on it was in the opposite lane to the north.

### Lay takes charge

Soon the County Homicide Squad was on the scene and Detective Houston Lay took charge of the investigation.

The blood pattern, the compound fractures of the legs, and the cracked watch, Lay said, indicated that Bill Davidson had been struck by a car.

He said that if the truck driver had been hit in the head and thrown from a car the watch probably would not have been cracked and the blood pattern would have been different. In addition, the leg injuries probably would not have been compound.

The examination also showed that the body had been run over several times after the initial strike, Lay said.

"The chances are strong that it's a hit-and-run case but there's a slight chance it was murder," said Lay.

Deputy County Coroner Barry Foreman listed the cause of death as a broken neck.

Foreman agreed with Detective Lay that the blood pattern indicated that Bill Davidson had died near where he had been struck -- apparently by an automobile.

### Raises questions

Two factors -- the condition of the blood -- and the broken watch figured in the fixing of the time of death -- about

2 am.

Several big questions remained, though. Who killed Bill Davidson?

The blow from the first car that struck him might have killed him and it might not have.

The truck driver was hit at least one other time -- and possibly four or five times.

All the hit-and-run theories are partially speculation, however. Bill Davidson could have been murdered and dumped on the road!

There is some evidence, although flimsy, pointing in the direction of murder.

None of the persons whose cars hit or ran over Bill Davidson has called the police.

The blood-soaked handkerchief could have belonged to Davidson -- despite the different initial -- or to somebody who did stop to help but then fled, Detective Lay theorized.

Why didn't other motorists stop at the scene long before McDaniels came along?

According to Detective Lay "quite a few cars" passed the scene during the examination of the body -- and that took about 15 minutes.

Surely, the road was just as heavily traveled only an hour earlier.

St. Matthews Police Chief Kermit Cook said traffic on Breckinridge Lane on Saturday morning "always is fairly substantial."

Were those other "innocent" motorists afraid to call police?

Perhaps some of them were "under the influence." There could be a bushel full of excuses.

### Not driving

What was Bill Davidson doing on Breckinridge Lane at 2 am by himself?

According to a relative, Bill, who was not driving his car, had been at a tavern Friday night. He later left that tavern and went to another bar with an unidentified man and woman.

The identity of this pair remains another big mystery in the case.

Police theorized that his money ran out and he decided to hitchhike home from the bar, perhaps a tavern in the Hicks Point area.

Then, maybe he edged too far into the road and couldn't step back in time.

There are other ways Bill Davidson could have met death, though, and, in all likelihood, the complete facts in the case will never be known.

Apparently only cries of conscience will bring forth the true killer and the others who were co-actors in that night of tragedy.



August 1, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:**VOICE ROLE PRAISED****'Foul play' not ruled out in Davidson case**

By Joseph Oglesby, Editor

"We still haven't ruled out the possibility of foul play in the death of William Davidson," St. Matthews Police Sergeant Herbert Mullins said Monday. He also said additional evidence has been collected in the case.

Davidson was found dead July 20 on Breckinridge Lane.

At that time police theorized his death was a hit-and-run case but said there was "a slight chance of murder."

A fuller investigation, partially triggered by a banner-headline story in last week's *Voice-Jeffersonian*, has involved members of four law enforcement agencies.

These are the Jefferson County Homicide Squad, the St. Matthews Police Department, the Oldham County Sheriff's Department, and Kentucky State Police.

**Calls help**

Mullins said that "as a result of the *Voice* story, we have received a number of calls that have helped in the case."

He said officers are hopeful there will be "a break in the case this week."

Investigation has disclosed that Davidson was in a LaGrange Road tavern about 12:45 am July 20. His body was found about 9 am on that date.

A couple he was with at the tavern has been located and questioned.

Others in Davidson's company the night of his death also have been questioned. Mullins said officers learned that Davidson had a Barlow knife, a cigarette lighter, and about \$12 when he left home in Crestwood the night before he was found dead.

Neither the articles nor the money were found on his body.

Also, there is evidence that Davidson might have been in a fight.

Detectives Charles Cornish and David Jewell of the Jefferson County Police Department's Homicide Squad and State Police Sgt. Lonnie Leach have been key figures in the investigation, along with Mullins.

Mrs. Davidson, told *The Voice* that both she and her husband were threatened "about three weeks" before he was found dead.

She said that six threats of death were made over the phone one night by a man and a woman.

"We couldn't figure out who it was," she said. "We started to get a little scared."

She quoted the woman as saying to her, "You're gonna be dead."

Mrs. Davidson said she had no idea why the threats were made.

A check with state police showed that Mrs. Davidson filed a complaint with them July 10 about 9 pm. In it she said threats of death had been made.

Mrs. Davidson described her husband as "a sweet, quiet mannered person."

She said he enjoyed playing shuffleboard and often went to the tavern where he was seen the night before his death.

The owner of the tavern, Charles T. Akers, told *The Voice* he remembered seeing William Davidson that night with a man and a woman.

Later Mrs. Davidson came into the tavern and he left with her, Akers said.

"About 12:30 he (Davidson) came back by himself and asked to borrow money."

Akers said he refused and Davidson left.

As of Tuesday, police had been unable to find anyone who would admit having seen Davidson later.

One thing's for certain: His killer, whether he was using a car or some other weapon, saw Davidson later.

**An Editorial****What would you have done?**

Dead men tell no tales.

But, if they did, what a story William Henry Davidson might tell.

First of all maybe he'd point a cold white finger at his killer and shout his name.

Then, maybe he'd tell how it felt when a car crushed his legs, as if he were the remains of a dog.

Many of the facts in his death are shrouded at this point.

But there are a few.

It is a fact that he was on the road quite a while -- as evidenced by the trail of blood -- before anybody stopped.

It is a fact that his legs were run over by a car after the initial death blow.

It is a fact that Breckinridge Lane is a fairly busy road on Saturday mornings. The rest is conjecture.

Police said the body could have been on the road almost an hour.

They also said the body could have been hit several times by cars.

Bill Davidson could have been a hit-and-run victim or a murderer's target.

He could have been killed on Breckinridge Lane or elsewhere initially.

Whatever the circumstances surrounding his death, and these may remain clouded for some time, the person--or persons--who ran over or passed his body without stopping is guilty of inhumanity or something darker, something beyond words.

But before we become too self righteous, perhaps each of us should pause and ask this question: What would I have done?

And that calls forth another question: What would I do tomorrow if I witnessed a murder or I saw a body on the road at 2 or 3 in the morning?

Two men did stop to render assistance at the scene of tragedy of Breckinridge Lane.

They did what all of us ought to do in such a situation, and they deserve our respect. Thank God there are such men as R. P. McDaniel and Ralph Colson.

**Man drives fire to volunteers**

Although he was enveloped in smoke and at one point couldn't see through the windshield, Herb Gruber kept driving.

Smoke was spilling from the upholstery in the roof of his car. A short in the dome light apparently had set the fire.

Herb kept driving. He drove as quickly as he could to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

He then hopped from his car, and the radio dispatcher, seeing his problem, sounded the alarm.

In 30 seconds flat, Gruber said, volunteers arrived. They had to drive out an engine equipped with a chemical foam unit to extinguish the fire.

Gruber said a volunteer told him that was the first time he had ever seen a fire delivered to the fire department.

Gruber, who's coordinator of research for the Jefferson County Board of Education, was in front of Sam Swopo's car agency on Shelbyville Road when he noticed the smoke.

"By the time I got to the corner of St. Matthews Avenue, I was wrapped in smoke and couldn't see through the windshield," he said.

"Traffic was darting by me, but nobody stopped to help."

He said the fire caused about \$200 damage.

The incident took place about 4:45 pm Wednesday, July 17.

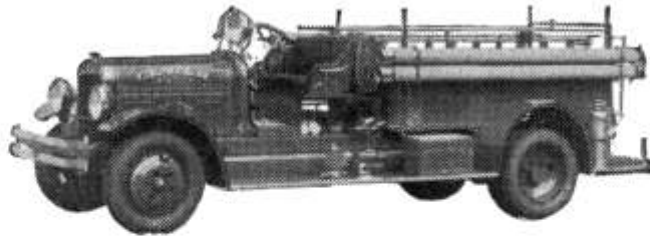


1968

August 8, 1968: Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews  
Volunteer Fire Association, held August 8, 1968

### Directors Present

John Monohan  
W. Leland Wilson  
Lawrence Grauman

George E. Miller  
Fred C. Boss

Minutes of last meeting, held July 10, 1968, read by President Monohan.  
Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by W. Leland Wilson, that they be  
accepted as read.

There being no further business, motion made by Lawrence Grauman, seconded  
by George Miller, due to the heat that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secretary

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

1968

August 12, 1968: McMahan let us work with them at a training fire.



1968

August 12, 1968

2800 Block of Browns Lane 6:20

2800 Block of Browns Lane

August 12, 1968

McMahan Volunteer Fire Department Training Fire

One of the most anticipated events in the life of a rookie firefighter is the experience of the "first" working fire. I had been on the fire department for 11 months, not having had this experience, other than some small fires. One of the disadvantages I had, was working second shift (4:00 PM to 12:00 AM), which prevented me from making Tuesday night training meetings, although my work hours gave the department an extra man for daytime runs. My firefighting knowledge was gained through asking questions, and on-the-job training (OJT) through live fire events. This is both a good and bad way to learn. What one does learn through OJT at working fires is indelibly engraved on your gray matter forever. When Lt. DeHart approached me about this upcoming training fire at McMahan, I was both delighted and apprehensive. I was told we would meet at the firehouse at 8:00 AM on Saturday.

The big day came, dawning as a beautiful warm, sunny, late summer day. I arrived at the firehouse, meeting Lt Dehart and the other rookie firefighters that were going to the training fire. I cannot recall who the other firefighters were, but I feel sure Dick Tackett went with us. We were going to take S-1, 1947 Seagrave, 750-GPM pumper. I put my gear in the hose bed, in anticipation of riding the tailboard. Lt. Dehart came back to tailboard, and told me to drive. I protested that I had never driven a rig of this size; was he sure this is what he wanted? He assured me that I would do OK, and this was a necessary part of my training, given my status as a daytime firefighter. This was my first big surprise of the day; I was not only going to learn how to fight a fire, but also how to get the apparatus and crew to the fire!

I was first introduced to S-1 at the open house held by St. Matthews Fire Department on Sunday, October 26, 1952, at the new firehouse at 117 St. Matthews Avenue. (See pages 60 thru 65, Year 1952, in this document). I was just six years old on that warm, sunny, late autumn afternoon. My mother and I lived with my maternal grandparents at 140 Wiltshire Avenue (Wiltshire and Willis), just three blocks from the new firehouse. So my grandfather and I walked to the open house. This was a memorial day in my life and was quite exciting for me as a young boy. I remember walking up on the apparatus apron, and seeing the three "big red shiny fire trucks". I remember seeing several other people at the open house, including several other boys, some of which became future fire fighters. My grandfather put me in the driver's seat of S-1, and I couldn't believe how big the steering wheel was. I looked at the huge gages on the red dashboard, wondering what they were all for. I remember the black telephone hand-set hanging on the right side of the dashboard, and my grandfather telling me it was a two-way radio so the firemen could talk to the fire house from the scene of the fire. This was all so new to me, but it was also very exciting! At this moment little did I realize a time would come in my life, when I would chase this old girl on my bike, then ride on her tailboard, and even have the opportunity to drive her, turning her big steering wheel and using the gages on her dash.

I fondly referred to S-1 as "her" in the previous paragraph, as she was just like a woman; she had a mind of her own! I remember hearing Fireman Bill Andriot say, "If you are driving her (S-1) on a two lane road, and there is an oncoming beer truck in the opposite lane, she will always veer toward it." I found this statement mildly amusing until I found myself behind the steering wheel. As we drove down Browns Lane this day, I often found her veering to the left even if I turned the wheel to the right. You really had to know her to keep her in the proper driving lane. But this was not my only problem with her this day.

When I first took the wheel, Lt. DeHart gave me a short lesson on how to double clutch and shift gear. S-1 had what is known as a "crash box" transmission, where to shift the gears with out grinding them, one had to have the engine speed and the vehicle speed, just right for a smooth shift to the next gear, either up or down. We left the firehouse on St. Matthews Avenue, turning left into Saturday Morning traffic. I didn't have to shift gears as we caught a red light a Shelbyville Road, just a half a block away. So far so good. The light changed



1968

August 12, 1968

2800 Block of Browns Lane 6:20

giving us the arrow to turn left. Here came my big moment. I started moving the truck in second gear as was customary on level road, thinking this shouldn't be hard; turn left, depress the clutch, shift to neutral, clutch down again, shift into third gear. But she had another way of thinking. Grrrrrr went the transmission; missing third gear, we had to stop in the middle of Shelbyville Road, blocking both travel lanes, and start the process all over again. In my mind I could hear her laugh at me. How embarrassing this was. I didn't make a shift all this day without grinding her gears. I felt I would never learn the art of properly shifting a standard truck transmission. The old girl won this battle.

We finally arrived at our destination, no thanks to my ability to drive S-1. We were going to burn a one-story frame, shotgun dwelling that is so typical to our area. The house was being cleared for a new nursing home to be built on the site. (See pgs. 46 & 47, Year 1968 of this document) I remember seeing fire equipment from McMahan and Jefferstown fire departments. McMahan was set up to pump the hand lines needed to control the fire. We were going to burn the house completely to the ground this day.

We started our evolutions with bales of hay being set afire in the middle room of the house. The hay was set on fire, and the house was allowed to fill up with smoke. On our first evolution we were instructed to keep our heads down and our noses on the floor where the fresh air was. We crawled in without self-contained breathing apparatus (Scott Packs) on, and made our way to the middle room. The smoke was about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way down from the ceiling, but there was ample light in the rooms, as the windows were not covered. When we got to the middle room, Lt. Dehart instructed us to get up on our knees into the smoke and heat, just to see what it was like. I believe we put out the fire with a booster line and exited through the front door. The next evolution we used Scott Packs to get the feel of using them. After several evolutions like this for all the fire departments involved, the fire was set with accelerants, the windows knocked out and we let the building burn. I learned a lot from this exercise, but I still had a lot to learn. I drove S-1 home, and luckily we made it. What a day of training!

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr., MEd  
August 2, 2012  
Clayton, N.C.

1968

August 12, 1968: McMahan let us work with them at a training fire.

**THE LOUISVILLE TIMES** **RED FLASH**

VOL. CLXIX—No. 87 \*\*\*\*\* LOUISVILLE, MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 12, 1968 40 PAGES TEN CENTS




**Rookie Firemen Get Their First Taste of 'Fire'**

Three fledgling volunteer firemen get a lesson how to put out a blaze during a demonstration fire at Edmonia and Brown's Lane Garage.


Here, the instructor, right, checks their technique. Jeffersonstown, Lyndon, St. Matthews and McMahan firemen took part in the exercise.

Staff Photo by Charles Darnall

August 22, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

 ★

**Stars and Stripes**

★ 

SEAMAN Phil S. Pogue, USCGR, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Pogue, 3308 Trinity Rd., has been graduated from the Post Security School at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center at Yorktown, Pa. The school was to fulfill his annual active duty training requirements as a Coast Guard reservist.

Future STMFD firefighter

August 29, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Firemen begin Crusade drive

Although the annual Crusade for Children drive is three weeks away, members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department already have begun preparations for their part in the event.

Al Ring, a fireman, reported that calls are being made to businessmen and other individuals seeking donations.

He said firemen will begin their rounds of the Fire Department coverage area Friday, Sept. 20, at 6 pm and will continue Saturday and Sunday beginning at 9 am each day.

He said anyone wishing to make donations in advance may call his business at 895-0005 for daytime pickups.

Last year, the St. Matthews Department collected \$18,600 to lead all other similar agencies, and members hope to break that record in 1968.

The campaign will officially get under way Saturday, Sept. 21, at 10 pm and continue until Sunday afternoon at Memorial Auditorium.



1968

September 5, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

SERGEANT Gilbert L. Melsner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Melsner, 3702 Plymouth Rd., has been assigned to duties as a supply inventory specialist at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base, Vietnam, as a member of the Pacific Air Forces. He is a 1963 graduate of Trinity High School and attended the University of Louisville.

Son of former STMFD firefighter



MARGUERITE AND SARA GIDDEN "adopted" Kentucky as their home 30 years ago. But before that the two sisters lived a glamorous life in New York City. Marguerite's at left.

## CAME HERE 30 YEARS AGO

# Gidden sisters recall their glamorous life in New York

By Marilyn Frederick

Thirty years ago Sara D. and Marguerite Gidden came to Kentucky because they didn't want to grow old in New York City.

Although the hustle and bustle of the big city had been good to them and their little sister Gess, they longed for a slower pace.

Gess, a victim of crippling polio, was not responding to treatment. To give her the advantages of the best of care was the one important reason Sara D. and Missy (what Marguerite's friends call her) had packed up luck, stock, and barrel and moved east from their Manhattan home.

So once again the Gidden sisters moved but this time St. Matthews, Ky., was to be their home. Brother Dan was living here and that meant the whole family would be together.

On Sunday, September 1, Sara D. and Missy celebrated their 10th year of being in business in St. Matthews and they are hoping for 15 more.

It would seem that their move to Kentucky played a reverse act. Instead of settling down to a quieter way of life the Gidden sisters were caught up in the activities of the smaller community.

Their lives in New York were full and swirling with sister Gess always at their side. Missy was finding success in her designer's business and Sara D. became so adept at her work for the Roosevelt Hotel that she was commissioned to help open up the then new Waldorf Astoria.

In 1935, in a contest conducted by McCall's magazine, Missy was chosen the Manhattan gal who came to New York and made good. An honor not many attain. Her little work shop was in the heart of the Fifth Avenue district where she found she was rubbing elbows with all the stars.

Columbus was a brand new fabric then just waiting to be put to use. Missy was given the opportunity of styling and creating fashions from bolts of the new material.

The samples were shown to the 20 Avenue manufacturers to promote the sale of the new product.

The silk manufacturers were also among those of Missy's most frequent customers. "Costumes by Marguerite" were worn by many of the Famous models and Longfield Follies' girls. Eleanor Holmes was listed as one of Missy's special clients.

Somehow Sara D., aside from her work at the hotel, became a liaison manager for Missy's designer's business. She would deliver the samples to the manufacturers via taxi and march herself in the front door with her wares. "It was the only delivery boy in New York that had 17 pairs of white gloves," Sara D. quipped.

Because of her exposure in the realm of fashion, Sara D. became a model, working with the John Robert Powers and Walter Thornton Agencies. Her specialty was modeling corsets for the youthful client.

### Glamorous career

It was a glamorous career, with modeling jobs at the Astor Hotel or Pennock Alley.

Although Missy was deeply involved in her thriving business, she found time to begin a hobby of collecting dolls. These she would dress in her designer's creations and use as display models for her creations.

She is still adding to the collection and has a whole room devoted to the dolls at the Gidden home on Crest Road.

"Molly" the old fur Missy used during her designer days in New York is one keepsake she will never part with. She uses it as a shawl when she finds the occasion to wear her.

While living in New York the Gidden girls "took advantage of the advantages," Sara D. said. They always had tickets to the Metropolitan Opera every third Tuesday. During the depression they would pack up Gess and her wheel chair and spend all day Sunday at the museum.

Missy and Sara D. became interested in civic work in New York, becoming members of a Federated Women's Club and a Business and Professional Women's organization. Their experience working with these organizations allowed them an opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with many important personalities.

"One time," Missy recalled, "I contemplated a fur fashion show in which Mary Pickford was modeling."

### Charter members of club

In the ten years the Gidden sisters have been charter members of the St. Matthews Business and Professional Women's Club they have never missed a meeting. "We are just plain curious and we're afraid we might miss something," Sara D. commented.

During the last 10 years Sara D. has served as a director and as a secretary of the St. Matthews Business Association. In October of 1952 she was chosen by the association for an award for her outstanding service and leadership in the community.

Missy, in the meantime, was busy working on the committee supporting the newly established Henry Clay Library. She is presently on the library's board of managers.

Sara D. and Missy also have shared their energies with the Red Cross and the Kessler Hospital's women's division. They are due to receive their nine-year pins from the Red Cross this year. Sara D. has been the chairman of this area's bloodmobile unit since its inception in 1959.

The Giddens have supported numerous other community and civic projects.

The Gidden were friends of the STMFD firefighters. We fought a fire in their house and they had a business right next door to the fire house at 117 St. Matthews Avenue. A good relationship.

September 6, 1968, *The Louisville Times*:

# Surgeon's Wife, Child Die in Fire

## Girl, 15, Trapped In Try to Aid Mother

By HAROLD BROWNING AND  
LARRY KEEFE

Louisville Times Staff Writers

The wife and 15-year-old daughter of a Louisville surgeon, Dr. Bourbon E. Canfield, were killed early today when fire severely damaged their East End home in Robinswood Subdivision off Blankenbaker Lane.

The victims were Mrs. Lois Canfield, 45, and her daughter, Deborah. Canfield, 43, suffered cuts and minor burns in a vain attempt to rescue the two.

Officials said the girl died after apparently first telephoning to report the fire and then trying to save her mother, who was bedridden because of an illness.

Chief Deputy Coroner William S. Anderson said the mother and daughter died of smoke inhalation, apparently after they became trapped in Mrs. Canfield's bedroom. He said there were no burns evident on the bodies, both of which were found lying on the bedroom floor.

The fire was first reported to the Louisville Police Department about 3:38 a.m. by a young girl who did not identify herself, but who apparently was Deborah Canfield.

The Police Department complaint desk transferred the call to the city Fire Alarm Office, where Fire Sgt. Bobby Miles answered the phone.

Miles said the girl was coughing and sobbing and did not give her name. But she gave the address of the house, 5401 Hempstead Road.

Miles said the girl sobbed and said, "The house is on fire." He said she began coughing more, apparently from the smoke, as she gave him the address. He said he then hung up and notified the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department to make the run.

### Flames Shooting 50 Feet in Air

The St. Matthews Fire Department answered the alarm with five pumpers and about 45 firemen. Firemen said when they arrived at the scene, flames were shooting about 50 feet in the air and were coming mostly from the rear of the house.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan, who was one of the first firemen on the scene, said units of the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department went to the St. Matthews fire headquarters on St. Matthews Avenue to be on hand in case another fire was reported in the St. Matthews district.

Dr. Canfield reportedly was awakened by his daughter and told her to call police while he tried to rescue Mrs. Canfield.

Firemen said there was no immediate indication of what caused the fire. But they said it seemed to have started at the rear of the house, in either the kitchen or adjoining family room. The blaze was reported under control only a few minutes after fire equipment arrived. But firemen were still on the scene about three hours later.

County Police Detective Robert Stine said Canfield told him after the fire that Canfield had gone to bed about 11:15

See next page.



1968

September 6, 1968, *The Louisville Times*:



Staff Photo

An early-morning fire gutted the kitchen of the Bourbon Canfield home at 5401 Hempstead Road.

## Surgeon's Wife, Daughter Killed in Fire at Home

Continued From Page One

into his wife's bedroom by smashing a window. He said heat and flames forced him away.

Officials said neighbors were trying to help Canfield get into the house when firemen arrived. Firemen wearing masks entered the bedroom through the window and removed the two victims.

A doctor who lives nearby tried for several minutes to revive the mother and daughter with artificial respiration.

But he said he could feel no pulse in either Mrs. Canfield or her daughter when county police took them to General Hospital. Both were pronounced dead after arriving at the hospital about 4 a.m.

Canfield also was taken to General and was later transferred to Methodist

Evangelical Hospital. He was reported in satisfactory condition there after undergoing surgery for a severe cut on the hand.

Canfield's son, David, 21, reportedly had been away on a trip and returned to the house a short time after the fire.

The house, a one-story brick building on the corner of Hempstead and Merrick Road, was severely damaged by fire, smoke and water. The entire rear of the sprawling house was gutted, along with the attached garage and a station wagon and boat parked inside the garage.

Both Mrs. Canfield and her daughter were members of the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Joint funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Arch L. Heady & Son Funeral Home, 1201 E. Oak. The bodies will be cremated.

**Joint funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Arch L. Heady & Son Funeral Home, 1201 E. Oak. The bodies will be cremated.**

1968

**September 6, 1968: Surgeon's Wife, Child Die in Fire-Girl, 15, Trapped In Try To Aid Mother, by Harold Browning and Larry Keefe, *Louisville Times*, writers.**

The wife and 15-year old daughter of a Louisville surgeon, Dr. Bourbon E. Canfield, were killed early today when fire severely damaged their East End home in Robinswood Subdivision off Blankenbaker Lane.

The victims were Mrs. Lois Canfield, 45, and her daughter, Deborah. Canfield, 43, suffered cuts and minor burns in a vain attempt to rescue the two.

Officials said the girl died after apparently first telephoning to report the fire and then trying to save her mother, who was bedridden because of an illness.

Chief Deputy Corner William S. Anderson said the mother and daughter died of smoke inhalation, apparently after they became trapped in Mrs. Canfield's bedroom. He said there were no burns evident on the bodies, both of which were found lying on the bedroom floor.

The fire was first reported to the Louisville Police Department about 3:38 a.m. by a young girl who did not identify herself, but who apparently was Deborah Canfield.

The Police Department complaint desk transferred the call to the city Fire Alarm Office, where Fire Sgt. Bobby Miles answered the phone.

Miles said the girl was coughing and sobbing and did not give her name. But she gave the address of the house, 5401 Hempstead Road.

Miles said the girl sobbed and said, "The house is on fire." He said she began coughing more, apparently from the smoke, as she gave him the address. He said he then hung up and notified the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department to make the run.

**Flames Shooting 50 Feet in Air:** The St. Matthews Fire Department answered the alarm with five pumpers and about 45 firemen. Firemen said when they arrived at the scene, flames were shooting about 50 feet in the air and were coming mostly from the rear of the house.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan, who was one of the first firemen on the scene, said units of the Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department went to the St. Matthews fire headquarters on St. Matthews Avenue to be on hand in case another fire was reported in the St. Matthews district. Dr. Canfield reportedly was awakened by his daughter and told her to call police while he tried to rescue Mrs. Canfield.

Firemen said there was no immediate indication of what caused the fire. But they said it seemed to have started at the rear of the house, in either the kitchen or adjoining family room. The blaze was reported under control only a few minutes after fire equipment arrived. But firemen were still on the scene about three hours later.

County police Detective Robert Stine said Canfield told him after the fire that he had gone to bed about 11:15. (missing small part of article) into his wife's bedroom by smashing a window. He said heat and flames forced him away.

Officials said neighbors were trying to help Canfield get into the house when firemen arrived. Firemen wearing masks entered the bedroom through the window and removed the two victims.

A doctor who lives nearby tried for several minutes to revive the mother and daughter with artificial respiration.

But he said he could feel no pulse in either Mrs. Canfield or her daughter when county police took them to General Hospital. Both were pronounced dead after arriving at the hospital about 4 a.m.

Canfield also was taken to Methodist Evangelical Hospital. He was reported in satisfactory condition there after undergoing surgery for a severe cut on the hand.

Canfield's son, David 21, reportedly had been away on a trip and returned to the house a short time after the fire.

The house, a one-story brick building on the corner of Hempstead and Merrick Road, was severely damaged by fire, smoke and water. The entire rear of the sprawling house was gutted, along with the attached garage and a station wagon and boat parked inside the garage.

Both Mrs. Canfield and her daughter were members of the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Joint funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Arch L. Heady & Son Funeral Home, 1201 E. Oak. The bodies will be cremated.



# Doctor's Wife, Daughter Die in Louisville Fire

A 15-year-old girl and her mother died early yesterday after the girl's futile attempt to rescue her bedridden mother from their burning home.

The victims, Mrs. Lois Canfield, 45, and Deborah Canfield, were the wife and daughter of Dr. Bourbon E. Canfield, a Louisville surgeon. Their badly damaged home is at 5401 Hempstead Road in

Robinswood subdivision off Blankenbaker Lane. Two victims were found on the floor of Mrs. Canfield's bedroom. The mother was bedridden because of an illness.

The cause of the fire is not known, but county police are investigating.

Dr. Canfield told County Police Detective Robert Stine he had gone to bed about 11:15 p.m. in a bedroom across the hall from his wife's.

Canfield related that he was awakened by his daughter screaming, "Daddy, the house is on fire!" He said he told his daughter to call the police, then ran down the hall to the kitchen and the apparent source of the fire.

The doctor said that he passed out on the kitchen floor but regained consciousness, crawled outside and passed out again.

When he woke up he tried to get into his wife's bedroom by smashing his fist

Picture, Page B 1.

Robinswood subdivision off Blankenbaker Lane.

Dr. Canfield, 43, received cuts and minor burns in trying to rescue his wife and daughter. His son, David, 21, reportedly was away on a trip and returned to the house a short time after the fire.

Chief Deputy Coroner William S. Anderson said Mrs. Canfield and her daughter died of smoke inhalation and that no burns were evident on the bodies. The

See DOCTOR'S

Back page, col. 1, this section

# Doctor's Wife, Daughter Die in Louisville Fire

Continued From Page One

through a window, but heat and flames drove him away, he said.

The fire was first reported to the Louisville Police Department at 3:38 a.m. by a young girl who did not give her name but who apparently was Deborah Canfield. Her call was transferred to the city fire alarm office, where Fire Sgt. Bobby Miles answered the telephone.

Miles said the girl, coughing and sobbing, gave the address of the Canfield home and said, "The house is on fire!" Miles notified the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

## Canfield Undergoes Surgery

With five trucks and 40 to 45 volunteer firemen, the St. Matthews Department brought the fire under control within minutes after their arrival. Flames, mostly from the rear of the house, were shooting about 40 feet into the air when the firemen arrived, and an attempt to rescue Mrs. Canfield and her daughter was made first.

Officials said neighbors were trying to help Canfield get into the house when firemen arrived. Firemen wearing breath-

ing units entered the bedroom through the window and removed the two victims. The firemen also gave Canfield first aid.

A doctor, who lives nearby, tried for several minutes to revive the mother and daughter with artificial respiration, but he said he could detect no pulse in either of the victims just before county police took them to General Hospital. Both were pronounced dead after arriving at the hospital about 4 a.m.

Canfield underwent surgery at Methodist Evangelical Hospital yesterday for a severe cut on his left hand. He was reported in satisfactory condition.

The rear of the Canfield house, a one-story brick building, was gutted, along with the attached garage. A station wagon and boat inside the garage were heavily damaged. Smoke and water damage was heavy in the rest of the house.

Joint funeral services for Mrs. Canfield and her daughter will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at Arch L. Heady & Son Funeral Home, 1201 E. Oak. The bodies will be cremated.

Both were members of the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the cancer or heart funds.



1968

Courtesy Al Ring private collection.



1968

Courtesy Al Ring private collection.





1968

Courtesy Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.

(2011)

**5410 Hempstead Road  
(Hempstead and Merrick Rd.)  
September 6, 1968**

The run came in at 3:36 AM by radio. I heard the monitor open up before the tone hit which startled me out of a sound sleep. The operator from "Central" (Louisville Two Way Radio) Announced "St. Matthews you have a house fire at Hempstead and Merrick Roads." The Dispatch was repeated.

When I got to the firehouse I climbed on the tailboard of S-4 (Quad). I don't recall who my fellow firefighters were on the tailboard. On the way we were informed we had a working fire and S-4 was to lay two 2-1/2" supply lines in from a hydrant about 500 ft. from the house on the way in to the scene. We pulled the lines and wrapped them around the hydrant. I went and rode the running board next to the officer, who was Captain Haberlin. We proceeded to the scene, turning left onto Merrick Road, which ran north on the west side of the dwelling. (The house faced south on Hempstead Road.) As we pulled up I looked at the house, which was a large, brick ranch, sitting on a slight hill. I saw flames shooting about forth to fifty feet up from the rear of the house, with brown to black smoke coming from the structure. Assistant Chief Rich Heardt was waiting for us. I'll never forget his words to Captain Haberlin as we came to a stop, "There are people in there." Captain Haberlin called for a preconnected 1-1/2" to the front door. After the preconnected bundle was on the ground I flaked (stretched) the hose out to the front door. As the men came up in Scott Packs (self-contained breathing apparatus) one crew went in for the rescue, and another crew went in with the 1-1/2" to attack the fire. I remember helping to bring the young teenage daughter out from the men inside. I believe she was still alive, but did not make it. The invalid mother died in the front bedroom. After the fire was knocked down I remember going back into the area where the fire was (family room and kitchen area). For the rest of our time on the scene I was overhauling the family room. One of our fire firefighters fell through the floor in the family room. Luckily he caught himself on a floor joist and did not go to the basement. I vividly remember how the plywood sub flooring was very heavily charred and almost burnt through in the middle. The charring was from the top down. I was a rookie at the time and did not realize what I was looking at. After the overhaul was over, we loaded up our equipment and rolled up our hose. I remember riding back to the firehouse standing on the rolled up hose on the tailboard of S-4. This was the first real working fire I ever fought. I'll always remember this incident.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.

1968

September 6, 1968

5410 Hempstead Road

3:36 a.m.

**Comments from Al Ring:** I would have responded from home, which would mean I would not be on any of the first responding units. I do not remember what I rode, but I do remember being with Harry Babcock and someone else as we tried to take an 1 1/2 inch line through the front door. We tried using a fog to enter but everything we tried was to know avail, it was just too hot. If I recall the victims were in the front bedroom, we were going to try to go through the front door (bedroom to left) and cut the fire off and get into the bedroom. It was late before we made it. There was a ton of over-hall to do on this one and took forever. There were claims of murder for months after this, I always have felt it was.

201 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. No. 104

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 9-6-68 TIME OF ALARM 3:36 AM TIME RETURNED AM P.M.

LOCATION 5410 Hempstead - WORKING APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

☐ SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

☐ WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. YES LYNDA L-6

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

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

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

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

COMPANY RESPONSE ☒ 101 ☒ 102 ☒ 103 ☒ 104 ☒ 105 ☒ 106 ☒ 107 ☒ 108 ☒ 109 ☒ 54, 5-7

☐ REMARKS LAT 2 of 2 1/2" SUPPLY LINES

54 SUPPLY 3 of 1 1/2" HAND LINES & 1 of 2 1/2" HAND

USED ALL of MISC. EQUIPMENT

OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Merriam REPORT WRITTEN BY By Capt. Macbushin

September 12, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Two perish in house fire here

The bedridden wife of a Louisville surgeon and their 15-year-old daughter died of suffocation last Friday when flames severely damaged their home at 5401 Hempstead Road in Robinswood Subdivision off Blankensbaker Lane.

Death came after the girl had made a vain attempt to rescue her mother. The victims were Mrs. Lois Canfield, 45, and Deborah Ann Canfield, wife and daughter of Dr. Bourbon K. Canfield. The surgeon was treated at Methodist Evangelical Hospital for a severe cut on the left hand suffered in a rescue attempt.

Dr. Canfield, 45, told county police he retired about 11:15 in a bedroom across the hall from his wife's and was awakened by his daughter's screams that "the house is on fire."

She was told to call the police and he then ran to the kitchen, the apparent source of the flames. Dr. Canfield said he passed out on the kitchen floor, regained consciousness, crawled outside and passed out again.

After he came to the second time, Dr. Canfield reported he attempted to get into his wife's bedroom by smashing a window, but was driven back by heat and flames. She was bedridden by illness.

The first alarm was received by the Louisville Fire Department at 3:48 am apparently from a girl who was sobbing

and choking. The call was transferred to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

The blaze was brought under control within minutes after between 40 and 45 firemen arrived in five trucks. Firemen, wearing breathing units, entered Mrs. Canfield's bedroom where the bodies were found.

Chief Deputy Coroner William A. Anderson said the victims died of smoke inhalation and that no burns were evident on the bodies.

Firemen reported the rear of the home a one story brick structure, and the al-

tered garage were gutted. A station wagon and a boat in the garage also were severely damaged. Heavy loss also was reported throughout the house from water and smoke.

Joint funeral services for Mrs. Canfield and the daughter were held Sunday afternoon in the Walnut Street Baptist Church where both held membership. Cremation followed.

David Canfield, 21-year-old son and brother of the victims, was away from home when the fire was discovered, but returned a short time later.

## Mammoth grocery store to be built in St. M.

The St. Matthews City Council Tuesday night passed an ordinance that cleared the way for construction of a mammoth grocery store adjoining the Almart Department complex on Shelbyville Road near the Watterson Expressway.

By unanimous vote, the council rezoned from D-1 commercial to D-2 commercial the 19 1/2 acre site for the store. J.W. Jones, city attorney, said the new zoning classification was needed to give the store owners clear rights to operate a grocery.

The D-1 classification posed some legal questions, he said.

The new store will contain between 50,000 and 60,000 square feet and will be operated by a national chain. The store will be the largest grocery in Kentucky, it was learned.

Construction is slated to begin this year. Details of the operation were not avail-

able Tuesday night.

The city council also rezoned a tract on Theirman Lane south of Lyndon Way to permit construction of an apartment building by Rodolfo Realty Co.

The tract was rezoned from one-family residence to C-1 apartment.

In other action, the city gave final approval to an ordinance calling for the repaving of 19 streets and a passageway and the construction of an alley.

The streets to be repaved are; Bauer Avenue from Wilmington to Dayton, Blenheim Road from the City of Beechwood to the City of Richlawn, all of Churchway, Cornell Place from Wilmington to the City of Louisville, Eline Avenue from Willis to City of Louisville, Fairlawn Road from Willis to City of Louisville, Iola Road from Willis to City of Louisville, all of MacArthur Drive, all

Continued to page A-2

## Mammoth store to be built in St. M.

Continued from page 1

of Merriman, Oechell from Ridgeway to Brown Avenue.

Also, Oxford Place from Willis to City of Louisville, Plymouth Road from Breckinridge Lane to Browns Lane, Grandview Avenue from Browns Lane to City of Louisville, Ridgeway Avenue from Shelbyville Road to Westport Road, Wallace Avenue from Wilmington to Willis, Warner Avenue from Cannons Lane to Breckinridge Lane, all of Washington Avenue, Brown Avenue from Shelbyville Road to Lyndon Way, and Winchester Road from Browns Lane to Breckinridge Lane.

The public passage to be paved connects Shelbyville Road to the Jim Boocher Chevrolet property and the Parkside Building lot.

The alley to be constructed is between Dayton Avenue and Willis Avenue.

The estimated cost of the repaving and construction program is \$65,000. About five miles of streets are involved.



1968

September 12, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



September 11, 1968, Letter:

September 11, 1968

Mr. Joseph L. Sutman  
3731 Kingsbury Drive  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Sir:

Upon request through a letter to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, I am sending you the time and date of a auto fire at 3731 Kingsbury Drive.

The St. Matthews Firemen, upon receiving a phone call did respond to 3731 Kingsbury Drive, Located in Jamestown,. Upon arriving, they found an auto on fire. The auto belonging to Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Sutman, of same address. The time the alarm came in was; 2:11 P.M. Date; 11/13/67.

If at anytime we can be of further service to you, feel free to call upon us.

*Elsie T. McFarland*  
Sincerely yours,

Elsie T. McFarland  
Dispatcher  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

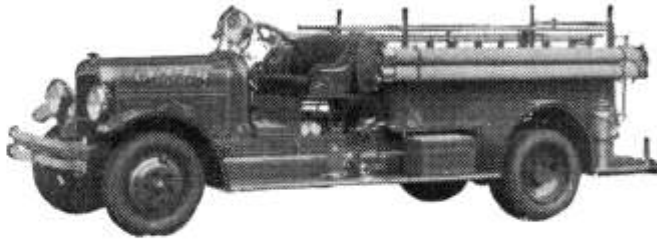
em/ETH

1968

September 12, 1968, Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the  
St Matthews Vol Fire Assn' held at fire house .

*Sept 12-1968*

### Directors present

W. Leland Wilson	Fred C. Boss
John Emrich	Geo Miller
Lawrence Grauman	John Monohan.

Minutes of last meeting held Aug 8 1968 read by President  
Monohan.

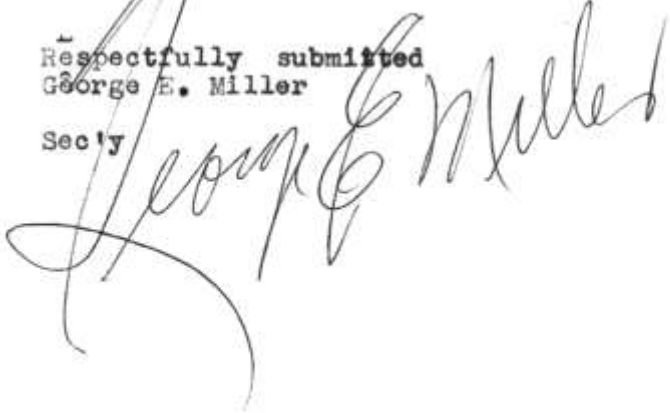
Motion Made by Fred C. Boss seconded by Lawrence Grauman  
they be accepted as read.

Chief Monohan was instructed by the board to proceed with  
the fireman about one of their members being made a member  
of the board of directors for a period of one year .  
He is to be recommended by the majority of the fireman  
and he shall be approved by the present Board providing he has  
been an active member of the department for a period of  
five years.

There being no further business motion made by W. Leland Wilson  
seconded by Lawrence Grauman that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted  
George E. Miller

Sec'y



"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

1968

September 19, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:  
September 25, 1968, Letter:

## Car wash funds will be given to Crusade

A car wash for benefit for the Crusade for Children is planned by the Fireette Social Club, a girls' organization, and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department for Saturday, Sept. 21.

The project will be at the Hubbards Lane Enco Service, 4201 Shelbyville Rd., between 10 am and 4:30 pm.

LI. Doug Monohan, of the fire department, said the gross receipts will be turned over to the crusade. Firemen will pay actual expenses of the car wash. Monohan also said firemen will make a house-to-house canvass of the district Friday afternoon, all day Saturday and Sunday morning in behalf of the crusade.

Roadblocks also will be set up during portions of the three days, he reported.

Persons desiring to have contributions picked up may call the fire department at 895-4411, Monohan said, emphasizing that checks should be made payable to the Crusade for Children rather than to the fire department.

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
425 W. LIGHT ST.  
LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

September 25, 1968

Mr. J. W. Jones  
922 Kentucky Home Life Bldg.  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear J. W.:

Many thanks for your letter of September 17. I would like to present for your consideration and the consideration of the city of St. Matthews and the Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer fire department the plan which has been used by certain school districts and which was approved by the Court of Appeals in Waller vs. Georgetown Board of Education 209 Ky. 726 273 SW 498 and which was reconfirmed in the case of Scott County vs. McMillen 270 Ky. 483 109 SW 2d 1201.

The Association to convey the property to the city of St. Matthews and the city of St. Matthews to furnish the money borrowed from the First National Bank to help the construction of the building. The city of St. Matthews to lease the building to the Association for one year for a rental equal to the amount necessary to carry insurance on the building, pay the interest on the loan of the First National Bank and an agreed amount on the principal. The Association to have an option each year thereafter for a certain number of years to renew the lease until the full amount of the First National Bank loan has been repaid. At the end of the lease, if the Association has paid the rent which will also retire the First National Bank loan, the building is to be conveyed to the Association. If such a plan suggested could be carried out, there would be no violation of Section 179 of the Kentucky constitution.

Would appreciate your giving earnest consideration to the suggested plan and if it meets with your approval we can meet with Mayor Bowling and the Directors of the Association.

Will appreciate hearing from you promptly. With kind personal regards,  
I remain

Cordially,

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Lawrence S. Grauman

cc: Mayor Bernard Bowling  
Mr. George Miller  
Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr.

September 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



**Firemen  
move in**

St. Matthews firemen move in more hose as they fight the fire that gutted Frisch's Big Boy Restaurant at 4800 Shelbyville Rd. early Wednesday morning. Samuel Borders, restaurant manager, said damage would total at least \$75,000.

September 26, 1968: Local restaurant gutted by fire. A fire that apparently started in the basement gutted the Frisch's Big Boy Restaurant at 4800 Shelbyville Road early Wednesday morning.

Samuel Borders, manager of the St. Matthews restaurant, said damage totaled at least \$75,000.

More than 30 members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, using all their equipment, battled the blaze.

Firemen were called to the scene at 2:55 am after the fire had been reported by county police.

Because the fire plug in front of the restaurant property could not be turned on, the volunteers had to hook up equipment across Shelbyville Road, some three hundred feet from the restaurant.

They had the main fire under control in minutes, but the mop-up operation lasted more than two hours. No injuries were reported.

Borders said that when the restaurant closed at 1 a.m. everything seemed in order. Two units of the St. Matthews Police Department were on the scene to direct traffic.

## Local restaurant gutted by fire

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They had the main fire under control in minutes, but the mop-up operation lasted more than two hours.

No injuries were reported.

Borders said that when the restaurant closed at 1 am everything seemed in order.

Two units of the St. Matthews Police Department were on the scene to direct traffic.

The McMahan Volunteer Fire Department stood on duty to handle any other calls while St. Matthews firemen fought the restaurant fire.

September 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Cassa Grande plans announced

This architect's sketch shows the entrance to Cassa Grande, a \$700,000 condominium to be built on Thierman Lane in St. Matthews. Construction will get underway next month.

# Construction to begin soon on \$700,000 condominium

Plans for a \$700,000 condominium apartment complex, to be located in St. Matthews, were announced Monday.

The complex, containing 34 apartments, will be located at 161 Thierman Lane.

A three-story building, of steel and concrete construction, the development will be called "Cassa Grande." Construction is to begin in October with completion slated in four to six months. Units in the complex will sell for \$22,000. Each apartment will have two bedrooms, a living room, a dining room, a kitchen, and two baths.

Apartments will contain wall-to-wall carpeting, individual heat and air conditioning units, a double-door entry, many closets, and built-in pantry, self-cleaning oven, dishwasher, disposal system, and refrigerator in each kitchen.

Each apartment will have its own iron balcony and the decor will be in the Spanish-Mediterranean motif.

All the apartments will be the same size — 1,350 square feet with a 13 by 20 living room and a 10 by 13 dining room.

Facilities for general use will include sauna baths, a handball court, a recreation room, a swimming pool and cabana, a snack bar, a wine cellar, and elevators.

The building will be fire and sound proof and will have individual carports for the apartments.

Besides its unusual recreational facilities, the building will have a closed circuit TV system for security purposes.

Each apartment will contain a TV screen and audio hookup connected to the master control system in the building's lobby.

Condominiums (the word means ownership together) are buildings in which each tenant owns his own apartment and shares common areas, such as halls, grounds, recreational facilities and

parking lots.

Condominiums often are confused with co-operative apartments, although the two facilities are quite different.

The co-op tenant does not own his apartment but has shares in a corporation

OTHER PHOTO ON  
PAGE B-3.

which owns and manages the building.

When a co-op unit is vacant, the shareholders select the new tenant. The condominium unit is sold on an individual basis, like a single-family home.

Kentucky was the third state to pass a bill in 1962, allowing construction and ownership of condominiums.

There are several co-op apartment buildings in Louisville but apparently only one other condominium. That is the Cherokee View Apartments, built about 40 years ago as a rental-apartment building and only last year converted into a condominium.

David L. Smith and Enrique Rodolfo Pantoja, both of Louisville, are co-developers of Cassa Grande (Spanish for grand house.)

The contractor will be Delcrest Inc., a company in which Smith and Pantoja are principal stockholders. Designer of the complex was architect Kenneth Meek.

The project is being financed by the Louisville Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. Pantoja said sales commitments already have been made on about 25 per cent of the apartments.

A fee of \$30 will be charged monthly to each tenant to cover costs of water, janitor service, recreational facilities, taxes on common areas in the complex, and other services.

"The condominium is the very latest concept in home ownership," said Smith.

Los Angeles, Nashville, Chicago, Miami and New York are among other major cities which now have condominiums, he said.

The Thierman Lane condominium will be the first of several to be developed in the east end by Pantoja and Smith.



1968

September 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Westport Road church names building after W.T. Micou

The building that houses the pulpit and altar of the Watkins Memorial United Methodist Church Drive-in Chapel has been named the "W.T. Micou Building," in honor of W.T. Micou, 85, of 333 N. Bonner.

The Rev. William W. Bowling, pastor of the church, said Micou has consistently devoted himself to the success of the drive-in chapel.

The drive-in chapel, designed for those who wish to worship "in the comfort of their automobiles," is located at 800 Westport Rd.

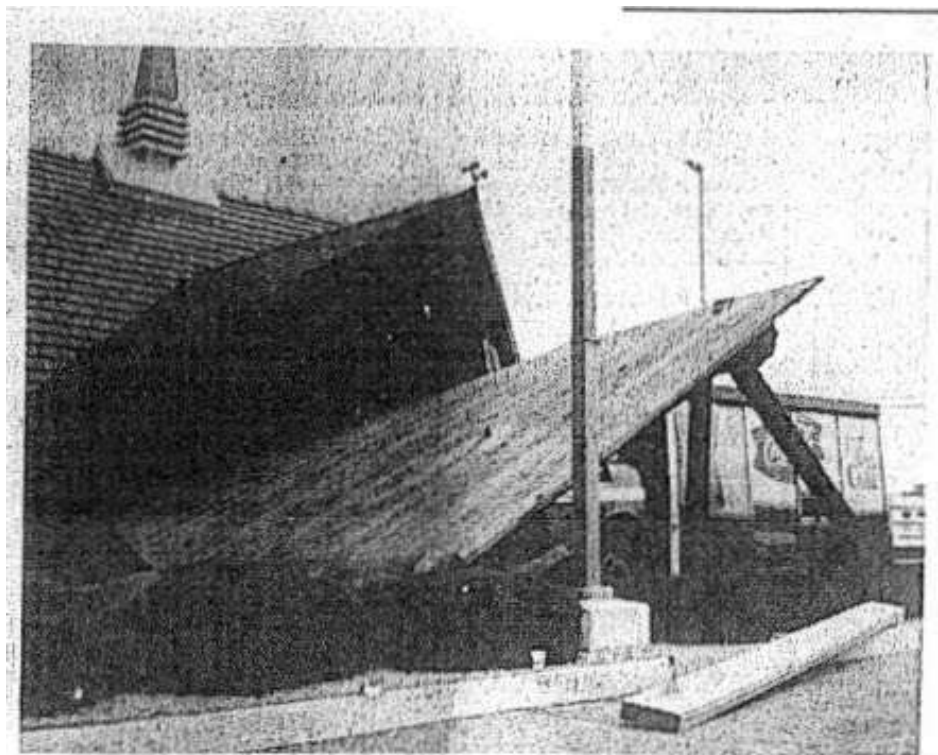
W.T. Micou has been a member of the church since 1964. He joined the church partly as a result of his interest in the then new drive-in chapel.

The drive-in services were begun in 1964 in the parking lot of Westport High School. But as interest in the outdoor chapel increased the church decided to construct a drive-in on the present site. The drive-in was completed in the summer of 1967, and the first services were held in October of that year.

Micou was chairman of the committee for plans and construction of the drive-in chapel. The Rev. Bowling said Micou was not only a leader in the project, but was a worker as well.

Micou also is a member of the official board of the church and counselor for the senior youth fellowship of the church.

Former STMFD firefighter



A COSTLY MISTAKE was made by Coca-Cola truck driver Monday morning when he attempted unsuccessfully to pass under Howard Johnson Motor Lodge's entrance canopy. The driver didn't make it, and the canopy came tumbling down on the top of the truck. John Hull, general manager of the motel at 4621 Shelbyville Rd., said that over \$12,000 damage was done to the canopy and the west end of the lobby. Carl Gott, shop foreman for Coca-Cola, said the truck, costing \$12,000, was probably irreparable.

September 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## St. M. firemen collect \$20,020 for Crusade

St. Matthews volunteer firemen have done it again!

Through their efforts, a total of \$20,020.73 was collected in the 1968 Crusade for Children to lead all other volunteer fire fighting units in the amount realized.

Nipping at their heels, however, was the Pleasure Ridge department which reported \$19,002.

The Dixie Suburban, which had joined forces with the Shively Fire Department and American Legion Post 220, turned in \$16,271.

The crusade started Saturday at 10 pm and continued until Sunday at 6:48 pm to establish records both for length and the amount of money collected and pledged.

When the show went off the air, a record \$519,956 had been reported, but

a late firemen's report brought the total to \$520,356. The final figure may be revised after a complete audit.

Another top volunteer fire department in the collections was the McMahan at Hikes Point that reported \$14,418 an increase of more than 40 percent over last year.

Other departments in the eastern section of the county reported collections as follows:

Buechel, \$7,633.05; Lyndon, \$7,017.91; Jeffersontown, \$4,850; Middletown, \$4,052.97; Highview, \$4,021.60; Harrods Creek, \$3,833; Fern Creek, \$3,787.40; Worthington, \$1,952.05; Anchorage, \$1,134.82, and Eastwood, \$849.88.

Jeffersontown, one of the last three departments to report, helped boost the total to above the \$500,000 mark.



L to R: Jason Handle, \_\_\_\_\_, John Walling, Russ Rakestraw, Jim Walton, Doug Monohan, Kyle Ragan, Jim Graven, Phil Iwan.

## 1968 Crusade For Children:

## 1968 Crusade

St. Matthews - 20 020.23	Versailles - 3900.00
Pleasure Ridge - 19,002.00	Bellview - 270.00
M. Mahan - 14,414.00	Utica - 1730.00
Lyndon - 7017.00	Georgetown - 2002.00
Middleton - 4052.00	Sellersburg - 2486.00
Hennels Creek - 3833.00	Perryville - 816.00
Worthington - 1953.00	Greensburg - 2582.00
J. Town - 486.00	Boyle Co. - 466.00
Pecan Valley - 1720.00	Simpsonville - 1629.00
So. Oldham -	Lanesville Ind. 1127
Black Mt. - 5152.00	Flaheaty - 125.00
Buechel - 7633	Jeffersville - 8532
Feed Creek - 3784.00	New Washington Ind.
Eminence - 1525.00	New Middletown Ind. - 505.00
Eastwood - 800	Lebanon Ind. - 947.00
N. Oldham - 711.00	Elmoreville Ind. - 2445
Okalona - 7449.00	Vine Grove - 1300.00
Elizabethtown - 7162.00	Pleasantville - 1230.00
Shepherdville - 2500	New Castle, Ky. 1912.00
Frankfort, Ky. - 2800.00	

## 1968 Crusade

	G. E. 40,000
La Grange - 2747	Campbellburg - 1308.00
Shelby Co. - 4500	Muldrough - 1007.00
Edgewood - 2540	Hannotsburg - 3060.00
Highview - 4021	Bloomfield, Ky. - 1313.00
Mt. Washington - 2143	Charlottesville Ind. - 2276
S. Dixie - 6727.00	Radcliff - 3136.00
Fairdale - 6722.00	Madison Ind. - 5751
Camp Taylor - 7701.00	Lebanon, Ky. - 1934
Lane Drummond - 4402	Columbia, Ky. 2675.00
West Point - 1100.00	Zaneton - 1232.00
Shively - 16,000	McCullough Ind. - 4034
	Lexington Ind. - 927.00
	Taylorville - 1400.00
	<del>Crestonsville</del> -
	Crestonsville Ind. - 1373
	Pekin, Ind. - 890.00
	Irvington - 685

## 1968 Crusade

Our Lady of Lourdes - 1065  
 Holy Trinity - 654  
 Holy Spirit - 1792  
 St. Leonard - 902  
 St. Margaret Mary - 526  
 St. Barnabas - 559  
 St. Raphael - 1683  
 St. Gilbert - 325  
 St. Bartholomew - 420  
 St. Francis of Assisi - 250  
 St. Aloysius - 243  
 Holy Family - 530  
 St. Joseph - 530  
 St. Francis of Assisi - 1433  
 Immaculate Conception - 8100  
 1800

Total - 39430.70

1968

1968 Crusade For Children:

ST. MATTHEW FIRE ASSOCIATION					CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN 19 68				
	FRIDAY TILL 9 <sup>00</sup>	SATURDAY TILL 12 <sup>00</sup> Noon	SATURDAY TILL 5 <sup>00</sup> PM.	SATURDAY TILL 9 <sup>00</sup> PM.	SUNDAY TILL				
S-1					113.81 135.94				249.81
									3157.32
S-2	572.30	941.68	507.26		130.25				2907.44
			DOWN TOWN →	756.00					
S-3	732.84	397.97	368.80	360.15	52.657	124.90			3897.51
				92.61	<del>52.657</del>				
					102.10				
S-4	897.93	456.68	1505.83	284.66	508.86	689.07			4343.03
S-5	1558.67	676.98	750.23	472.61	264.77	147.05			4517.81
					190.77	133.91			
					357.80				
NAME	81.88	81.88	81.88	81.88	81.88	81.88			
C & Kisc.	64.11	438.91	438.91	438.91	438.91	438.91			5100.06
Total	3758.38	3057.77	3132.12	1968.56	6444.71	1457.19			
		7013.15	10145.27	12113.83	18553.54	20000.73			20000.73



# WHAS Crusade Sets Money, Time Records

Continued From Page One

\$100,000 barrier was broken and the tote board showed \$131,074. The storm was on.

Members of the first of the more than 100 Kentucky and Southern Indiana fire departments who regularly participate in the Crusade were trooping across stage now, many of them dropping several thousand dollars each in the coffers.

At about 1 p.m., Kentucky Gov. Louie B. Nunn made an appearance to congratulate WHAS on its fund-raising effort and to don a fire hat, a traditional crusade symbol. He at first got the hat on backwards.

The band and the siren were going off with every fire department contribution, and "Cactus" Brooks' familiar greeting, "How-DEE," was taking on a new enthusiasm. Usually imperturbable announcer Milton Metz was moved to comment, "That siren—that'll clear up your sinuses good," after one long blast.

## Another Barrier Broken at 2:25

The next hundred-thousand mark was broken at 2:25, when the Sullivan Business College's \$4,100 addition pushed the total to \$200,094. More siren, more band music, and more simulated fireworks erupted.

Stage crews were picking up full money boxes and lining up back-to-front in "trains" three and four boxes long to sweep the money backstage, empty it in the counting room, and return the emptied boxes for more contributions.

And at 2:50 Metz happily proclaimed "You ain't seen nothing yet," as the tote board beamed a \$216,000-plus figure. He was right.

Thirty minutes later members of the St. Matthews Fire Department was grinning ear-to-ear while their \$20,020.73 pushed the total to \$308,706.

Shortly after that, the Catholic Archdiocese weighed in with its contribution, a healthy \$39,438.70. Around 5 p.m. the McMahan Fire Department had a moment of glory as its \$14,418 spurted the total to \$405,126.

That left another hundred-thousand mark to crack, the mark the crusade had

never broken before. At 6:20 p.m. the mark was wavering as Manzanita Tribe 276 of the Red Men, from New Albany, announced the community's contribution of \$19,013.77. That raised the total to \$493,775 and break last year's record of \$481,493.

The Red Men whooped up their contribution with a war dance and emcee Walton made a coy forecast. "I think we're knocking at a door."

Then, at 6:30, Walton lined up the three remaining fire departments—Jeffersontown, Leitchfield, and Shively-Dixie Suburban, in cooperation with American Legion post 220—to have them announce their contributions simultaneously.

The move was an obvious effort to have all three departments share the honor of breaking the half-million mark. For 10 minutes the firemen read lists of contributors, and finally announced their totals.

Jeffersontown brought in \$4,850, Leitchfield \$1,617 and Shively-Dixie Suburban \$16,271. The grand total of an afternoon of "grand totals" was \$519,956.

There were several minutes of all-out celebration with balloons, siren, band, etc., and then WHAS president Victor Sholis brought the telecast to an end with praise for its "excitement, interest and compassion."

## \$400 Contribution Just in Time

Moments later, a just-under-the-wire contribution of \$400 came in, and singer Cindy Ross led the auditorium crowd through "God Bless America, as the show faded from the home screen.

Now all that's left is for the money to be tallied up precisely and distributed among Kentuckiana agencies that treat mentally and physically handicapped children. All Indiana money goes to Indiana agencies, all Kentucky money to Kentucky agencies.

The \$520,000 figure is not an exact reflection of funds made available for distribution this year, because operating expenses have to be deducted from it. But just as the crusade has run longer and collected more money each year, its expenses have declined. Last year's 3.43 per cent expenses were an all-time low, and this year that figure may shrink.

A panel of ministers who participate in WHAS radio's "Moral Side of the News" program is in charge of distributing crusade funds.

1968

September 27, 1968    300 Breckenridge Lane    11:25 a.m.

300 Breckenridge Lane  
September 27, 1968  
11:25 AM

It was a cool, cloudy, Friday in September. I was just getting home from my English 101 class at the University of Louisville. I was on my way to the firehouse, sitting in traffic on Willis Avenue at U.S. 60 waiting for the traffic light to change. I do not remember hearing the house siren, as it seems I was in no hurry to get to the firehouse. I had a 1966 Buick at the time, and did not have a radio to monitor our fire frequency (154.25 MHz). I remember seeing S-4 (1954 Seagrave 750 GPM quad) pulling out of the firehouse, lit up making an emergency run. S-4 turned left off of the firehouse ramp and came towards me sitting in traffic. Lt. Ring saw me and stopped and told me to follow him. I noticed Lt. Ring was the only man on the apparatus. I plugged my roof-mounted red light into the cigarette lighter, turned around and followed S-4, wondering where we were going and what type of emergency call we had. Luckily I had my turnout gear in the trunk of my car. We turned left on Breckenridge Lane, traveled three blocks and stopped in front of 300 Breckenridge Lane. We had a 1-1/2 story brick, or stucco house (I can't remember which type) with nothing showing. Lt Ring went in to check out the situation, and I stayed outside to man the quad waiting for instructions.

I put on my gear and waited. Finally Lt. Ring came out and said we had an old refrigerator, with the compressor unit on top, using ammonia gas as a coolant that had sprung a leak. I believe the refrigerator was on the back porch, as we did not have to ventilate the structure. Lt. Ring took the report and we returned to the firehouse. The record book shows seven men on this run, but S-1 never left the firehouse.

While driving back to the firehouse, I reflected on what it is like to have a refrigerator that had ammonia gas, as we had one in our house when I was growing up. Long before I was born, my grandfather had converted our old side-by-side icebox into a mechanical refrigerator, with a two-piston compressor in the basement, using ammonia gas as the coolant. (The refrigerant, Freon, had not been invented at the time of the conversion.) I remember at least two occasions as a small child when all the gas leaked out. We had to open all the windows in the house, and let it air out, while vacating the house ourselves. This happened at least once in the dead of winter. We never once called the fire department. From what I now know of ammonia gas we probably should have. So much for growing up in the late 40's and 50's!

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
September 9, 2011

October 3, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Lack of fire plugs cited

The lack of fire plugs in some sections of St. Matthews poses a threat to lives and property, according to City Councilman John Barker.

Barker said homes should be within 1,000 feet of a fire plug, but that many in St. Matthews are not.

"Let's take the bull by the horns and do something about this problem before it's too late," said Barker. "We don't want tragedy to strike in these areas."

Barker said property owners who don't live within 1,000 feet of a fire plug pay a higher fire insurance premium. The costs of installing a plug would pay for itself in several years through savings in insurance premiums, he commented.

It was estimated that savings on insurance rates would be at least 15 per cent.

"We'd like people in these areas to form committees to work with the city council to ascertain where the plugs should be installed," Barker said.

He said he would be glad to help any property owners interested in forming such a committee.

Barker cited one area as being especially short of plugs. This is the area bounded by Wendover Avenue on the east, Fairlawn Avenue on the west, Dayton Avenue on the south and Wilmington on the north.

In that 14-block strip, he said, there are only two plugs -- one on Wendover and the other on Oxford Place. Fire-plug installation must be paid by property owners, Barker said. He said that plugs cost about \$900 but the costs would be shared, in most instances, by about 30 property owners.



MR. & MRS. WALTER C. WALKER

### Handel - Walker

The marriage of Miss Joyce Ann Handel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Handel, of 3515 Hycliffe Ave., and Mr. Walter C. Walker, son of Mr. Francis M. Walker, took place Saturday, Sept. 28, at 1 pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Given in marriage by her father, the bride was attended by her sister, Miss Jane Handel, maid of honor, and Mrs. Robert Hinkelstein, sister of the bridegroom, matron of honor.

Dr. Robert Hinkelstein was the best man and the ushers were Mr. Paul Lichtefeld, cousin of the bride, and Mr. George Caswin.

After the reception at the Woman's Club of St. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Walker left for a short wedding trip. They will reside at 4707 Glanna Way.

Parties given in honor of Miss Handel

include a miscellaneous shower by her aunts, Mrs. L.G. Droppelman, Mrs. George Baker, Mrs. Stanley Lichtefeld and Mrs. William Gibson; a linen shower by Mrs. Oscar Leason Jr. and Mrs. Bill Moore; a kitchen shower by Mrs. Willis Klein and Miss Susan Klein; and a surprise shower by nurses on the 3-11 shift at St. Matthews Manor Nursing Home.

Among the out-of-town guests for the wedding were Mrs. Frank Handel, Mrs. Dan Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Geraghty, and Mr. and Mrs. Jay Handel of Rockford, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Grimer and Steven and Bradley Grimer of Breckville, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. John Paine of Marion, Ind.; and Mr. Ned Bober of Cincinnati. Miss Handel's brother, Sgt. John Handel, was unable to be here for the wedding. He is stationed in Japan.

**Daughter of retired STMFD firefighter and sister to 2 STMFD firefighters.**

October 3, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

\* SERVING ST. MATTHEWS AND COMMUNITY \*

# ST. MATTHEWS ROLLER RINK

## NOW OPEN!

113 N. SHERRIN AVE - ST. MATTHEWS- (Upstairs, in the St. Matthews Armory)

### REGULAR SKATING SESSIONS

FRIDAY EVENING 7:30-10:00 P.M. —  
Open Session for Everyone.  
75c admission, 25c Skate Rental.

SATURDAY MORNING 10:00-12:00 —  
Children 9 years & younger & beginners. Parents can skate with their children if they wish.  
50c admission. No charge for skates.  
One parent can skate free with each child.

SATURDAY MATINEE 2:00-4:00 P.M. —  
Children 13 years & younger & parents  
75c admission. No charge for skates.

SATURDAY EVENING 7:30-10:00 P.M. —  
Open Session for Everyone  
75c admission, 25c skate rental.

SUNDAY MATINEE 2:00-4:00 P.M. —  
Children 13 years & younger & parents  
75c admission. No charge for skates.

### DANCING

Additional space is provided for dancing during the Friday & Saturday Evening Session (7:30-10:00). This space is away from the Skating Floor and can be used all during the skating period.

SKATE AWHILE — DANCE AWHILE  
75c admission

### PRIVATE SKATING PARTIES

ST. MATTHEWS ROLLER RINK IS AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE SKATING PARTIES AT ANY TIME THERE IS NO REGULAR SKATING SESSION.

Prices are reasonable and arrangements are flexible enough to suit most any need: be it a fund raising party or just a have-fun-together.

BIRTHDAY, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, SCOUTS, CLUBS, SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND RECREATION CLASSES.

**NIGHT PARTIES 2-HOUR**  
(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Nights)  
\$20 Rent plus 25c per pair Shoe Skate Rental

**PHONE 363-9078**

—CUT THIS FOR REFERENCE—



**JOE GOUGH**  
*Skating Rink Manager*  
Call me for bookings of private parties.  
Phone 363-9078

### SKATE SALES AND SERVICE

The best place to buy skates is from our Rink. We service what we sell and everything is guaranteed.

The St. Matthews Roller Rink carries a complete line of skate and skating equipment. Skates are available from the lowest priced to the finest custom models.

A complete repair shop is ready to service your skating equipment and most parts for any make skates are available.

## ROLLER RINK

**113 N. SHERRIN AVE.**  
Upstairs, in the St. Matthews Armory.

**FREE PASS**

This Pass Good For One Admission  
(Skate Rental Extra)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

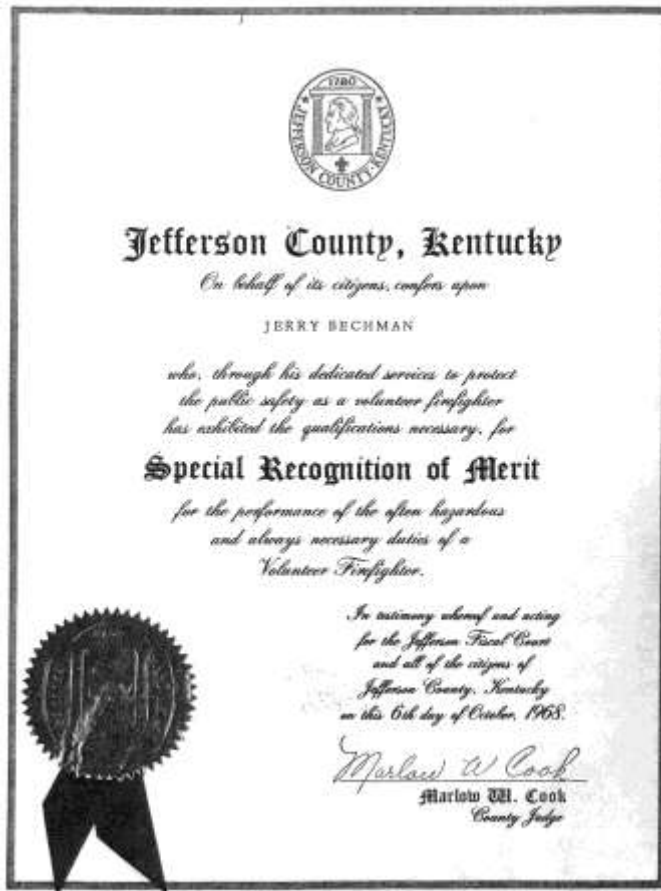
EACH CUSTOMER WILL BE ADMITTED  
ONLY ONCE ON PASS

No Good After  
October 1, 1968



October 6, 1968

1968



# Woman traffic officer learned ropes fast

By Marilyn Frederick

St. Matthews has an "Our Gal Sunday." She's Traffic Control Officer, Mrs. Carolyn R. Haerberlin.

Although Carolyn's life story doesn't quite parallel the one of radio fame, she has had about as many ups and downs. It is certain she is well known in the community.

Our gal Carolyn, who when faced with raising three children after the death of her husband in 1951, met the future with much womanly courage. She went to work holding down three jobs. The children, Joan, Ken, and Harold were 15, 13, and 11, at the time.

Besides keeping the position as superintendent of the church kindergarten at Bethel United Church of Christ, which she had held for eight years prior to 1951, Carolyn went to work as a cafeteria employee and traffic guard at Sivers School.

The third job was held at night, working in a grocery store downtown. The meat department there discovered a very efficient worker.

"I could wrap chickens as fast as they could weigh them," Carolyn commented. Rump roasts in their tightly pulled cellophane wrap "would shine like a looking glass" when Carolyn finished with them, she said.

Carolyn's day began early because in addition to getting the children fed and off to school she would prepare the family's evening meal before she left for her school job. After her morning duties in the school kitchen were completed she went out to her traffic guard station at noon to see the first graders safely across Westport Road.

"That first day as traffic guard I had butterflies in my stomach," she said. "All I knew was the two hand signals."

It rained that first day but Carolyn remembering what she was told by the principal, "you're boss of the situation" got out there and proved it.

When she blows her whistle now she puts all the wind she has behind it and the offender to whom she is directing the call had better hear it.

Often times, aside from her regular duties, Carolyn would end up taking children home who had missed their school bus. Then it was back to the brooms and mops in the school kitchen before she left for downtown and her late night job.

At home the duties were growing as well as her children. There were dozens of white shirts to keep laundered every week. Ken was a part-time worker at a local grocery and Joan at a dairy store. This meant each required a clean shirt practically every day. In 1953 she was elected "Mother of the Year" at the church, where she had devoted so many of her Sundays.

## A familiar figure

The years passed and Carolyn became adept at handling traffic. She attracted the attention of the then St. Matthews Police Commissioner E. R. Grinstead, who was so impressed by her skill that he offered her a job.

Thus in 1956 Carolyn became St. Matthews' only policewoman. She was a familiar figure from 9 am to 5 pm every day on the streets of the growing community.

The next year she became the only woman in a class of 10 to graduate from a two week F.B.I. course. They studied such things as fingerprinting and firearms. Up to that time Carolyn

had carried a gun but never fired it; she got a little practice in during the course.

During the two years Carolyn was with the St. Matthews police department, she walked 200 miles a month.

She was often accompanied on her route by "Pee Wee" a German police dog who befriended her one day. Pee Wee would leave his home on Napanee Road in the morning to walk with the postman and by noon he would hurry to St. Matthews to join Carolyn on her rounds. This ritual went on until Pee Wee's owner moved out further in the county. Carolyn lost a good friend.

It was in 1958 that the Frankfort Avenue-Lexington Road area of St. Matthews was annexed by the City of Louisville. Carolyn was annexed too—by the Louisville Police Department. St. Matthews was still her beat. Her uniform changed but her ability didn't when it came to handling traffic.

## Woman on wheels

In her new position Carolyn was one of the first policewomen on three wheels. The motorcycle helped get her around the busy streets much faster. She would travel about 28 to 30 miles a day on the cycle but when it rained it became a problem, so she decided to go back to pounding the pavements.

"Every now and then a youngster will come up and ask me if I'm the same lady they remember who visited them in their kindergarten," Carolyn said. These visits to the kindergartens which Carolyn especially enjoyed, were made to give safety talks to the children.

When she has time Carolyn loves to cook. Pie baking is her favorite.

"One time I almost went into the apple pie business," she said.

Last Christmas she got a chance to cook up a big meal for her whole family. "It was the first time all 21 of us were all together," she said. Joan is married and has six children and Ken is married and has seven children.

Carolyn's 13 grandchildren are naturally her joy. She has two beautifully colored group photographs of them in a special spot in her St. Matthews home.

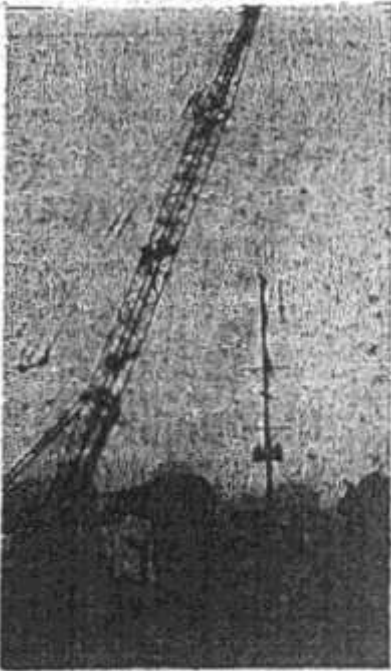


DIRECTING TRAFFIC from this "Island" at Lexington Road and Frankfort Avenue is part of Mrs. Carolyn Haerberlin's daily duties.

1968

October 31, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

November 4, 1968, Letter:



### Castle site

A crane and a bulldozer are used in wrecking operations at Westport Road and Chenoweth Lane. The site is being cleared for a new outlet of the White Castle System. The building, a St. Matthews landmark, was occupied by Contractor's Carpet City. The picture was taken last Saturday morning.

Blue Bear Cafeteria  
250 Mall  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Sir:

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association would like to Thank You for the \$111.78 you gave to us for the "Crusade For Children", 1968.

If at anytime we can be of service to feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Al Ring  
Chairman, "Crusade 68"  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

emo/AR

CAPTAIN Robert C. Brenzel, son of William G. Brenzel, Sr., 3718 Grandview Ave., has been assigned to Tuy Hoa AB in Vietnam where he is a security police officer of the Pacific Air Forces. He is a 1964 graduate of St. Xavier High School and received his BA degree in 1964 from Bellarmine College. His wife, Madeline, is daughter of Charles J. Brewer, 3400 Gilman Ave.

Former STMFD firefighter

1968

October 31, 1968, The Courier-Journal

STMFD did not respond



A REPAIRMAN WORKS to restore Crestwood telephone service, which was cut when a freight train derailed near the business district and damaged four cables. The repairs were completed by late afternoon.

Staff Photo by Larry Boone

### 3 Buildings Damaged

## Blasts Rock Crestwood As L&N Freight Derails

Steel tubing that shifted and slipped between cars of a Louisville & Nashville freight train is believed to have caused the spectacular derailment early yesterday of 24 cars in Crestwood, 17 miles east of Louisville.

No one was hurt in the wreck at about 6:30 a.m. But it set off a series of explosions that hurled burning kegs as far as 700 yards, knocked out power and telephone lines, destroyed or severely damaged five vehicles, set fire to three buildings, and destroyed four freight cars and 400 feet of track.

Crestwood, a city of 2,000 in Oldham County, straddles the railroad tracks at the junction of KY 146, LaGrange Road, and KY 22.

The explosions originated in a boxcar containing powdered propellant bound

for an Army arsenal at Milan, Tenn., railroad officials said.

Crestwood residents saw "average fireballs" flying through the air. Some landed on buildings and vehicles, including a funeral home, hardware warehouse and a house, all owned by Clayton and Milton Scott Stone. The latter is chief of the South Oldham Fire Department.

#### Track Being Replaced

The fires were put out by 70 firemen from five volunteer fire departments—South Oldham, LaGrange, Middletown, Pewee Valley and Worthington.

The 24 derailed cars—17 of them empty—were the 53rd to 76th on a 100-car freight pulled by four diesel units. Some cars were almost stood on end and twisted rails stuck up in the air.

Railroad officials could give no damage estimates.

By using 39-foot pre-assembled track panels—each consisting of two rails connected by a number of cross-ties—railroad workers were able to open the track through Crestwood by 8:26 last night.

Ed Thomas, L&N news bureau manager, said trains were expected to be running normally by this morning.

He said two passenger trains on the Louisville-to-Cincinnati route were canceled yesterday, and three freight trains

See BLASTS

Back page, col. 2, this section



Staff Aerial Photo by Robert Stevens

CRESTWOOD AFTER THE DERAILMENT, WHICH TOUCHED OFF EXPLOSIONS



# Blasts Rock Crestwood As L&N Freight Derails

Continued From Page One

that had to wait for track repairs were moving through Crestwood last night.

Passengers on the Pan American and Humming Bird trains were bused to and from Cincinnati.

Thomas said repairs made yesterday were temporary and that about 400 feet of new rails will be laid on new ballast when all of the debris has been cleared from the track area. He said it will take several days to get the wrecked cars moved off the right-of-way.

Guy Wesley, district manager for South Central Bell Co., said four telephone cables damaged by the derailment were replaced and service was restored by late afternoon. About 50 telephones were silenced and 32 circuits from LaGrange to Louisville were knocked out.

Crestwood Elementary School, across the street from the tracks and only a few hundred yards from where the derailment occurred, called off classes for the day.

## Second Explosion Feared

Principal Edward Vermillion said the decision was made by Oldham School Supt. Allan Rosa because of the "danger of a possible second explosion."

Vermillion said most of the children who attend the school had arrived at the building before the cancellation was announced but were kept only long enough to make arrangements for busing them home.

On hearing about the trouble, a number of parents whose youngsters had already left home drove to the school to pick them up.

"The rumble of the derailing cars" awakened Fire Chief Milton Stoess, whose house adjoins the tracks and the switch where the derailing apparently started. "Then I heard the explosions," he added. "In 1941 a train derailed at almost the same spot and I couldn't forget that sound."

## 'Huge Fireball . . . Then the Blast'

Larry McMillan and Gary Stevenson who rent another house that adjoins the track, say they were also awakened by the wreck. Said McMillan: "I heard the rumble and looked out the back window . . . (and) saw the cars tumbling over and then a huge fireball . . . then the blast."

Stevenson said, "It sounded like the

end of the world . . . I looked out front and the grass was on fire and there was burning debris everywhere. We started to carry furniture out in the yard as the first firetruck got there."

Mrs. Doris Dykes was cooking bacon on her restaurant grill when the wreck occurred. "I just left it there to burn and ran out . . . It looked like the sun came up too soon. It was so bright. Then I saw some transformers start to explode and I ran back to the restaurant."

Reviewing the situation several hours later, Carroll Reid, director of the Oldham County Civil Defense organization, said: "We were lucky, with no one hurt, and we got quick responses from everyone we called for help."

"There wasn't any unusual trouble," he said, "when you consider what this thing could have been."

The earth around the wreckage was scorched and covered with small bits of burned debris. The rails under the three-high stack of cars looked like dirty, wrinkled steel ribbons.



1968

October or November 1968: From the private collection of Malcolm McMakin. Training Fire

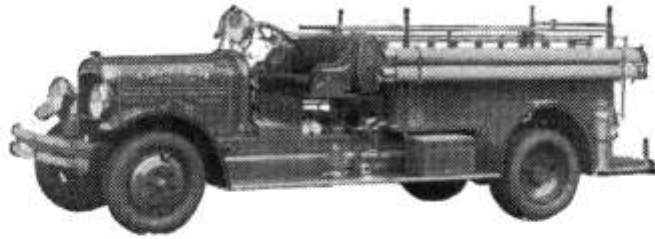


1968

November 14, 1968: Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of meeting of the Board of Directors of  
the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn., held  
November 14, 1968 at Firehouse.

### Directors Present

George E. Miller	Lawrence Grauman
W. Leland Wilson	Henry Monohan
John Monohan	John Emrich
Fred C. Boss	J. P. Terry

Minutes of last meeting, held October 10, 1968, read by President Monohan.  
Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that they be  
accepted as read.

Motion made by J. P. Terry, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that we give fireman  
and directors turkeys for Thanksgiving.

Motion made by Lawrence Grauman, seconded by John Emrich, that on certificates  
of deposit which mature cannot be renewed for only three months period be  
cashed and reinvested in short term government bonds.

There being no further business motion made by John Emrich, seconded by Fred  
C. Boss that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

November 14, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Landmark's doom sealed by firemen

A landmark connected with the naming of St. Matthews in the 19th century will go up in smoke soon.

The landmark is a two-story frame building on the northeast corner of Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue. Officials of the Palmer Asbestos and Rubber Corp., owner of the building, have agreed to let the St. Matthews Fire Department burn the structure as part of a massive fire-fighting exercise sometime this month.

According to S.W. Palmer-Ball, vice president of the company, the building is considered "an eye-sore and public nuisance."

He said he agreed to have the building removed "after pressure" from city officials.

The building, built between 1840 and 1860, originally was a rectory and girls' school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

Back then the main church building, which had been built around 1838, was located where the Palmer plant is now located, on the northwest corner of

Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue.

In 1862 the main building was destroyed by fire and for a time services were held in the rectory and girls' school. The church was rebuilt on the site and remained at the St. Matthews Avenue location until about 1900.

Then the church was merged with the Crescent Hill Episcopal church until 1948.

The new St. Matthews Episcopal Church at 330 N. Hubbard Lane was organized that year.

The original church building was the first church in this area, when the community was called Gilman's Station. Later the city was named after the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

The rectory building became a private home in the early 1900s until it was used as headquarters for the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A.

The "Y" moved to its new headquarters on Norbourne Boulevard in 1955. Since then the old rectory has not been occupied.

The old building was to have been burned last year but complications developed.

## W.T. Micou Jr., 54, paper company executive, dies

William Thomas Micou, Jr., 54, of 323 N. Bonner Ave., owner of the Micou Special Paper Products Co. and a manufacturer's representative, died Sunday, Nov. 10, at 4:50 am in Kentucky Baptist Hospital.

Micou was employed by the Reynolds Metals Co. and the Rowland Paper Co. before he opened his own business.

He was past president of the fifth district of the International Association of Printing House Craftsmen and of the Louisville House of Printing House Craftsmen.

Micou was a member of Watkins Memorial Methodist Church and was chairman of the committee for planning and constructing the Westport drive - in

chapel on Westport Road. The chapel was named for him. He also was a member of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, the Sunset Lodge of Masons,

Surviving are his widow, the former Elizabeth Lindsey; two sons, Wesley Worley, Lexington, Ky., and William T. Micou, III; a daughter, Mrs. Ward Lewis Corum, Jr., Loveland, Ohio; his mother, Mrs. Georgia D. Micou; a brother, Freeman D. Micou; two sisters, Mrs. J.L. Adams and Mrs. B.D. Rake, Johnson City, Tenn., and a grandson.

Private funeral services were held at Pearson's on Breckinridge Lane. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park. Memorial services were held Tuesday night in Watkins Memorial Methodist Church.

Former STMFD firefighter



1968

November 15, 1968: Letters:

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
413 W. LIBERTY ST.  
LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

November 15, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Durning, Jr.  
Kentucky Home Life Building  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Mr. Durning:

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association is having construction plans made for the erection of the fire house on the property purchased from your father on the corner of Lyndon Way and Sears Avenue. The councilman in charge of approving a building permit for the city of St. Matthews has stated that the zoning allowing the use of the site for a fire house was contingent upon the construction of Sears Avenue, between Ouchell Avenue and Lyndon Way, and that several letters had been written to your father with reference to his complying with the conditions agreed upon, and that your father had not responded to the letters.

The City has indicated that a certificate of occupancy would not be granted until the construction and drainage of Sears Avenue are completed and has stated that as your father is the principal owner of the property involved, the City has assumed that he would prefer to prepare the necessary plans and specifications to be submitted to the City for approval and bidding purposes.

As the cost of construction continues to increase it is most important that your father comply with his agreement with the City of St. Matthews so that the Fire Department will not be delayed with reference to procuring the necessary permits from the City of St. Matthews.

Please give this matter your immediate attention and let me hear from you promptly.

Cordially,

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Lawrence S. Grauman

LSG jas

cc: Mr. George Miller  
262 Chenoweth Lane  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr.  
3909 Elmwood  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

November 15, 1968

Mr. Vic Reynolds  
Jefferson County Air Pollution  
621 West Jefferson Street  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

As per phone conversation with Mr. Schott, The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association does hereby notify you by letter that we will be burning a house for training, November 17, 1968 at Westport Road & St. Matthews Ave. This training will last most of the day.

If there is anything else you need to know, please call our business phone; 898-8812.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Monohan, Jr.  
Chief S. M. V. F. A.

emm/JMM

1968

November 21, 1968 Fire Incident:

248

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. No. 169

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 11-21-68 TIME OF ALARM 11:16 A.M. TIME RETURNED 12:03 A.M.

LOCATION Emergency - 317 Westport Drive APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☒ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Flames

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☒ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. S-4

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE  MODEL  TAG NO.

OWNER Geo. Watkins ADDRESS 317 Westport Dr.

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☒ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS Furnace blocked, CO in house, removed elderly woman from house to next door neighbor. Man DOA, corner had been in house and left prior to our notification. Dr. & LBS on scene

OFFICER IN CHARGE Pat Maloney REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt. Walling

317 Westport Drive  
November 21, 1968

This fire run came in at 12:03 Pm by telephone to our daytime dispatcher, Elsie McFarland. I was attending The University of Louisville, and working a second shift job at the time. I was in my car on Shelbyville Road at St. Matthews Ave., when I heard the house siren blowing at our firehouse at 117 St. Matthews Ave. I went directly to the firehouse, and upon entering through the office door, Elsie told me we had some type of emergency at 317 Westport Drive, with one person deceased and possibly a second fatality. My gear was on the rack behind S-4 (quad). I stepped up on the tailboard of S-4 after opening its bay door. As I recall I was the only person on the tailboard of S-4, with Pat Maloney in charge. I don't remember who drove. We arrived on the scene with "a one story brick ranch, nothing showing". I remember it was a cold clear day, and I staid outside on the tailboard for what seemed to be a very long time while Pat Maloney made his check out inside the house, with Captain Walling and Lt Ring. Eventually I was told to bring some hand tools inside of house where we went to the basement. It seemed carbon monoxide poisoning caused the death of the elderly man; the woman survived and was removed from the dwelling and taken to a neighbor's house. We removed the flue pipe that ran from the gas furnace to the brick chimney, where it entered the chimney. We found that it was clogged up with bird's nests and other debris, which caused the carbon monoxide to fill the house. We also ventilated the building. I remember doing this work without a self contained breathing apparatus on, and it wasn't to long afterward that I got a very strong headache, which lasted way into the night. I believe Louisville Gas and Electric Company shut the gas off to the property until the furnace flue could be restored to proper working order.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
March 12, 2011

November 21, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



**Ball of flame**

The old St. Matthews Episcopal Church rectory and girls' school on St. Matthews Avenue becomes a ball of flame last Sunday. Firemen burned the building in a massive fire-fighting exercise.

## Landmark's 'death' draws hundreds of spectators

A landmark connected with the naming of St. Matthews died a dignified death Sunday morning, while hundreds watched.

The landmark, built between 1840 and 1860, was originally a rectory and girl's school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

The building was burned by the St. Matthews and McMahon Volunteer Fire Departments as a fire-fighting exercise.

The building, dressed to die by the fire departments with crude oil, finally crumbled at noon after four hours of fire fighting training.

The exercises beginning about 8:30 were extensive. The firemen first fought a

smoke fire. Many of the firemen, tears streaming from their eyes, exited from the building. The smoke fire was finally extinguished by men equipped with self-breathing apparatus.

Both fire departments performed rescue operations. The firemen rescued Oliver the dummy, a stuffed property of the St. Matthews department.

At 11 the death blaze was started. Firemen, numbering 35, attacked the building in force. With smoke curling skyward and with flames licking their heels, the firemen, spartan-like, blitzkrieged the building with axes.

Lt. Kenny Freid, of the McMahon de-

partment, collapsed after inhaling too much smoke. Freid was back on his feet in a few minutes and charged back into the building.

Skip Golden grabbed Al Ring, preventing Ring from being crushed by a flaming ceiling. In fact, the training exercise was so real, many onlookers thought the fire was the real thing.

Captain Jack DeHart of the St. Matthews department coordinated the attack on the building.

The building located at the corner of St. Matthews Avenue and Westport Road, was on the property of the Palmer Asbestos Rubber Corp.

According to S.W. Palmer-Ball, vice president of the company, the building was used as a training exercise because it was considered "an eye-sore and public nuisance" by the St. Matthews City Council.

He said he agreed to have the building removed "after pressure" from city officials.

The building became a private home in the early 1900s. Later it became the headquarters of the St. Matthews YMCA. The YMCA moved in 1955. Since then the old rectory was not occupied.

1968

Courtesy, St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass, by Samuel W. Thomas, —Photo from Courier-Journal 1951, by Thomas V. Miller, Jr.

This is what the building looked like except in much more run-down condition.



### *Fire and Brimstone . . .*

The original rectory of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church, after which the community was named, went up in smoke yesterday—by design.

The two-story frame house at 145 St. Matthews Ave., now owned by the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp., was burned under the supervision of the city Fire Department after officials and citizens had asked that it be destroyed because of its unsightly appearance.

November 21, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:





1968

Courtesy Al Ring private collection, from 8mm movie:



Courtesy Al Ring private collection:

1968





1968

Courtesy Al Ring private collection:



ST. MATTHEWS FIREMEN and the 100-year-old St. Matthew rectory and girls' school early Sunday morning after a fire-fighting exercise. The firemen are wearing self-breathing apparatus, story on page 1.

November 21, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*  
November 18, 1968, *The Courier-Journal*

## Firemen Destroy Former Rectory In St. Matthews

The last vestige of St. Matthews' name-sake went up in smoke yesterday.

The century-old former rectory of the original St. Matthews Episcopal Church, after which the city was named, was burned by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. The structure was considered an eyesore.

The fire department officials ignited the two-story frame house at 145 St. Matthews Ave. early yesterday and by evening only smoke, ashes, rubble and a few small fires remained.

The house fronted on St. Matthews Ave., just north of Westport Road, and across the street from the former site of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church. The church occupied that site until about the turn of the century.

The St. Matthews Episcopal Church now is at 330 N. Hubbards Lane.

Since the rectory's construction in the mid-1800s, it has served also as a girls' school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church, a private home, an apartment house, headquarters of the St. Matthews YMCA, city hall and a storage facility.

The property is owned by the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp., 146 St. Matthews Ave. S. W. Palmer-Ball, vice president of the company, said the city council, mayor and residents had asked the house be destroyed because it was an eyesore.

November 21, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Fire was November 20, 1968, Courtesy Malcolm McMakin.

## Fire guts gift shop; damage set at \$60,000

A fire of undetermined origin gutted the Country House at 310 Wallace Avenue early Wednesday morning, causing damages estimated at between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

Units of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department and the Louisville Fire Department extinguished the blaze. They were on the scene from 1:15 a. m. until about 2 a. m.

Barbara Heuer, owner of the gift shop, estimated damages between \$50,000 and \$60,000. She said the place had recently been stocked for Christmas trade.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monahan said the cause of the fire was undetermined. He said an investigation would be made to determine the cause.

Steve Floyd, a service station attendant, was among the first to see the fire. He said he saw smoke rising from the building and immediately notified the St. Matthews Fire Department.

## St. Matthews Fire Damages Gift Shop

A fire that started at 1:11 a.m. today badly damaged The Country House, a gift shop in a three-room frame building at 310 Wallace, in St. Matthews.

Mrs. Barbara Heuer, the proprietor, said her Christmas stock was on display and was heavily damaged by smoke, heat and water. The fire, of undetermined origin, started in a room at the back of the store. Neither Mrs. Heuer or Woolsey M. Caye of Anchorage, owner of the building, would estimate the amount of loss.

The St. Matthews and Louisville fire departments fought the flames.

The building is just inside the St. Matthews city limits. It formerly was the office of the St. Matthews Cab Co.



1968

November 28, 1968: *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Driver burns to death after automobile crashes

A 42-year-old medical technician was burned to death Sunday about 9 pm after the auto she was driving went out of control on Interstate-71, dropped off a bridge onto Indian Hills Trail and caught fire.

The victim was Miss Janet Ruth Deddens, 2142 Gladstone Ave., who suffered third degree burns all over her body, according to Chief Deputy Coroner William Anderson.

County police were told that Miss Deddens' car had passed one driven by James O. Goodloe, 30, New Castle, Ky., and hit the Goodloe vehicle as she attempted to drive back into the right lane. Her car then hit a guardrail and skidded until it reached the bridge.

The car then flipped on its right side and dropped 25 feet onto an embankment on the east side of Indian Hills Trail and caught fire. Goodloe said he was unable to reach Miss Deddens be-

cause of the flames.

Miss Deddens, a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church and the River Road Country Club, leaves her mother, Mrs. Henry A. Deddens, and five sisters, Mrs. Allen T. Fiedin, Summyston, Wash.; Mrs. Edwin A. Schoenbachler, Jr., Mrs. George J. Fultz, Jr., Mrs. Henry M. Joyner and Miss Lois Deddens.

Funeral services were held Wednesday in St. Raphael Church. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Can find no record of  
STMFD making this run, but  
I believe is in its territory.

## Fire guts two rooms of east-end house

Fire gutted two rooms of the J.S. Moyse house at 5422 Pawnee Trail Tuesday morning. Two units of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department put out the blaze.

The fire started in the laundry room of the house. A dryer caught fire and flames went up the clothes chute, and in a matter of minutes the recreation room and another room were in flames.

Firemen had the blaze under control in about 15 minutes after arrival.

Also two other rooms were damaged by the flames, and in the rest of the eight-room house there was smoke damage.

The Moyse's maid, Betty Johnson, was the only one home when the fire occurred. No one was hurt.

SECTION A, PAGE 20, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN

### FIRE RUNS Nov. 28, 1968

November 23 - 3:14 p.m. 501 Kingian Avenue, dishwasher.  
3816 Wilmington Avenue.  
November 25 - 5:25 p.m. November 29 - 11:10 a.m.  
405 Lotus Way, furnace motor. 6861 Green Meadow Circle.  
November 28 - 8:41 a.m.

November 29, 1968: Letter:

STMFD firefighter Al' Ring's  
parents, responded direct  
from Service station at Fair-  
meade Road.

November 29, 1968

R. A. Fokert, Claim Representative  
Hartford Insurance Group  
2300 Meadow Drive  
Louisville, Kentucky 40218

Dear Sir:

The following information is in answer to your request on a fire the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association responded to 11-20-68

Date of Fire: 11-20-68  
Location: 310 Wallace Ave.  
Time of Run: 1:12 AM

How did fire start: Unknown  
Was it investigated: Yes  
By Whom: Sgt. Leo Reynolds Kentucky State Police

If we can be of further service to you, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Monohan  
Chief, ST. M.V.P.A.

JMB/emc

1968

November 29, 1968: Letter:



The Louisville Country Day School  
ROCK CREEK LANE - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

December 2, 1968

Mr. Harry R. Babcock  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Harry:

I'm addressing this to you and I wish you would pass it on to the other members of the department.

I want to thank you for the efficiency with which you answered our call Friday. We found from the repair man that there was a short in the transformer, enough to blister the paint on a portion of the furnace. With the combustible fuel oil mixture in the furnace room, we consider ourselves fortunate.

Find enclosed a check for \$25.00 which is but a small token for the service rendered. Again our sincere thanks to each of you.

Sincerely,

*John R. Gernert*  
John R. Gernert

JRG/nls

Enclosure

FROM THE DESK OF

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
428 WEST LIBERTY STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
TELEPHONE 592-4324

December 2, 1968

Mr. John M. Monohan  
3909 Elmwood  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

In Re: 'St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Ass'n.  
vs. David Hudson  
Accident January 29, 1968  
Winchester Rd. and Breckinridge Lane

Dear Mr. Monohan:

The plaintiff made a motion for a continuance in this case which had been set for trial. The plaintiff claims he is going to have to undergo an operation in March, 1969. This case was set for February 17, 1969.

The Court has continued the trial until Monday, November 24, 1969. Will you please notify Mr. Bernard J. Karen of the new date for the trial.

Cordially,

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Lawrence S. Grauman

lsg jas

December 12, 1958, The Courier-Journal

## Or Sonic Boom?

# Louisville Area Jiggled By a Mini-Earthquake

What apparently was a very small earthquake shook the Louisville area at 10:12 a.m. yesterday.

It prompted the same sort of excited questions as did last month's much larger earthquake, which sent tremors through Kentucky and more than 20 states around it.

Although the exact cause of yesterday's vibrations is in doubt, Dr. Judson Mead, professor of geophysics at Indiana University, Bloomington, said he considered it "a very small" earth tremor.

The university's seismograph, which he interprets, recorded the quake seconds after it was felt in Louisville, Mead said. The IU seismograph indicated the tremors lasted about 90 seconds at an intensity only slightly stronger than an explosion at a rock quarry would be, he added.

Or maybe it was a sonic boom. This was the early theory of the National Earthquake Information Center at Rockville, Md., which conceded that its information was sketchy.

The earthquake information center in-

terpreted a reading at McMinnville, Tenn., about the same time as being a sonic boom. The Tennessee seismic recording was the only other it knew about late yesterday.

But in the Louisville area there were no supersonic aircraft operating at the time, according to civilian and military aviation spokesmen.

There were no clues either at Ft. Knox. A spokesman there said the post had only the usual amount of range firing going on.

State police in Frankfort, Elizabethtown and LaGrange said they had received no reports of tremors there.

But reports of houses being jarred flooded in on Jefferson County police from Shively to St. Matthews. Louisville police also got a flurry of calls from a wide area, with no reports of damage.

Mrs. Rose Paulin, 2009 Nelson in Shively, said the tremors "rocked our house" and described the quake as "a good hard shake-up, sort of like a triple-barreled sonic boom."

1968

December 12, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



Public parking  
lot in St. M.

This sparkling fresh stretch of asphalt is the first section of the new public parking lot of the City of St. Matthews. The lot's near to the I-64, tracks along Westport Road between Cherry Lane and St. Matthews Avenue. Story on B-4

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE  
**TRAVEL-GUARD**  
MAY BE PURCHASED AT  
**AL RING**   
HUBBARD LN. & SHELBYVILLE RD.  
AND  
HUBBARD LANE  
**CONVENIENT FOOD MART**


SEE NEWS STORY  
ON THE FRONT PAGE

*"It may save your life"*

*We invite You to  
Do YOUR  
Christmas  
Shopping  
in  
St. Matthews  
WITH MERCHANTS  
YOU KNOW!*

*Come As You Are—  
Shop In Suburban Comfort*

*You'll enjoy doing business with  
members of the St. Matthews Busi-  
ness Association.*



<p>A. &amp; P. Food Store Antiques Dept. Agency Albert Stone, Inc. J. Mason &amp; Sons Bank of Louisville Horton Barker, Attorney Barnes Medical Laboratory Bauer's Candies Beaver Dam Cold Co. Frederick Back Studio Bryner's Office Equipment Co. Blumgren Manufg. Juni Bookers Chemical Dr. J.C. Boone Benson Shoe Co., Inc. Bowling Shirt and Sales Brown &amp; Stone C.F.A. Burger Chef Burger King Butter Fabrics Inc. E.E. Butler Construction Co. Byers Book &amp; Co. Cannon-Randall Realtors Canary Cottage Dr. B.N. Carter Cassone Buildings Co. A.E. Chambers Realty Co. Charmaine Beauty Salon Chrysler Building &amp; Loan Co. Citizens Fidelity Bank Colonial Federal Savings &amp; Loan Ass. Commonwealth Life Insurance Co. Contractor's Carpet City Dr. David Cox C.L. Crocker, Jr. Insurance Diamond Crystal Salt Company DePuy's Inc. Cotton's Cafe Ely's Dairy Elise Realty Co. Key Elderly Insurance Service Ely's Hair Styling Embassy Super Club Fabrics Shop Falmouth Pharmacy The Fashion Post Dr. P.J. Farnham First National Bank Friendly Finance Frost's Big Boy Drive-In GEORGE'S INC. General Motors Automobile Corp. Glenn &amp; Co. RR Tire Dr. M.A. Gorman Gray &amp; Mackay, Kentucky Jewelers The Hat Box</p>	<p>Staller's St. Matthews Pet Sh. Hendley Mart Chas. H. Hadden, C.F.A. Dr. D.P. Henderson Hertz Rental Hillman &amp; Lyons Hudson &amp; Kober General Inc. Hoffman Lighting Co. Holladay Drug Store House of Slippers Howard Johnson Restaurant and Motor Lodge Humble Oil Co. Howard S. Hunt Jefferson Dairy Queen Jack's Body Shop Walter Kahn Women's Apparel Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation Ks. Farm Bureau Mutual Ins. Co. Ken's Flower Shop Knapdale Drugs R.J. Kohn Safe &amp; Lock Co. Koster-Simms Buick Kroger Co. Langer Corp. Leetich Laundry &amp; Cleaners Liberty National Bank &amp; Trust Co. Libby Floor Covering Little Joe Schreiner Linsville Builders &amp; Supply Co. Lindbergh Mortgage Service Co. Loudon Oil Trust Co. The Mail Merchants Awn. Marlin's Italian Restaurant Maxwell Printing Mill The J. Aubrey Miller Co. Helen Miller Free Store Kathleen D. Mock Morse Insurance Co. Gilbert Mueller Sales &amp; Service Mutual Underwriters Ins. Ass. Inc. Rally Barber Shop Hans &amp; Ruth, Florist CHUM &amp; HEN Ken O'Sullivan Ford, Inc. Old Commonwealth Insurance Agency O'Leary Furniture Co. Ope Mart Merchandise Orion's Express Dr. T.A. O'Leary Owens Realty Co. Parker Optical Service Perry-Schaefer-Bell J.D. Pearson &amp; Son Petersen Eng. Supply Pizza Hut Peter's Bakery</p>	<p>Pryor's Drive-In Restaurants Quacken &amp; Quacken, C.F.A. Ratterman Bm. Funeral Directors Rise Bookkeeping Service Hickel &amp; Neumann, C.F.A. Riley's Bedding &amp; Den Furniture Mr. Roberts's Luggage Roussier's Market St. Matthews Apothecary St. Matthews Auto Sales Co. St. Matthews Book Print St. Matthews Oil Corp. St. Matthews Chrysler-Plymouth St. Matthews Feed &amp; Seed Co. St. Matthews Hardware Store St. Matthews Hearing Aid Center St. Matthews Optical Co. St. Matthews Restaurants Safar's Liquor Sander's Cleaners F. Schuller Insurance Agency Seem Brothers &amp; Co. Sherwin Williams Co. Shower's Boys &amp; Mens Shop The Siskin Co. Dr. Tom Allen Smith M.G. Snyder Auto Southern Central Co. Sundings Laundry &amp; Dry Clean Suzanne System Dr. George Sullivan Sylvia Cleaners &amp; Dyers Sam Daniel Pontiac Dr. C.M. Talbot Taylor Drug Store Ten Pin Lane Inc. Terry's Texas Service Station Earl A. Thomas, Sign Thompson's Toys Thorne Trucking Time Finance Co. Towns House Gift Shoppe Trenchard-Adams Service The Travel Assurance Co., Inc. Twined &amp; Varian Twin Star Shop United Furniture Co. Vogue Theatre The Voice-Jeffersonian Robert Walter Davis, Inc. Hoffman Ties &amp; Mens Co. White Castle Restaurant Winn-Dixie Fred W. Winters, Engineer Woods Dec. Store F.W. Wootton Co. Wunderlich Realty Co.</p>
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**ALWAYS AMPLE FREE PARKING SPACE**

December 26, 1968, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Present STMFD firefighter

AIRMAN First Class John C. Wootton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wootton, 4016 St. Germaine Ct., has been re-assigned to Blytheville AFB, Ark. Wootton, a supply inventory specialist, formerly was stationed at Kadonah AFB, Okinawa. He is a graduate of Waggener High School and attended the University of Louisville. His wife, Beverly, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard G. Neal, 8604 Whipps Mill Rd.

Son of former STMFD firefighter

1968

## December 18, 1968, Crusade For Children

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, December 18, 1968

The 1969 WHAS Crusade for Children will be staged at a new time-- May 24 and 25 instead of on the traditional third weekend in September.

This change of dates was announced by Victor A. Sholis, President of WHAS, Inc. He explained that the shift was being made in the interest of providing better spacing of major fund-raising efforts in the community, and specifically to aid the United Appeal campaign.

In further explanation, Sholis added: "The WHAS Crusade was conceived for, and dedicated to, the compelling purpose of helping to improve the treatment of mentally and physically handicapped children in Louisville and the surrounding areas of Kentucky and Southern Indiana.

"The third week in September was originally selected for the annual program because at that time no major public solicitation was taking place at that particular period. The Crusade was never conceived as a competitor to other worthwhile civic efforts. To the contrary, WHAS has given energetic support to the United Appeal and every other campaign of value to the community.

"If a shift in the date of the WHAS Crusade will help other organizations in their efforts to raise funds for their worthy causes, we are willing to take the initiative by moving away from a date which has become established during 15 successful campaigns. It is impossible to find a time on the calendar which avoids all conflicts, but we have chosen late May after careful study as the best available alternative.

"To conduct the Crusade in May, 1969,--just eight months after the last one--will obviously create problems. These do not involve WHAS alone. Therefore, we have tried to explain our reasoning and purpose to many of the groups whose devotion and generous support have developed

Page 2

the Crusade into the unique undertaking it is. We regret very much that it was impossible to reach all of the thousands of volunteers who join us in our annual program before making this announcement.

"It is inevitable that the change of dates will pose some difficulties for them, since they are being asked to make substantial revisions in their plans and activities.

"We have such faith in the spirit which has motivated our supporters in the past, however, that we believe they will enable us to overcome the problem of changing a highly successful pattern.

"The objective is to make the best possible adjustment to the scheduling of other good causes, while losing none of the wide public interest and generosity in the service of handicapped children on which the WHAS Crusade has been built."



1968

**December 20, 1968: Engineer Says Woman in Fatal Crash Drove Around Gate Into Train's Path.** A St. Matthews woman was killed this morning when she reportedly drove her car around a lowered railroad crossing gate into the path of a Louisville & Nashville passenger train.

Miss. Lillie M. Winkler, 68, of 229 Glover Lane, was pronounced dead at General Hospital shortly after the collision at 9:40 a.m. at the Clover Lane crossing near her home. Deputy Coroner Charles Proctor said she died of head and internal injuries.

St. Matthews Police Chief Kermit Cook said L & N engineer N. L. Stasel told him the train was traveling east at 32 miles an hour at the time of the accident.

Miss Winkler's car, headed north, edged around the crossing arm, although the gate had been lowered and warning lights were flashing, Stasel reported.

Was returning from store: The train hit the car on the driver's side and knocked it into a metal railroad crossing standard embedded in concrete. The impact broke off the standard at its base and uprooted the concrete.

The 1966-model compact auto was demolished and Cook said police had to pry open a door in order to free Mrs. Winkler. She was removed from the wreckage within three minutes, however, the chief estimated.

The woman's pulse was beating feebly, Cook said, but she was dead by the time she arrive at the hospital. In the car, police found milk and a loaf of bread, indicating Miss Winkler was returning home from a grocery store.

The St. Matthews Fire Department was called to hose down gasoline that leaked from the ruptured tank on the car.



Miss Lillie M. Winkler, 68, of St. Matthews was fatally injured this morning when her car was struck by a Louisville & Nashville train at the crossing at Clover Lane, near her home. Staff photo, Jon Webb.

1968

**December 1968: Firefighter Doug Monohan & son Kiernan “enjoying the fire house.”**



**Unknown date, we think late 1960s. It was a Firefighter appreciation day. Below.**



**Left to right: First two unknown, John M. Monohan, Jr., Skip Golden, Doug Monohan, Paul Dillman, Phil Iwan Al Ring.**

1968

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue: Training With Lyndon, unknown date in 1968.  
S5 in front of Lyndon School in Lyndon.



1968/1969

Courtesy Sam Wolfe—Future STMFD firefighter—Tuesday night training session on Massie Avenue. I was only 17/18, not yet a member. Sam Wolfe at S1 pump panel.



December 21, 1968, The Courier-Journal

# 2 County Residents Die In Separate Accidents

A 67-year-old woman and a 19-year-old youth were killed yesterday in separate Jefferson County traffic accidents, one of which involved a Louisville & Nashville train.

L&N engineer N. L. Stasel told St. Matthews police that Miss Lillie M. Winkler, 229 Clover Lane, drove her car around a lowered railroad crossing gate into the path of his passenger train. Warning lights were flashing, he said.

Miss Winkler was pronounced dead on

arrival at General Hospital shortly after the train rammed her car on the driver's side at 9:40 a.m. at the Clover Lane crossing.

Charles Lee Graves of Mount Washington was killed about 3:40 a.m. when his car ran off Bardstown Road at Waterford, turned over and then struck a utility pole, county police said.

Deputy coroners said both Graves and Miss Winkler died of head and internal injuries.

Graves, a graduate of Mount Washington High School, is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Graves, Mount Washington, and three brothers, Jack Graves of Chattanooga, and Gary and James Howard Graves, both of Mount Washington.

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. tomorrow at McFarland's Funeral Home, Mount Washington, with burial in Mount Washington Cemetery.

Miss Winkler was a member of St. John United Church of Christ, 637 E. Market. She is survived by a brother, Henry Winkler.

Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Ratterman's, 3711 Lexington Road, with burial in Cave Hill Cemetery. The body will be at the funeral home from 7 to 9 p.m. today and between 2 and 5 p.m. and 7 and 9 p.m. tomorrow.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to St. John Church.



Staff Photo by Jon Webb

AN AIR CLEANER frames the wreckage of Miss Lillie Winkler's car and a metal railroad crossing standard that broke off when the automobile was struck by a Louisville & Nashville train at the Clover Lane crossing yesterday. Miss Winkler, 67, was killed.



1968

STMFD fire run reports 1968:

198 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N: 10  
FIRE REPORT

DATE 9-5-68 TIME OF ALARM 4:01 P.M. TIME RETURNED 5:08 A.M.  
LOCATION 11 Arrowhead Rd. APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☒ DEPT. Lyndon Fire Department  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT P. Brown  
OWNER Mrs. W. F. Lucas  
OWNER ADDRESS 18 Indian Mills Tr.  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☒ 102 ☒ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐  
REMARKS  
2 Booster Lines + Water 51  
16 FT ladder + Tools  
Cause - air conditioner  
OFFICER IN CHARGE P. Lucas REPORT WRITTEN BY P. Lucas

201 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N: 104  
FIRE REPORT

DATE 9-6-68 TIME OF ALARM 3:36 P.M. TIME RETURNED \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.  
LOCATION 5410 Hampstead - Working APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. 703 Lyndon 1-6  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 50 ☒ 51 ☒ 52 ☒ 53 ☒ 54 ☒ 55 ☒ 56 ☒ 57 ☒  
REMARKS Lay 2-1/2" supply lines 56, 5-7  
5-8 supply 3-1/2" hoses 1-1/2" hoses  
1-1/2" hose 1-1/2" hoses 1-1/2" hoses  
OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Morrison REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt. Kuhlke

216 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N: 117  
FIRE REPORT

DATE 9-25-68 TIME OF ALARM 2:55 P.M. TIME RETURNED 8:03 A.M.  
LOCATION Frisch's Big Boy APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☒ DEPT. M. Pladen - over house  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☒ 102 ☒ 103 ☒ 104 ☒ 105 ☒ 106 ☒ 107 ☒ 108 ☒ 109 ☒  
REMARKS All units report 5-2  
Cause unknown  
OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Morrison REPORT WRITTEN BY E. Brown

247 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N: 150  
FIRE REPORT

DATE 11-21-68 TIME OF ALARM 1:12 P.M. TIME RETURNED 3:52 A.M.  
LOCATION 310 Wallace Ave APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☒ FLAMES ☒ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☒ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☒  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT Country Store  
OWNER David Kinnear  
OWNER ADDRESS 10000 1st Ave  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☒ 102 ☒ 103 ☒ 104 ☒ 105 ☒ 106 ☒ 107 ☒ 108 ☒ 109 ☒  
REMARKS Investigated by area Division of L.F.D.  
Fire originated in corner of third room but  
unidentified  
OFFICER IN CHARGE John Morrison REPORT WRITTEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

1968

STMFD fire run reports 1968:

248 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 169

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 11-21-68 TIME OF ALARM 11:16 A.M. TIME RETURNED 12:03 A.M.

LOCATION Emergency - 317 Westport Drive APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☒ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ return

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☒ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. 54

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE Geo Walker MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER Geo Walker ADDRESS 317 Westport Dr

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☒ 105 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS Furnace blocked CO in house removed elderly woman from house to next door neighbor's house DDA, corner had been in house and left prior to our notification. Dr. & LGE on scene

OFFICER IN CHARGE Pat Malone REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt Walker

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 160

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12-28-68 TIME OF ALARM 12:27 A.M. TIME RETURNED 12:52 A.M.

LOCATION Hullards Lane 3140000 of 42 APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ spirit dead 1st of 1st

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐ 54-5-6

REMARKS Unit stand on NE side Rd. Possibly stand by persons(?) 5-6-58 Modified

OFFICER IN CHARGE 57-5-6 REPORT WRITTEN BY J. DeHart Capt.

245 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 163

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12-31-68 TIME OF ALARM 4:51 A.M. TIME RETURNED 5:53 A.M.

LOCATION 128 Ridge Way APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ house

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS X Occupant - Mr. Hick X Daniel A. Hild

OFFICER IN CHARGE 5-7-5-6 REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt. DeHart

# 1968

## Fire Statistics For 1968

Total number of fire runs: 293  
Total working fires: 8  
Total hours of fire fighting: 78  
Total 1 1/2" hose used: 4,600 feet  
Total 2 1/2" hose used: 9,400 feet  
Back up City of Louisville: 3 times  
Number of A. M. runs: 85  
Number of P. M. runs: 208

### Number of runs made by fire apparatus:

S1: 177  
S2: 61  
S3: 81  
S4: 171  
S5: 75

### Types of fire runs:

House 77  
Commercial 58  
Automobile 36  
Field & trash 49  
Miscellaneous 45  
Malicious false 28

### Working fires:

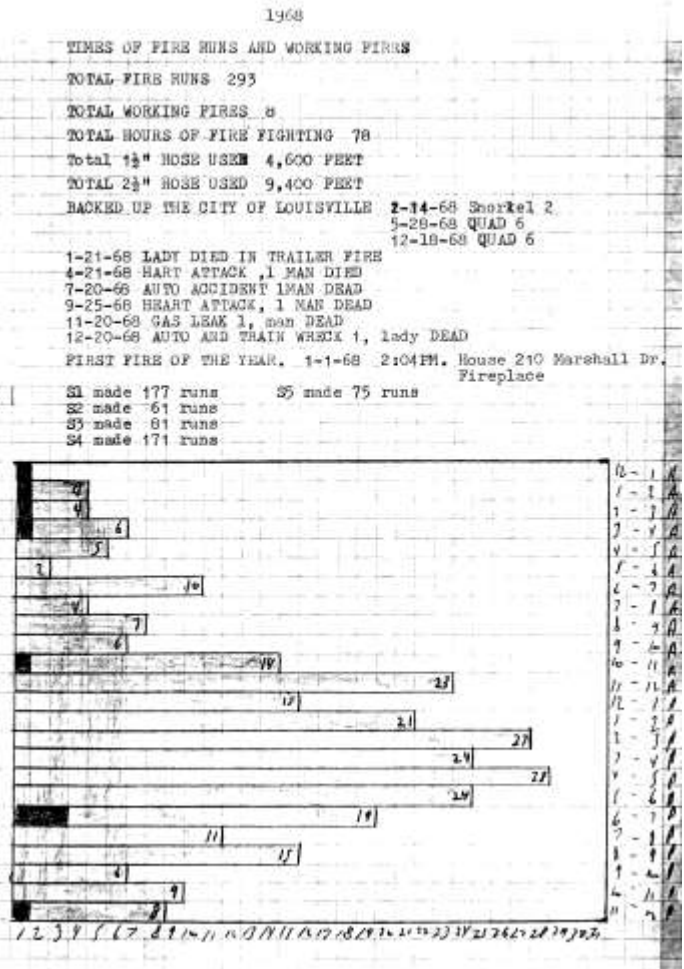
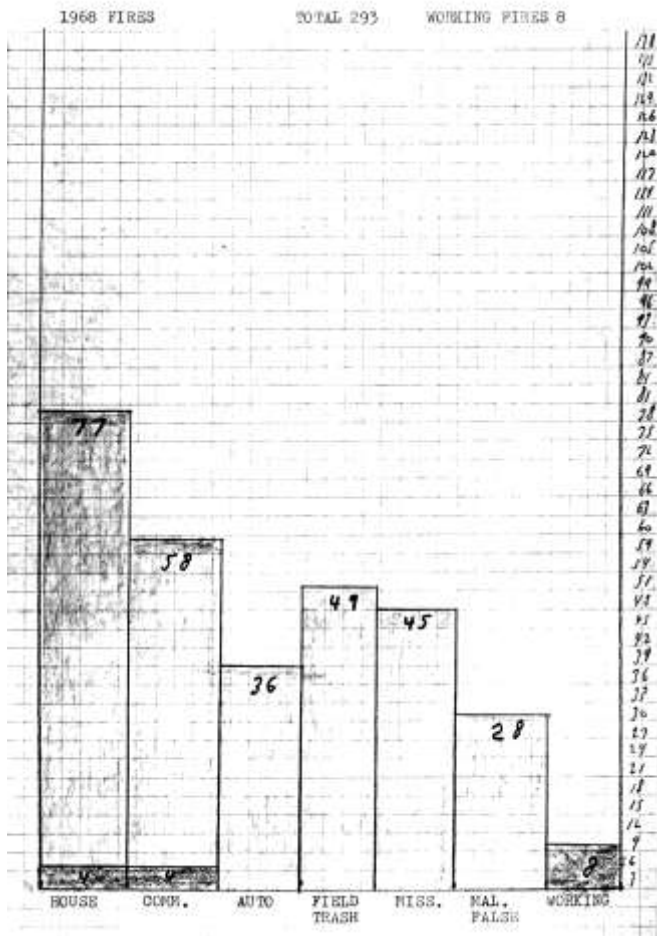
1/19/1968	6:39 p.m.	Apartment, 3609 Brownsboro Road
1/21/1968	11:23 p.m.	Trailer, 4520 Shelbyville Road, 1 lady dead
4/25/1968	6:20 p.m.	Whisky warehouse, Eastwood Ky.
7/1/1968	6:03 p.m.	House, 4064 Richland Avenue, 2nd floor
9/6/1968	3:36 a.m.	House, 5410 Hempstead Rd., mother / daughter dead
9/25/1968	2:55 a.m.	Big Boy, 4800 Shelbyville Road, basement
11/20/1968	1:12 a.m.	Antique Shop, 310 Wallace Avenue
11/26/1968	10:00 a.m.	House, 5422 Pawnee Trail
4/21/1968		Heart attack, one man dead
7/20/1968		Auto accident, one man dead
9/25/1968		Heart attack, one man dead
11/21/1968		Gas leak, one man dead
12/20/1968		Auto / train wreck, one lady dead

1968

STMFD fire run charts, by Al Ring

Total runs 293

Working fires 8





## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE DEPARTMENT

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE DEPARTMENT

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF

TO[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF

TO[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF

TO[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

## FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM ..... TO .....

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

\*If fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

\*If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

## TO

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

All in flow caused by other facilities make a separate record of each under the original where that one item below

## TO

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM 8-26-58 TO 9-8-58

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

\*If a fire system is other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

<sup>1</sup>If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

Report for 11-16-68 on rept 1 page - 1 no 252-253 should be between 11-13-68 & 11-26-68 reports  
" " 11-17-68 " " 3

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible][illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible][illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *St. Matthews*[illegible]

\*If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM 12-7-68 TO 12-31-68

[illegible]



1968

**Board Of Directors**

F. C. Boss  
J. C. Emrich  
L. S. Grauman  
G. Miller  
H. A Monohan  
J. M. Monohan, Jr.  
J. P. Terry  
W. L. Wilson

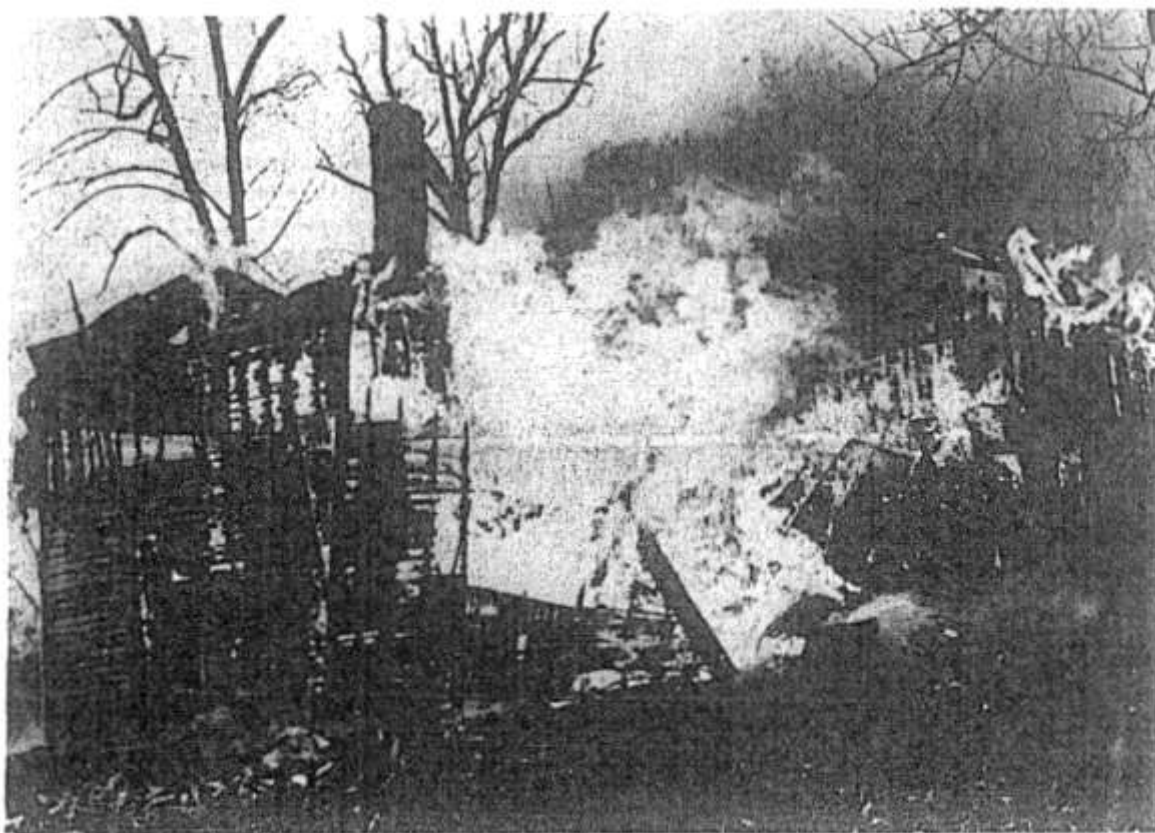
**Officers**

1968 Chief J. M. Monohan, Jr.  
Assistant Chief W. R. Herdt  
Captain H. K. Babcock  
Captain A. R. Haeberlin  
Captain R. C. Walling  
Captain M. R. Zehnder  
Lieutenant A. E. Andriot, Jr.  
Lieutenant J. T. DeHart  
Lieutenant J. S. Handle  
Lieutenant J. C. Jackson  
Lieutenant R. J. Thornbury

**Firefighters**

A. E. Andriot, III  
D. W. Beard  
G. A. Beckman  
J. A. Beckman  
J. R. Case  
W. C. Colson  
H. L. Chreste  
D. L. Daniels  
C. T. Davis  
W. E. Dieckman  
P. G. Dillman  
D. L. Engnehl  
C. E. Fenimore  
E. C. Foley  
W. A. Franck  
B. J. Golden, Jr.  
B. J. Karem  
H. C. Kuhn, Jr.  
D. C. Lange  
G. F. Liebert  
R. H. Maloney  
T. L. Martin  
C. S. McAfee  
J. R. McFarland

M. McMakin  
A. McNally  
W. F. Mercke  
D. W. Merrifield  
W. T. Miller  
D. L. Monohan  
J. M. Monohan, III  
D. L. Morgan, Jr.  
B. Munz  
J. L. Noon  
K. Reagan  
R. M. Rakestraw  
K. C. Reising, Jr.  
Al Ring  
D. L. Ross  
J. B. Ross  
P. L. Schneider  
E. T. Schuler  
R. H. Schultze  
A. R. Scott  
G. L. Soules, Jr.  
D. G. Sterch  
D. J. Sullivan  
R. Tackett  
S. E. Wayne



THE OLD St. Matthews Episcopal Church rectory and girls' school, which later housed the local Y.M.C.A. branch, became a ball of flame last November. Firemen burned the building in a massive firefighting exercise.

### 3. Mysterious death on road

In July, the death of a truck driver made banner headlines in *The Voice*.

The body of William Henry Davidson, of Crestwood, was found on Breckinridge Lane near I - 64. A police investigation never fully established whether Davidson was a hit-and-run victim or a murderer's target.

Many leads were tracked down and many persons were questioned but the death remained a puzzle as 1968 closed.

Tragedy struck often last year. Early in the year two 17-year-old Waggener High students died in ice-sheeted Tucker Lake near Jeffersonton.

Michael Dwaine Shomer, of 3506 Hanover Rd., and John Bruce Crimmins, of Jan. 22. Apparently the two drowned when the compressed air in their scuba tanks ran out.

In September the bedridden wife of a

Louisville surgeon and their 15-year-old daughter died of suffocation when flames badly damaged their home at 5401 Hampstead Road in Robinswood Subdivision.

Death came after the girl had made a vain attempt to rescue her mother. The victims were Mrs. Lois Canfield, 45, and Deborah Ann Canfield, wife and daughter of Dr. Bourbon E. Canfield. The doctor was treated for a severe cut on the left hand suffered in a rescue attempt.

On August 1, Patricia June Davis, 11, of 4029 Winchester Rd., was killed in St. Matthews when the bicycle she was riding was hit by a car at the intersection of Willis and Wendover Avenues.

Mrs. Lillie Mae Winkler, 68, of 229 Clover Ln., was killed Dec. 20 when the car she was driving was struck by an L. & N. passenger train at Clover Lane and Westport Road.

1969

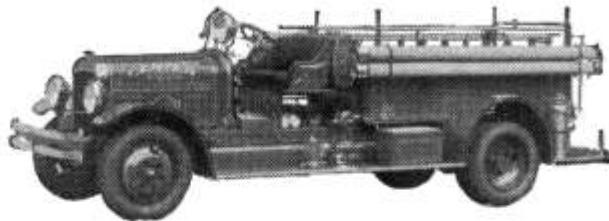
January , 1969, Courtesy Malcolm McMakin, Pat Maloney, sitting, Clark Fenimore middle, Jack Monohan.



January 16, 1969: Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the directors of the St.  
Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn., held January 16, 1969

### Directors present

John Monohan  
Lawrence Grauman  
Fred Boss  
George E. Miller  
W. Leland Wilson  
John Enrich

Minutes of last meeting held December 12, 1968 read by President Monohan.  
Motion made by Fred Boss, seconded by George Miller, that they be accepted  
as read.

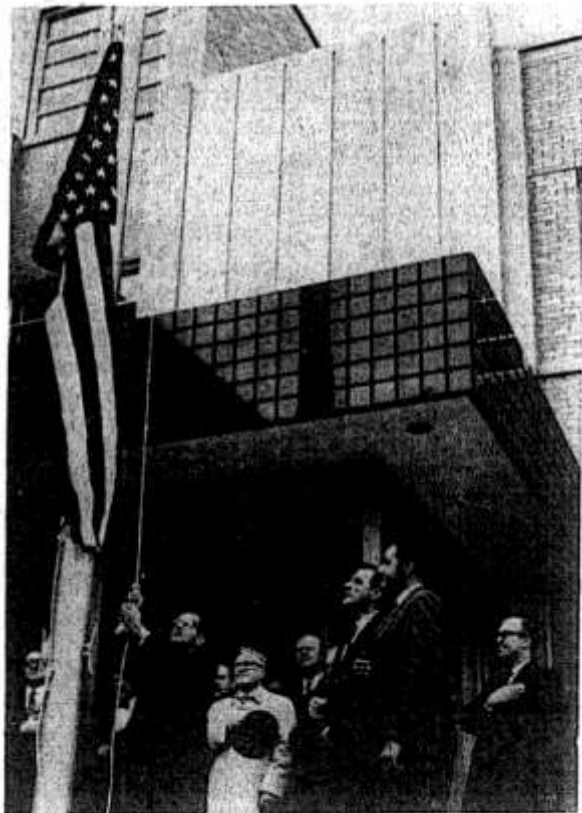
Mr. Miller and Mr. Boss decided to purchase December 27, 1968 \$5,000.00  
certificate of deposit in Bank of Louisville, and January 14, 1969 \$5,000.00  
certificate of deposit in Stock Yards Bank.

There being no further business motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by  
John E. Rmich that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

*George E Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.

January 16, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



## Solemn moment

Flag raising ceremonies concluded the dedication of the new 17,000-square foot addition of the state offices of the Kentucky Farm Bureau. President of the bureau Louis F. Isen hoisted the flag. To his right are J. Robert Wade, first vice president and William Balden, second vice president of the bureau.

# State Farm Bureau addition dedicated

The Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation dedicated a 17,000-square foot addition to its state office building at 120 S. Hubbards Ln. in St. Matthews Monday, Jan. 13.

State officers of the bureau and several local public officials including the mayor of St. Matthews, Bernard F. Bowling, participated in the dedicatory ceremonies.

Kentucky Farm Bureau president, Louis F. Isen, presided.

To commemorate the new addition a flag raising was held at the conclusion of the ceremonies.

Brief remarks were made by Mayor Bowling. He thanked the bureau for its confidence in the community of St. Matthews.

Special guests of the bureau were introduced by John Koon, executive secretary of the farm bureau and president of the St. Matthews Business Association.

The new addition is two stories. It was constructed in such a manner that other floors may be added. The ground floor is office space to be used by employees of the bureau and the second floor by the Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co.

The addition is the third expansion of the facility. Other additions were made in 1951 and 1960. The total office space of the building is now 48,500 square feet.

The original facility was built in St. Matthews in 1948.

The general contractor for the new addition was Platoff Construction Co. and the architects were Garwood M. Grimes and Lloyd Lutz Sr. of St. Matthews.

1969

January 23, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



New Citizens Fidelity Bank branch in Hikes Point

## Citizens Fidelity Bank opens Hikes Point branch

The new Hikes Point branch of Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co. was opened Jan. 23.

The branch, located at Tiptonville Road and Brockbridge Lane, is managed by William H. Sparks.

The building consists of a series of interlocking cement squares topped by a "floating" copper-covered roof.

Large windows are enclosed in glass. The entrance has massive hood-carved doors and geranium-colored carpeting is used throughout the building.

Sparks formerly was manager of the Hardaway Road branch. He had been there since 1962 when he was promoted from manager of the Fair Creek facility. Sparks, who resides at 9506 Garden Drive, Jeffersonville, attended Xavier University at Cincinnati, where he majored in economics. He is financial chairman of the Mahesh Day House District and secretary of the Jeffersonville Little League.

Replacing Sparks as manager of the Hardaway Road Office is David Carr Gentry, formerly manager of Citizens' Shawnee Office. William Payne has been promoted to manager of the Shawnee Office to replace Gentry.

Gentry resides at 2051 Haggwood Way, and Payne resides at 9421 Hedden Lane, Park Creek.

Banking hours of the new office will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.

The announcements were made by A. M. Brinkley Jr., chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Citizens Fidelity Bank, and William J. Malone, vice president in charge of branch operations.



William H. Sparks



David G. Gentry

## Future STMFD Board member

February 6, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## One-Stop Car Service Here!

### •TIME TO CHECK-UP

Car "had it" from winter? We'll lube-up, check-up, fix-up quickly, expertly, at reasonable prices.



**TERRY'S**

3006 Lexington Rd.  
896-9217



**SERVICE**

**AAA SERVICE**

Open 24 Hours A Day



1969

February 7, 1969, Letter:

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
433 W. LEXINGTON ST.  
LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

February 7, 1969

Louisville Shopping Center  
Community Center & Development Co.  
14 West Saratoga St.  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Gentlemen:

I am Director and Attorney of the St. Matthews Fire Association and in checking our records we find that for the period from July, 1967, to July, 1968, we do not have any payment recorded for fire protection services.

We do have a recording of a payment of \$1,080.50 made August 23, 1968, for the period July, 1968, to July, 1969.

I would appreciate it greatly if you will check your records and ascertain if a check was issued for the period July, 1967, to July, 1968, and if such check was issued and paid by your bank will you please have a photocopy made of the front and back of the check at our expense and send it to me.

I will be pleased to hear from you promptly.

Cordially,

Lawrence S. Grauman

LSG:jaa

February 10, 1969, Letter:

February 10, 1969

Fireman's Fund Insurance  
2100 Gardiner Lane  
Louisville, Kentucky 40205

RE: Claim on Fire  
3947 Massie Ave.  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mr. Beal:

The Fire Report on 3947 Massie Ave. is as follows;

The fire call came in at 2:23 P.M. on the following date.

Date being; 1/25/69.

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department responded with two (2) Pumpers & 1 (one) Lquad to the scene. They were at this location until 3:14 P.M.

As for the amount of loss, we don't estimate the loss. This is left up to the insurance agent. Our main concern is fighting the fire and saving lives.

If there is anything else other than the time you need, please call 896-8812 between 9:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.

Sincerely Yours,

Chief John M. Monohan

February 10, 1969

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 200

FIRE REPORT

DATE 2-23-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:23 AM TIME RETURNED 3:14 AM  
LOCATION 3947 Massie Ave APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WREDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Shed  
RESUSCITATION ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT J. C. Scheibel  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☒ 102 ☒ 103 ☐ 104 ☒ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
REMARKS water from the shed, people not home

OFFICER IN CHARGE H. A. King REPORT WRITTEN BY H. A. King

Peter C. Brown  
11 Arrowhead Road  
Louisville, Kentucky 40217

Dear Mr. Brown:

In answer to your request for information on a fire at 11 Arrowhead Road, it is as follows;

The fire took place on September 5, 1966, at 4:01 P.M. The fire trucks leaving the scene at 5:08 P.M.

As for the extent of damage, this report will have to come from your insurance agent.

I hope we have been a help to you. If at anytime we can be of service to you feel free to call.

I remain,

Chief John M. Monohan, Jr.

Chief St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association



Luxury apartments

This architect's sketch shows how the Casa Grande condominiums (apartment buildings) on Sherburn Lane will look when completed. The twin buildings, costing \$1.5 million apiece, will be five stories, rather than 10, as shown in the sketch.

## \$3 MILLION PROJECT

# Twin condominiums to be built here

By Joseph Oglesby, Jr.  
Editor

Plans for building twin condominiums (apartment buildings), costing \$1.5 million apiece, on Sherburn Lane, near The Mall, were announced this week by the Delcrest Design and Construction Co.

Each building will be five stories and will contain 48 apartments. The twin buildings will be located on a three-acre tract on the west side of Sherburn between Shelbyville Road and Brown's Lane.

David Smith, president of Delcrest, said the buildings will be called Casa Grande North and Casa Grande South.

They will be luxury apartment buildings designed in the Spanish motif.

Each apartment will have a living room, dining room, master bedroom, kitchen, double bathroom, entry hall and balcony.

Facilities shared by all residents of the complexes will include elevators, a handball court, sauna baths, swimming pool, wine cellar, heated garages, health club, barbecue area, social rooms, and closed circuit TV hookup between lobby and apartments for security purposes.

Each building will be sound and fire proof. The construction will be steel and concrete.

The contractor will be Delcrest Design and Construction Co. Kenneth Mock, a St. Matthews architect, designed the buildings.

### New to Kentucky

Condominiums are new to Kentucky. The Delcrest Construction Co. started construction of the first brand new one in the state last year. That building, Casa Grande of Thierman Lane, in St. Matthews, is nearing completion.

Condominiums are similar to co-op apartments, but the owner of each apartment holds a title to his apartment and can sell it whenever he wishes.

Maintenance and service costs for the "common use" areas are shared by condominium dwellers.

"The condominium is the latest concept in the American way of life," said Smith. "Everything is designed for convenience."

Smith and his partner, E. Rodolfo Pantoja, vice president of Delcrest, researched condominiums for three years before building the first unit here.



## Beef 'n' Boards

### A GOURMET DINNER THEATER

PRESENTS  
**ARNOLD STANG**  
IN "LUV"  
—through March 2—

Starting Wednesday March 5  
(Oscar Winner) **PATTY McCORMACH** in  
"WAIT UNTIL DARK"

**Performances Nightly Except Monday**  
**Tables for 2 to 8 Persons Available**  
**BY RESERVATION ONLY**

For Reservation Call:  
Louisville 451-4900 — Simpsonville 722-8836  
**Dinner & Show One Price**

<b>Sunday</b> Dinner 5:00 p.m. Show 7:00 p.m. \$7.00 tax incl. per person	<b>Tuesday thru Thursday</b> Dinner 7:00 p.m. Show 8:30 p.m. \$7.00 tax incl. per person	<b>Friday &amp; Saturday</b> Dinner 7:00 p.m. Show 9:00 p.m. \$8.00 tax incl. per person
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Theatre Opens ½ hour Prior to Dinner  
(Dinner Served Promptly To Assure You Time To Dine Before Show)

## Beef 'n' Boards\*

Kentucky's New Gourmet Dinner Theater  
on Veatchdale Road, between I-64 and U.S. 60  
near SIMPSONVILLE, KY.

\*T.M. App.

1969

February 13, 1969, The Courier-Journal



A new fire station for the Jeffersonton Volunteer Fire Department was among projects in 1968.

1969

February 16, 1969: Board meeting:

February 27, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held  
Feb 16th 1969

Directors present

W. Island Wilson      John Yarrick  
Geo E Miller          Jno Monahan  
Henry Monahan

Minutes of last meeting held Jan 16th 1969 read by Pres.  
Monahan .

Motion made by W. L. Wilson seconded by John Yarrick they  
be accepted as read.

Motion made by Henry Monahan seconded by Jno Yarrick  
that fireman be given a dinner and a dance party separately.

There being no further business motion made by  
Geo Miller seconded by John Yarrick that we adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo. E. Miller Sec'y.



### Learning hard way

Fire-fighting techniques were learned by members of the Middletown, Jeffersontown, Lyndon, and McMahon Volunteer Fire Departments last Saturday during a training session held at Hurstbourne Lane and U.S. 60. Rookies and equipment were tested as the units destroyed two abandoned houses.



### Wall nears completion

Hobert Strong, an employee of the St. Matthews Public Works Department, adds a creek rock to the nearly-completed retaining wall between the new city parking lot and the L. & N. tracks along Westport Road. The new parking strip is to be opened in spring. It will accomodate about 20 cars.

I have no official record of STMFD attending



## KENTUCKY COLONELS

are back in town vs. the  
**MIAMI FLORIDIANS**

**8:00 P.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 1**  
**at CONVENTION CENTER**

and remember... it's Optimum Club Night

## KENTUCKY COLONELS

this time vs. the  
**NEW YORK NETS**

**8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5**  
**at CONVENTION CENTER**

The Jeffersons High School Chaperones will entertain

**Tickets for both games are  
on sale NOW**  
**at the Convention Center Ticket Office**  
**583-5695**

Ticket Office Open Daily from 10 A.M. Until 5 P.M.  
**TICKETS \$2-\$3-\$4-\$5**





## Mrs. Carl Kempf recalls early days in St. M.

By Marilyn Frederick

Being one of the early pioneers of St. Matthews is the one distinction Mrs. Carl Kempf is proud of; she has lived at the same address in the community for 55 years.

In her early days she was busy rearing her 12 children.

Mrs. Kempf believes today's children want too much and their parents give them too much. Her philosophy, based on firm discipline filled with love, has seen her through the years.

With the demands of our society today the Kempf girls admit it is rather hard to follow in their mother's footsteps, and no one yet has come up to the quality of her fried chicken and doughnuts.

### No neighbors

It was back in 1914 when St. Matthews Avenue was just a dirt road leading across the tracks that the young married Kempfs settled down in their home at 157. There were no neighbors -- only a corn field across the road from their home and a potato field in the back.

As a matter of fact there were only a few houses between them and the city limits at Canons Lane. With no electricity yet in the area the long country-bus ride from the city limits to their home was dark and lonely and sometimes frightening.

By 1916 St. Matthews Avenue was made into a gravel road and Carl Kempf was working on making a cinder path. "Every night after dinner daddy (Mr. Kempf) would go to the ice house and get a wheel barrow full of cinders," Mrs. Kempf recalled.

Because they lived in what her sister-in-law called the country, Mrs. Kempf said visits from this part of the family were few and far between. The one time this particular relative did decide to come to call she got her new Stutz stuck in the mud. "Daddy had to get two mules to pull her car out," Mrs. Kempf said. "She didn't visit us much after that."

For ten years coal-oil lamps and lanterns illuminated the Kempf home, and a water-powered washer was used to clean the clothes. The wooden drum affair used a lot of water but it served its purpose well. "Thank goodness this was before we had water meters," Mrs. Kempf commented.

With electricity came other convenience and out went the old flat irons. "I used to have four to six of the heavy irons heating on a plate against the oil stove," she said.

From this same stove's oven came a variety of bakery goods made by Mrs. Kempf. "Because my family was growing I used to bake six pies at a time," she said. "They were all gone by the morning."

Now, she said, it takes her as long to make one pie as it did to produce six. The quantity of the ingredients added

Continued to page B-3

## Mrs. Carl Kempf recalls early days in St. M.

Continued from page B-1

to the flavor Mrs. Kempf believes.

A vegetable garden supplied the family with food summer and winter because canning was a necessity then. "I used the half a gallon size jars," she said, "for canning 14 different kinds of vegetables." Her mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Kempf lived with them for several years and always helped her daughter-in-law with the canning in the big pressure cooker.

Before her marriage Mrs. Kempf was a seamstress by profession so tailoring all the boys' clothes was a pleasure for her. "I didn't like making girls' clothes and didn't like to iron them," she admitted. Her 24 hour job of rearing her family didn't leave much time for anything else. She said she was lucky to get to a P.T.A. meeting.

Cooking was her speciality. She never measured anything but judged her dishes by taste. Those recipes she did use were of German origin and had been handed down to her from her grandmother.

She says she still finds it hard to cut down on the preparing. When she used to fry chicken she never knew how many ended up in the pot because Mr. Kempf always brought them in from the hen house all cut up. To be sure she just kept on frying until she thought she had enough.

### Ideal location

The location of the Kempf home was also ideally located for sending the children to one of the two groceries in the town. On pay day Mr. Kempf would always stop at the grocery to pick up supplies. "He never needed a list; he knew what we needed," Mrs. Kempf said.

From her front porch Mrs. Kempf could see her children go into the school's side door. All 12 were baptized at the old Holy Trinity Church and completed their elementary education at the school.

As the boys came of age, each of the seven had a paper route and helped with milking the cows (they had two) or hoeing the garden. The latter was often used as a punishment if one had misbehaved. There were also chickens to feed and eggs to gather to help keep the 12 lively children occupied.

In 1938 Shelbyville Road was opened as a brand new highway. This also opened the way for the commercial growth of the then small suburban city. Subdivisions began popping up all over and the Kempfs suddenly discovered they had plenty of neighbors.

This year on February 15 Mrs. Kempf celebrated her 77 birthday with a family reunion. All twelve children were there plus most of their children. Carl Jr. and his wife came from Smyra, Ga. all the others live in Louisville. Divided among Carl, Ray, Al, Paul, Joe, Jack, Mary Jean, Margaret (Mrs. Paul Bode), Pat (Mrs. Martin Sullivan, Jr.), Ralph, Virginia (Mrs. James Don McElune), and Ruth (Mrs. William Welbel), there are 37 children plus three great grandchildren.



THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION of 77-year-old Mrs. Carl Kempf was the occasion of a family gathering this month at Holy Trinity School. Her great-granddaughter, Jennifer Rich, 3, was just one of many guests at the celebration.

March 6, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Bank appoints two assistant cashiers

Promotion of two staff members of the trust department to assistant cashiers was announced by A. M. Brinkley, Jr., board chairman and chief executive officer of the Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co.

They are Thomas O. Eifler, 3014 Vogue

Ave., and Raymond A. Schmitt, Anchor-

ter. Eifler joined the bank staff in 1966 under the officer training program. He has worked in the credit department and was assistant manager at the Broadway office before joining the bond department. Eifler is a graduate of the University of Louisville and is secretary-treasurer of the Suburban Optimist Club.

Schmitt came with the bank in 1966 as part of the subtreasury department. He has attended the University of Louisville, is past president of the South Oldham Optimist Club and is active in the Boy Scout program.

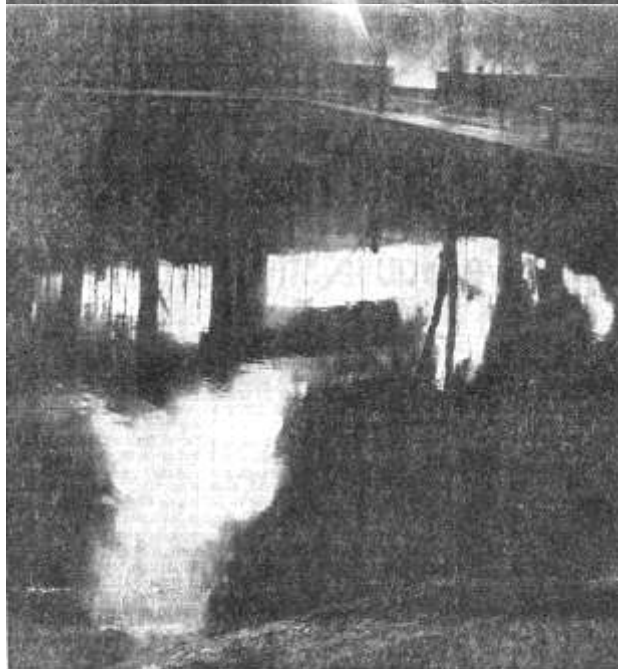


Thomas O. Eifler

Future STMFD  
Board member.

March 1, 1969, *The Louisville Times*:

1969  
\$500,000 Fire Destroys Louisville Boat Club Home



Flames from the burning clubhouse are reflected in the Louisville Boat Club swimming pool.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 236

400  
**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-1-69 TIME OF ALARM 6:25 AM TIME RETURNED 8:16 AM

LOCATION 4200 Upper River Rd (Backup #1.C) APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CALL: HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

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

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☒ 104 ☐ 105 ☒ 106 ☒ 107 ☐

REMARKS Louisville Boat Club 56 Backup on  
Ladder truck.

OFFICER IN CHARGE S-6 + Capt D. H. H. H. REPORT WRITTEN BY J. H. H. H.

# \$500,000 Fire Destroys Louisville Boat Club Home

The rambling old clubhouse of the historic Louisville Boat Club was razed by fire early today.

A spectacular blaze swept through the upper portion of the two-story frame structure before dawn.

The clubhouse was across Upper River Road from the Ohio River, just east of Indian Hills Trail. The site is about five miles from the foot of Fourth Street.

First estimates of damages exceeded \$500,000. No boats were reported damaged, and there were no injuries.

The clubhouse has been a Louisville landmark, and the club long has been noted for fancy yachts, swinging parties and outstanding tennis.

For years it has sponsored junior tennis tournaments, namely the Southern Junior and once the National Junior,

both drawing the top-rated players in the country. Early in the 1950s its courts were the scene of a preliminary Davis Cup round between the United States and Japan.

## Building Was 40 Years Old

The present building is said to be about 40 years old, but the club itself is 89 years old. It is the oldest social club of its type in Louisville, one of the oldest in the country, and gained a reputation for its parties as early as the Gay Nineties.

Only the chimney and rumpled walls remained today.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews volunteer departments responded to the 5:20 a.m. alarm, but said the roof was engulfed in flames

when they arrived. They theorized the fire had started in the attic.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd, who lives nearby on River Bluff Road, said he saw flames shooting high in the night sky as he left home to answer the alarm.

## Fire Plugs Lacking

On top of that, he said, there was only one fire plug close enough for the available hose to reach the blaze, and it was too small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department rigged up a relay from the river, and also pumped water from the swimming pool.

Heavy black smoke continued to curl from the rubble for hours after the fire.

A night watchman, William Parker, was on duty and reported the fire. Firemen speculated he did not discover it immediately since it started in the upper part of the building, probably the attic.

Club Manager A. J. (Tony) Janidlo said there had been a fire in a second-floor fireplace last night but said it was out by the time the club closed at about midnight.

The building was a long, white structure, frame for the most part, and contained the usual locker rooms, dining rooms, clubrooms, bars and lounges.

A tunnel under River Road connected the clubhouse with the boat docks.

A lot of water has gone under the bridge and over the clubhouse during numberless floods since the Boat Club began modestly in 1879 in an oversized houseboat at the foot of Sixth Street.

Ten rousing, river-minded men banded together 80 years ago to form a social club, featuring river activities.

Huge war canoes and outriggers were the main facilities and rugged races the sport, according to a history of the club.

Once for men only, the club was moved around to various locations from 1879 until 1911.

After the club almost went under financially, finances were reorganized in 1911 and an old farmhouse was bought at the club's present location on the river front.



Firemen pour water on the east end of the Upper River Road landmark.

**March 1, 1969, *The Louisville Times*:**

**1969  
\$500,000 Fire Destroys Louisville Boat Club Home**



1969

**March 1, 1969, *The Louisville Times*: \$500,000 Fire Destroys Louisville Boat Club Home.** The rambling old clubhouse of the historic Louisville Boat Club was razed by fire early today.

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For years it has sponsored junior tennis tournaments, namely the Southern Junior and one the National Junior, both drawing the top-rated players in the country. Early in the 1950s its courts were the scene of a preliminary Davis Cup round between the United States and Japan.

**Building Was 40 Years Old:** The present building is said to be about 40 years old. It is the oldest social club of its type in Louisville, one of the oldest in the country, and gained a reputation for its parties as early as the Gay Nineties. Only the chimney and crumpled wall remained today.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews volunteer departments responded to the 5:20 a.m. alarm, but said the roof was engulfed in flames when they arrived. They theorized the fire had started in the attic.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd who lives nearby on River Bluff Road, said he saw flames shooting high in the night sky as he left home to answer the alarm.

**Fire Plugs Lacking:** On top of that, he said there was only one plug close enough for the available hose to reach the blaze, and it was too small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department rigged up a relay from the river, and also pumped water for the swimming pool. Heavy black smoke continued to curl from the rubble for hours after the fire.

A night watchman, William Parker, was on duty and reported the fire. Firemen speculated he did not discover it immediately since it started in the upper part of the building probably the attic.

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A tunnel under River Road connected the clubhouse with the boat docks. A lot of water has gone under the bridge and over the clubhouse during numberless floods since the Boat Club began modestly in 1879 in an oversized houseboat at the foot of Sixth Street.

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After the club almost went under financially, finances were reorganized in 1911 and an old farmhouse was bought at the club's present location of the river front.



1969

March 2, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*: Charred Rubble Remains After Fire Guts Home Of Louisville Boat Club. The gay often swinging clubhouse of the Louisville Boat Club became a burned out hulk full of blackened debris after a fire raged though the 40-year -old structure early yesterday morning.

Early estimates of damage were in excess of \$500,000. There were no injuries and no boats were reported damaged.

The inside of the two-story clubhouse was gutted. The chimney, twisted steel girders and crumbling brick walls were the only things standing.

The clubhouse site is a few hundred feet south of the Ohio River along Upper River Road, just east of Indian Hills Trail. It is about five miles northeast of the foot of Fourth Street.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews volunteer department answered the 5:30 a.m. alarm and found the roof already a sea of flames. They believe the fire began in the attic.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd said only one fire hydrant was close enough for the available hose to reach and it was too small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department pumped water from the Ohio River and from a swimming pool in front of the clubhouse to fight the blaze.

Heavy black smoke belched from the rubble for several hours after the fire. As late as yesterday evening, firemen were still poking around the debris for possible sparks, but only patches of smoke could be seen.

A night watchman on duty, William Parker, reported the fire. Club manager Tony Janidlo said a fire in a second floor fireplace was extinguished by the time the club closed about midnight.

Club manager Tony Janidlo said a fire in a second floor fireplace was extinguished by the time the club closed about midnight.

The Boat Club is much older than its destroyed clubhouse. It was formed in 1879 and enjoyed fame for swinging parties as early as the Gay 90s. It is the oldest social club of its kind in Louisville and one of the oldest in the country.

Lately the club has been the home for expensive boats and yachts and outstanding tennis competition.

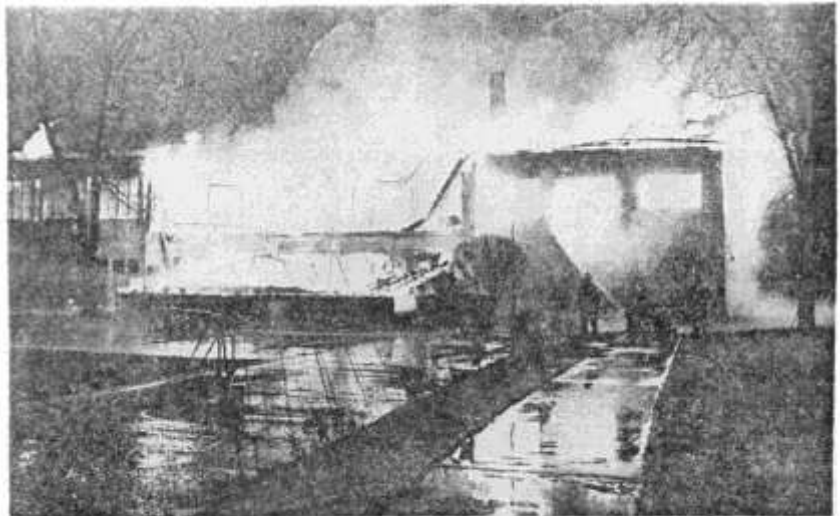
The clubhouse was a long, white building, mostly frame, which contained locker rooms, dining rooms, clubrooms, bars and lounges. Three pools are in front of the clubhouse. The wading pool, nearest the structure, was filled with charred timbers and other refuse yesterday.

A tunnel under Upper River Road connected the clubhouse with the boat docks.

For years the club has sponsored junior tennis tournaments on the many courts beside and behind the clubhouse. The Southern Junior tournament, and once the National Junior, drew some of the top players in the country. Early in the 1950s the tennis courts were the scene of a preliminary Davis Cup round between the United States and Japan.

When the club was founded 90 years ago, the emphasis was on races featuring canoes and outriggers. Its first clubhouse was a houseboat at the foot of Sixth Street.

The club had its sternest test in 1911 when it had to reorganize its financial setup after nearly going broke. It bought the present location on the Ohio in that year.



TONGUES OF FLAME LIGHTED THE SKY DURING YESTERDAY MORNING'S CLUBHOUSE FIRE.

1969

March 1, 1969, *The Louisville Times*:



1969  
March 1, 1969, Photos courtesy Malcolm McMakin:



1969

March 1, 1969, Incident report from Kenneth C. Reising, Jr. 6:25 a.m.

Louisville Boat Club  
4200 Upper River Road  
(Harrods Creek Fire District)  
March 1, 1969, 6:25 Am.

**Comment from Al Ring: I made it  
to the fire house, but not the fire.  
Missed a good one.**

It was Saturday morning. I had been out the night before with Alice, who is now my wife, so I had gotten to bed late. The monitor went off with a dispatch for Harrods Creek Fire Department for a fire at Louisville Boat Club on Upper River Road, about a ½ a mile from the intersection of River Road and Indian Hills Trail. Harrods Creek's chief, Ross Todd went 10-6 and arrived 10-7 on the scene reporting a working fire within a few short minutes. He directed H-4 (quad) to take the front of the building, and H-2 (pumper) to take the hydrant at the driveway and supply H-4. I remember lying in bed listening to these transmissions when he called county alarm and told them to have St. Matthews send their quint to the scene. I immediately got up; put on my bunkers, and started for the firehouse. Being a rookie, I thought I would be one of the first firefighters to arrive at the firehouse. (I only lived 3 short blocks away.) When I got there I was the eighth man on S-5 (1957 Seagrave quint, with a 750 GPM and a 75 foot aerial ladder). I rode the jump seat being the fourth man in a three-man bench seat behind the cab, and in front of the aerial ladder. Captain DeHart told me to climb on just before we left the firehouse.

When we arrived on the scene we pulled into the south driveway entrance. At that moment, no fire was showing, but we had brown smoke coming from every opening in the structure. The building was a long two story; with the second story front wall all windows overlooking the Ohio River. Captain DeHart told me to prepare to ventilate the roof, but to wait until he went and checked with the Harrods Creek officer in charge. While Captain DeHart was gone, the whole second floor of the structure exploded and immediately erupted in flames across the whole front of the building. I had experienced my first back draft! (A back draft occurs when the fire inside a building burns all of the available oxygen out of the air, replacing it with large quantities of highly flammable carbon monoxide and other highly flammable gases, all above their ignition temperature. In this case when the heat broke out some of the glass, oxygen rushed in causing an immediate ignition, explosion if you will, of the super heated gases in a massive fireball that engulfed the whole second story in a matter of seconds. Back drafts have killed many unsuspecting firefighters.) I figured I wasn't going to the roof to ventilate, no need existed anymore. I was unaware that S-3 (Seagrave 1250 GPM pumper) had also been dispatched to the scene to pump water from the Ohio River to the fire. When S-3 arrived they pulled down a boat ramp to the river and dropped 2 six-inch hard suction hoses into the water. I was on one of the teams that hand laid a 2-1/2 inch hand line with a 250 GPM fog nozzle several hundred feet from S-3 to the front of the building. There were four of us on the nozzle, 2 on the front, and 2 to back them up. For at least a 1-1/2 we played water into the second story from our position. It didn't appear that we were doing much good. The four of us on this line would rotate positions from front to back to give the men on the front of the nozzle a rest. This way of holding a 2-1/2 inch hand line was very tiring. I have often wondered after that day why we didn't loop the 2-1/2 line, hose chain it off and sit on it to play the line on the second story, which a much easier way of

accomplishing the same task. Hindsight is always twenty-twenty. S-3 also supplied a ladder pipe, with a 500 GPM nozzle, and I believe one of Harrods other pieces of equipment. Al Haberlin was on the pump panel of S-3 that morning and did a tremendous job pumping all those different lines from a draft in the Ohio River. The morning was cloudy and cold, with a temperature in the low 30's. Being near the river the wind chill was quite cold.

I went back to the scene later that day, around noon. The sun had come out and it was a little bit warmed. I remember that the whole second story was a mass of twisted steel and it had collapsed down into the first floor of the building. The building was totally destroyed. This was my first working fire in a very large building where the building was totally destroyed and all we could do as firefighters was to "surround and drown". Little did I know this would not be the last fire like this I would be involved with in March of 1969. The fire had burned a considerable time before it was discovered. Louisville Boat Club rebuilt with a beautiful building on the same sight, which still stands today.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
March 12, 2011

1969

March 3, 1969, Partial Article:

MAR 3 1969

## Boat Club to Rebuild Clubhouse

The Louisville Boat Club is already making plans to build a clubhouse to replace the one destroyed by fire Saturday.

Officials said yesterday after a meeting of the club's executive committee that a new clubhouse should be ready for operation within nine months.

Two committees were appointed to work out the details. Lee Pruitt Jr. was named chairman of the planning and building committee and Al Comstock was appointed head of the finance committee.

Three office-type trailers will be used as temporary quarters for the club, which is located at 4200 Upper River Road. The rooms, and a food concession and lounge. The club's year-round tennis courts, swimming pool, 80 boat slips and other facilities will continue in operation on a normal schedule.

Al Gustafson, house chairman of the 360-member club, said the swimming pool will open as scheduled on Memorial Day (May 30). He said the club's major social events will be held at other clubs, many of which already have offered their facilities.

All that remains of the club's 50-year-old, two-story clubhouse are a few charred first-floor walls and rubble. Damage to the structure was estimated at at least \$500,000. The cause of the fire still has

March 4, 1969, Letter:



St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky

Gentlemen:

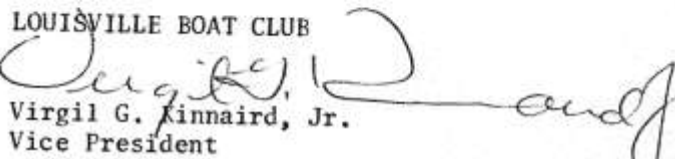
The Executive Board of the Louisville Boat Club wishes to express our deepest appreciation to you for your fine efforts of Saturday, March 1, 1969.

Your professionalism and conduct were of the highest caliber. Further, your interest and compassion were beyond any measure.

Our warmest thanks and best wishes for the future.

Very truly yours,

LOUISVILLE BOAT CLUB

  
Virgil G. Kinnaird, Jr.  
Vice President



1969

Courtesy Beargrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:

November, 1949 Similar to 1960



Courtesy <http://www.louisvilleboatclub.com/>:

Today (2010)



Courtesy of the Louisville Boat Club, The Louisville Boat club's current clubhouse was built in 1969.

1969

March 1, 1969, Louisville Boat Club Fire:

April 10, 1969, *The Voice Jeffersonian*:

## Boat club members map plans for new clubhouse

By Glee Crutcher  
Staff Writer

"What's going to happen to the Louisville Boat Club now that the clubhouse has been destroyed by fire?" everyone is asking.

In no way fazed by the flames, the members are just as busy as ever and plans already are popping for the dedication of a new clubhouse next spring.

Meantime, no activities have ceased. Two large trailers have been pulled onto the property on Upper River Road and have been converted into a bar, a diningroom, and an office. The river front slips are being put into condition and the tennis courts already are crowded. The swimming pool will open Decoration Day.

"Other clubs have been simply wonderful to us," says O. C. 'Doc' Kelsall, 4029 Norborne Blvd., who already has been appointed chairman of the dedication when the new clubhouse is

finished. "All privileges have been extended to our members by Hunting Creek, Audubon, Big Spring, Owl Creek, the Pendennis Club, and others. Planned wedding receptions and various social functions have been moved to one or another. Our semi-annual meeting and dinner in May will be at Audubon Country Club."

A committee is at work on plans for the new clubhouse. Members hope to have the building completed by next April or May. In order to have a bang-up dedication, Doc Kelsall says, other committees are mapping out a celebration of the event. The club, one of the oldest in town, will be 91 years old this September.

Old pictures are being collected from many sources and several members are writing a history, delving back into records of beginning events in the 19th century when a group of young men, who were among Louisville's first "River Rats", formed their boat club.

Courtesy Google Maps. Today (2010)



1969

March 4, 1969: Louisville Country Club & Marshall Planing Mill Fires:

To set the stage——

At 2:15 p.m. STMFD was dispatched to Louisville Country Club

2:18 STMFD S-5 responded with Lt. Ring as officer.

2:21 STMFD S-5, Lt. Ring requested Harrods Creek to back up STMFD at fire (on Chenoweth Lane)

2:22 STMFD S-5 Lt. Ring requested Lyndon to back up STMFD at station (on Chenoweth Lane)

2:26 STMFD notified of fire at Marshall Planing Mill, notified Lyndon, en-route to respond

43 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 247  
FIRE REPORT  
DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:15 A.M. TIME RETURNED 2:59 A.M.  
LOCATION Louisville Country Club APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ *And floor*  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐  
REMARKS FIRE CONTAINED TO 1 ROOM, STRAIGHT  
107 B.C.E. OUT.  
OFFICER IN CHARGE *Be 2* REPORT WRITTEN BY *Be 2*

44 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 246  
FIRE REPORT  
DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:26 A.M. TIME RETURNED 11:45 A.M.  
LOCATION 4053 Westport APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐  
REMARKS Marshall's Planing Mills  
OFFICER IN CHARGE \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT WRITTEN BY *E. E. E.*

45 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 245  
FIRE REPORT  
DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:39 A.M. TIME RETURNED \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.  
LOCATION 223 Ridgeway APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER *John D. Harrison*  
OWNER ADDRESS *223 Ridgeway Ave*  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐  
REMARKS 5-4 made run to Ridgeway then responded  
to Marshall's lumber co. fire on Ridge-  
way Ave was caused from sparks flying  
from Marshall's  
OFFICER IN CHARGE *Capt. H. H. H.* REPORT WRITTEN BY *E. E. E.*

47 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 243  
FIRE REPORT  
DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 8:37 A.M. TIME RETURNED 8:49 A.M.  
LOCATION Sherrin Ave + Henderson APT. NO.  
TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
SMOKE ☒ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
BACKUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐  
REMARKS Determined smoke from Marshall Planing Mill  
Run made about 4:30  
OFFICER IN CHARGE *LT. H. H. H. #57* REPORT WRITTEN BY \_\_\_\_\_



1969

## March 4, 1969: Louisville Country Club Fire

In another spectacular fire last Saturday, the clubhouse of the Louisville Boat Club was destroyed.

The blaze was discovered about 5:30 am and is believed to have started in the upper portion of the 40 - year - old building.

When 60 firemen of the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Departments arrived, the roof was aflame.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd said only one fire hydrant was close enough for available hose to reach and it was too small to supply the necessary pressure. The St. Matthews department pumped water from a swimming pool and from the Ohio River. Cause of the blaze had not been determined. The fire was discovered by William Parker, a night watchman on duty. Damage was estimated at \$500,000.

The clubhouse was a long, white building, mostly frame, and contained locker rooms, dining rooms, clubrooms, bars and lounges. A tunnel under Upper River Road connects the clubhouse site and the boat docks.

Virgil Kinnaird, vice president of the boat club, said the executive committee has approved plans to replace the clubhouse.

Kinnaird said the new facility should be in operation within nine months. Two committees have been appointed to determine the size, type of structure and design of the new building and to work out financial arrangements.

Lee Pruitt, Jr., was named chairman of the planning and building committee and Al Cornstock was appointed chairman of the finance group.

Pending completion of the building, the club will use temporary quarters in three mobile office type trailers. The trailers will house offices, dressing rooms and a food concession and lounge.

Other area clubs have offered their facilities for large social events, Al Gustafson, house chairman of the boat club, reported.



### BOARD OF GOVERNORS LOUISVILLE COUNTRY CLUB LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

March 7, 1969

Chief John Monohan  
St. Matthews Volunteer  
Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Chief Monohan:

Just a short note to thank you and the men in your department for your tremendous help in extinguishing the fire at the Louisville Country Club on Tuesday, March 4th. As your men are all volunteers, we are particularly grateful for their time and skills.

Please extend our thanks to each of your volunteers.  
With best regards,

Yours truly,

LOUISVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

*S. Gordon Dabney*  
S. Gordon Dabney  
President

March 6, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Today (2010)





Staff Photo by Warren Kistnerman

TONGUES OF FLAME LIGHTED THE SKY DURING YESTERDAY MORNING'S CLUBHOUSE FIRE.

## Charred Rubble Remains After Fire Guts Home of Louisville Boat Club

The gay, often swinging clubhouse of the Louisville Boat Club became a burned-out hulk full of blackened debris after a fire raged through the 46-year-old structure early yesterday morning.

Early estimates of damage were in excess of \$500,000. There were no injuries and no boats were reported damaged.

The inside of the two-story clubhouse was gutted. A chimney, twisted steel girders and crumbling brick walls were the only things standing.

The clubhouse site is a few hundred feet south of the Ohio River along Upper River Road, just east of Indian Hills Trail. It is about five miles northeast of the foot of Fourth Street.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews voluntary departments answered the alarm and found the roof already a sea of flames. They believe the fire began in the attic.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd said only one fire hydrant was close enough for the available hose to reach, and it was too small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department pumped water from the Ohio River and from a swimming pool in front of the clubhouse to fight the blaze.

Heavy black smoke belched from the rubble for several hours after the fire. As late as yesterday evening, firemen were still poking around the debris for possible sparks, but only patches of smoke could be seen.

A night watchman on duty, William Parker, reported the fire.

Club manager Tony Janifilo said a fire in a second-floor fireplace was extinguished by the time the club closed about midnight.

The Boat Club is much older than its destroyed clubhouse. It was formed in 1875 and enjoyed fame for swinging parties as early as the Gay 90s. It is the oldest social club of its kind in Louisville and one of the oldest in the country. Lately the club has been the home for

expensive boats and yachts and outstanding tennis competition.

The clubhouse was a long, white building, mostly frame, which contained locker rooms, dining rooms, clubhouses, bars and bouncers. Three pools are in front of the clubhouse. The wading pool, nearest the structure, was filled with charred timbers and other refuse yesterday.

A tunnel under Upper River Road connected the clubhouse with the boat docks.

For years the club has sponsored junior tennis tournaments on the many courts beside and behind the clubhouse. The Southern Junior tournament, and

more the National Junior, drew some of the top players in the country. Early in the 1960s its tennis courts were the scene of a preliminary Davis Cup round between the United States and Japan.

When the club was founded 90 years ago, the emphasis was on races featuring canoes and outriggers. Its first clubhouse was a houseboat at the foot of Sixth Street.

The club had its sternest test in 1911 when it had to reorganize its financial setup after nearly going broke. It bought the present location on the Ohio in that year.

### 'Trip' Through Christ

## 'Hippie' Baptist Minister Tells Youth to 'Turn On'

By JOHN WOODRUFF  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

A finger-snapping Baptist preacher who ministers to hippies from his own Sunset Strip nightclub in Hollywood, Calif., told a group of high school students in Louisville yesterday to "turn on to Jesus."

The Rev. Arthur Blessitt placed a foot on a chair, exposed a bright gold sock, and told the youths that "the ultimate, the eternal trip" was through Jesus Christ.

The 28-year-old "hippie evangelist," as he is called, spoke to the multi-denominational Good News Club of Louisville at the First Presbyterian Church, 100 W. Grande.

The talk was the first of a two-week youth crusade that Blessitt, who said he prefers not to be addressed as "The Rev."

erend", will conduct youth rallies in Louisville, Lexington and Southern Indiana. His visit is sponsored by Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Blessitt told the youths of wide use of drugs in the area in which he operates a nightclub, named His Place. He warned them of the health dangers of using drugs, stressing, "I don't attack drugs, but I'm opposed to the whole scene."

In a soft-spoken, almost boyish manner, Blessitt said His Place serves coffee, soft drinks and "preaching at midnight" to as many as 1,500 youths a night. About three of every four persons who visit the nightclub "are loaded on drugs," he said.

Blessitt has drawn national attention for his work with hippies. The Black Panther organization and Sunset Strip youths.



1969

**March 4, 1969, Louisville Country Club Fire as told by Kenneth C. Reising, Jr. former STMFD firefighter:**

**Louisville Country Club  
March 4, 1969, 2:15 PM**

I was out in my vehicle when I responded to the firehouse on the house siren. S-5 (quint) and S-3 ( 1250 GPM pumper) had already left. I grabbed my gear and climbed on the tailboard of S-1 (750 GPM pumper), which was third out on commercial structures and apartment buildings. I was the only one on the tailboard. Pat Maloney rode officer, and I cannot recall who was driving. I was riding on the right side of the tailboard, which enabled me to hear the radio's loudspeaker. I heard Lt. Ring's request for Harrods Creek to come to the scene and Lyndon to standby at our firehouse. After these dispatches were finished by county alarm I heard our dispatch tone on the radio, dispatching us to a structure fire at Marshall's Lumber and Planing Mill on Westport Road between Clover Lane and Ridgeway Ave. This happened when S-1 was on Chenoworth Lane approaching highway U.S. 42. I immediately thought this was a malicious false as we were experiencing a series of these calls around this time of the afternoon in the vicinity of downtown St. Matthews. I turned and looked back towards St. Matthews and saw a very large column of black smoke in the area where the mill would be. I knew we had what appeared to be a very large working fire in a two-story, block long frame lumber-processing mill, surrounded by several large stacks of lumber awaiting processing. I realized we were committed to the Louisville Country Club run, and Lyndon Fire Department was still at least 5 to 10 minutes away from arriving at the lumber mill. I got that funny sinking feeling in my stomach when you know you are in trouble. We were still a few minutes away from arriving at the county club.

When we went 10-7, arriving at the county club. I told Pat Maloney to turn around and look at the column of black smoke, which had gotten bigger. He already knew we had a working fire at the mill from the radio traffic. That column of smoke was still a sight to behold!

We had a fire in the third floor locker room at the country club, which the sprinkler system had extinguished. S-1 was released to go to the lumber mill fire, and Lt. Ring and Captain DeHart decided to call for MacMahn and Middletown to respond to the lumber mill. Since S-5 (750 GPM, 75 foot aerial ladder) was still committed to the country club, the officers in charge at the country club called for the City of Louisville to send Truck-7, a Maxim 100 foot tractor-drawn aerial to the scene on Westport Road. This unit had to respond from Bardstown Road near Eastern Parkway and was at least 10 minutes away.

This leads to a whole other story!

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
March 13, 2011

1969

**March 4, 1969, Louisville Country Club Fire as told by Kenneth C. Reising, Jr. former STMFD firefighter:**

**Marshall's Planing Mill  
4053 Westport Road  
March 4, 1969; 2:26 PM**

It is said that bad events come in strings of three's. This is true in the fire service for major incidents, and working structure fires of a serious nature. This adage was proving to be true in the first week of March 1969, as I found myself the only person on the tailboard of S-1 (750 GPM pumper) responding from the scene of a working fire at Louisville Country Club, to what amounted to a three alarm fire at a lumber planing mill in the middle of downtown St. Matthews. This run was the third of our working fires. (Louisville Boat Club on March 1, and Louisville Country Club on March 5 were the first two in this string). As I followed Louisville Fire Department's fires and incidents by radio and on-scene observation and photograph taking for the year and four months I had been a member of St. Matthews Fire Department, I often wondered what it was like to respond to a multi-alarm fire, on a company not on the first alarm assignment. I was now finding out, on a company that was two men short at that. What an adrenalin rush! S-1 was the first unit to leave the scene at Louisville Country Club.

After discussing the situation with "The Man Upstairs", I settled in to going over the procedures I had been taught for laying supply lines, as I felt this was going to be the first task at hand upon our arrival on the scene. (S-1 carried 2000 feet of 2-1/2" hose, carrying a half-load on each side of the vertical 500-gallon water tank the split the hose bed. This hose was connected to lay 2000 feet of a single line, or break a connection and lay a double 1000-foot line.) This unit also carried rolled up 25-foot section of six-inch soft suction, preconnected to a pump inlet on the right side of the tailboard. I was all set to lay a supply line.

It took about 5 minutes to make the run to Marshall's on Westport Road. As I remember it was difficult to travel the three blocks on Westport Road from Chenoworth Lane to the scene of the fire, due to the traffic trying to get around the fire. We finally pulled up on Westport Road at the intersection of Sherrin Avenue. We had a two-story frame building on fire, with several large stacks of lumber burning also. This was all set back from the north side of Westport Road, with a double-track mainline of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad between the fire and the road. (See pictures on page 78, from the book St. Matthews Firefighters, 84 Years of Firefighting in St. Matthews, Kentucky. Pat and I are in the foreground of the bottom two pictures in the second column). \* As I remember we were instructed to lay two 2-1/2-inch lines from a unit on Westport Road, south down Sherrin Avenue to a double-steamer hydrant (two 4-1/2 inch outlets) on the east side of the street near the parking lot of the VFW Armory. I broke the connection of the hose between the right and left hose bed, and Pat Maloney and I pulled the hose ends off the bed of S-1 to the far side of the fire unit on Westport Road. (I believe this was a McMahn unit.) Pat got back in the officers seat and I rode the side running board next to the officer's door. I do not remember who was driving. When we pulled up to the hydrant I unrolled the soft suction and connected it to the south four-inch outlet, putting a hydrant gate valve on the other outlet (this allows another pumper to connect to the hydrant if needed.) Pat disconnected the two 2-1/2 inch lines we laid off

1969

**March 4, 1969, Louisville Country Club Fire as told by Kenneth C. Reising, Jr. former STMFD firefighter:**

the hose bed and helped the engineer of our crew hook them to discharges on our unit. I turned on the hydrant on instruction from the engineer. All in all this operation went very well. Hooray for good training.

I followed Pat down Sherrin Avenue to the scene of the fire. It looked like we laid about 1000 feet of hose. When we got to the scene Pat and I were assigned to a 1-1/2 inch line to attack the fires in the lumber stacks. We started out standing on the railroad's southbound main (closest to the fire) attacking the fire in the lumber stacks. The smoke was very thick making breathing difficult, even in the open air. There was a four-man crew with a 2-1/2 inch line working the stacks just to our west. We stayed in this position on the railroad track working the fire to our east. I can remember looking back along the railroad track we were on and I could not see the road crossing just a half a block away. I knew the train speed limit in this area was 35 miles-per-hour, and worried about what we would do if a train came around the curve at that speed. The railroad pole line we were under had several lines burnt in two, which should have caused the signals that govern train movements through the area to go red. This would slow the trains to 15 mph. This would give Pat and I time to get off of the railroad tracks. After this reasoning, I didn't give the problem another thought. Pat and I eventually started to gain the upper hand on the fire after considerable time putting a straight stream of water into the stacks trying to get to the deep seated fire that was burning there. After we gained the upper hand on the situation, we moved into the stacks to work on the second line of lumber stacks back from the railroad. We were in this position between one and two hours. We were eventually relieved to take a rest, as more of our men started arriving home from work and coming to the scene to help out. I had to go to work at 4:00 pm, and it was around 4:30 pm that we were relieved. I was taken back to the firehouse so I could report to my job.

In looking back, the keys to our success in gaining control of the fire as quickly as we did, were the valiant effort of all firefighters involved and the call for Truck 7 ( 100 foot, tractor-drawn Maxim) from the Louisville Fire Department. (Captain DeHart's call.) This company took up position with a ladder pipe and cut off the spread of fire in the two-story processing building, since our own aerial ladder unit was initially committed on another fire. Once this was accomplished, we had the task of keeping the fires in the lumber stacks from spreading, limiting the total damage to the processing building. The rest of it was a loss when we arrived on the scene.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
March 30, 2011

\*Footnote: St. Matthews Firefighters 84 Years of Firefighting in St. Matthews, Kentucky, Al Ring, Butler Books, Louisville, Kentucky, 2004, pp 76-78.

1969

March 4, 1969

Louisville Country Club & Marshall's Planing Mill

Comments by Al Ring: We were knocked out for a fire at the Louisville Country Club at 2:15 p.m. I believe I responded from my service station, was officer in charge of S5 and the fire and we went 10-6 at 2:18 p.m., Bill Dieckman was engineer. S3 followed up with response at 2:19 p.m. Elsie STMFD radio operator radioed me that the Club had called and there was a fire on the second floor in I think a locker room and the sprinklers were flowing. At 2:21 p.m. ( we were on Chenoweth Lane) I ordered Elsie to get Harrods Creek to respond with us to the club and for Lyndon to respond as back-up to our station. (This turned out to be one of the best decisions/orders I ever gave in my fire service career.) Elsie and I had a very good "working" relationship on radio transmissions and alerting me to her and then my gut instincts. At 2:26 STMFD was notified of a fire at Marshall Planing Mill, Lyndon responded direct to Marshalls. S5, S3 and S1 arrive at the Country Club. I checked out the fire and found that the sprinkler had knocked the fire down and realized there would be lots of over-hall and checking for extension. Returning to the apparatus I met with S3 and S1 and we could see the smoke from the Marshall fire. At 2:34 S3 and S1 responded from the Country Club fire to the Marshall fire and I met with Harrods Creek people and my crew and worked on extension, etc. I eventually turned the operation over to Harrods Creek and at 2:59 p.m. started for the Marshall fire arriving at 3:02 p.m. I think for a while S5 was parked across from the Mill in front of the old house at the corner of Ridgeway and Westport Road. By this time the spread of the fire had been stopped by some brilliant firefighting and for the next 24 hours it was mostly mop up operations in stacks of lumber.





1969

**March 4, 1969: *The Louisville Times*.** Prior Alarm Keeps Firemen From Planing-Mill Fire: The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department couldn't answer an alarm at a lumber mill two blocks from the department's headquarters yesterday.

All its available men and three of its trucks were tied up at another fire.

The blaze at Marshall Planing Mill, 4053 Westport Road, a short distance from the fire department, caused \$300,000 to \$500,000 damage and critically injured one mill employee.

The mill alarm came in at 2:26 p.m. The St. Matthews department had responded 11 minutes earlier to a call from the Louisville Country Club.

Joe Battle, 44, the injured employee, remained in critical condition today at General Hospital.

Battle was in the finishing building where the fire erupted near a barrel of wood-finishing fluid.

Witnesses said flames quickly enveloped the finishing building and spread rapidly to a lumber-storage warehouse.

Dense clouds of gray smoke and the smell of burning wood spread over a wide area of the St. Matthews business district and nearby residential areas.

Robert W. Marshall, president of the firm, said Battle reportedly was burned when he tried to stomp out the flames. A witness reported seeing Battle run outside the building with his clothing on fire.

Battle lives at 611 E. Madison.

**Trucks at Another Fire:** Marshall said the fire might have been contained quickly if the St. Matthews department had arrived quickly.

"If the fire (at the mill) had been 20 minutes earlier, we would have had a \$500 fire," Marshall said.

The fire at the country club, on Upper River Road, reportedly caused an estimated \$4,000 in damages—mostly from water from the sprinkler system—in a third-floor locker room.

The St. Matthews firemen had answered an alarm at 2:15 p.m. at the Louisville Country Club on Upper River Road. That fire reportedly caused an estimated \$4,000 in damages—mostly from water from the sprinkler system—in a third floor locker room.

The St. Matthews firemen did not get to the planing mill fire until two other fire departments—Lyndon and McMahan—had trucks at the scene. One truck from the Louisville Fire Department was sent later.

Records at the county fire alarm office in downtown Louisville indicate that a truck from the Lyndon Fire Department already was on the way to St. Matthews when the mill fire was reported. The Lyndon firemen had been called to back up the St. Matthews firemen after the country-club fire was reported.

**Chemicals Were Present:** Marshall's said the mill fire started in a building where lumber is dipped in a chemical which houses the planing mill and the Louisville Timber & Wooden Products Co., which Marshall also heads.

The firms make commercial and industrial packaging crates, building materials and other wood products.

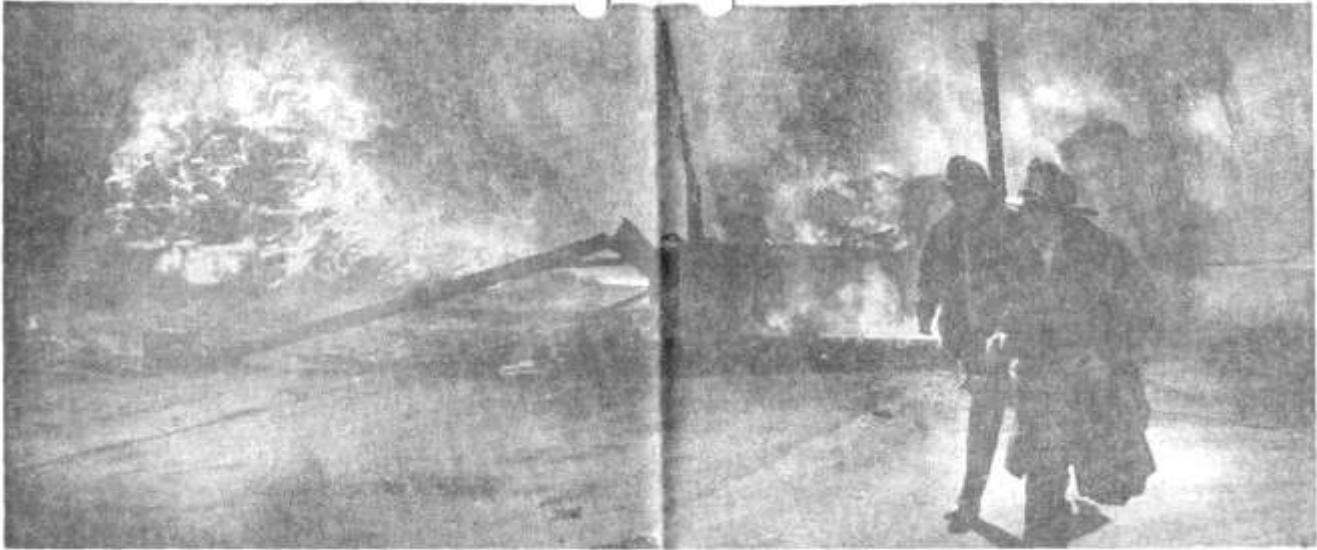
Marshall said four or five other employees were working in the building where the fire started, but all except Battle escaped without injury. No cause of the fire was determined immediately.

Fire equipment blocked traffic on Westport Road for several hours after the blaze was reported. Several Louisville & Nashville Railroad trains also were blocked when flames damaged wiring controlling crossing signals and gates at nearby Clover Lane. The L & N tracks parallel Westport Road between the road and the mill.



Firemen battle a fire that caused an estimated \$300,000 to \$500,000 damage at the Marshall Planing Mill in St. Matthews yesterday.

Staff Photo by Larry Linton

March 4, 1969: *The Louisville Times*.

Staff Photo by Larry Lottier

Firemen battle a fire that caused an estimated \$300,000 (\$500,000) the Marshall Planing Mill in St. Matthews yesterday.

## Prior Alarm Keeps Firemen From Planing-Mill Fire

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department couldn't answer an alarm at a lumber mill two blocks from the department's headquarters yesterday.

All its available men and three of its trucks were tied up at another fire.

The blaze at Marshall Planing Mill, 4053 Westport Road, a short distance from the fire department, caused \$300,000 to \$500,000 damage and critically injured one mill employee.

The mill alarm came in at 2:26 p.m. The St. Matthews department had responded 11 minutes earlier to a call from the Louisville Country Club.

Joe Battle, 44, the injured employee, remained in critical condition today at General Hospital.

Battle was in the finishing building where the fire erupted near a barrel of wood-finishing fluid.

Witnesses said flames quickly envel-

oped the finishing building and spread rapidly to a lumber-storage warehouse.

Dense clouds of gray smoke and the smell of burning wood spread over a wide area of the St. Matthews business district and nearby residential areas.

Robert W. Marshall, president of the firm, said Battle reportedly was burned when he tried to stamp out the flames. A witness reported seeing Battle run outside the building with his clothes on fire.

Battle lives at 611 E. Madison.

### Trucks at Another Fire

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### Chemicals Were Present

Marshall said the mill fire started in a building where lumber is dipped in a chemical. He said the structure is one of three manufacturing and warehouse buildings which house the planing mill and the Louisville Timber & Wood Products Co., which Marshall also heads.

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1969

**March 5, 1969:** *The Courier-Journal*: \$300,000 Loss --Worker Burned Critically in Fire, Fire that erupted near a barrel of wood-finishing fluid at the Marshall Planing Mill, Inc., in St. Matthews destroyed one building, extensively damaged another and critically burned an employee yesterday afternoon.

Joe Battle, 44, of 611 E. Madison, suffered third-degree burns over most of his body as he was trapped by the fast-spreading flames. He was listed in critical condition at General Hospital.

The blaze caused an estimated \$300,000 to \$500,000 loss in buildings, fir and pine lumber and fabricating and cutting equipment, said Robert L. Marshall, president of the firm at 4053 Westport Road. The buildings are located along the north side of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad tracks.

The fire alarm came at 2:26 p.m., just 11 minutes after the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department had answered another alarm at the Louisville Country Club on Upper River Road.

"If the (planing mill) fire had been 20 minutes earlier, we would have had a \$500 fire," Marshall said.

The St. Matthews Fire Department, which is two blocks from the mill, was unable to respond to the mill fire until after at least two other fire departments were fighting the blaze.

The country club fire, of undetermined origin, resulted in a damage loss estimated at \$4,000, mostly from water seepage, Edward L. Valentine, manager of the club, said. He said the fire, which was confined to a third floor locker room, would not interrupt the club's activities. The club fire was discovered at 2:15 p.m.

The water damage to the club was caused when the fire activated the sprinkler system.

Meanwhile in St. Matthews, fire departments from Lyndon, McMahan and Middletown and a ladder truck from Louisville fought the planing mill blaze. The fire was still smoldering last night.

The mill's president, Marshall, said the fire started in a finishing building where lumber is dipped in a chemical. The structure is one of three manufacturing and warehouse buildings that house the planing mill and the Louisville Timber & Wooden Products Co., both headed by Marshall.

The firm makes commercial and industrial packaging crates, building materials and other wooden products.

Four or five employees were working in the same building with Battle when the fire started, but all escaped. Marshall said there was no explosion, but he said a witness saw Battle trying to stomp out a fire on the floor when his clothes caught fire. Battle then ran outside, witnesses said.

The blaze, which began in the extreme southeast corner of the firm's easternmost building, quickly enveloped the structure and spread to a nearby lumber storage warehouse.

Several L & N trains were blocked by the blaze which charred several rail ties along the south-bound tracks and burned the wiring that controlled signal lights and gates across nearby Clover Lane, and L & N spokesman said.

The trains were back on schedule by evening and the signals and wiring were expected to be repaired by midnight, he said.

Vehicle traffic on Westport Road was blocked for much of the afternoon until it was diverted from Westport to Clover and Massie lanes.

Marshall said the fire would "put us out of business for a considerable period of time." He said the company had insurance, but it was not enough to fully cover the loss.

Yesterday's fire at the Louisville Country Club was the second in three days at a clubhouse on Upper River Road. Gutted last Saturday was the Louisville Boat Club. Both fires apparently started in locker rooms. Investigations are continuing into the cause of both fires.



FIREMEN DOUSE burning lumber piles at the Marshall Planing Mill in St. Matthews, where a fire critically injured a Marshall employee and

caused \$300,000 to \$500,000 in damage yesterday. Four fire departments had the blaze under control in about two hours.

Staff Photo by Larry Spitzer

\$300,000 Loss

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March 5, 1969: *The Courier-Journal*:

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Staff Photo by Larry Seitzer

1969

**March 6, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:** Fire strikes planing mill here; finishing room worker injured: A fire that started in the finishing room destroyed a large section of the Marshall Planing Mill at 4053 Westport Road Tuesday afternoon.

Robert W. (Buck) Marshall, president of the company, said "damage was substantial." He declined to put a price tag on the fire loss.

Marshall said the fire started in a dipping tank in the finishing room.

Joe Battle, a worker in the finishing room, was seriously burned. He was reported in critical condition late Tuesday at General Hospital.

The fire moved from the finishing room to other section of the large mill and spread to stacks of lumber (pine) stored in the yard.

Lines severed: Two sections of L & N Railroad communications lines on the north side of the train tracks by the mill were severed by flames.

The fire also burned ties on the tracks and caused sections of the tracks to buckle.

The fire at the lumber stacks emitted flames up to 50 or 60 feet high and bellows smoke several hundred feet into the air.

Firemen from the St. Matthews, Lyndon, McMahan and City of Louisville Fire Departments fought the blaze.

Hundreds of spectators gathered as the flames consumed lumber stacks and property.

Traffic was blocked off along a two block section of Westport Road.

Sparks from the mill fire fell in the front yard of the house at 223 Ridgeway Avenue and ignited dry grass. That fire was quickly extinguished.

First on scene: The fire was reported at 2:26 p.m. to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department. Most of its units were at that time putting out a blaze at the Louisville Country Club off River Road.

The Lyndon firemen were the first on the scene at the Marshall mill.

Marshall said the fire was blazing about 45 minutes before any firemen arrived. After fire-fighting units reached the scene, they had difficulty locating hydrants to latch their hoses to. There are no fire hydrants on the grounds of the mill.

The fire at the Louisville Country Club caused an estimated \$4,000 damage. That fire, reported at 2:15 p.m., originated in an employee's locker room, according to E. L. Valentine, manager of the club.

He said most of the damage was caused by water. The fire gutted the locker room. Assisting the St. Matthews firemen in putting out that blaze were units from Harrods Creek Volunteers Fire Department.



**Circled by  
smoke**

Circled by smoke, St. Matthews firemen battle the fire that spread to the lumber yard after destroying a large section of the Marshall Planing Mill Tuesday afternoon. (Photo by Mark Baldwin.)

1969

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## St. Matthews rink to reopen

The St. Matthews Roller Rink will be reopened this Friday and continue weekend operations until June 1.

The rink will be operated by the Metropolitan Park and Recreation Board with Joseph Gough as manager.

According to Al Lecomte, a park board official, the plan for resuming operation of the facility was agreed upon and worked out by Mayor Bernard Bowling of St. Matthews, Mayor Kenneth Schmied of Louisville, the park board and the City-County Civil Defense Agency.

Gough's salary will be paid by the park board. The heat and light bill at the rink will be paid by the City of Louisville.

The rink will have this schedule until June 1:

Friday: 7:30 - 10 pm, open to everybody.

Saturday: 10 - 12 am, open to children 9 and under, their parents, and beginners; 2 - 4 pm - children 13 and under and their parents; 7:30 - 10 pm, open to everybody.

Sunday: 2 - 4 pm, open to children 13 and under and their parents.

"No arrangements have been made yet for operation of the facility after June 1," said Lecomte.

The rink was closed late last year after the City of Louisville bought the building housing the rink at 113 N. Sherrin Ave.

Gough, who managed the rink, reportedly could not reach an agreement at that time with the city over new leasing terms.

In another spectacular fire last Saturday, the clubhouse of the Louisville Boat Club was destroyed.

The blaze was discovered about 6:30 am and is believed to have started in the upper portion of the 40-year-old building.

When 60 firemen of the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Departments arrived, the roof was aflame.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd said only one fire hydrant was close enough for available hose to reach and it was too small to supply the necessary pressure. The St. Matthews department pumped water from a swimming pool and from the Ohio River. Cause of the blaze had not been determined. The fire was discovered by William Parker, a night watchman on duty. Damage was estimated at \$500,000.

The clubhouse was a long, white building, mostly frame, and contained locker rooms, dining rooms, clubrooms, bars and lounges. A tunnel under Upper River Road connects the clubhouse site and the boat docks.

Virgil Kinnaird, vice president of the boat club, said the executive committee has approved plans to replace the clubhouse.

Kinnaird said the new facility should be in operation within nine months. Two committees have been appointed to determine the size, type of structure and design of the new building and to work out financial arrangements.

Lee Pruitt, Jr., was named chairman of the planning and building committee and Al Cornstock was appointed chairman of the finance group.

Pending completion of the building, the club will use temporary quarters in three mobile office type trailers. The trailers will house offices, dressing rooms and a food concession and lounge.

Other area clubs have offered their facilities for large social events, Al Gustafson, house chairman of the boat club, reported.

Louisville Boat Club Fire

1969

March 4, 1969, Hospital Report

ST. MATTHEWS POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Date	HOSPITAL REPORT	No.	
3/4/69			
Time 2:20 PM			
Location Marshall Planing Mill	Name Joe Battle		
Address 611 East Madison	Race C	Age 44	DOB
Height 5-6" Weight 180	Complexion	Hair Blk	Eyes Brown
Dress	Injury Burned All Over The Body		
Cause of Injury Fire	Hospital General		
Heart Attack	DOA	10-17 Code #3	
Next of Kin Wife	Name	611 East Madison	Phone
Disposition of Property			
Remarks			
Officer Al Bolton Car No. #331 #74			

Unknown Dates and paper:

March 20, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Man Hurt March 4 In Fire at Mill Dies

Joe Battle, who was critically burned in a fire March 4 at the Marshall Planing Mill in St. Matthews, died at 5:25 p.m. yesterday at General Hospital. Battle, who lived at 611 E. Madison, was 44.

Deputy Coroner Lloyd Roemele said Battle died of third-degree burns over 60 per cent of his body.

Battle, an employe of the mill, was the only person reported injured in the \$300,000 to \$500,000 blaze that destroyed one building and extensively damaged another. The plant is at 4053 Westport Road.

His body was taken to Robert G. May & Sons Funeral Home, 719 E. Chestnut.

## Worker burned in fire at mill dies

Joe Battle, 44, of 611 E. Madison, died at 5:25 last Saturday at General Hospital from third degree burns suffered in a fire at the Marshall Planing Mill in St. Matthews March 4.

Battle was a worker in the finishing room of the mill.

Survivors include: his mother, Mrs. Essie Allen; two sisters, Misses Anna Ruth and Lillie Mae Battle, and a brother, Sam Battle.

Funeral services were held at R. G. May Funeral Home Tuesday with burial at the Louisville Cemetery.



1969

March 4, 1969, STMFD Records:



East end of lumber yard.



East end of lumber yard.

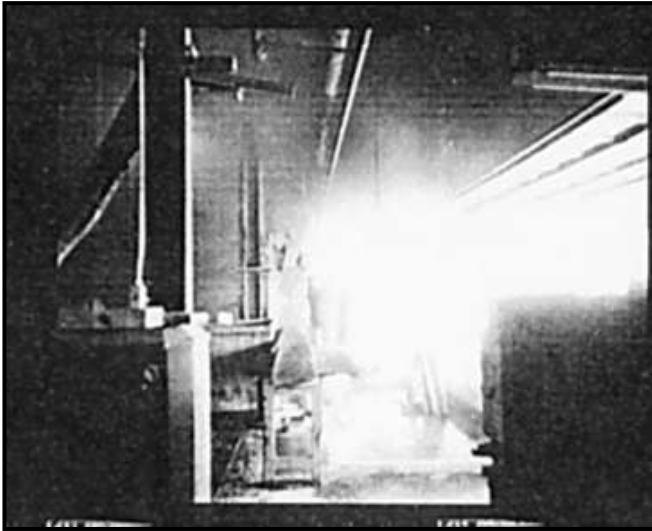


1969

March 4, 1969, STMFD Records:



Louisville FD Truck 7



1969

March 4, 1969, STMFD Records:



1969

March 4, 1969, STMFD Records:



Ken Reising & Pat Maloney





1969

March 4, 1969, STMFD Records:



Unknown date and newspa-

### Cigarette Started Country Club Fire, Police Report

Tuesday's \$4,000 fire in the Louisville Country Club was started by a cigarette dropped by an employee in the employees' locker room on the third floor of the club, county police report.

Edward Ballantine, manager of the club on Upper River Road, said he asked police to investigate.

A victim in another fire Tuesday, Joe Battle, 44, of 611 E. Madison, remained in critical condition at General Hospital today. He was burned in a fire at Marshall Planting Mill, 4053 Westport Road.



Chief John Monohan & Lt. Al Ring



Pat Maloney and Ken Reising

1969

March 4, 1969, Photos courtesy Malcolm McMakin:



1969

March 5, 1969, Courtesy Al Ring



1969

March 5, 1969, Courtesy Al Ring



1969

March 7, 1969, Response Times:

PRELIMINARY DETAILED LOG OF RESPONSE TO  
MARSHALL PLANNING HILL FIRE -  
MARCH 4, 1969

2:15 Alarm received by telephone at St. Matthews Fire Department for Louisville Country Club.  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:18 St. Matthews Unit S-5 left station for Louisville Country Club.  
(750 G.P. - 701 automatic coordination apparatus)  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:19 St. Matthews Unit S-3 left station for Louisville Country Club  
(750 G.P. Pump)  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:21 St. Matthews Unit S-1 left station for Louisville Country Club  
(750 G.P. Pump)  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:21 Co. Alarm received and relayed request for Harrods Creek back-up to Louisville Country Club fire.  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:22 Co. Alarm received and relayed request for Lyndon to Lap to St. Matthews quarters  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:23 Harrods Creek Units left station for Louisville Country Club fire.  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:26 Alarm received by telephone at St. Matthews Fire Department for Marshall Planning Hill.  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:26 St. Matthews F.D. notifies Lyndon, enroute to St. Matthews Station, to respond to Marshall Planning Hill alarm.  
(St. Matthews F. D. and County Alarm Records)

2:26 Lyndon acknowledges receipt of Marshall Planning Hill alarm and proceeds to fire.  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:29 Lyndon directed to Marshall Planning Hill fire by Co. Alarm  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:31 Lyndon notification of arrival at Marshall Planning Hill Fire.  
(Co. Alarm records)

2:31 Lyndon unit leaves Lyndon station for Marshall Planning Hill fire.

2:34 St. Matthews Units S-1 and S-3 depart Louisville Country Club for Marshall Planning Hill.  
(St. Matthews F. D. records)

2:37 Louisville Fire Department Aerial Truck Co. 7 dispatched to Marshall Planning Hill Fire.  
(Lo. Fire Dept. and Co. Alarm Records)

2:37 Harrods Creek Unit notifies of arrival at Louisville Country Club.  
(Co. Alarm record)

(Major Volmer, Louisville Fire Department advises air traffic indicated Harrods Creek late hose before notifying of arrival at scene).

2:37 McMan Fire Department notifies of arrival at Marshall Planning Hill Fire.  
(Co. Alarm Record)

2:45 Louisville Ladder Truck Co. 7 notifies of arrival at Marshall Planning Hill fire.  
(Co. alarm and Louisville Fire Department records.)

2:59 St. Matthews Unit S-5 leaves Louisville Country Club for Marshall Planning Hill fire.  
(St. Matthews Fire Department Record)

3:02 St. Matthews Unit S-5 arrives at Marshall Planning Hill Fire.  
(St. Matthews Fire Department record)

3:30 Middle town notified to drop to  
St. Matthews V.F.D. Station

2:49 Middle town arrives at St. Matthews  
Fire Station

MAR 7 1969

*St. Matthews*



March 12, 1969, Letter:

1969  
Not related to Marshall Planing Mill Fire

Copy Made For - Mr. Frank McCaslin, Fire Prevention Inspector, City of St. Matthews,  
St. Matthews, Kentucky 40207  
" " " - Mr. George E. Miller, Secretary, Bd. of Directors, St. Matthews Volunteer  
Fire Dept., 117 St. Matthews Ave., Louisville, Ky., 40207  
" " " - Hon. Bernard Bowling, Mayor, City of St. Matthews, St. Matthews, Ky.  
" " " - Call Out - 3-25-69

March 12, 1969

Mr. John H. Monahan, Jr., Chief  
St. Matthews Fire Department  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Sirs:

FIRE PROTECTION  
ST. MATTHEWS FIRE PROTECTION AREA

Recently one of our representatives inspected your fire department and inspected the fire prevention and building department activities of the City of St. Matthews. Our inspection of the operations of the City of St. Matthews indicated that significant improvement had been made toward accomplishment of previous recommendations regarding fire prevention activities in the City of St. Matthews and in the several incorporated communities that your fire department serves. Some recommendations are still applicable regarding fire prevention activities. Our examination of the City of St. Matthews building department operations indicates that that significant improvement is needed in this area, and we have enclosed a copy of our letter to the City Officials of St. Matthews, for your information.

Our inspection of your fire department indicated the seventh class fire insurance grading now required to be properly maintained.

Our inspection also indicated that all of our previous recommendations for improvements sufficient to warrant an improved classification have not been accomplished. In order to obtain the better classification, it is recommended that:

1. Hose record systems be completed and hose be tested in accordance with previous recommendations. It is understood that hose tests are now being accomplished.

2. Our examination of fire run records indicated that daytime manpower had been increased somewhat; however, some daytime fires are still answered by an insufficient number of men. Minimum response to a structural fire during daylight hours should be by fifteen men.

3. The longer protection within your fire protection area should be inspected on a company basis regularly and appropriate records of these inspections should be maintained and should be utilized in training activities.

Mr. John H. Monahan, Jr., Chief

March 12, 1969

- 2 -

Fire prevention activities within the fire protection area, but outside of incorporated cities, are still deficient. Our previous recommendations regarding improvement needed are still applicable.

Our representative discussed in detail with you possible revisions in fire department record systems, and if there are any further questions regarding our recommendations in this area, or if we may be of further service to you, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Yours very truly,

ENCLOSURE

Dictated by Mr. Gray:jp

1969

March 9, 1969, Letter to *The Louisville Times* by Clinton Ring, father of Lt. Al Ring STMFD:

The Louisville Times

March 9, 1969

To The Editor

Do you ever look back on the news stories in your papers and ask yourselves if the stories represent good reporting and the type of responsible action that a community has a right to expect from its news media? If you do, I hope you will give a little thought to your coverage of the Marshall Planing-Mill fire in St. Matthews on March 4th.

First consider the story as you reported it. The overall impression created could not help but raise questions in the minds of the public as to the action of the Fire Departments. This resulted from giving primary emphasis to the delayed arrival of the St. Matthews firemen (because they were at another fire) and to statements made by the owner of the Mill at a time when he was upset and not aware of all the facts.

Your reporting of the fire created, at the very least, a misleading impression of the actions, efforts and effectiveness of one of our public protective agencies. It seems to me this is just another example of our news-media ignoring completely the great need in this country to build up, rather than tear down, public confidence and respect in those agencies on whom we depend for law and order and protection.

I do not mean to infer that reporters should become public relations men for Police and Fire Departments at the expense of facts and actual news. But I do infer strongly that professional and responsible news organizations should get the real facts and, when it is justified, report them in a constructive manner-even though there is more reader interest and "news" in the other direction.

In the case of the fire, your Louisville Times headline stated "Prior Alarm Keeps Firemen From Planing-Mill Fire". Was this the real news story? You played up the delayed arrival of the St. Matthews firemen which, while true, was completely understandable as they were covering a prior alarm. You inferred all firemen were late which was not true since the Lyndon Fire Department had been called by the St. Matthews Fire Department as a back up and were at the Mill five minutes after the alarm was called in. You did not even include in your story (as some others did) that this five minute response was proven by taped recording of the County Alarm System. You could have written your story, using the same facts, like this: "Fortunately, the St. Matthew Fire Department showed initiative and good judgment in calling for Lyndon to back them up while St. Matthews was tied up with what could have been a major fire at the Louisville Country Club. This resulted in Lyndon being on the scene only five minutes after the alarm was called in." This reporting would have created quite a different impression.

As mentioned earlier, considerable newspace was given to the Mill owner's adverse comments, but no mention was made of the job the firemen did and how hard they worked fighting the fire-and in this case they were not paid fire-fighters, but volunteers. Nor was there any comment on their success in controlling the fire and saving other valuable and vulnerable buildings of the Mill.

I hope you will take a look at your reporting of the activities of our public protection agencies.

Clinton E. Ring  
501 Kinglan Road

1969

March 9, 1969, Letter to Marshall Planing Mill, by Charlotte Ring, mother of Lt. Al Ring  
STMFD:

Louisville, Ky.  
March 9, 1969

Marshall Planing-Mill  
4053 Westport Road  
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Sir,

I have waited a number of days since the fire at your Planing-Mill in hopes that I would see a retraction of some of the statements you made that day to the newspapers in Louisville and St. Matthews.

May I say that I can appreciate what an emotional shock the fire must have been to you-that I can understand the statements you made on that day were perhaps made under duress. However, many days have passed and no corrections have appeared in the papers.

I am sure you realize that the County Alarm System of Jefferson County is electronically controlled and that the time the fire was reported at your Planing-Mill and the arrival of the first fire engine arriving on the scene are therefore recorded correctly. Since the Lyndon Fire Department had already been notified to "back up" the St. Matthew fire station before your call was even placed, you must realize that it did not take the Lyndon Fire Department forty-five minutes to arrive at the scene.

It was, certainly, unfortunate that St. Matthews had to answer another alarm eleven minutes before your call was turned in. However, I personally stood at the scene for hours watching the St. Matthews men and the men of the other fire departments working harder than I have ever seen men work. I know these men from St. Matthews worked until all hours of the night and on in to the following day, to say nothing of the number of days it took the men to clean their equipment following the fire.

The men who make up the Volunteers of the St. Matthews Department come from all walks of life. They are not "boys" but range in age from young men in their twenties to men who are grandfathers. They have one thing in common-they are truly dedicated men who have a desire to volunteer their services to the community.

I feel that you owe the men of the St. Matthew Fire Department an apology for the derogatory statements you made to them while they were trying to put out the fire and that you should correct the information you gave to the "Voice", the "Courier Journal" and to the "Times". It is most unfitting that these statements be allowed to stand.

Sincerely,

*Charlotte A. Ring*

March 13, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Chief explains timetable at Marshall fire

Units of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department arrived at the scene of the Marshall Planing Mill fire eight minutes after the call reporting the blaze was turned in.

This was shown in tape recordings of phone reports turned into the St. Matthews Fire Department.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan supplied the tape information from his fire department and other area fire departments to *The Voice-Jeffersonian*.

He said he wanted to make it clear

that St. Matthews firemen and other area firefighters didn't take 45 minutes to reach the scene, as was charged by a Marshall Mill official in a story in last week's newspaper.

He said when the call was received-- at 2:26 pm March 4, the St. Matthews units were fighting a fire at the Louisville Country Club. That fire had been reported at 2:15 pm.

The St. Matthews units were on the scene of the Marshall fire at 2:34.

The tape shows that St. Matthews police departed at 2:20 pm from the mill

with a man burned in the fire, Joe Battle.

Chief Monohan said he didn't know why the police would have been called to the scene earlier than the fire department.

The tape contains this information:  
2:15 pm -- Alarm received for Louisville Country Club.

2:18 pm -- St. Matthews departed station en route to Louisville Country Club.

2:20 pm -- St. Matthews Police Department left Marshall Planing Mill

Continued to page B - 7

## Chief supplies timetable on Marshall fire

Continued from page A-1

with burned victim to General Hospital.

2:21 pm -- St. Matthews fire units requested back-up by Harrods Creek Fire Department.

2:23 pm -- Harrods Creek F.D. departed station en route to Louisville Country Club fire.

2:26 pm -- St. Matthews V.F.D. received call for fire at Marshall Planing Mill.

St. Matthews V.F.D. notified Lyndon V.F.D. enroute to St. Matthews station to respond direct to fire at Marshall Planing Mill.

2:29 pm -- McMahan V.F.D. notified to respond to Marshall Planing Mill fire.

2:31 pm -- Lyndon units arrived at Marshall Planing Mill. McMahan V.F.D. units departed from station enroute to Marshall Planing Mill.

2:34 pm -- St. Matthews V.F.D. units at Marshall Mill fire.

2:37 pm -- Louisville Fire Department enroute to Marshall Planing Mill fire. McMahan V.F.D. arrived at Marshall Mill fire.

2:45 pm -- Louisville Fire Department at scene of Marshall Mill fire.

Unknown

the structure  
354070

## Resents Criticism of Firemen

The loss suffered by the Marshall Planing Mill and their employe, Mr. Battle, in the fire of March 4 was, of course, very serious.

However, criticism of the fire department attributed to Mr. Marshall is appalling. True, the St. Matthews department was at the Louisville Country Club handling another fire. However, due to the excellent cooperative agreement among the county volunteer departments, Lyndon already had a fire engine on the way to St. Matthews when the Marshall fire was reported. I believe the records will show that the first fire unit arrived on the scene within about 6 minutes of the time the fire was first reported -- not 40 minutes as Mr. Marshall is quoted as saying.

Rather than criticizing the volunteer firemen, Mr. Marshall should be praising them for saving all they did. A major portion of one building was saved, as was the main building in the complex. None of the nearby homes was seriously damaged. Piles of unburned lumber still stand in the yard -- a tribute, I feel, to the ability and skill of the volunteer firemen, some of whom were still on the scene almost 24 hours after the alarm was first turned in.

This could have been a catastrophe, not just a tragedy.

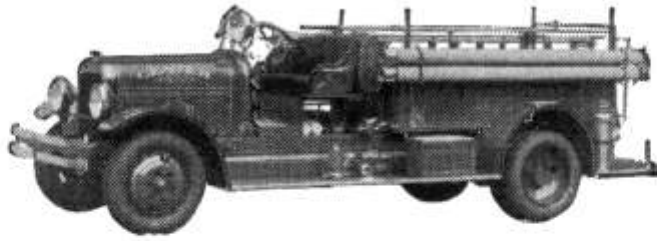
R. L. TRIMBLE  
4119 Dell Ridge Dr., Louisville

1969

March 13, 1969, Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the directors of St. Matthews  
Volunteer Fire Association held March 13, 1969

### Directors present

Fred Boss  
Lawrence Grauman  
W. L. Wilson  
John Monohan  
George Miller

Minutes of last meeting, held February 16, 1968, read by President Monohan.  
Motion made by W. Leland Wilson, seconded by George E. Miller, that they be  
accepted as read.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Fred Boss, that we authorize  
Judge Grauman to draw up proper amendments to the articles of incorporation  
to be proposed at annual meeting.

Motion made by Judge Grauman, seconded by Fred Boss, that we send two members  
to the Instructors Convention at Memphis.

There being no further business motion made by W. L. Wilson, seconded by  
John Monohan, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy. <sup>EB.</sup>

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"



SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 15, 1969

# Mill Says It's Satisfied Firemen Didn't 'Fiddle'

A controversy over the time it took fire equipment to reach a planing-mill fire in St. Matthews last week was "just an unfortunate misunderstanding," the owner of the mill said yesterday.

"I'm not mad at anybody," said Robert W. Marshall Sr., president of the Marshall Planing Mill at 4053 Westport Road. "I appreciate all the work and the efforts made by all those volunteer firemen."

The fire March 4 critically burned a mill employe and did damage estimated by Marshall at between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

The controversy over the arrival time of fire equipment came up after Marshall said the fire did more damage than it should have because the nearby St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department had been called out on another run only 11 minutes before the mill fire was reported.

Mill officials were quoted immediately after the fire as saying it took from 25

to 30 minutes for fire equipment to reach the scene.

"We were talking about the time it took to actually get water on the fire," said Marshall. He said 25 to 30 minutes "was about accurate."

Tape recordings of conversations between various fire companies and dispatchers indicate that a truck from the Lyndon Fire Department arrived at the mill about five minutes after the alarm had been turned in. The tapes apparently do not indicate exactly what time water was directed on the blaze.

Don White, chief of the Lyndon Fire Department, said reports from his men indicate that they were directing water on the blaze "almost immediately after arrival." He said it was probably no more than "two minutes" until his men had water on the fire. White was not at the fire.

Marshall said it was "unfortunate" that St. Matthews firemen—who had carried out fire drills at the mill and knew where water connections were located—could not have been available to respond to the fire immediately. The St. Matthews fire house is only about two blocks from the mill.

Tape recordings of conversations at the St. Matthews Fire Department reportedly indicate that units from that department arrived at the mill about eight minutes after the alarm was turned in. The St. Matthews trucks had to return from a run to the Louisville Country Club on Upper River Road, where fire damaged a third-floor locker room.

The St. Matthews trucks were able to leave the country club scene quickly because trucks from the Harrods Creek Fire Department arrived at the club.

The Lyndon truck was able to get to the mill quickly because it was already on its way to back up the St. Matthews department at St. Matthews' request.

Marshall said that although some fire units may have arrived "on the grounds" sooner, no real amount of water was directed on the fire until a truck arrived from the Louisville Fire Department. St. Matthews also had requested assistance from Louisville.

March 13,  
1969, *The*

**GENERAL HAULING**

**Basements, attics, and  
garages cleaned out**

Trash, brush, appliances,  
junk, furniture,  
discarded items, etc.

**Joe Noland**  
**896-0273**

Days, Evenings, and Weekends.  
*No job too small.*

1969

March 17, 1969: Letter from *The Courier-Journal*.

BARRY BINGHAM, JR.  
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

BARRY BINGHAM, SR.  
EDITOR & PUBLISHER

CYRUS MACKINNON  
VICE PRESIDENT  
& GENERAL MANAGER

# The Courier-Journal

## THE LOUISVILLE TIMES

JOHN HERCHENROEDER  
ASSISTANT TO THE  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
AREA CODE 502-582-4011

March 17, 1969

Mr. Clinton E. Ring  
501 Kinglan Road  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ring:

Your letter to the editor of The Louisville Times raising a valid point about news coverage was referred to me in the news department.

I want you to know we appreciated your writing to us and raising the questions about coverage.

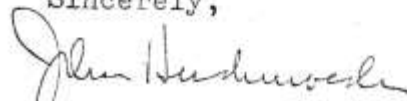
Previously, I had received a phone call saying the news story had not been fair to the St. Matthews Department, because the Lyndon Department was on the way to back them up at the time of the mill fire.

When your letter came, I asked the city editor of The Times, Mr. Robert Crumpler, to have his reporter take another look at the fire story, keeping in mind the points you raised about the tape recording of alarms on the county alarm system. I have enclosed a copy of this follow story, in case you did not notice it.

You will note also that the mill proprietor raised a new point, explaining he was talking about the time it took to actually get water on the fire.

Again, thanks for taking time to write us about this. I am confident our news department has no intention of trying to tear down confidence in the fire department or in any law enforcement agency.

Sincerely,

  
John Herchenroeder

jh/st

1969

March 17, 1969, Letter:

JAMES C. BAUGHMAN  
MINISTER  
P. O. BOX 43266

MINISTER'S HOME: 245-5205  
CHURCH PHONE: 245-8677

## Middletown Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

11508 MAIN STREET  
MIDDLETOWN, KENTUCKY 40243

March 17, 1969

Middletown Volunteer Fire Department  
Jeffersontown Volunteer Fire Department  
Lyndon Volunteer Fire Department  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department

On Saturday March 15th many residents of Middletown witnessed the damaging results of a dreaded enemy, as fire destroyed the Middletown Manufacturing building. But more impressive to we spectators was the excellent manner in which you men kept this fire from reaching neighboring buildings. A remarkable job to say the least!

On behalf of the congregation of the Middletown Christian Church, who is presently utilizing the Lodge Hall for Sunday Services, I would express to each volunteer a sincere thank you. Because of your ability to perform, we were able to have worship services without any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

*Karl M. Schree*

Chairman of the Board

March 15, 1969: We backed up Middletown at the Middletown Manufacturing building fire and responded on one "house fire" run. Unit was S-1 with captain Babcock as officer.



1969

March 18, 1969, Letter:

March 18, 1969

Louisville Shopping Center  
Community Center & Development Co.  
14 West Sarataga Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Sir:

This Bill is for fire dues not paid for the year of  
1967 to 1968. The amount is \$1,085.98.

Your immediately attention to this bill will be greatly  
appreciated.

Sincerely yours *John M. Monohan, Jr.*

John M. Monohan, Jr.  
Chief St. M. F. D.

emm/JMM, JR

March 27, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*: Article next page



Site of new hospital

Outlined in white at center of photo is the 20-acre tract earmarked for the Extencicare Inc. hospital to be built here. The hospital, costing \$6 million, will have 300 beds. The location is between Brown's Lane and Breckinridge Lane and 1 - 64 and Dutchman's Lane extended. Dutchman's Lane will be extended by Developer Frank R. Metts.

March 27, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Extendicare to build 300-bed infirmary on Brown Farm tract

## \$6 million hospital on the way

By Joseph Oglesby, Jr.  
Editor

Extendicare Inc. has announced plans to build a \$6 million hospital in St. Matthews.

The company has contracted to buy 20 acres of land at Browns Lane and I-64 as the site for the 300-bed hospital, according to David A. Jones, company president.

An office building for doctors and an extended care nursing center may also be built in conjunction with the hospital project.

The target date for the start of construction is August 15 with completion scheduled for late 1970.

Jones described the proposed hospital as a showcase for Extendicare's Hospital Management Division.

"The Hospital will be aesthetically beautiful, functionally outstanding and will be built at a cost that compares more than favorably with that of other hospitals," Jones said.

"It will be a response to the community's needs in a hospital facility, being designed with an understanding of the needs of the medical profession in Louisville."

Besides stressing quality in the physical facility and in patient-care service, Extendicare will emphasize a business-like approach to the operation of the hospital, Jones said.

"We intend to apply modern management techniques to the problems of operating a hospital," he explained. "We have been successful in applying these techniques to the operation of our nursing centers."

The Extendicare facility will be the first proprietary hospital in Louisville, operating as a privately owned, tax-paying hospital. It will be built without government financing. It is anticipated that charges to the patients will be at least as low as the rates charged by non-profit hospitals in the area.

### Road planned

Jones noted that Extendicare's Hospital Management Division would be offering consulting services to other hospitals on business management, including the planning and development of new facilities and the raising of money to finance them.

"The hospital in St. Matthews will demonstrate our ability in these areas," Jones said.

H. Wendell Cherry, executive vice-president, said the site that Extendicare has contracted to purchase is west of Browns Lane and south of I-64. It formerly was part of the J. Graham Brown farm. The property is to be purchased from Frank R. Metts, a Louisville real estate developer.

A four-lane road is to be built adjacent to the south edge of the hospital property, connecting Browns Lane and Breckinridge Lane. Provision will be made for adequate parking space.

The estimated cost of the new road--an extension of Dutchman's Lane--is

\$100,000.

The road also will be a key to other development in the area.

"We believe there's a need to take hospitals to the population," Cherry said. There are no hospitals in the St. Matthews area at present.

The Extendicare site is almost directly across I-64 from a tract on which the Kentucky Baptist Convention plans a new hospital.

### Baptist hospital planned

Although no time schedule has been set up, plans for the proposed Baptist hospital complex in the St. Matthews area are under way.

Herbert L. Dobbs, president of Baptist Hospitals, Inc., which will operate the facility, said this week that plans are being developed with the architect, but "we are not pushing hard." The "present economic situation is being considered," he said.

Plans for the facility were approved last Nov. 12 at a meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention at Florence, Ky. The building is to be erected on a 52-acre plot between Browns Lane and Breckinridge Lane, north of Interstate 64. The land was purchased about two and a half years ago.

Last November, it was estimated that the initial phase of the hospital will cost between \$6 and \$7 million. The first structures are expected to contain general hospital facilities and a building to contain doctors' offices.

Between 175 and 200 beds are expected to be provided in the initial phase with capacity being increased eventually to 400.

The Extendicare Inc. hospital will be at least four stories. It is being designed by Donald Cowan and Associates, Nashville, Tenn., architects.

Cherry said the construction contract will be negotiated after completion of architects' plans.

William B. Barnhart, director of Extendicare's Hospital Management Division, said efficient business practices include use of the computer in the company's headquarters for accounting, cost controls, and timely management reports. Centralized purchasing for Extendicare's chain of hospitals and nursing centers is another factor in reducing costs.

Barnhart noted that his division, formed last September, includes four other hospitals. Extendicare has contracted to buy existing hospitals in Tranton and Waverly, Tenn., has a 300-bed hospital under construction in Huntsville, Ala., and will manage the 117-bed Evgen B. Crowe Community Hospital being built in Bedford, Ind.

Extendicare, headquartered in the Portland Federal Building, Second and Broadway, opened its first medical facility, a nursing center, in 1962.

The company now has 31 extended care nursing centers with 3,693 beds in 12 states. Another 14 centers are under construction or development.



March 27, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

1969

April 3, 1969: Letter.

April 3, 1969

*Eline Realty Co.  
142 Chenoweth Rd.*

Dear Mr. Eline;

Thank you for the opportunity to use the structure at 142 Chenoweth Land, for the purpose of Fire Training.

We understand that this property is owned by the Eline Realty Co. and that they have the freedom and right to offer or give to the St. Matthews Fire Department for the purpose of fire training (burning) on or before the 13th of April 1969.

We agree to:

- (1) destroy the structure to a level equal to ground level in that area + no more than 3 ft. at the highest point or - no more than 8 ft. at the lowest point.
- (2) That the Department has the responsibility to maintain safe conditions for bystanders and the like during the exercise.
- (3) That it is the responsibility of the department to protect all surrounding exposer against burning, scorching, and blistering as a result of this training fire.
- (4) That the Eline Realty Co. will not be held responsible or liable for injuries or damage to person or property directly connected with the Fire Department, as a result of this training fire.
- (5) That we will use due caution to keep people not involved in the training away from the premises during the evolution.

If you have not sent your letter of approval for us to do so, we would appreciate a rapid reply.

Thank you very much.

Jack DeHart, Jr.

cc: our file  
John Monohan, Jr.  
J. E. D. H.

JD:pt

April 3, 1969

Dear Mr. Bourne;

In regards to my phone conversation of April 3, 1969 with Mr. Reynolds; the St. Matthews Fire Department has acquired and intends to use for the purpose of departmental fire training, a two-story unsul-brick, having a full basement and a half attic. This property is located at 142 Chenoweth Lane in St. Matthews.

<sup>142 E</sup>  
I intend to invite a fireman from each of the surrounding departments to participate in this training, to increase our mutual aid efficiency; (this of course is pending the approval of our chief, John Monohan).

The training session will take place on the 12th and 13th of April, with intentions of burning said structure to ground level.

Also Mr. Reynolds suggested that our department procure the regulation governing open fires within Jefferson County, stating that your department could supply us with this.

Pending your decision, would you please contact me so we may either begin or scrub the training plans.

Mail all correspondence to: Confidential: Jack DeHart, Jr.  
St. Matthews Fire Dept.  
117 St. Matthews Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky

Sincerely yours,

Jack DeHart, Jr.

cc: our file  
John Monohan, Jr.  
J. E. D. H.

JD:pt

April 10, 1969, The Voice-Jeffersonian:



**Fire confined  
to top level**

St. Matthews volunteer firemen fight a blaze at 311 Iola Rd. Monday morning. The fire gutted the upstairs of the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Wathen. No one was hurt. The upstairs level of the home was the living quarters of their niece Mrs. Elizabeth Essex.



**Crossing tied  
up 34 minutes**

David Block, a Jefferson County policeman, asks an L & N engineer why the railroad safety gates at Chesworth and Frankfort Avenue were down for 34 minutes last Thursday. No train crossed the intersection while the gates were down. This train was stuck at the intersection of Clover Lane and Westport Road about three blocks from the tied-up crossing. The engineer said he did not know why the gates were down.

Crossing were blocked like this often, and it was a major problem

## Boat club members map plans for new clubhouse

By Glee Crutcher  
Staff Writer

"What's going to happen to the Louisville Boat Club now that the clubhouse has been destroyed by fire?" everyone is asking.

In no way fazed by the flames, the members are just as busy as ever and plans already are popping for the dedication of a new clubhouse next spring.

Meantime, no activities have ceased. Two large trailers have been pulled onto the property on Upper River Road and have been converted into a bar, a diningroom, and an office. The river front slips are being put into condition and the tennis courts already are crowded. The swimming pool will open Decoration Day.

"Other clubs have been simply wonderful to us," says O. C. 'Doc' Kelsall, 4029 Norbourne Blvd., who already has been appointed chairman of the dedication when the new clubhouse is

finished. "All privileges have been extended to our members by Hunting Creek, Audubon, Big Spring, Owl Creek, the Pendennis Club, and others. Planned wedding receptions and various social functions have been moved to one or another. Our semi-annual meeting and dinner in May will be at Audubon Country Club."

A committee is at work on plans for the new clubhouse. Members hope to have the building completed by next April or May. In order to have a bang-up dedication, Doc Kelsall says, other committees are mapping out a celebration of the event. The club, one of the oldest in town, will be 91 years old this September.

Old pictures are being collected from many sources and several members are writing a history, delving back into records of beginning events in the 19th century when a group of young men, who were among Louisville's first "River Rats", formed their boat club.

1969

April 10, 1969, Board meeting:

April 19, 1969, Board meeting: Wrong date on minutes.

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of  
the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association held April 10, 1969.

Directors Present

Lawrence Grauman  
John Enrich  
John Monahan  
Fred C. Boss  
George E. Miller

Minutes of last meeting held March 13, 1969 read by President Monahan. Motion  
made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that they be accepted as  
read.

Motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that Mr. Enrich  
meet with Bernie Bowling and St. Matthews attorney Jones to negotiate loan.

There being no further business, motion made by John Monahan, seconded by  
Fred C. Boss, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy.

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Vol Fire  
Dept. held April 19 1968 to open bids on new fire house.

Directors Present

Jno. Enrich Geo Miller  
Fred Boss J. P. Terry  
Jno. Monahan

Lawrence Grauman absent but voting in the group as per  
conversation with Geo E. Miller

Builders Present

W. T. Bristow & Sons W. T. Bristow Jr.  
Neal Pulliam Pulliam Const Co  
Alvin Platoff Platoff Const. Co.  
Albert Newton Schickel Const.  
Earl Winebrenner John Wile Const. Co.  
Henry Steilberg Steilberg Const Co.,

Motion made by Jno Enrich seconded by J. P. Terry that  
W. T. Bristow & Sons be bonded for the amount of the contract .

Motion Made by Fred Boss seconded by Jno Enrich that contract be ~~awar~~  
awarded to W. T. Bristow & Sons .

Motion made by Geo E Miller seconded by Jno Enrich that we accept bid  
that is base bid of \$226,822.00 leaving in air conditioning .

Being no further business motion made by Fred Boss seconded by  
J. P. Terry that we adjourn

Respect

Respectfully Submitted

*George E. Miller*  
Geo E. Miller, Secy

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

April 19, 1969, Board meeting:

BID TABULATION: ST MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID	ADD ALT. #1	ADD ALT. #2	DEDUCT ALT. #3
W. T. BRISTOW & SONS	\$226,922	\$8,869	\$2,330	\$1,410
PULLEM CONSTRUCTION CO.	239,000	8,758	2,330	1,410
PLATOFF CONSTRUCTION CO.	239,300	9,050	2,330	1,410
SCHICKLI CONTRACTORS	229,900	8,520	2,330	1,410
HENRY STEILBERG	233,800	9,700	2,470	1,450
JOHN WILE CONSTRUCTION CO.	240,000	9,300	2,500	1,410

1969

April 19, 1969

House fire

607 Maryhill Lane

3:03 p.m.

**Comments by Al Ring: April 19, 1969 Working fire at 607 Maryhill Lane. This was Saturday afternoon and the whole second floor and roof all burned off. Lyndon helped. Because it was Saturday afternoon we had a huge crowd watching, and telling us how to fight the fire.**

607 Maryhill Lane

April 19, 1969

3:03 Pm

This was a Saturday afternoon run; the day was cloudy and cold as spring days in Kentucky can be. As I remember I was at home on Wiltshire Avenue, when the run came in by radio. When I got to the firehouse, I saw that S-4 ( 1954 Seagrave, 750 GPM quadruple combination pumper) was loaded and ready to leave. After putting on my gear I went over and climbed on the tailboard of S-1 (1947 Seagrave, 750 GPM pumper), positioning myself on the right side of the tailboard. I notice that S-5 (1957 Seagrave, 750 GPM, 75 ft. quint) was not in the firehouse at the time the run was dispatched. When we loaded up a full crew, we left the firehouse. I cannot remember any of the other people on S-1 with me.

A few minutes later we arrived on the scene at 607 Maryhill Lane. We had a 1-1/2 story brick, Cape Cod house, with heavy black smoke showing from the north end of the second story. S-5 had been out on driver's training, and had arrived first and committed to attacking the fire with two 1-1/2 inch preconnected lines. S-4 has laid a 2-1/2 inch supply line to a fire hydrant on Crestview Drive. When we pulled up behind S-5, we were instructed to ladder the building and ventilate the roof as close to the south end of the building as we could, directly over the fire on the second floor and in the attic. As I recall, S-1 carried a 35-foot extension ladder, and a 14-foot roof ladder on the right side of the truck. We removed the two ladders, and carried the 35-ft extension ladder to the building, raising and extending it to a length to safely climb and carry the 14-foot roof ladder to the roof. It was agreed I would go up and ventilate the roof, so I was on the front of the roof ladder as we carried it up and placed to hooks over the apex of the roof in proper position to cut the ventilation hole. I then carried an axe up to the roof, and climbed up the roof ladder to the top of the roof.

This house was built in the late 1950's, with a basement. Construction techniques of the era used the 1 x 6 inch boards that framed up the forms for pouring the basement walls to place on top of the roof rafters in order to formed the sub roof where the roofing paper and shingles are nailed, forming a water proof structure over the house. (Houses today use steel forms for basement walls, and 1/2 or 5/8 inch plywood for the sub roof.) We were taught to cut a whole that at least spanned two rafters, and two feet wide in the other direction. The bigger the whole, the faster the smoke and hot gases exited the building, creating a more tenable atmosphere for the firefighters attacking the fire below. We also didn't have the power saws firefighters use today. After removing shingles and tarpaper to expose the sub roof, I proceeded to cut a hole. Using a dull axe, I starting cutting the sub roof along one of the roof rafters, then I moved two rafters to my left to make the other cut. I then remove the cut boards to open up the hole. This is easier said than done, but I finally got the hole cut. When I open up the hole, immediately black smoke and super hot gases, with a little flame, came out in my face. About the same time the firefighters below started to get a good deal of water on the fire, as steam and white smoked came from the ventilation hole. I then sat up on the roof and rested for a short while. When we gained control of the fire, I came down from the roof staying out in the front yard.

After the fire was knocked down and under control, the overhaul of the upstairs began. I believe I was involved with salvage operations (placing furniture in danger of suffering water damage under tarps in the center of the room). Other personnel completed the upstairs overhaul. We got the salvage tarps off of S-5. After the salvage operations were completed we took the ladders down from the ventilation operation, and replaced them on S-1. This placed S-1 back in service available for another run. Both of our ladder trucks, S-5 and S-4, were out service, which left three pumpers available for another run. From what I understand, there was much consternation amongst the leaders of the department over our only aerial ladder truck committed to a house fire, along with our quad. (At the time S-5 was the only quint in eastern Jefferson County.)

We returned to quarters, returning all units to service. We cleared the air at 5:24 Pm. According to department records, Lyndon placed a unit (L-6) in our firehouse as backup. At 4:18 Pm L-6 made a lockout at 3811 Hycliff Avenue. They cleared from this run at 4:37 Pm. Captain Walling made the run with them.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.

July 27, 2011

April 24, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Controls urged for St. Matthews fire department

A Valley Station man urged the St. Matthews City Council Tuesday night to exert more control over the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Barney Coogle, who identified himself as a Federal Court special bailiff charged that the department had caused his mother, Mrs. Emma Coogle, of 144 Chenoweth Ln., to be persecuted and mistreated.

He said the department, despite protests and the threat of a restraining order, proceeded with plans to burn a building next to his mother's.

The department, he said, had been given permission to burn the building at 142 Chenoweth Ln. by its owner, A. J. Eline, as part of a fire - training exercise.

Coogle said he inquired whether the city had approved burning of the building and found that it hadn't.

Then, he said, he contacted City attorney J. W. Jones who warned the fire department not to burn the building.

(Jones confirmed this. He said the volunteers could have been charged with disorderly conduct. In the past, Jones said, buildings have been burned in fire-training exercises with the full consent of neighbors.)

Coogle said he had heard that A. J. Eline and Fire Chief John Monohan "run the city" and could do anything they want.

Firemen had dumped sawdust at the rear of the building at 142 Chenoweth and moved in boxes in preparation for burning the building, Coogle told the council.

"All this was making my mother and two other elderly tenants of the building (at 144 Chenoweth Ln.) nervous and upset."

Coogle said that Saturday, April 12, he called Monohan to ask him not to burn the building.

Monohan told him, Coogle reported, that he would let him know by 8 am the next day.

Coogle said he wanted to go to early mass the next day so he called Mono-

## Controls urged for fire department

Continued from page 1

han about 6 am. At that time, Coogle said, Monohan agreed not to burn the building.

That night, at 11:40 pm (according to fire department records) the building was gutted by a fire.

Chief Monohan said the cause of the fire hasn't been determined. He said the fire was not set by the volunteers for training purposes.

Monohan told *The Voice* Tuesday night that Coogle had objected to the burning of the building "from the start."

"I told him," said Monohan, "that we were going to burn it. The only thing that would stop me would be legal arrest."

Later Monohan was contacted by city attorney Jones and told that the volunteers faced disorderly conduct charges if they did burn the building.

"I wasn't going to get arrested for trying to do my job," Monohan said, so he changed his mind about burning the structure.

Monohan said that at no time did Coogle quote his mother's comments on the plan to burn the building.

Coogle read a lengthy report on the incident to the city council.

When he finished, Mayor Bernard F. Bowling said he wanted to straighten out two matters referred to in the report.

"I want to assure you that these eight men (the mayor was referring to city councilmen) run the City of St. Matthews. Anyone who says anything to the contrary is distorting the truth. (The Mayor's reference was to Coogle's comment that he had heard that Eline and Monohan run the city.)

The mayor also said that he could not "control anyone" until there is a violation of the law.

Coogle then said he had been prepared to use a shotgun to run off volunteers if they tried to burn the building.

After the meeting Mayor Bowling issued this statement:

"In view of this (Coogle's comments before the council) for the mutual benefit of both the volunteers and the city administration I will recommend that

the city attorney study the advisability of an ordinance that would require a permit for fires which are to be used for training purposes."

Monohan commented that in the past there was never any trouble over buildings used in fire-training exercises.

The procedure, he said, was to obtain the owner's permission and the consent of the air pollution board.

Monohan said only Coogle objected to the use of the building at 142 Chenoweth Ln. in a fire-training exercise.

In other action Tuesday night, the council approved rezoning three tracts on Sherburn Lane, near Mailgate, for the construction of two condominiums, two efficiency-apartment buildings, and a medical building by the Delcrest Construction Co.

The tracts were rezoned from C - 1 apartment district to C - 2 office district.

Continued to page A - 7



April 23, 1969,

# St. Matthews to Try Merger Again, But Fiancee Is New—City of Parkside

By EDWARD SEATON  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

The St. Matthews City Council voted last night to attempt marriage again despite stumbling on its first trip to the altar.

The bride is new.

The council passed an ordinance that will let St. Matthews residents decide on the May 27 primary election ballot if they want the 300 residents of city of Parkside to become fellow citizens.

The marriage vows also will be on the ballot in Parkside, a sixth-class city south of Shelbyville Road inside the St. Matthews city limits.

Approval is required by a majority of the voters in both cities.

A similar merger attempt at last November's election between fourth-class St. Matthews and another sixth-class city, Plymouth Village, was declared invalid when separate vote totals apparently couldn't be tabulated because Plymouth Village extends into two precincts that also contain St. Matthews voters.

St. Matthews Mayor Bernard F. Bowling said a merger between Plymouth Village and his city probably would attempt merger again in next November's election.

Miss Elizabeth A. Ross, chairman of the Parkside trustees, said her board voted April 9 to put the merger question on the May ballot. A sample vote of

Parkside residents was taken in January, she added, with a majority approving merger.

The merger would mean Parkside residents would pay the St. Matthews property tax rate of 35 cents per \$100 valuation instead of the 10-cent Parkside rate.

However, Miss Ross said, Parkside residents would get more services, including professional police, fire protection and garbage collection. Parkside supplies none of these.

Parkside includes 103 homes on Monahan Drive, Norbourne Boulevard, and Hubbards Lane between Winchester Road and Alton Road.

The St. Matthews council also was asked to adopt an ordinance giving it certain control over the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, which is now independent of the city.

A man who identified himself as Barney Coogle, of Valley Station and formerly of St. Matthews, told the council that the department had made a "shaking, nervous wreck" of his 74-year-old mother two weeks ago when it announced plans to burn down a frame house at 142

Chenoweth ave, next to the apartment she owns and lives in at 144 Chenoweth.

Coogle said he received no cooperation when he asked the department to halt the burning, which was to be done with the owner's permission to give the volunteers practice.

Finally, Coogle said, after he threatened court action and conferred with St. Matthews City Atty. J. W. Jones, the fire department called off the burn-in on the day it was to take place, April 13.

Coogle also said that "coincidentally" a fire gutted the inside of the frame house that same night and charged that the department's trucks were on the scene before the alarm came in.

Chief John Monohan of the St. Matthews department later denied that his trucks were at the scene prior to the alarm and said the fire, of unknown origin, was reported by a passing motorist. He also contended that he had met all legal requirements to burn the house.

Mayor Bowling asked the City Atty. Jones to study the "advisability" or requiring a city permit for fires to be used for training.

The council also rezoned three tracts of Sherburn Lane at the city limits to C-2 office district from C-1 apartments. The request was made for 156 condominium apartment units and a five-story office building.

## Central Plans Band Concert

Central High School's 6th annual Spring Band Concert will be held in the school auditorium, 1130 W. Chestnut, at 8 p.m. Friday.

1969

Around April of 1969, land was brought for the Gene Snyder freeway, so Worthington had many training sessions of which STMFD participated. They trained on many Sundays. These pictures are from the Malcolm McMakin private collection.



1969

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1969

April 23, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*: EDITED

The St. Matthews council also was asked to adopt an ordinance giving it certain control over the **St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department**, which is now independent of the city.

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*: EDITED

## 'Instant' Alarm System May Link All City and County Units

By VINCENT CROWDUS  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Louisville and Jefferson County officials, with assistance of a national consultant, are working on a comprehensive plan to tie all police, fire and civil defense facilities into a single communications system.

Officials say the proposed system would provide more efficient service, eliminate duplication in current systems and save money.

No one has any idea what the project would cost or how long it would take to get it into operation. The consultant firm, Kelly Scientific Corp. of Washington, D.C., is supposed to come up with answers to these questions.

County Civil Defense Office.

So far the Shively Fire Department and the Jeffersontown and **St. Matthews volunteer** departments have not been brought into the plan.

Information and records operations of the new system would be on a computerized basis, presumably worked through the city-county Data Processing Center.

May 7, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*: EDITED

### Tanks Blow Their Tops

The third alarm was sounded on the fire within 14 minutes after the first alarm. Some 250 firemen were at the fire with 25 firetrucks. Firemen from the Dixie Suburban, Fairdale, Buechel, McMahan and **St. Matthews fire** departments manned the usual posts of several Louisville fire companies summoned to the chemical fire.

At least four firemen and three volunteers were reported hurt. All were treated at General Hospital and released.

By JOHN FINLEY

Courier-Journal Staff Writer

The fire that lit up the skies over Louisville and destroyed a chemical storage facility is being investigated "with an awful lot of suspicion that it's been set," the head of the city's arson squad said yesterday.

According to Lt. William A. Foushee, firemen have found no physical evidence of arson at the Bronco facility, 1316 W. Kentucky, which erupted in flames Monday night. But he added, "The informa-

R. J. EDWARDS (1993)  
*Journal of Applied Ecology* 30, 103–116

The nearly 600 volunteers in Jefferson

Kenneth M. Trafton, director of the state's fire protection program, believes

The department also participates in an

into the lower layers of millimeter, and must depend on millimeter, in part, for support, to the Lake District as

**Be a VOLUNTEER**  
Back page, col. 1, this section



Additional details also warrant that the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]



## Entries Open For Forestry Competition





April 28, 1969, The Courier-Journal:

# Volunteer Fire Fighters Diverse, Hustling Groups

Continued from Page B 1

all 20 departments participate and for which volunteer firemen are perhaps best known is the WIAS Crusade for Children.

Annually the volunteers collect money for the crusade by soliciting door to door and setting up "smulldrinks."

"We men start on Friday afternoon and don't pull off their boots or clothes until Sunday afternoon," said the Pleasure Ridge chief.

Other chiefs recount similar tales when talking about the crusade. "We have it arranged so we never pull a man off a cover even for a fire," said Frank Hardin, Black Mudd fire chief.

The effort pays off. Last year, for example, the St. Matthews department collected more than \$20,000 to top all departments.

Receiving less publicity is another activity for hospital-aided children. At least once a year each department visits Kessler Crippled Children Hospital or Children's Hospital with gifts for the young patients. The visits are staggered so that a department visits each hospital once a month.

Among other facets of volunteer fire-fighting are:

➤ **Mutual aid.** This is coordinated by the Louisville-Jefferson County Central Fire Alarm Office, which receives all fire calls for 17 of the 20 volunteer departments and relays them via radio to the homes of individual volunteers.

When a department is called to a fire, the chief immediately surveys the situation and contacts the alarm office by radio requesting that a certain number of trucks from other departments be sent to the fire or to the chief's own firehouse as "back-up" in case another fire breaks out. Response by other departments is automatic.

The system works because each department knows that sometime it will need the same help. Occasionally volunteer departments even "back-up" the Louisville Fire Department and vice versa.

In the recent case in St. Matthews, a fire was reported at the Marshall Plating Mill, Inc., at a time when the St. Matthews department had answered another alarm at the Louisville Country Club on Upper River Road. Nonetheless, the Lyndon department had a truck at the plating mill fire exactly five minutes after it was reported, because Lyndon previously had been called to "back-up" St. Matthews.

A misunderstanding arose because several persons assumed that the St. Matthews department had left the St. Matthews district unprotected.

Home's policy costs residents the same amount it costs Louisville residents. Straight fire insurance on homes, however, is 10 to 15 per cent cheaper in Louisville.

Rates within a department's jurisdiction vary according to how far the insured property is from a hydrant and a firehouse. Property within three miles of a station and 1,000 feet of hydrant qualifies for sixth-class rates, provided the department meets certain standards of fire protection.

Some areas of the county, such as the entire Eastwood district, have ninth-class ratings because they do not have adequate hydrant protection.

Joe Smith, assistant manager of the Kentucky Inspection Bureau, which sets the rates, says volunteer departments "probably cannot get below sixth class rates." Volunteers simply cannot respond as quickly as full-time professionals who live at the station, Smith said.

Jefferson County's "superior" mutual-aid program is a big factor in the lower rates here, he said.

➤ **Personnel.** Procedures vary, but at most departments new volunteers must be approved by a board of directors and by two-thirds of the entire membership.

Most departments want more volunteers than they have, especially men available in the daytime. Departments in upper-middle class areas have the most severe manpower shortages in the daytime because they have so few volunteers who work in the district or on swing shifts. Several of them rely on college students who live at home.

Being a volunteer costs money. Some men pay higher rates for liability insurance on their cars because they have to race to the firehouse. If a volunteer has on his Sunday suit when the alarm goes off, he responds without changing, and that, too, can be expensive.

The enormous amount of time required to be a volunteer means "you've got to have a wife who is part firefighter," says the Camp Taylor chief.

"My wife complains," said one Lake Dreamland volunteer, "but she'll kick me in the back and holler 'fire alarm' when one comes in."

➤ **Financial.** Sixteen of the 20 departments are legal fire districts and have taxing powers through which they obtain most of their revenue. Three that are not—Lyndon, McMahan and St. Matthews—obtain much of their operating revenue through contracts with suburban cities. The Fairdale department has to depend on voluntary contributions for support. Harrods Creek, which has taxing powers, is supported with voluntary contributions rather than through taxes because it can raise more money that way. Fiscal Court and the state also furnish some aid.

With assets of more than \$1 million, Pleasure Ridge Park is the county's wealthiest department. The poorest department is Eastwood, which protects a largely rural area. It operates on about \$5,000 annually and has assets of only \$45,000.

➤ **Fire Insurance.** Fifteen of the 20 departments qualify for sixth-class insurance rates, which means a home-

1969

May 1, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## \$350,000 apartment complex under construction in St. M.

Construction has begun on a 24-unit apartment complex in the 700 block of Breckinridge Lane in the City of Plymouth Village.

The development will be known as "700 Breckinridge Lane" and will be completed by August, if construction stays on schedule.

The developer is the Brown, Noltemeyer Co., which has built other apartment buildings on Grandview, Churchway and Nantz Avenues in St. Matthews and 90 units of Chatsworth Park in Crescent Hill.

Charles A. Brown Jr., president of Brown, Noltemeyer Co., said the Breck-

inridge Lane project will cost about \$350,000. The complex will be of brick construction and have an Early American design. The architect is Kenneth Mock of St. Matthews.

The units will have two bedrooms and two baths and will rent for \$195 a month, including utilities, Brown said. There will be a carport for each apartment unit.

Norman V. Noltemeyer, vice president of the company, will be the operating manager.

Contractors for "700 Breckinridge Lane" are Amos Hancock and Jack Burckle.

May 8, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

STMFD responded.



FEAR THAT A FIRE caused by a toppled gasoline pump would spread sent these attendants scurrying at the Sunoco Station across from Trinity High School last Friday afternoon. While two attendants moved autos, two others sprayed the pump with CO<sub>2</sub> to extinguish the fire. The attendants managed to get the fire under control. The pump was knocked over when a motorist pulled away with the pump nozzle still inserted in the "mouth" of his car's gas tank.

## Firemen's Efficiency, Bravery Praised

# Arson Suspected in Chemical Company Blaze

By JOHN FINLEY  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

The fire that lit up the skies over Louisville and destroyed a chemical storage facility is being investigated "with an initial suspicion that it's been set," the head of the city's arson squad said yesterday.

According to Lt. William A. Fendler, firemen have found no physical evidence of arson at the Bromco facility, 1216 W. Kentucky, which erupted in flames Sunday night. But he added, "The interna-

lives that we've got indicates the possibility of it being set."

The fire, reported at 10 p.m., sent towers of smoke and flames billowing into the

*Sources: Arson Squad, Page A-14*

sky for hours. It wasn't until about 2 a.m. that the blaze was considered completely under control. Firemen were still at the scene yesterday, cooling down the phys-

ical remains of the facility, rolling up hoses and picking up their equipment.

Officials of Bromco, a subsidiary of Ashland Chemical Co., still do not have a complete estimate of the damage to the facility. About 300,000 gallons of petroleum solvents and liquid chemicals were stored there in 30 tanks. A company spokesman said 24 tanks were destroyed.

Another arson investigator, Lt. Larry Hamilton, reported yesterday that the city department's information about the

possible origin of the fire stems so far from interviews with witnesses.

Witnesses who saw the fire at its apparent earliest stage have led the arson investigators to believe that the blaze started outside a storage building near the south end of the double row of tanks.

Some 30 million drums were stacked next to the building, and the drums con-

See ARSON  
PAGE 6, col. 1, this section



Staff Photo by James N. Keen

**BLACKENED, TWISTED** chemical storage tanks stand empty of the solvents which caught fire Monday night and illuminated the skies over

Louisville. Firemen, who believe the blaze started on the outside of the building at right, continuing to cool the wreckage.

# Arson Suspected in Chemical Blaze

Continued From Page One

tained a flammable material, Lt. Bonnafon said.

The investigation indicates the flammable material was flowing, either as a result of a leak in a drum or as a result of a drum being tipped over, he explained, because when the ignition occurred—however it occurred—the fire flowed directly from the storage building to the tanks.

Bonnafon said witnesses reported seeing a small fire that spread rapidly alongside the building.

"Then in two minutes or less, the entire thing was ablaze," he added.

No employees or watchmen were on duty at the plant.

## Tanks Blow Their Tops

The third alarm was sounded on the fire within 14 minutes after the first alarm. Some 250 firemen were at the fire with 25 firetrucks. Firemen from the Dixie Suburban, Fairdale, Beechel, McMahon and **St. Matthews fire** departments manned the usual posts of several Louisville fire companies summoned to the chemical fire.

At least four firemen and three volunteers were reported hurt. All were treated at General Hospital and released.

During the fire, some of the storage tanks literally blew their tops, exploding with percussive "ka-WOOMP." Others simply caved in with accompanying roars of flaming solvent, jetting through the torn tank walls.

The collapse of every tank sent balls of flame and columns of black smoke high into the air, casting an orange glow

that was reported visible as far as 15 miles away.

Soon after the fire began, nearby residents began leaving their homes, and police urged others to leave. Traffic within a one-block radius of the fire was halted, and residents and spectators alike were repeatedly warned about the danger of explosions.

The heat, light and intensity of some explosions served as far better warnings, however, and most spectators stayed back a respectful one-block distance until firemen gained headway against the inferno.

During the early part of the firefighting, both police and firemen reported youths threw rocks at them. But many neighborhood youths also pitched in and helped the men in uniform.

"Without them we couldn't have gotten this fire under control as quick as we did," said Fire Capt. William Pritchett, who reported that on other occasions he has himself been stoned by teenagers. "They gave as good help as we could have got from anybody," he said.

Since the fire quickly spread to such proportions that the storage facility could not be saved, the firemen's strategy was to try to keep the flames from spreading to other property. They succeeded.

## Firemen Risk Their Lives

Firemen stationed in the intersection of 13th and Kentucky risked their lives to keep the nearby Porter Paint Co. buildings safe from the flames. Those buildings, on the north side of Kentucky from the fire, contained thousands of gallons of flammable solvents.

About 11:15 p.m. an explosion apparently rent the seams of one storage

tank, and some of the flaming contents were spashed across Kentucky Street onto the Porter Paint buildings. The burning chemical also gushed out of the Bronco tank and streamed into the street.

In an instant, Kentucky Street became a river of fire. The lighter-than-water solvent floated atop the tons of water that had been poured onto the fire.

The flames streamed across the street onto the Porter Paint buildings, then flowed toward 13th Street, threatening to entrap two pumper trucks and drive off all the firemen in the intersection.

## Stand Their Ground

It was a moment in which the firemen could have—and perhaps should have—run for their lives. If the Porter buildings had ignited, the explosion of the solvents stored there could have killed or injured any or all of about 50 persons at the intersection.

A half block away, civilians and some of the firemen were fleeing.

"They've got to get those guys out of there!" people were exclaiming looking back over their shoulders at the perhaps half-dozen men who still were manning the hoses.

But the line held. Driven off the trucks momentarily by the heat waves of the explosion, the firemen then clambered back and redirected the hoses.

They washed the flaming chemicals off the Porter buildings, then slowly drove back the river of fire that was advancing on them and the buildings, which were only slightly blackened.

It was clearly the battle that turned the tide. The fire's advance was halted, then turned back, and the firefighters kept the initiative from then on.

"I just can't praise them too much," Fire Chief Eugene Dodson said later. "It was one terrific effort. Not a man backed down out of there."

## Kennedy

### Hose Sliced by Boxcars

From the west side of the storage tanks, in the Illinois Central Railroad yard, firemen directed hoses on other tanks, seeking to keep them from getting hot enough to explode. The spray arched over a line of smoking boxcars on a siding.

Attempting to get the boxcars out of the way of firemen, railroad employees first moved a line of boxcars between the firefighters and their trucks.

As the string of cars moved off, the boxcars severed three lines of fire hose. Another storage tank blew up before new hoses could be connected.

In the meantime, more than 200 youths—most of them Negro residents of the California neighborhood—helped firemen by moving hoses, holding nozzles, running errands and guarding equipment.

"These colored people saved this town," one fireman told a reporter. "Be sure you get that in."

"They give you a hard time, sometimes," he added, "but on a thing like this, they're right with you."

Dodson himself was right at the "front line" during most of the firefighting.

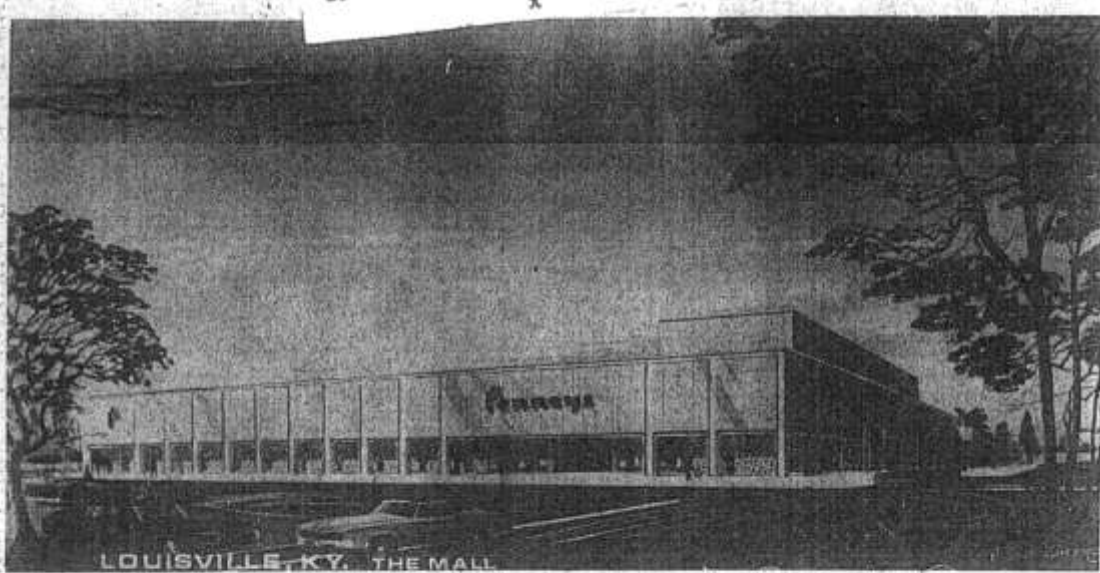
One explosion sent firemen and spectators scattering. As clouds of flame mushroomed, a reporter looked back to see that only one person was not fleeing. It was Dodson, standing calm and unruffled, watching the fire billow up into a momentary tower.

Still other explosions blew the tops off some of the storage tanks, and in the dark and smoke, firemen were never sure when something might come crashing down.

Lt. Bonnafon said one of the tops was found yesterday about 75 yards from the tank from which it had blown.

### Hose Sliced by Boxcars



May 8, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

**Artist's concept  
of new Penney store**

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

#### SITE FOR NEW SHOP

## Historic tract sold for \$60,000

A tract of land connected with the naming of St. Matthews has been sold for \$60,000 to Elmer E. Kaelin and Fred J. Wolf, co-owners of Jim's Body Shop at 3950 Westport Rd.

The historic tract, totalling two acres, is across from Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp. at 146 St. Matthews Ave.

Kaelin said the body shop will be moved to that location. A 10,000 square - foot steel building will be erected to house the business sometime this year, Kaelin said.

"We had outgrown our place of business on Westport Road," Kaelin commented. He said the building on Westport Road will be leased or sold.

The St. Matthews Avenue tract was the site of a rectory and girls' school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church. The church itself, long ago destroyed, stood where the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp. plant now is located. St. Matthews was named after the church.

The girls' school later became the first location of the St. Matthews Y. M. C. A. Through the years the building deteriorated. Last year the building was leveled in a fire-fighting exercise by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Kaelin and Wolf purchased the ground recently from the Palmer Asbestos &

Rubber Corp.

The tract measures 300 feet along the L. & N. tracks and 262 feet along St. Matthews Avenue.

Jim's Body Shop has been at the Westport Road location 22 years.

The partners said they haven't decided on the design of the new body shop. "We're shopping around for ideas," said Kaelin.

The company employs seven persons.



1969

May 8, 1969: Board meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors  
of the St. Matthews Vol Fire Ass'n  
Held May 8 1969.

Directors Present

Lawrence Grauman	Jno Emrich
Geo E Miller	J. P. Terry
Fred C Boss	W. L. Wilson
Jno Monohan.	

Minutes of last meeting held April 10th ~~1968~~  
read by President Monohan Motion made by Fred C. Boss  
seconded by Lawrence Grauman that they be accepted as  
read.

Motion made by Lawrence Grauman seconded by Fred Boss  
that minutes of special meeting held to award contract  
for new firehouse be accepted as explained and read by  
Geo E Miller Sec'y.

Motion was made ~~and~~ by Lawrence Grauman seconded by  
Fred C. Boss that signing of contract for erection of  
new firehouse by President Monohan be approved.

Liability Insurance Policy Travelers insurance Co.  
to, W. T. Bristow and Sons to protect the St. Matthews  
Vol Fire Ass'n  
100,000.00 to 300,000.00 for Bodily injury.  
\$150,000 for property damage and also performance bond  
issued by Ohio Farmer Ins Co in the amount of  
226,922.00 for the performance by W. T. Bristow & Sons  
of the contract to erect firehouse.

It is moved that the President and Treasurer act as  
a committee in approving payments to W. T. Bristow  
& Sons. of amounts which become due from time to time  
under the contract for the construction of the  
fire house and upon the architect approving in writing  
of the payments requested by W. T. Bristow & Sons.  
and the committee approving of payments Mr. Boss  
as treasurer is authorized to issue checks.

Above motion made by Jno Emrich seconded by W. L. Wilson.

Motion made by Lawrence Grauman that President be  
authorized to offer for sale the property owned by  
the corporation on St. Matthews Ave for \$65,000.00  
if any prospective buyer unwilling to offer the  
\$65,000.00 The president is directed to procure  
and to submit it to the Board of Directors for  
consideration.  
Seconded by Fred C. Boss.

There being no further business J. P. Terry  
made a motion we adjourn seconded by W. L. Wilson.

Respectfully Submitted

Geo E Miller Sec'y

1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

## FIREMEN FOR FREE

As Louisville's suburbs grow, the area's volunteer firefighters face more work and increasing risks—and they aren't paid a cent.

By MICHAEL ADKINS

**B**Y THE TIME the second "beep" sounds from the monitor radio on the dresser, you're awake and listening, wondering if it's your signal tone. (If it isn't, you probably won't remember waking.) A pause, and then: "Attention Black Mudd firemen, you have a fire . . . Attention Black Mudd firemen, you have a fire . . . It's a house fire at . . ." You are up and slipping into your clothes as the dispatcher at County Alarm gives the address. By the time he has given the time — 2:15 a.m. — and sent the signal which starts the big siren atop the fire station, you are half-way to your car.

Jolted wider awake by the chilly night air, you repeat the address to yourself as you swing out of the drive. You switch on the flashing red light on the dash, and set the electronic siren so that it's ready if you need it. You hope it's a clear, safe run to the firehouse.

There are a lot of ways to get hurt fighting a fire. Whipping hose

*Continued*

The Rev. MICHAEL ADKINS wears a tall tape cross on the back of his fireman's coat—he's the pastor of Louisville's Walker Memorial United Methodist Church and "a fireman first, chaplain second" for the Black Mudd Volunteer Fire Department.



Staff Photographs By LARRY SPITZER



1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

**FIREMEN FOR FREE**



A warehouse fire in the Louisville suburb of Middletown brought out several volunteer departments: Manning the hose are Ray Ward, of the Jeffersontown unit, left, and Roy Bishop, of the Middletown volunteers.



1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

## FIREMEN FOR FREE



the Middletown fire, hustling volunteers like Jimmy Crask, of the Middletown department, managed to keep the blaze from spreading.

## FIREMEN FOR FREE

Continued

lines can clobber you, ceilings can fall on you, flames can catch you, and the big killer, smoke, can put you down for good. But you know only too well that getting to the firehouse is the most dangerous part of most runs. Your officers have warned you repeatedly not to take unnecessary chances, not to drive on your red light and siren alone. You are also aware, however, that the early moments of a house fire are critical. So you hurry, but watchfully, cautiously.

There is the fire station, and red-lighted cars are converging on it from three directions. The huge siren has pretty well cleared the intersection, and the firemen peel off and swing into the parking places. Then everyone is running, jumping for the equipment rack, stepping into the long boots, jerking on the heavy coats and helmets. One man is on the base radio to County Alarm, confirming the address and type of fire; then, as the trucks are manned, they roar out into the dark.

You have missed the first truck, and take your place on the tailboard of the second one out, the big quad. As the vehicle jolts and sways into the street, the man next to you holds you on with an outstretched arm while you pull up your boot-tops, snap the fasteners on your coat and don your heavy gloves. Then you do the same for him, and take a good grip on the steel hand-rail as the night wind buffets your ears and the truck's siren shrieks and the big engine thunders.

At 2:19 or 2:20 the first truck arrives at the scene to find a skillet of grease which has just burned itself out, and you wonder wearily why someone was cooking at this hour. Or else it turns out to be a malicious false alarm, and you go home growling profanely about some people's ideas of humor.

Or possibly it's for real, as it frequently is, with flames boiling out of heat-shattered windows to light the dark sky. Then you work — oh, how you work! Backing up the nozzleman on an inch-and-a-half

line, you walk into what looks like the doorway to hell, with the water fog clearing your path and simultaneously obscuring it with steam. When it's over, when the smoke has turned white and dispersed, and the glow of embers has turned dead, drowned black, your eyes are streaming, your nose is running and your throat is raw. But you aren't yet finished with the job. The officer in command sees to it that everything is cleaned up as much as possible, to ease the owner's terrible shock. Then you return to the fire station, to spend an hour or so washing and drying hose and refilling the packed hosebeds of the trucks. You may need the sleep again before the night is over.

Finally you sign the logbook and go home to catch a few minutes' sleep before getting up to go to work. It's been a pretty busy night. It would have been tough even if you had been paid for it.

Louisville, like many other cities across the country, is surrounded

Continued





1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

## FIREMEN FOR FREE



Time is critical at a fire, and Jefferson County's volunteers train constantly to make the best use of the too-short minutes. The evenings spent in training show results at a fire: Above Middletown volunteer Ronnie Sowder reels hose; left, Lindsey Brooks operates a pump on a Middletown truck, and below Ray Ward battles flames.



1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

**FIREMEN FOR FREE**





1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

## FIREMEN FOR FREE

a system of county volunteer fire departments which provide the fire protection for subdivisions and industrial areas outside the city. As the suburbs and industries grow, they place an increasing load on the volunteer departments. In some cities this load is lightened by the expansion of the city limits—and the extension of city fire protection. But Louisville has expanded little in the last few years, and the burden on Jefferson County's volunteer firefighters is growing.

There are 22 volunteer fire departments in the county. They are composed of men from all walks of life who donate their time absolutely free. They are on call at all times through the monitor radios in their homes. They meet—once a week in most cases—for training in firefighting technique and emergency

rescue skills. Daytime protection, which is harder to provide, is somehow accomplished by recruiting men who work at night.

It is obviously impossible for these volunteers to keep crews on duty at the stations, except during blizzards and other abnormal circumstances. Still, they can respond to an alarm so quickly that they can nearly always have the first engine manned and rolling within two to three minutes. Their times are carefully recorded and studied at the county fire alarm headquarters to see to it that they maintain this high standard. For the firemen it means a lot of lost sleep, interrupted meals and frustrated plans; but for the residents and businessmen in these districts, it means the promise of help, fast. It also means a considerable saving in cash. As

a result of the departments' efficiency, and the hard work of their inspection teams and fire-prevention officers, many local districts enjoy greatly reduced fire insurance

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**For the people,  
volunteers mean a  
saving in cash**

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rates. The over-all rate picture for Jefferson County is among the best in the country for urban areas of comparable size.

Like all firefighters, the volun-

teers experience extreme and sometimes bizarre conditions in their work. Fighting fires in subzero temperatures, they may have to have their ice-encrusted protective clothing literally chipped loose. Battling blazes in midsummer, they may suffer heat exhaustion or even heatstroke. Sometimes tragedy strikes, and they must carry out a dead dog, whose owner begs, "Please, take him with you, so the children won't have to see him." Minor burns are so common that firemen seldom even mention them. And some who have performed heroic acts flatly refuse to discuss them. "We don't do this kind of thing for credit," one fireman told me. They certainly don't do it for relaxation, or for money.

In fact, it costs many of them to serve so anonymously and ener-

*Continued*

getically. Car expenses, red lights and other accessories, personal equipment and missed working hours all mount up. And many find their auto-insurance rates drastically increased, or their coverage canceled, because their private cars are classed as emergency vehicles.

To be perfectly fair about it, it should be noted that almost any volunteer department in this area has a perennial adolescent or two on the roster at any given moment. These characters, for whom their status is often only a license to drive fast and talk big, seldom last long among the local volunteers. Their colleagues know that such people are responsible for volunteer fire departments in other communities being viewed with derision and contempt. The irresponsible ones either grow up quickly, or they are excluded, by official action or just by being made to feel unwelcome. For the most part, Jefferson County's volunteers are stable family men, whose concern for their wives and children provides much of their incentive to do the job well.

This sense of civic responsibility, this concern to lessen danger and protect human life, doesn't stop with firefighting. From protecting people's lives to ministering to their

businesses; but what is far more important, they reach so many people that nearly everyone has a chance to contribute. People who would never pledge a fee by phone or mail will drop their nickels in the fireman's helmets. The volunteers, and often their wives, annually blister their feet walking the miles of sidewalks and the endless flights of steps; or they will talk themselves hoarse as they man their roadblocks, urging each passing motorist to give and give again. The motorists complain, "I've been through here four times and you've hit me every time," but most of them give again anyway.

In the last three Crusades for Children, the volunteer firemen of Kentucky and Southern Indiana brought in boots, bags and boxes containing \$729,780. Jefferson County departments collected \$387,724 of this amount.

When they have done this kind of work for a while, and have eaten enough smoke and tasted enough of the satisfaction of defeating fire, the citizen-firemen often become addicted to their calling. They may even develop the fanatic zeal of the clergyman who used to be a chaplain and active firefighter for one local department. Legend says that this man, covered with smoke, sweat and mud, came up to the officer commanding the fighting of a messy field fire and said, "Do you suppose you could excuse me now? I was supposed to marry a couple at the church five minutes ago."

This type of enthusiasm is all that enables volunteers to manage and finance the difficult job of providing protection to growing, changing suburban areas. Most volunteer departments in Jefferson County are organized as fire protection districts, operated by boards of trustees with revenues from a small county property tax on residents. Those which are not so incorporated charge dues for protection, with a fee levied for fire run by non-dues-paying residents or businesses.

Either way, financing the department's operations is a strain. Fire equipment is extremely expensive

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**"Financing a volunteer  
fire department's  
operation is a strain"**

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hurts is a considerable step, but a step which the volunteers took years ago. Their long and loving labors as fund-raisers and collectors for the annual WHAS Crusade for Children are widely known. Each year they conduct moneymaking projects, solicit special donations, and ring tens of thousands of doorbells. They serve as couriers bearing the donations of churches and



1969

May 18, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*, Magazine section by Michael Adkins and photographs by Larry Spitzer:

## FIREMEN FOR FREE

and has considerable resale value. Purchased new, it must be custom built to meet the needs of the individual department. (A turbojet diesel quint—pumper, ladder truck, hose truck, water carrier and 35-foot aerial ladder in one vehicle—was recently built for the Black Mudd District for a cool \$55,000.) And yet, by assuming heavy indebtedness, many departments acquire the latest and best equipment, often before the city has anything comparable.

This modern equipment is necessary to compensate for the fact that volunteer companies must cover a lot more territory with fewer men, and men who are less highly trained, than the Louisville Fire Department. The volunteers achieve a remarkable degree of proficiency through their training sessions several times a month. But their technique and co-ordination can't be compared to the degree a paid department can reach, with its power

stop. Yet such a truck is frequently slowed to a crawl by an oblivious driver ahead who doesn't know it's there, or who simply won't pull over, as the law demands. Or it may be forced to attempt a rapid full stop when a car pulls out from a side street squarely into its path. The engineer of a truck in this situation, squawking outraged profanity at this danger to his crew, his vehicle and himself (in that order), is something to hear.

Or consider an even worse offender, the chaser. Chasers are excited by fire apparatus and the chance to see a fire; so they follow the trucks—closely. Then the firemen on the tailboards cling tighter to the handrails. A fireman falling off an engine would be very lucky to be run over only once. If the men are wearing safety belts, which some departments use and some do not, they debate whether to unhook them, in case they have to jump. A sudden stop by the fire truck could send the chaser hurtling into them to crush their legs horribly. The fact that their lives and limbs are insured by their department is cold comfort at such a moment.

Once on the scene of the fire, the firemen must contend with the owners, the curious, and worse, the morbidly curious.

Owners don't generally know this, but they temporarily cease to be owners during the fighting of a fire. Their property is entirely in the hands of the officer commanding until the operation is completed; and he can order their arrest if they try too hard to interfere. If this sounds harsh and arbitrary, remember that it is for the protection of the owners. People will take horrifying chances to save cherished items, or even silly things, when their houses are burning. Many have died just that way. Firemen don't want to see anyone throw his life away.

The curious simply get in the way, to the detriment of the department's efficiency and their own safety. A bursting two-and-a-half-inch hose, lashing back from the break with the speed and awesome power of a gigantic snake, can snap

the spine or break the legs of even a fireman, who has been trained in how to escape its deadly strike. A civilian who doesn't know which way to jump simply wouldn't have a chance against it. Besides this, walls can topple, gases can explode, live wires can fall, and flames can leap great distances. The curious don't worry about such things, or about how a fireman is going to reposition a hose line when some large character is standing on it.

The morbidly curious turn firemen's stomachs. They are ghouls at heart, vultures who flock to see the dead or mutilated. I remember all too vividly one fire on which we assisted another department. A very elderly man died in that blaze. The frail, pathetic corpse lay on the ground outside the flaming house, gently laid there by firemen who covered it with a sheet. The coroner's assistant and police photographer took the necessary pictures and left. But the poor old man just couldn't stay covered. The morbidly curious had to keep pulling back the sheet to stare.

One of the greatest irritations to firemen, the malicious false alarm is also highly dangerous. To be dragged out of bed at two o'clock on an ice-cold morning to gratify someone's twisted sense of fun is not a morale booster. What is more chilling than the early-morning cold, however, is the awareness that while you are roaring around on a maddening wild-goose chase, the deadly smoke of a real fire could be snuffing out human lives—real flames could be destroying a cherished home or a valuable business. Many firemen believe that the perpetrators of malicious false alarms should be publicly horsewhipped.

Finally, there is a type of annoyance that really sets the teeth on edge. The best practical training that volunteer firemen can undergo is the training fire. A condemned house is acquired for the purpose. It is first filled with dense, black smoke, and every fireman is required to eat a large quantity of this smudge in a mock search for a "trapped child," usually a doll. Then the house is set afire, and the

men practice technique of controlling it. They do not try to put it out, since this would end the training before everyone got a chance to work on it. Anyway, the object is to remove the house in the course of the operation. The fire is almost quenched, then allowed to blaze up again, attacked once more, and so on until the house is gone.

This is hot, hard work, designed to improve the skill of every officer and man. And then people pass by saying things like, "Look at them bummers just watching the place burn!" Sometimes, when the job is over, someone administers the unkindest cut of all: "Well, at least they saved the foundation!" Here is a rule for the laymen: I some of the firemen are sitting around drinking coffee and soft drinks, mopping sooty faces and chatting among themselves, it's probably a training fire. I almost never time for such things on a real operation.

Come to think of it, the questions asked by spectators at a real fire are often staggering in their silliness. On one disastrous fire, we were mopping up the job when I heard a sweet young thing squeal,

**"The malicious false alarm is highly dangerous"**

"Ooh, did this place burn down?" A disgusted fireman, hip-deep in rubble and ashes, growled, "No, we're putting it together from a kit."

Firemen's wives, who in many of the volunteer departments are organized into auxiliary units, have to be remarkably steady women. Besides putting up with interrupted meals and sleep, feeding the men on training fires or very long operations, raising money for the Crusade or for improvements, and turning

*(Continued)*

## Motorists can be the biggest danger a fireman faces

to provide and insist on regular schooling, and which usually makes far more runs per company each year.

Limited resources and training opportunities are frustrating to the citizen-fireman. But they have other gripes connected with their avocation, most of them shared with their paid colleagues.

Perhaps the greatest is the inability of the motoring public as they react, or fail to react, to fire vehicles on a run. A thirty-foot-long truck, ablaze with flashing red and yellow lights and with its siren shrieking to high heaven, would seem to be a relatively conspicuous object. Heaven knows it's an object that requires room to maneuver and

Continued



April 3, 1969: Letter.

down invitations to dinner on meeting nights, they worry about dangers to their firemen. When their husbands are out on fire runs, most of them listen at home to the monitor radios, trying to learn what is going on. Some tune to local radio stations too, listening for news reports on the fires.

This can sometimes lead to a lot more worry for the ladies. When our own district had its only fatal fire, the civilian victim, who died of smoke inhalation, had a fireman's coat spread over him as he was given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. A passerby who saw the coat apparently reported to one of the radio stations that "at least one" Black Mudd fireman had died in the fire. The story grew as it spread, and terrified several wives who heard it.

rescue equipment and tools, and because fire can break out, and gas tanks can blow. And those injured people...

When you arrive, you find that there was no need to hurry, none

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**"You have an  
emergency—people  
trapped in a car..."**

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at all. The car is not on fire; but it has snapped a heavy utility pole, caromed off a big tree, and turned over several times. It is almost cut

Very late one night, when a rash of fires broke out in apparent connection with rioting in a ghetto neighborhood, wives listening to the monitors heard one unit being warned to "watch out—they are waiting for you in the ditches with rocks and bricks." The rocks weren't thrown—at least not just then—but the women at home didn't know that. Usually, they must wait for their mates to return home before learning the whole story. Some of them get awfully jumpy, which makes their husbands appreciate them more.

"Attention Black Mudd, Camp Taylor and Edgewood fireman, you have an emergency . . . people trapped in a car at . . ."

This kind is usually bad. The county police have sent for you because the fire departments carry

in half. A young fireman looks in a window, then steps quickly out of the glare of the emergency floodlights and vomits in the ditch. A senior officer of the same department, taut and pale, says grimly, "Most kids have no idea what a serious automobile wreck is like. Some of them should see this." And all the time, the crowd mills around, heedless of pleas to watch out for the high-tension wires lying deceptively quiet on the grass.

When the heart-sickening job of removing three dead youths from the wreck is over, a number of the volunteer firemen go home and have earnest talks with their teen-aged children. Few sleep well when sleep finally comes. But perhaps you sleep better at night because these neighbors of yours are on call. You certainly should. □

1969

May 22, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

May 29, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



GEORGE ELLERKAMP

## Ellerkamp to head legion post again

George Ellerkamp, of 703 Merrifield Rd., has been elected to his second term as commander of Zachary Taylor Post 180 of the American Legion.

This was the first time in 42 years a commander has been selected to succeed himself as commander of the Zachary Taylor unit.

Ellerkamp was senior vice-commander of the post and editor of the paper, "Zachary Taylor Bulletin," before his election to his first term as commander last year. He is warehouse and trucking manager for Brown - Forman Distillers Corp.

Other officers elected at the post's May 5 meeting are: Fred Wolf, senior vice commander; Norman Hardin, junior vice commander; H. C. Cassell, adjutant; A. D. Zehnder, finance officer; Robert McEnnis, chaplain; L. G. Kuhn, service officer; Emmett Sauter, historian; Oscar Wiesman, judge advocate; Herbert Powell, sergeant-at-arms, and Robert Lynch, executive committeeman.

The new officers will be installed at the June 2 meeting at the post at 4610 Shelbyville Rd. On Saturday, June 7, an incoming - outgoing officers dance will be held at the post.

Husband of future  
Trustee Faye Ellerkamp

## Ground-clearing begins for new fire station

Groundbreaking for the new \$200,000 headquarters for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department began this week.

The new building will be erected at the corner of Lyndon Way and Sears Avenue. Fire Chief John Monohan said construction is slated to be completed by October.

The first phase of the building will be one-level, with four bays. The structure will be concrete block, faced with brick.

W. T. Bristow and Sons of Louisville are the contractors. The building was designed by John Dumas, St. Matthews architect.

The building that now houses the fire department is for sale for \$65,000. The building is located at 117 St. Matthews Ave.

The new structure will face Lyndon Way. The move to the new station will give the department more space and allow fire units to reach fire scenes faster, according to Chief Monohan. The present facility is located in a highly congested area.

The first phase will include the apparatus room, a kitchen, a classroom, a recreation room and toilet facilities.



THESE ARE SOME of the employees of Canary Cottage who are suddenly looking for a job. Left to right are Mrs. Willa Smith, a waitress with Canary Cottage for 26 years, Miss Verda Beam, cashier and hostess for 32 years, Louis Houchin, cook for Canary 17 years, Mrs. Zelma Spencer, bookkeeper for 20 years, Mrs. Jean Schipper, waitress for 32 years, and Mrs. Margaret Stowell, waitress for 14 years. Missing from the photo is Mrs. Evelyn Parrott who has been employed by Canary Cottage for over 20 years. The restaurant was closed last Saturday.

Article next page



## LEASE EXPIRES AT CANARY COTTAGE

# 'Landmark' restaurant here closes

The Canary Cottage is in limbo. After being located in the 3700 block of Lexington Road for the past 22 years, the doors of the restaurant closed for the last time last Saturday night.

Suddenly last week the owner of the stylish restaurant, Richard Wheeler, was notified that the cottage's lease would not be renewed.

"I have no plans for the future . . . it was all so sudden," said Wheeler.

The history of Canary Cottage extends back to 1919 when Richard Wheeler, Sr. opened up a restaurant on Fourth Street in Louisville across from the old State Theatre, and by 1940 there were Canary Cottages located in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Lexington, and in Louisville.

During the 20's and 30's the downtown Cottage was the hang-out for all the old vaudeville stars who played Louisville. Wheeler said the list of stars that ate

at the Cottage was longer than his memory . . . "Red Skelton, Xavier Cugat, Andy Devine, Anne Rutherford, Jane Wilhurs -- all were guests at the Cottage."

"Also just about every Kentucky governor since the thirties has eaten at the Cottage," he said.

The cottage has been synonymous with fine living in Louisville. The downtown location was fashioned after the early American style of Williamsburg, Virginia.

Stepping from the crowded sidewalks of busy Fourth Street into the Cottage was like stepping back into American history.

It was like sitting on a cool veranda of a Virginia plantation sipping a mint julep, after a long day in the Assembly.

In 1947 the Louisville Fourth Street location closed, and Wheeler re-located to the east-end in the 3700 block of Lexington Road.

The new Cottage was the first stylish east-end restaurant. The Cape Cod style of the restaurant and the service soon

made it "the place" of the gentry of the east-end.

Miss Verda Beam was the cashier the first day the new restaurant opened in May of 1947, and she was there, as cashier and hostess, the last day, May 24, 1969.

In fact, she had been employed by Wheeler for the last 32 years. Now, at 61, she is out of a job.

Mrs. Evelyn Parrett also has been a cashier and hostess at the Canary Cottage for over 20 years.

A waitress, Mrs. Jean Schipper, was there the day Canary Cottage located in St. Matthews. And after 32 years she also will have to find a new job.

Several other employees worked at the Canary for over 10 - years.

Louis "Slim" Houchin has been the chief cook for the past 17 years, and Mrs. Zelma Spencer the bookkeeper for 20 years.

"The Canary was just like home," commented Miss Beam, "Now all the reservations for the summer have been can-

celled."

"Mr. Wheeler was pleasant to work for, that's why we all stayed so long," said Mrs. Schipper in memory of her years at the Cottage.

"We sometimes had crabby customers, but after a meal here they were always smiling," said Mrs. Beam.

Looking blankly into her cup of coffee, Miss Beam recalled "People liked our hot browns -- especially."

"It all came as a shock . . . I wasn't going to believe it until I saw the closing sign on the door," Miss Beam said softly.

"I've got to look for another job -- it's just like the floor fell under my feet."

Looking down the list of entries on the menu, she added, "Things sure have changed in 32 years. This block was almost barren when the Cottage opened in 1947. The prices have changed so much. You used to be able to get a dinner for a dollar."

"The gay days of the Cottage may be just a memory," she concluded.

By O.R.

By O'Ryan Rickard  
Staff Writer

Construction of the \$9.2 million Oxmoor Shopping Center will begin soon. A local firm began clearing the site last week for the center, on the Bullitt Estate, fronting Shelbyville Road, and including part of Oxmoor Farm.

Richard Brewer, vice-president of Winmar Co., Inc., one of the developers of the regional center, told *The Voice* last week that "Oxmoor is no longer speculation . . . we are going ahead with construction."

Winmar and the Bullitt estate (Bullitt Corp.) are developers of the

department stores, will have 670,000 square feet under roof.

One of the local Winmar designers said most of the 70 shops in the center section of the center will be dry goods stores, specializing in fine fashions.

He also said 80 or 90 percent of the 70 stores had been tentatively leased. "There will be no supermarkets, variety, or chain stores," he said.

He also indicated that there would be a movie theater, cafeteria, and restaurant housed in the center.

### Mail areas

The center will feature several mail areas with groups of stores fronting on each of the mail plazas.

The central plaza area will be decorated with planters, fountains, and shrubbery, and will be 180 feet wide and 90 feet long.

The structure of the center will be concrete, decorated with architectural, finishing material.

The Winmar - Bullitt section of the center will be one - level.

A large parking lot will be located in front of the structure. The center structure will set back about 400 feet from Shelbyville Road.

Two weeks ago the final legal obstacle for the construction of the shopping center was removed when plans to lease a portion of Oxmoor Farm for the commercial development were approved by Circuit Judge Charles M. Allen.

The approval was sought in an action filed March 4 by trustees named in the will of the late William Marshall Bullitt, former owner of the 950-acre farm.

### Trustees listed

Trustees of the estate are Thomas W. Bullitt, son of William Marshall Bullitt, and Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co. The estate is being held in trust for Mrs. William Marshall Bullitt during her lifetime. The estate will go to her children and other heirs after her death.

Last October the site of the shopping center, located east of Waltheran Expressway and Shelbyville Road, was rezoned to make way for the \$9.2 million complex, when Fiscal Court overruled the recommendation made by the City-Country Planning Commission to deny the zoning change from residential to commercial.

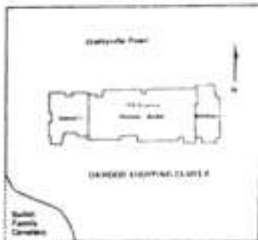
In 1966, the commission voted by a 3-2 margin to recommend to Fiscal Court denial of the zoning change.

The Winmar Co., Inc., has its home office in Seattle, Washington.

## \$9.2 MILLION DEVELOPMENT

# Construction to start soon on Oxmoor shop complex

Oxmoor is not in STMFD area, however it was in Lyndon's, then annexed by the City of Louisville, and we have made many runs there.



PLANS of Oxmoor Shopping center show that at each end of the Winmar-Bullitt complex (70 stores) there will be a large department store, Stewart's and Shillito's. The building is approximately 1300 feet long and 400 feet wide.

center section of the shopping center which will include 70 stores and a movie theater.

### Includes Stewart's store

At each end of the Winmar-Bullitt development there will be a large department store, Stewart Dry Goods Co. and Shillito's.

Shillito, operated by Federated Department Stores of Cincinnati, has let a contract for the construction of a two-level store to Dahlem Construction Co., of Louisville.

Reportedly construction of the Shillito store will begin next month.

Local officials of Winmar said construction of Winmar-Bullitt complex will begin "probably in July."

The shopping center, including the two

1969

May 26, 1969, The Courier-Journal edited



THE NUMBER ON THE BOARD tells the story as the 1969 WHAS Crusade for Children closes with the singing of "God Bless America" by Bill Pickett (holding the microphone), Diana Trusk

and Hal Frazier. Master of ceremonies Jim Waller stands at Pickett's right; WHAS President Victor A. Shultz is beside him. The five are surrounded by a group of contributors from New Albany, Ind.

Preliminary Tally 8527,016

## 1969 Crusade for Children Closes With Record Contributions Expected

# Children's Crusade May Set Record

Continued From Page One

with announcement of the Red Men's total, "would give this Crusade a spectacular ending."

The New Albany total was \$19,625; the phone pledges added \$4,917 and the hall went wild.

"Indians" danced; the crowd screamed; balloons dropped and popped; firemen's hats given to youthful contributors filled the air.

Some people cried. Not many of them were children.

But let's get back to the firemen, the 107 groups of them that participated. Rivalry to bring in the most money is acute among the larger departments.

That's the way it has been since Pleasure Ridge Park hurled down a gauntlet years ago, saying it would always be No. 1. Pleasure Ridge hasn't always made

good the boast, but it certainly has tried.

This year, for instance, the Pleasure Ridge delegation came in at 5:30 p.m. to report \$20,042, which, unless my math calculations broke down in the confusion that filled the auditorium all afternoon, gave it second place to the **St. Matthews firmen** who had brought in \$23,000 two hours earlier.

St. Matthews' gift was up more than \$3,000 from a year ago.

It was followed immediately in point of time by the appearance of Roman Catholic Archbishop Thomas J. McDonough who let an aide read for 10 minutes the contributions of the various parishes and then announced a total of \$38,361 "thus far."

The Catholic courting has been complicated of late by the advent of Sunday evening Masses in some parishes.

The McMahon department which serves the Hikes Point area turned in

\$16,500 which was more than \$2,000 better than in 1968 when its total was a 43 per cent increase from the year before.

Many of the smaller departments showed significant gains too. Lancaster, Ky., nearly doubled its gift to \$1,285. From the 800 or so people in Clarkson, Ky., came \$1,131—far beyond a dollar a head.

Fairdale was so proud of its proceeds it weighed them, turning in 280 pounds of money that came to \$6,498.

Firmen, of course, were not the whole story.

All afternoon, virtually all one saw from backstage or on TV was people bearing gifts, people representing just themselves or some organizations, people with as little as a quarter and people with thousands of dollars.

And these organizations were as diverse as the people. There were church circles and square dance clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, fraternal groups and their auxiliaries, improvement clubs from poverty areas and country clubs,

## Trustees at Pikeville





1969

1969 Crusade For Children:

1969 Crusade  
 \$23,053.92  
 St. Matthews - ~~20842~~ La Grange - 1535  
 Pleasure Ridge - 20842 Lake Dreamland - 387  
 m'Mahon - 16,500 Camp Taylor - 8000  
 Lyndon - 7404.28 Shirley - 17246  
 Middlebrook - 5375.05 Lexington Ind. - 777.00  
 Hamaker Creek Pleasville - 1470.00  
 Weatherly - 2050 Jettersonville - 754.62  
 T-Town - 5137 Edgewood - 3595.57  
 Pea Rec. - 1834 ~~New Washington Ind.~~  
 So. Oldham New Washington Ind. - 1641.45  
 Black Mtn. - 6414 New Coal - 1665.90  
 Buechel - 8080 Mc. C. Ind. - 4573.34  
 Fern Creek - 4244.00 Clarksville Ind. - 4767.24  
 Eminence - 1078 Shepherdsville - 2475.20  
 East Wood - 218 Taylor Mill Ind. - 1152  
 N. Oldham Campbell Ind. - 1062.98  
 Kalona - 9000.00 Blount Ind. - 1919  
 Elizabethtown - 5113 MT. EDEN - 457.00  
 Farquhar - 9987  
 Shelbyville (Shelby Co.) - 5317

1969 Crusade  
 Our Lady of Lourdes - 1000  
 Holy Trinity - 806  
 Holy Spirit - 1670  
 St. Leonard - 862  
 St. Margaret Mary - 586  
 St. Barnabas - 548  
 St. Raphael - 1000  
 St. Albert  
 St. Bartholomew  
 St. Francis of Assisi - 318  
 St. Mary - 517  
 Holy Family - 517  
 St. Joseph - 470  
 St. Francis of Assisi - 1501  
 Lammie, La Grange - 77

Total - \$38,561.00

1969 Crusade  
 Vine Grove Ky - 1274.50  
 Corydon Ind. - 2301.72  
 Zooten Ky - 1507.35  
 Mt. Washington - 1818.33  
 Ervington - 628.56  
 Brandenburg - 1214.00  
 Charlestown Ind. - 2566.00  
 South Dixie - 5581.84  
 Hardyville - 901.93  
 Bedford - 1056.56  
 Milton - 740.10  
 Campbellsville - 5111.91

1969

June 5, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

Working fire at 436 Club Lane:



## House saved

ST. MATTHEWS firemen fought this blaze at 436 Club Lane Tuesday morning for about an hour before bringing it under control. The garage (right) was destroyed by the fire and the house, the residence of William Burbank, suffered minor smoke damage.



No More Boating for Burbank Family for Awhile – Flames that destroyed a two-car garage at the home of William Burbank at 436 Club Lane at 9:45 a.m. today burned up the family's 17-foot motorboat. Cause of the fire was not determined. Members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire department pulling down the remains of the roof. NOTE: Not from Voice.

June 5, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## John A. Brenzel promoted by Citizens Bank

John A. Brenzel has been promoted from assistant cashier and manager of the Cane Run Road office to assistant cashier in the commercial banking division of the main office of Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Co.

Barry Osburn, presently assistant manager at the Bardstown Road Office, has been named as the new manager of the Cane Run Road Office.

Brenzel came with the bank in January, 1963, as part of the Officer Training Program. He has been manager of the Cane Run Road Office since June, 1965.

Brenzel, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a Degree in Business Administration, will enter the Rutgers University Graduate School of Banking this summer. He is a member of the Louisville Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Osburn came with the bank in March, 1965 as a teller in the Head Office. He was promoted to an assistant manager in August, 1957 and has been serving several branches in that capacity since that time.

Brenzel resides at 3526 St. Germaine Ct.



JOHN A. BRENZEL

Brother of two former STMFD members

## Buck Marshall sells mill for \$322,000

Kentucky Lumber Co. has purchased the Marshall Planing Mill, 4053 Westport Rd., for \$322,000.

Robert "Woody" Marshall will manage the mill under the name, Marshall Supply Co., according to Hunt Rawles, president of Kentucky Lumber.

Rawles said the mill's operation would be basically the same, "only the name and ownership had changed."

Robert Woodrow "Buck" Marshall opened the mill approximately 20 years ago, moving from 131 Breckinridge Lane.

"The Marshall Supply Co. will make industrial wood and wood products, as in the past," said Rawles.

The new subsidiary of Kentucky Lumber is on the site of the old St. Matthews Produce Exchange.

## FREE PRIZES Grand Opening



4145 Shelbyville Road, Just West of Highland's Lane

*Free!*

BEACH BALL  
For The Kiddies

KEY CHAINS  
For The Adults

A Convenient way to do  
Your Cleaning & Shirt Laundry

Cold Storage Vault For Your Woolens

*One try will Convince You!*

**Highland**  
DRY CLEANING & SHIRT LAUNDRY

Dry Cleaning & Shirt Laundry  
4145 Shelbyville Rd. 895-3521

2435 First Place 4010 Bardstown Rd. (Branch) 2455 Bardstown Rd.



1969

June 12, 1969: Board meeting:

June 20, 1969, Report:

# ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Assn.  
Held June 12, 1969

## Directors Present

Lawrence Grauman	Fred Boes
John Smith	John Monahan
W. Leland Wilson	George E. Miller

Minutes of last meeting, held May 8, 1969, read by President Monahan. Motion made by Fred C. Boes, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that they be accepted as read. Motion made and carried.

Motion made by Lawrence Grauman, seconded by Fred C. Boes, that we approve payment of \$12,979.40 to W. T. Hristow & Son on contract. Motion carried.

There being no further business motion made by John Monahan, seconded by Lawrence Grauman, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy. FB.

# ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS JUNE 1, 1968 THRU JUNE 20, 1969

BALANCE JUNE 1, 1968		\$ 5,313.28
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	\$ 55,367.74	
Contributions - Jefferson County	1,800.00	
Savings Accounts Transferred - Net	8,383.68	
Interest	7,178.66	
Donation	130.00	72,859.86
TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE		\$ 78,173.14
DISBURSEMENTS		
CAPITAL		
Payments on new Building, Architect and Plans		\$ 22,128.40
EXPENSES		
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 169.62	
Firemen Training Expense	450.00	
General Expenses	3,050.96	
Insurance	3,797.02	
Payroll Taxes	420.70	
Legal & Accounting	600.00	
Office Supplies & Expense	810.63	
Radio System Expense	2,550.74	
Salaries	2,391.92	
Supplies	3,332.37	
Truck Expenses	6,216.04	
Utilities	3,285.79	27,095.81
Total Disbursements		49,224.21
CASH BALANCE - JUNE 20, 1969		\$ 28,948.93

BROWN & STEWART  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

June 11, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*:

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

## Sears Avenue Extension Voted By St. Matthews City Council

The St. Matthews City Council last night voted to extend Sears Avenue from its intersection with Oechsli Avenue about 960 feet north to Lyndon Way.

Councilman Harry J. Jones said the Sears Avenue extension will improve access to the new **St. Matthews fire station** under construction near Lyndon Way. He said he doesn't know when construction of the extension will begin.

In other action, the council denied a request for rezoning of the first lot in the 100 block of Sherrin Avenue from C-2 (office district) to D-1 (commercial dis-

trict). The action was taken on a recommendation by the Jefferson County Planning Commission.

The councilmen heard a complaint from M. O. Diggs, of 3409 Hycliffe, and G. C. McNeill, of 3419 Hycliffe, on the condition of the pavement at the northeast corner of the intersection of Hycliffe and Cannons Lane. The men said the pavement is deteriorating because a stopped culvert is causing water to stand in the intersection.

Mayor Bernard Bowling said he'd inspect the intersection.

# Fire destroys restaurant near Middletown

A fire early Monday morning destroyed a 100-year-old farmhouse which housed the Courson Country Kitchen Restaurant on Shelbyville Road about a mile west of Eastwood.

The owners of the restaurant, Mr. and Mrs. John Morehead, were asleep in quarters above the frame-building when the fire occurred about 2 a.m.

Mrs. Morehead said she was awakened by a loud crash and suddenly realized there was smoke in the room.

"I thought that the smoke was coming from the air conditioner, but I soon realized there was smoke in the hall," she said.

Mrs. Morehead said she then awakened her husband who suggested that she called the fire department, but because of the smoke, said Mrs. Morehead, "We had to abandon the house and go to a nearby neighbor's house and call the fire department."

She said that she believed that the fire was caused by lighting.

Firemen also speculated that it was an "electrical fire."

Two Jefferson County volunteer firemen were overcome by smoke while fighting the blaze.

Larry Shuck, of the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department, and James Kapp, of the Middletown Volunteer Fire Department, were taken to General Hospital and treated after being overcome by smoke.

Three trucks from each volunteer fire department, Middletown and Eastwood, fought the blaze for about two hours.

Reportedly when the firemen arrived flames had broken through the roof of the two-story building.

Additional air tanks were brought to the blaze by the St. Matthews Volunteer

Fire Department and the Simpsonville Fire Department.

Units from Jeffersontown and Simpsonville were sent to the Eastwood and Middletown Fire houses in the event they were needed.

Now the restaurant is a shell, according to Mrs. Morehead.

"As far as we are concerned," she said "the fire totally destroyed the building."

STMFD supplied air tanks

June 20, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*:

## Seven Children Flee St. Matthews Fire

A St. Matthews mother, Mrs. John W. Zehnder, whisked her seven children to safety last night shortly before a fire gutted the second floor of her two-story brick house at 416 Bauer Ave.

Minutes later, the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department arrived with four trucks and 24 firemen. They were joined by 16 Louisville firemen with three pieces of equipment. The two departments had the blaze under control in about 15 minutes, according to 4th District Battalion Chief Carl Keely.

A 32-year-old woman was slightly injured at 10:30 last night in an explosion at her home at 3602 Taylor Blvd. The fire department arson squad is investigating.

Mrs. Ellis was treated at SS. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital for a bruised knee.



T. S. RUDY, SR.

## St. M. official T.S. Rudy Sr. dies at 66

Thomas Samuel Rudy Sr., a businessman and St. Matthews civic and governmental leader, died Sunday at about 8:20 a.m. in his home at 3925 Staebler Ave.

The apparent cause of death was a heart attack. St. Matthews police, called to the scene by Rudy's daughter, tried to revive him through mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, hand massaging of the heart and use of oxygen but he never showed signs of recovering.

Rudy, 66, had been a member of the St. Matthews City Council since 1950, when that body was organized.

He directed many of the city's street re-surfacing projects and was a key figure in setting up the city's new garbage-collection program.

Rudy helped draft many of the ordinances by which the city now operates.

A native of Louisville, he owned and managed the Weisert Letter Service in the Speed Building. He was a past master and member of St. Matthews Masonic Lodge. He was a deacon of Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church.

In memory of him, the St. Matthews City Hall was closed Tuesday afternoon. His fellow members of the St. Matthews City Council observed a "moment of silence" in his honor before beginning their regular meeting Tuesday night.

Survivors include a son, Thomas S. Rudy Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. Richard S. Davis of St. Matthews, Mrs. Frank Nation of Taylorville, and Mrs. Gene L. Brunett of Meridian, Miss.; a sister, Mrs. J. G. Lee of DeRidder, Louisiana; a step-son, James M. Davis, and nine grand-children.

Rudy's wife, Lucille Davis Rudy, died in 1965.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at Ratliffman's, 3711 Lexington Rd. with burial in Cave Hill Cemetery.

1969

July, 1969, Rosters:

SIGN IN SHEET

ST. MATTHEW'S VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEETINGS DATE 7/17/69 NUMBER OF MEN 30

FIRE ☒ LOCATION #103 ardsley Road

PLACE NO. OF TRUCK YOU RODE AT RIGHT OF NAME IN BLOCK

\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICERS:					
Col. Monahan	#33	Al Hueberlin	#16	52	
Major Heger	#19	Jim Jackson	#21	5-5	
Capt. Galling	#48	Henry Kuhn	#24	53	
Capt. Babcock	#2	Paul Maloney	#53	5-5	
Capt. Andriot	#1	Tommy Martin	#27	52	
Capt. Miller	#18	Tommy Miller	#30		
Lt. Hagan	#20	Sam Morgan	#51	59	
Lt. Monahan	#31	Clinton McAffee	#59		
Lt. Ring	#38	Malcolm McElkin	#57		
Lt. Lange	#25	Jim McGrath	#65	5-1	
FIREMEN:		John Noon	#35		
Jerry Beckman	#5	Russell McElstraw	#62	5-4	
Herb Christa	#8	Ken Reising	#		
Bill Gelson	#7	Phil Schneider	#41		
Harvey Schultz	#9	Harvey Schultz	#42	77	
Allen Scott	#12	Allen Scott	#43		
George Soules	#12	George Soules	#44		
Dan Sullivan	#13	Dan Sullivan	#46		
David Wooten	#14	David Wooten	#60	5-5	
Clark Penimore	#58	Clark Penimore	#5	33	
Bill Andriot	#56	Bill Andriot	#		
Charles Davis		Charles Davis			
Dick Inakett		Dick Inakett			

"KASIE"

SIGN IN SHEET

ST. MATTHEW'S VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEETINGS DATE 7-13-69 NUMBER OF MEN 10

FIRE ☒ LOCATION 152 Birdwood

PLACE NO. OF TRUCK YOU RODE AT RIGHT OF NAME IN BLOCK

\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICERS:					
Col. Monahan	#33	Al Hueberlin	#16		
Major Heger	#19	Jim Jackson	#21		
Capt. Galling	#48	Henry Kuhn	#24		
Capt. Babcock	#2	Paul Maloney	#53		
Capt. Andriot	#1	Tommy Martin	#27		
Capt. Miller	#18	Tommy Miller	#30		
Lt. Hagan	#20	Sam Morgan	#51		
Lt. Monahan	#31	Clinton McAffee	#59		
Lt. Ring	#38	Malcolm McElkin	#57		
Lt. Lange	#25	Jim McGrath	#65		
FIREMEN:		John Noon	#35		
Jerry Beckman	#5	Russell McElstraw	#62	74	
Herb Christa	#8	Ken Reising	#		
Bill Gelson	#7	Phil Schneider	#41		
Harvey Schultz	#9	Harvey Schultz	#42		
Allen Scott	#12	Allen Scott	#43		
George Soules	#12	George Soules	#44		
Dan Sullivan	#13	Dan Sullivan	#46		
David Wooten	#14	David Wooten	#60		
Clark Penimore	#58	Clark Penimore	#5		
Bill Andriot	#56	Bill Andriot	#		
Charles Davis		Charles Davis			
Dick Inakett		Dick Inakett			

"KASIE"

SIGN IN SHEET

ST. MATTHEW'S VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEETINGS DATE 7/29/69 NUMBER OF MEN 9

FIRE ☒ LOCATION City of Louisville (N. Bayview)

PLACE NO. OF TRUCK YOU RODE AT RIGHT OF NAME IN BLOCK

\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICERS:					
Col. Monahan	#33	Al Hueberlin	#16		
Major Heger	#19	Jim Jackson	#21		
Capt. Galling	#48	Henry Kuhn	#24		
Capt. Babcock	#2	Paul Maloney	#53		
Capt. Andriot	#1	Tommy Martin	#27		
Capt. Miller	#18	Tommy Miller	#30		
Lt. Hagan	#20	Sam Morgan	#51		
Lt. Monahan	#31	Clinton McAffee	#59		
Lt. Ring	#38	Malcolm McElkin	#57		
Lt. Lange	#25	Jim McGrath	#65		
FIREMEN:		John Noon	#35		
Jerry Beckman	#5	Russell McElstraw	#62		
Herb Christa	#8	Ken Reising	#		
Bill Gelson	#7	Phil Schneider	#41		
Harvey Schultz	#9	Harvey Schultz	#42		
Allen Scott	#12	Allen Scott	#43		
George Soules	#12	George Soules	#44		
Dan Sullivan	#13	Dan Sullivan	#46		
David Wooten	#14	David Wooten	#60		
Clark Penimore	#58	Clark Penimore	#5		
Bill Andriot	#56	Bill Andriot	#		
Charles Davis		Charles Davis			
Dick Inakett		Dick Inakett			

"KASIE"



1969

July 27, 1969:

**Lexington Rd. and Bauer Ave. Mario's Pizza June 27, 1969 6:40 Am**

This run came in by radio at 6:40Am. Even though this fire run was in the area of St. Matthew's annexed by the City of Louisville in the 1950's, St. Matthew's Fire Department was retained on contract to make every run with Louisville Fire Department (LFD) in this district. The run order at this time was S-4 (1954 Seagrave 750 GPM quad) and S-1 (1947 Seagrave 750 GPM pumper). LFD contracted with STMFD because the distance to Quad-6 at Frankfort Ave. and Frank Ave, first due company for Louisville, was too great for insurance rating purposes. This way the fire insurance rates in the annexed area did not go up because of the annexation.

I was still in bed, having gotten off work at 12:00 midnight from Anaconda Aluminum Company at 13<sup>th</sup> and Burnett Streets. I got to the firehouse and made S-1. I believe there was one other firefighter on the tailboard with me, possibly Dick Tackett. When S-1 arrived, S-4 had taken position in front of the building. We had a working fire in a one-story frame shotgun dwelling just east of and physically attached to the main restaurant building. I believe this structure was used for storage, as the restaurant took up most of the main building. There was brown smoke showing from the rear of the building. Both buildings were situated on the north side of Lexington Road, about four doors east of the intersection with Bauer Avenue. Assistant Chief Rich Herdt instructed S-1 to lay a two 2-1/2 inch supply lines from S-4 to a hydrant on the west side of Bauer Avenue, about half way between Lexington Road and Frankfort Avenue to the north.

We broke the connection between the right and left side 2-1/2 inch hose beds and chocked the ends behind the rear tires on S-4. I rode the running board on the right side by the officer as we laid out to the hydrant. I remember thinking how much hose we were going to have to roll up when all was said and done. My mind tells me Pat Maloney drove S-1, and Clarke Fenimore drove S-4, and the company officers were Al Ring and J. Dehart, but I don't remember who was on what unit. When we arrive at the hydrant my job was to hook up the soft suction on one steamer outlet, and put the keystone gated valve on the other steamer outlet. (This allowed another pumper to use the hydrant if needed.) Pat Maloney and Dick Tackett pulled the two 2-1/2 inch lines and connected them to the discharges. When I had completed the hydrant hook up, I checked with Pat and then turned on the hydrant on supply water to S-1. I then had to open the gated valve on the rear inlet where the soft suction was attached. After the two 2-1/2 supply lines were connected to S-1's discharges, Pat charged only one of the lines to S-4. My fellow crew member and I were instructed to each get a Scott pack, case and all, and proceed back to the fire scene. Keep in mind these were the original packs with the large steel bottle.

When my partner and I arrive at the scene we saw that the crew for S-4 had made a great stop on a basement fire, by entering from a rear entrance. We were told to stand by. By this time Quad-6 and Engine-21 had arrived on the scene. The situation was under control and the LFD captain in charge released us. LFD took over the tasks of building ventilation to remove the smoke, and fire overhaul. We started rolling up the 2-1/2 supply line that was not charged. We eventually shut down the other supply line, and rolled it up. We also drained the soft suction and loaded it back in its position on the right side of S-1's tailboard. The hydrant wrench and rubber mallet were carried in the butt of the soft suction secured by a large rubber band. I secure these tools in the proper manner. We had to use a pickup truck to load the hose in to carry back to the firehouse. StMFD cleared the air at 7:22 Am.

We returned to the fire hose and reloaded S-1's hose bed, and washed the truck down as we always did. We also helped to put S-4 back on track. Even though I was in school at U of L, in a 10 week summer session, I think this was a day I did not have classes. Lucky for me!

Another good job by the daytime crew of StMFD!



1969

# July 9, 1969, Amendment To Articles Of Incorporation Of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

## AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

### KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, an educational and charitable corporation from which no pecuniary profit is derived and having no capital stock and not operated, managed, or used for private profit and being organized under Chapter 273 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, at a meeting of its Board of Directors held on July 9, 1969, at the office of the corporation in St. Matthews, Kentucky, said meeting having been properly and legally called, at which meeting more than two-thirds of the directors of the corporation were present, by unanimous vote of all directors then present, adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That the Articles of Incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, recorded in Corporation Book 47, page 396, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office, and the amendment to said articles recorded in Corporation Book 48, page 451, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office and the amendment to said Articles in Corporation Book 71, page 431, in said office and the amendment to said Articles of Incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 79, page 137, in the aforesaid Clerk's office and the amendment to said Articles of Incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 90, page 465, in the aforesaid Clerk's office be amended by striking out and repealing the whole of said articles and amended articles as set out above and substituting in lieu thereof the following, so that the Articles of Incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association shall read as follows:

### ARTICLE I.

The name of the corporation shall be St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association.

### ARTICLE II.

(a) The corporation is organized and formed exclusively for scientific, civic, public safety, charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Code).

(b) In the promotion of the purposes for which the corporation is formed, the activities in which it will engage and the powers it will exercise consist among

others of the following:

1. The promotion of charitable, scientific, educational, and civic enterprises, activities and work, including the establishment and maintaining of an efficient volunteer fire department to serve the citizens of St. Matthews, Kentucky, and its surrounding area and to promote and cultivate in the citizens of St. Matthews, Kentucky, and its surrounding area, an interest in fire prevention methods and to foster and encourage the study of the latest fire fighting methods and to promote enlightened community thought and action leading to the improvement of conditions in St. Matthews, Kentucky, and the surrounding area and to promote necessary and effective programs for the education and training of volunteer firemen and to organize the work of charitable persons, societies and associations, in Jefferson County, Kentucky, for the relief of sick and crippled persons and to receive donations and contributions for the annual Crusade for Children.

2. The receiving of gifts and financial and other types of contributions and the acquisition, holding, and distribution of money and other property and property rights in connection with promoting the objects of the corporation; and the investment and reinvestment of such money, including the proceeds of the sale of any property acquired from time to time in property of any kind, whether income producing or not, considered by the Board of Directors to be advantageous to the corporation in the promotion of its object. Monies shall be distributed as directed, from time to time by the directors pursuant to regulations prescribed by the directors.

3. Purchasing, constructing, owning, selling, leasing, operating, and managing real estate, real property, chattels, personal property, including property, buildings, and equipment useful in promoting the other objects of the corporation.

4. Borrowing money and pledging the property of the corporation as security for the payment thereof.

5. Doing any and all other things and acts incidental to the foregoing objects, activities and powers.

6. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, civic, or scientific

1969

# July 9, 1969, Amendment To Articles Of Incorporation Of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

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purpose as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Chancery Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

7. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE III.

The address in the State of Kentucky where the principal office of the corporation is to be located is 410 Ignition Way, Louisville, Kentucky, 40207, and the name of the Resident Agent of the corporation for the service of process is J. P. Curry, 3800 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky, 40207.

ARTICLE IV.

The corporate existence shall be of perpetual duration unless sooner dissolved in the manner provided by law.

ARTICLE V.

The affairs of the corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors of not less than three Directors who shall be elected in the County of Jefferson, State of Kentucky, at the time and place as provided by the by-laws of the corporation, and by a President, a Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The number of the Directors of

the corporation shall be specified in the by-laws and such number may, from time to time, be increased or decreased in such manner as may be prescribed in the by-laws provided the number of Directors of the corporation shall not be less than three. The authority to make, alter, amend, or repeal by-laws for the corporation is hereby vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors to serve until the annual meeting on the second Wednesday in July, 1970, shall consist of J. P. Curry, Fred C. Buss, John E. Burich, George T. Miller, Lawrence S. Gruman, W. Island Wilson, John M. Hancock, Jr. and Henry Monahan and said Board shall have the power and authority to select their successors. In the event of a vacancy on the Board by reason of death or resignation, the Board shall be authorized to fill such vacancy. Should, for any reason, the corporation ever be without members of the Board of Directors, the Judge of the Jefferson Circuit Court, Chancery Branch, First Division, shall name the necessary members of the Board of Directors in accordance with the number of directors then fixed by the existing by-laws of the corporation.

ARTICLE VI.

The private property of the incorporators or directors of the corporation shall not be subject to or in any way be liable for corporation debts to any extent whatsoever.

Any provisions in the Articles of Incorporation or Amended Articles of Incorporation legally adopted which are in conflict with the above are hereby cancelled.

The undersigned being the President and Secretary of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association hereby certify that the resolution set out above was duly adopted by unanimous vote of more than two-thirds of the Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association at the meeting duly held on July 9, 1969, set out above.

In witness whereof the President and Secretary of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association have hereunto signed their names this 9th day of July, 1969.

167 JUL 38

*John M. Hancock, Jr.*  
President

*George T. Miller*  
Secretary

- 4 -

1969

July 9, 1969, Amendment To Articles Of Incorporation Of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association

State of Kentucky ) ss  
County of Jefferson )

I, a Notary Public within and for the State and County aforesaid, hereby certify that on this day the foregoing instrument of writing was produced to me in said State and County and was acknowledged and delivered by John M. Monohan Jr. to be his act and deed as President of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association and was acknowledged and delivered by George Miller, Secretary, to be his act and deed as Secretary of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association and was also acknowledged and delivered to be the act and deed of St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, a corporation.

Given under my hand this 9th day of July, 1969.

My commission expires

Jan 5 - 1972

*Lawrence B. Gruman*  
Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky

This Instrument Was Prepared By:

*Lawrence B. Gruman*

Lawrence B. Gruman, Attorney  
425 West Liberty Street  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202  
585-4824

LOGGED BY *Mr. Monohan*  
AND RECORDED

1969 JUL 24 PM 3 23

PAID \$ 3.00 INC. TAX  
JAMES HALLAHAN J.C.C.  
BY *James Hallahan* J.C.C.

ORIGINAL COPY  
FILED AND RECORDED

*James B. Begley*

JUL 23 1969

SECRETARY OF STATE OF KENTUCKY  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

BY *Mary R. Salas*  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

1969

**July 9, 1969: AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION. Book 167 Page 36 to 40.**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, an educational and charitable corporation from which no pecuniary profit is derived and having no capital stock and not operated, managed, or used for private profit and being organized under Chapter 273 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, at a meeting of its Board of Directors held on July 9, 1969, at the office of the corporation in St. Matthews, Kentucky, said meeting having been properly and legally called, at which meeting more than two thirds of the directors of the corporation were present, by unanimous vote of all directors then present, adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the articles of Incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, recorded in Corporation Book 47, page 598, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office, and the amendment to said articles recorded in corporation Book 48, page 451, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office and the amendment to said Articles in Corporation Book 71, page 431, in said office and the amendment to said articles of Incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 79, page 157, in the aforesaid Clerk's office and the amendment to said Articles of Incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 90, page 465, in the aforesaid Clerk's office be amended by striking out and repealing the whole of said articles and amended articles as set out above and substituting in lieu thereof the following, so that the Articles of Incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Association shall read as follows:

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation shall be St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association.

ARTICLE II

(a) The corporation is organized and formed exclusively for scientific, civic, public safety, charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under

Section 501(C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United states Internal Revenue Code).

(b) In the promotion of the purposes for which the corporation is formed, the activities in which it will engage and the powers it will exercise consist among others of the following:

1. The promotion of charitable, scientific, educational, and civic enterprises, activities and work, including the establishment and maintaining of an efficient volunteer fire department to serve the citizens of St. Matthews, Kentucky, and its surrounding area and to promote and cultivate in the citizens of St. Mathews, Kentucky, and its surrounding area, and interest in fire prevention methods and to foster and encourage the study of the latest fire fighting methods and to promote enlightened community thought and action leading to the improvement of conditions in St. Matthews, Kentucky, and the surrounding area and to promote necessary and effective programs for the education and training of volunteer firemen and to organize the work of charitable persons, societies and associations, in Jefferson County, Kentucky, for the relief of sick and crippled persons and to receive donations and contributions for the annual Crusade for Children.

2. The receiving of gifts and financial and other types of contributions and the acquisition, holding, and distribution of money and other property and property rights in connection with promoting the objects of the corporation; and the investment and reinvestment of such money, including the proceeds of the sale of any property acquired from time to time in property of any kind, whether income producing or not, considered by the Board of Directors to be advantageous to the corporation in the promotion of its object. Monies shall be distributed as directed, from time to time by the directors pursuant to regulations prescribed by the directors.

3. Purchasing, constructing, owning, selling, leasing, operating, and managing property, buildings, real estate, real property, chattels, personal property, and equipment useful in promoting the other objects of the corporation.

4. Borrowing money and pledging the property of the corporation as security for the payment thereof.

5. Doing any and all other things and acts incidental to the foregoing objects, activities and powers.

6. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization of organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, civic, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed off shall be disposed of by the Chancery Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.



1969

7. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall ensure to the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate, in or intervene in (inducing the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

#### ARTICLE III

The address in the state of Kentucky where the principal office of the corporation is to be located is 4114 Lyndon Way, Louisville, Kentucky 40207, and the name of the Resident Agent of the corporation for the service of process is J. P. Terry, 3800 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky, 40207.

#### ARTICLE IV

The corporate existence shall be of perpetual duration unless sooner dissolved in the manner provided by law.

#### ARTICLE V

The affairs of the corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors of not less than three Directors who shall be elected in the County of Jefferson, State of Kentucky, at the time and place as provided by the by-laws of the corporation, and by a President, a Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The number of the Directors of the corporation shall be specific in the by-laws and such number may, from time to time, be increased or decreased in such manner as may be prescribed in the by-laws provided the number of Directors of the corporation shall not be less than three. The authority to make, alter, amend, or repeal by-laws for the corporation is hereby vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors to serve until the annual meeting on the second Wednesday in July, 1970, shall consist of J. P. Terry, Fred C. Boss, John E. Emrich, George E. Miller, Lawrence S. Grauman, W. Leland Wilson, John M. Monohan, Jr. and Henry Monohan and said Board shall have the power and authority to select their successors. In the event of a vacancy on the Board by reason of death or resignation, the Board shall be authorized to fill such vacancy. Should, for any reason, the corporation ever be without members of the Board of Directors, the Judge of the Jefferson Circuit Court, Chancery Branch, First Division, shall name the necessary members of the Board of Directors in accordance with the number of directors then fixed by the existing by-laws of the corporation.

#### ARTICLE IV

The private property of the incorporators or directors of the corporation shall not be subject to or in any way be Liable for corporation debts to any extent whatsoever.

Any provision in the Articles of Incorporation or Amended Articles of Incorporation legally adopted which are in conflict with the above are hereby cancelled.

The undersigned being the President and secretary of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association hereby certify that the resolution set out above was duly adopted by unanimous vote of more than two-thirds of the directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire association at the meeting duly held on July 9, 1969, set out above.

In witness whereof the President and secretary of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association have hereunto signed their names the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1969.

John M. Monohan Jr., President.     George E. Miller, Secretary.

1969

July 9, 1969: Board meeting:

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was held at the office of the Association, 117 St. Matthews Avenue, St. Matthews, Kentucky, on July 9, 1969, at 7:30 p.m. E.D.T. The following Directors were present: John M. Monohan, Jr., George E. Miller, Lawrence S. Grauman, Fred C. Boss, John Enrich, W. Leland Wilson, Henry Monohan, and J. P. Terry.

Mr. John M. Monohan, Jr., President, presided at the meeting and Mr. George E. Miller, Secretary, acted as secretary of the meeting.

The President announced that proper notice of the meeting had been given and a quorum was present and therefore the meeting would proceed with the transaction of business.

The minutes of the meeting held on June 12, 1969, were read and upon motion duly made, and seconded, said minutes were approved.

Director Lawrence S. Grauman then advised the meeting that it was provided under Chapter 273 K.R.S. that two-thirds of the directors of any corporation organized under Chapter 273 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes relating to religious, educational or charitable corporations from which no pecuniary profit is derived and having no capital stock and not operated, managed or used for private profit may change its charter or articles of incorporation by filing and recording the amendment as original articles are required to be filed and recorded under K.R.S. 273.020.

Thereupon on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, it was resolved that the articles of incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, recorded in Corporation Book 47, page 598, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office, and the amendment to said articles recorded in Corporation Book 48, page 451, Jefferson County Court Clerk's office and the amendment to said articles recorded in Corporation Book 71, page 431, in said office and the amendment to said articles of incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 79, page 157, in the aforesaid Clerk's office and the amendment to said articles of incorporation recorded in Corporation Book 90, page 465, in the aforesaid Clerk's office be amended by striking out and repealing the whole of said articles and amended articles as set out above and substituting in lieu thereof the following, so that the articles of incorporation of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association shall read as follows:

\*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\*

On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the Board of Directors thereupon proceeded to elect the following officers of the corporation, to wit: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Thereupon, nominations having been duly made and seconded, a ballot was had for said election and the Chairman reported that the following persons had been unanimously elected to their respective offices:

President:	John M. Monohan, Jr.
Vice-President:	W. Leland Wilson
Secretary:	George E. Miller
Treasurer:	Fred C. Boss

Each of the officers so elected was present and thereupon accepted the office to which he was elected to serve until their respective successors were elected and qualified.

Thereupon on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted John M. Monohan, Jr. was elected Chief of the Fire Department, to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors and until his successor is elected and qualified, and W. Richard Herdt was elected Assistant Chief of the Fire Department to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors and until his successor is elected and qualified.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the meeting adjourned.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary

1969

July 21, 1969, 5000 Shelbyville Road Mall

5000 Shelbyville Road  
Mall, Blue Boar Cafeteria  
July 21, 1969  
2:03 AM, EDT

One of the attributes of the human psychic is our ability to remember life altering events by where we were, and what we were doing. These events are written indelibly in our memories and stay with us the rest of our lives. People from my generation will always remember President Kennedy's assassination, and the first men to walk on the moon by our mind's association with where we were and what we were doing. During our astronaut's first walk on the moon, I was on the tailboard of S-4 responding to the report of a fire at Blue Boar Cafeteria in The Shelbyville Road Mall.

At 10:56 PM, EDT, Apollo 11 Astronaut, Neil Armstrong, took his historic first step on the surface of the moon. Buzz Aldrin soon followed. We were all glued to our TV sets, both to see the pictures being transmitted back to earth and out of apprehension for the safety of our brave astronauts manning Apollo 11. They were only outside of the Lunar Landing Vehicle, named Eagle, a few short hours, time enough to plant the U.S. Flag, take pictures, and collect samples from the lunar surface. At 2:03 AM the tone hit for a fire at the Blue Boar in the Mall. I went to the firehouse, put on my gear and climbed on the tailboard of S-4, a 1954 Seagrave quad. I remember turning into the Mall, and pulling up near the Blue Boar. About this time I heard the officer in charge inform county alarm we had a malicious false. This was someone's idea of humor?

We returned to the firehouse and I remember returning home to finish watching the rest of the moonwalk.

I, and my brother firefighters, will always remember where we were on the night men first walked on the moon!

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr.  
September 9, 2011

August 7, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

**We're Tired of Washing Them!**

**CLOSE-OUT SALE**

**1988 RAMBLER 2-DR.**

**JAVELIN SST '3373'**

**FERRIS 4-Dr. Sedan '3530'**

**AMX '3754'**

**RAMBLER 440 Wagon '3535'**

**AMBASSADOR DPL Wagon '3545'**

**JAVELIN SST '3445'**

**AMBASSADOR 4-Dr. Sedan '3642'**

**FERRIS 4-Dr. Sedan '3440'**

**AMBASSADOR SST 4-Dr. Sedan '3650'**

**LARGEST SELECTION IN TOWN**  
Printed for Quick Sell

**METROPOLITAN AMERICAN**  
SALES AND SERVICE

The Shelbyville Road Business Plaza's Best Buy Location

August 21, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

**TO LEASE**

**FAIRMENADE AT SHELBYVILLE RD. W ST. MATTHEWS**

- \* INCOME PLAN AVAILABLE
- \* LOCATED IN RESIDENTIAL AREA ON MAIN TRAFFIC ARTERY
- \* FINANCING AND TRAINING AVAILABLE

**Phone Mr. Miles at**  
**587-0741 or 583-9973**

Al Ring's former station

August 14, 1969: Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting Board of Directors St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association held August 14, 1969

Directors Present

John Monahan  
Fred C. Boss  
W. Leland Wilson

John Erlich  
Lawrence Grawman  
George E. Miller

Minutes of last meeting, held July 9th, 1969 read by acting chairman Lawrence Grawman. Motion made by Fred C. Boss that they be accepted as read. Seconded by George E. Miller.

Motion made by Lawrence Grawman, seconded by John Erlich, that we approve an acting chairman of the board each meeting night.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by W. Leland Wilson, that Mr. Erlich and Mr. Monahan erect sign and advertise building.

There being no further business motion made by Fred Boss, seconded by W. Leland Wilson, that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted.

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy. #2

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

August 28, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## November completion date slated for fire station

Construction of the new fire station for the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department is expected to be completed in November, according to Fire Chief John Monohan.

The foundation, some of the rooms, and the hose tower already have been erected. The building will cost approximately \$225,000, Chief Monohan said.

The four-bay station is being built at the corner of Lyndon Way and Sears Avenue. The building will have two-stories but only part of the second story will be completed in this phase of construction.

Facilities, besides the bays for trucks and the hose tower, will include an apparatus room, a kitchen, a classroom, a recreation room, a radio-dispatch room, and restrooms.

The station, which will face Lyndon Way, is designed to take care of the department's needs for at least 10 years.

General contractor is W. T. Bristow & Sons.

The apparatus room (the central location for the fire-fighting equipment) will have four bays, facing Lyndon Way, and will measure 85 by 85. The office-apartment section will be 33 feet wide and 135 feet deep.

The lot on which the station will be located is 174 wide - along Lyndon Way - and 274 feet - down Sears Avenue.

The present fire station, at 117 St. Matthews Avenue, is to be sold or leased.

The move to the new station will give the department more space and allow fire units to reach fire scenes faster, according to Chief Monohan. The present facility is located in a highly congested area.

The building is to have a brick front with concrete-block or steel walls.

"The headquarters will be functional but as elaborate as our budget will allow," Chief Monohan said.

## Lance Corporal Patrick McNally home after 2 years of active duty

Lance Cpl. Patrick McNally, 27, has rejoined his wife and parents at 3831 Elmwood Rd. after two years of active service in the Marine Corps. He was in Vietnam more than half of the time. McNally was released from active duty Aug. 14, but will be a member of the

Marine Reserves four more years. His wife, Peggy Darlene, and his mother, Mrs. Nell D. McNally, live at the Elmwood Avenue address.

During his tour of duty in Vietnam, McNally received the Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious service with Service Company, Ninth Engineer Battalion, First Marine Division, from April 4, 1968, to April 22, 1969.

According to the citation, McNally displayed "an exceptional technical ability" by making an essential mechanical part of a "highly sophisticated" road grader entirely by hand when available equipment was not capable of producing the part.

After his reassignment Feb. 20, 1969, as a motor vehicle operator, McNally "maintained his vehicle in a consistently high state of operational readiness and, driving on more than 5,000 miles of potentially dangerous roads, repeatedly exposed himself to the possibility of enemy mines and snipers while fulfilling his unit's mission," the citation said. "As a result of his diligent and resourceful efforts, the operational effectiveness of his unit was greatly enhanced."



LANCE CORPORAL McNALLY

STMFD Firefighter

Why spend time looking for four-leaf clovers . . . when there are weeds growing in your garden? - Jim and Barb Gardner The Fowler (Kans.) News.



## Freak accident proves costly

A freak accident put Terry's Texaco at 3800 Lexington Rd. out of business for about six hours Saturday.

The accident occurred about 8 am when B. K. Overall, of 4702 Kittyhawk Way, drove his car from a gasoline pump, where his tank was being filled, to put air in the tires. The gasoline pump's nozzle stuck in the car and this caused the pump to pull loose and catch fire.

Overall said he thought the tank already had been filled and the nozzle removed when he moved the car.

The fire ruined the electrical lines to the other two pumps at the station.

St. Matthews and Louisville fire units had put out the fire in 20 minutes but the station wasn't back in operation until about 2 pm.

J. P. Terry, owner of the station, said the damage would be covered by the Texaco Company's insurance department.

"The trouble is I don't have any loss-of-business insurance," said Terry.

**Texaco Terry**  
**SAYS. . . .**



*Thank you for your continued patronage over the years, and we certainly will try to continue our prompt dependable service to every customer.*

**TERRY'S**  **SERVICE**  
3800 Lexington Rd.  
896-9217 **AAA SERVICE**

Open 24 Hours A Day

Orange Bar  
Shelbyville Road Mall  
September 1, 1969 8:49 AM

It was a beautiful, sunny, spring morning, with a hint of warmth of the summer to come; a morning like this I have only experienced in Kentucky. I evidently didn't have an early morning class at the University of Louisville, as I was still home. I was probably sleeping late as I had to go to work that afternoon. At 8:49 AM the tone hit with the dispatch for a fire at the Orange Bar in the Shelbyville Road Mall. I jumped in my bunkers, and started for the firehouse three short blocks away.

For readers not familiar with St Matthews, Kentucky in the late sixties, let me take the liberty to describe the Shelbyville Road Mall. The mall sits on a large tract of land that is the southeast corner of the intersection of Shelbyville Road (U.S. 60) and the Watterson Expressway (I-265). The building was opened in spring of 1962, and was the first enclosed mall in the state of Kentucky. The building was H-shaped with entrances at the end of the four legs, and in the middle of each leg approximately at the location of the crossbar. When opened there were two department stores, one occupying each leg as anchor stores, with the remaining space occupied by many smaller stores and shops, all having their public entrances opening into the inside of the mall. (The department stores had outside public entrances also, and all stores had service entrances outside.) The building did not have a sprinkler system, but was equipped with standpipe locations inside of the mall area. (A standpipe is a fire department connection for hand lines inside a building that is supplied water by a pumper outside connected to a fire hydrant. This was the normal fire protection system that was required by the building code in 1962, for this type of building.) We as the responsible fire department often discussed how we would handle a deep-seated fire inside one of the interior shops that contained a lot of flammable goods. The Orange Bar was located in the northern part of the east leg of the H-shaped mall; serving sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, French-fries, with other foods and drinks. It was as I remember the only place the mall patrons could get something to eat on their shopping trip. It had a public entrance into the mall, with a service entrance outside to the rear of the store.

I arrived at the firehouse on St. Matthews Avenue, parking in the lot on the south side of the building. Not finding a parking spot I left my car in the only aisle, with the keys in the ignition so it could be moved. I ran into the firehouse and got my coat and helmet on, and climbed into the jump seat on the right side of S-5 (750 GPM quint with a 75 ft aerial ladder). Charlie Davis, who lived in Pee Wee Valley, and worked at St. Matthews Feed and Seed, climbed into the jump seat next to me on my left. Bill Dieckman was officer, and I believe Clark Fenimore was driving. We left the firehouse three men short on S-5, as no one else was arriving. (We eventually rolled S-1, and S-4 on this run.) As we were responding out Shelbyville Road (compass east) Assistant Chief Melch Zehnder went 10-7, nothing showing. Within about a minute he reported back we had a working fire in the kitchen, and for S-5 to "step up" our run. This was around Hubbards Lane as I recall. We were about half way to the scene. As we were passing the

September 1, 1969

1969

## Working Fire—Orange Bar, Shelbyville Road Mall

Shelbyville Road Plaza, Melch called back and said “ S-5 you better step it up”! We knew we were in for a battle.

When we arrived on the scene we pulled around to the rear of the building, to the service entrance. The door was propped open with heavy, thick tanish-brown smoke coming out about half way down to the ground. We were instructed to get the carbon dioxide and dry powder fire extinguishers and proceed in the door to the kitchen. Charlie had the Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and I took the dry powder. Charlie went in first and I followed right behind him. We pulled the safety pins before we entered.

We went down a short hallway, crouching down due to the heavy smoke that was quickly filling the kitchen. When we got to the kitchen I saw three deep fat fryers, all with flames shooting up several feet from their surface. From the looks of things we had to work fast, with only this one chance before we totally lost control of the situation! Charlie used his CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher to knock down the flames. As soon as he shut down the flow from the extinguisher, the flames would jump right back just as fierce as ever. Charlie emptied the extinguisher trying to cool down the grease in the fryers. At this point we changed places it was my time to use the dry powder extinguisher. I knew the only way I was going to successfully put this fire out was to blanket the surface of the burning grease with the dry powder from my extinguisher, cutting off the supply of oxygen to the fire. I could only get as high as the edge of the fryers due to the level of the smoke. I put my hand with the nozzle up into the smoke above the fryer's edge and laid down a layer of dry powder on the surface of the burning grease. The fire went out. I shut down and waited to see what would happen. A few second later the grease boiling grease bubbled up through the layer of dry powder, igniting the fire all over again. I laid down another layer of powder, and the fire went out. I waited. It bubbled up igniting again. I was starting to get worried as the extinguisher only had twenty pounds of power, and it was the only dry powder extinguisher S-5 had. I extinguished the fire a third time, this time laying down a very thick layer of powder on the surface of the hot grease. I waited again. This time the surface of the powder held, and the fire remained extinguished. I stayed in this position until we were sure the fire would remain out. The power to the fryers had been cut at the electrical panel, and the grease finally was cool enough not to boil over again. I felt good about what had been accomplished.

We had to remove the smoke from the kitchen and the restaurant area. This we accomplished with the exhaust fan from S-5 at the back door. We also had to get a room ladder and check for fire extension above the panel in the false ceiling. Luckily we found none. We also raised the aerial on S-5 to the roof and Lt. Dieckman and I check the kitchen exhaust ventilators for signs of fire extension. Again we found none. The remainder of our time was spent in clean up and putting our equipment back on our truck. We left the scene and went back to our quarters. We filled the dry powder extinguisher, and put it back on the truck. We also put a spare CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher on S-5 to replace the used one. We were back on track for the next run.

Kenneth C. Reising, Jr., May 7, 2011

1969

September 10, 1969, Letter:

September 10, 1969

Mr. Richard Boland  
Secretary 4040 Massie Corp.  
c/o Boland/Maloney Lumber Co.  
913 E. Main Street  
Louisville, Kentucky 40206

Dear Mr. Boland:

Confirming our phone conversation of Tuesday Sept. 9, 1969 in re using the building located at Massie are for Fire Department Training purposes. Please be advised that the St. Matthews Fire Department assumes all responsibilities for the damage and for injuries while using for training purposes and therefore relieves you and your Company of the same.

We take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your consideration in use of the building for training purposes.

Yours Truly,

John M. Monohan, Jr.  
Chief, St. M. V. F. D.



1969

September 11, 1969: Board meeting:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION  
HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 1969

Pursuant to written notice given all Directors, the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was held at the St. Matthews office of the First National Bank on Thursday, September 11, 1969, at 7:30 p.m., E.D.T.

The meeting was called to order by George E. Miller, Secretary. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, Lawrence S. Grauman was named ~~as~~ *Chairman of the meeting* and George E. Miller, Secretary, kept the minutes of the meeting. *off the Board of Directors for 1 year.*

On roll call the following Directors answered present:

John M. Monohan, Jr.	John Enrich
Fred C. Boss	Lawrence S. Grauman
W. Leland Wilson	George E. Miller

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board held on August 14, 1969, were read and approved.

President Monohan reported that he and Directors Enrich and Grauman had had a meeting with Mayor Bernard Bowling, Mayor of the City of St. Matthews, and J. W. Jones, City Attorney, with reference to the City of St. Matthews advancing the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association up to \$100,000.00 in order to complete the new building and that Mayor Bowling and Mr. Jones had agreed to submit the matter to the Board of Councilmen of the City of St. Matthews for approval and that he had been informed that the Board of Councilmen had approved the contract and security mortgage which had been prepared by Lawrence S. Grauman.

Thereupon Lawrence S. Grauman read to the Board the agreement with the City of St. Matthews under which the City of St. Matthews was to advance to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association sums up to \$100,000.00, said advancements to be on the sums to become due for fire protection furnished the City of St. Matthews. The Association was to furnish fire protection for properties located in St. Matthews, Kentucky, during the period any part of the sums advanced remained unpaid or unsatisfied, the Association to have the option and privilege of repaying any sum so advanced and not chargeable against services previously rendered at any time.

Thereupon on motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, it was

RESOLVED: That the Association enter into the aforesaid written contract with the City of St. Matthews and that John M. Monohan, Jr., as President, be and is hereby authorized and directed to sign said contract on behalf of the Association.

Lawrence S. Grauman thereupon read to the Board the security mortgage to be executed by the Association on the property where the new firehouse is to be located,

which security mortgage was to secure the performance by the Association of the covenants and agreements contained in the contract and to be performed by the Association.

Thereupon on motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, it was

RESOLVED: That said security mortgage to the City of St. Matthews be entered into by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association and that John M. Monohan, Jr., as President, be and he is hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the Association to sign, execute and deliver said security mortgage.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made seconded and unanimously adopted, the meeting adjourned.

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Chairman  
*George E. Miller*  
Secretary

1969

September 11, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## St. Matthews City Council okays advance payments to fire department

The St. Matthews City Council Tuesday night approved advance payments for fire protection by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

The agreement calls for advance payments up to five years of a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

The payments will be made "from time to time" as needed, J.W. Jones, city attorney said.

The advance payments will allow the fire department to help pay costs of its new station at Lyndon Way and Sears Avenue.

The station, now under construction, will cost about \$250,000.

The yearly cost of fire protection in St. Matthews is about \$20,000. Mayor Bernard Bowling said.

The council also approved the rezoning of the property at 104 Ridgeway Avenue from residential to office.

The property now houses a chiropractor's office. The applicant sought the change so that he could rent out other sections of the two-story building, Councilman Harry Jones said. Earlier the city planning commission had recommended the zoning change.

September 17, 1969, Letter:

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW  
488 WEST LIBERTY STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
TELEPHONE 585-4884

September 17, 1969

Mr. George E. Miller  
262 Chenoweth Lane  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear George:

Enclosed herewith find original and three copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Directors. You will note that I have signed all copies as Chairman and you should sign all copies as Secretary. Note that on the certification I have a certification for you to sign as Secretary, so please sign the certification on all copies.

Keep the original and present it at the next meeting of the Board and return all copies to me so that I can turn one of the copies over to Mr. Jones together with the mortgage.

Your attention in this matter will be appreciated.

Cordially,

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Lawrence S. Grauman

Enc. 4

*Joe*  
*Out in*  
*Minute book*  
*Yes*

OCT 3 1969  
8/11/69

1969

September 18, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## **John DeHart Sr., 52, official of paint and varnish company, dies**

John Theodore DeHart, Sr., 52, an associate of the family owned DeHart Paint & Varnish Co., 906 E. Main St., died Thursday, Sept. 11, at 8 pm in his home, 4005 Mycliffe Ave.

DeHart, a Navy veteran of World War II, leaves his wife, the former Margaret Elder; a son, John T. DeHart, Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. William Sant, Mi-

ami, Fla., and Mrs. Joseph Komarniski, Atlanta, Ga.; his mother, Mrs. Claude DeHart; a brother, C. R. DeHart; a sister, Mrs. Betsy Jane Littrell, Crestwood, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Burial was in Cave Hill Cemetery.

**September 29, 1969      Tobacco Warehouse, Shelbyville, KY      7:09 p.m.**

Comments by Al Ring: September 29, 1969 Working fire in a Warehouse in Shelbyville, Kentucky. This fire was kind of screwed up from the start. Chief Monohan I believe was at a dinner. Bob Walling took S4 the Quad and responded before we were sure what Shelbyville wanted. I got to the fire house and called Shelbyville Fire Department to see what they needed. They needed and aerial ladder which they didn't have. My crew took off on S5 (our aerial truck). I remember entering Shelbyville with the siren wide open, and there were crowds of people all along the street yelling and clapping as we drove in to "Save Their Town". Down at the bottom of the hill where we would turn right to get to the 2 block by a 2 block warehouse we pulled into a service station to get water because we were overheating and steam was rolling out of the engine compartment. We sure didn't look like hero's then. Once we filled the radiator with water we made the scene, set up the aerial and did some firefighting. Bob got into big trouble for going so fast and not finding out what was needed that far away.

1969

September 29, 1969, Warehouse fire, believed to be *The Courier-Journal*:

9/20/1969

## Damage May Hit \$500,000

# Tobacco Plant Burns in Shelbyville

Special to The Courier-Journal

**SHELBYVILLE** — A fire destroyed most of a tobacco redrying plant on the south side of Shelbyville last night. Shelbyville Fire Chief Frank Cook estimated the loss at \$500,000.

Cook said the one-story, two-block-long building owned by the Southwestern Tobacco Co. caught fire about 6:30 p.m. and it took about 2½ hours to bring it under control.

There were no injuries except for a fireman who stepped on a nail, Cook said.

The fire did not spread to surrounding buildings, he said.

Company officials could not be reached for an official damage estimate. Firemen said, however, that the fire destroyed furnaces used for drying the tobacco, two or three tow motor lifts used for transporting the tobacco, and other machinery.

There was no tobacco stored in the building, the fire chief said.

Cook said the blaze sent flames shooting up 150 feet and billows of black smoke could be seen as far as 30 miles away.

Other surrounding fire departments were called in to help. About 100 firemen and six fire engines fought the fire, he said. Assisting were St. Matthews,

Middletown, Pleasureville, Shelby County Volunteers, and East Shelby County Volunteer fire departments.

"We don't know what caused the fire," Cook said. "But I don't believe it was arson. It didn't look like arson."

Cook did say that the plant had been broken into three or four times during the summer, apparently by children.

A brick firewall prevented the blaze from spreading to about one-fourth of the building, he said.

Cook said there were two other tobacco warehouses and homes near the Southwestern plant, at 11th and Equity streets, but the flames did not spread to them.

## Shelbyville Fire Damage Is Set At \$500,000

SHELBYVILLE, Ky. — A fire that lasted for 2½ hours destroyed most of a two-block long tobacco redrying plant here last night. Damage was estimated at \$500,000.

The one-story building owned by Southwestern Tobacco Co. caught fire about 6:30 p.m., according to Shelbyville Fire Chief Frank Cook. The fire did not spread to surrounding buildings, he said.

Firemen reported that the fire destroyed furnaces used for drying tobacco, two or three tow motor lifts used for transporting the tobacco, and other machinery.

There was no tobacco stored in the building, according to Cook. A brick firewall prevented the blaze from spreading to about one-fourth of the building, he said.

Surrounding fire departments, including St. Matthews, Middletown, Pleasureville, and East Shelby County Volunteers, assisted.

Cook said flames shot up 150 feet and billows of black smoke could be seen as far as 30 miles away.

He said there were no clues to the cause of the fire. "But I don't believe it was arson," he said. "It didn't look like arson."

**September 29, 1969: Damage May Hit \$500,000—Tobacco Plant Burns in Shelbyville.** Special to *The Courier-Journal*, Shelbyville—A fire destroyed most of a tobacco re-drying plant on the south side of Shelbyville last night. Shelbyville Fire Chief Frank Cook estimated the loss at \$500,000.00.

Cook said the one-story, two-block-long building owned by the Southwestern Tobacco Co. caught fire about 6:30 p.m. and it took about 2½ hours to bring it under control.

There were no injuries except for a fireman who stepped on a nail, Cook said. The fire did not spread to surrounding buildings, he said.

Company officials could not be reached for an official damage estimate. Firemen said, however, that the fire destroyed furnaces use for drying the tobacco, two or three tow motor lifts used for transporting the tobacco, and other machinery.

There was no tobacco stored in the building, the fire chief said. Cook said the blaze sent flames shooting up 150 feet and billows of black smoke could be seen as far as 30 miles away.

Other surrounding fire departments were called in to help. About 100 firemen and six fire engines fought the fire, he said. Assisting were St. Matthews, Middletown, Pleasureville, Shelby County Volunteers, and East U.S. 60 Volunteer Fire Department.

"We don't know what caused the fire," Cook said. "But I don't believe it was arson. It didn't look like arson." "Cook did say that the plant had been broken into three or four times during the summer, apparently by children."

A brick firewall prevented the blaze from spreading to about one fourth of the building, he said.

Cook said there were two other tobacco warehouses and homes near the South western plant, at 11<sup>th</sup> and Equity streets, but the flames did not spread to them.



1969

October 9, 1969, Board meeting:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION  
HELD OCTOBER 9, 1969

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association was held at the office of the Association at 117 St. Matthews Avenue, on Thursday October 9, 1969, at 7:30 p.m., E.S.T.

The meeting was called to order by Lawrence S. Grauman who acted as Chairman and in the absence of the Secretary, George E. Miller, W. Leland Wilson acted as Secretary and kept the minutes of the meeting.

On roll call the following Directors answered present: John M. Monohan, Jr., Fred C. Boss, Lawrence S. Grauman, W. Leland Wilson and J. P. Terry.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Directors held on Thursday, September 11, 1969, were read and approved.

The Chairman advised the Board that he had communicated with Mr. Robert L. Durning, Jr. regarding the request of Mr. Robert Lee Durning that the Association pay \$511.87 for the fire hydrant which had been installed and had advised Mr. Robert L. Durning, Jr. that the Association did not think that it was legally liable for the \$511.87 but that the Association was willing to pay one-half of the said amount. The Chairman advised the Board that Mr. Durning was not willing to accept the compromise offer and that in lieu thereof, Mr. Durning requested the Association to pay the initial \$2,000.00 cost of the water line, the Association having agreed to pay \$2,000.00 towards the cost of the installation and the also wanted them to pay the \$587.11. The letter from Robert L. Durning, Jr. was referred to the President, Mr. Monohan, for investigation and report.

The President reported to the Board that the volunteer firemen had recommended to the Board that Captain HARRY K. Babcock be elected as a Director to serve until the annual meeting in July, 1970. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, it was

RESOLVED: That Captain HARRY K. Babcock be elected as a Director of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association to serve until the next annual meeting in July, 1970.

<sup>ADVANCE PAYMENTS</sup>  
~~Borrow~~ The Chairman reported to the meeting that he had delivered the contract to ~~Borrow~~ up to \$100,000.00 from the City of St. Matthews to Mr. J. W. Jones, City Attorney for the City of St. Matthews, and that Mr. Jones would deliver same to Mayor Bowling for execution. The Chairman advised that as soon as Mayor Bowling signed the contract he would record the security mortgage executed by the Association in the County Clerk's office.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the meeting adjourned.

W. Leland Wilson  
Acting Secretary  
George E. Miller  
Approved

Lawrence S. Grauman  
Chairman

OCT 15 1969  
E. m.

1969

Harry Babcock, new Board member

Firefighter March 1, 1960 to 1962, Lieutenant 1962 to 1967, Captain 1968 to 1974  
Trustee 1969 to 1971



Born in Louisville January 19, 1928, he attended local schools and then went to Deerfield Academy in Deerfield, Massachusetts. He also attended the University of Georgia, Kentucky, and Louisville. He started his career with Lincoln Bank in Louisville and then went with his fathers business, Puritan Cordage. He started with them as a payroll clerk, and became president of the company in 1963. In 1970 he merged the company with Wellington Technical Industries, moved to the Board of Directors, and then sold his shares. He then bought Steepleton Company running it until he sold it and retired. Married and divorced he had two sons and one daughter. He joined the department in 1960 and served as firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, and in 1969 joined the Board of Directors serving for two years. Harry died 3/7/2005.

March 7, 2005: *The Courier-Journal & The Voice-Tribune*: Harry K. Babcock—retired president of Steepleton Billiard Table Co., dies at 77:

**BABCOCK, HARRY K.**, 77, of New Albany, IN, died Monday, at Floyd Memorial Hospital. He was the retired president of Steepleton Billiard Table Company, a charter member of Babcock, Bade and Sullivan environmental group, and a retired captain of the St. Matthews Fire Department. He is survived by his wife, Clara Babcock; two sons, Whitney W. Babcock and Squire K. Babcock; daughter, Meme Babcock Smith; 11 grandchildren, Sabrah Babcock Wilkerson, Bekah Babcock, Betts Babcock Kayser, Aba Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Hannah Babcock, Chip Westerman, Molly Westerman, Lou Ann Crouch, Lisa Chapman Newlin and David Chapman; and three great-grand-children, Taylor Babcock, Grace Kayser, and Jonah Wilkerson. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at Pearson's, 149 Breckenridge Lane. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ducks Unlimited, One Waterfowl Way, Memphis, TN 38120.

Published in *The Courier-Journal* on 3/8/2005.



October 9, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

# Thirty fire stations to have open house

Thirty fire houses manned by more than 800 volunteer firemen will be open to the public Sunday, Oct. 12, between 2 and 5 pm for the observance of the second annual Jefferson County Volunteer Firemen's Recognition Day.

Richard M. Trautwein, director of the county fire protection program, said the headquarters will be open to give residents a chance to personally meet firemen, inspect equipment and facilities and to thank the volunteers for their services.

Equipment ranging from Army jeeps to sophisticated \$70,000 engines with aerial ladders will be on display.

As part of the observance, children of elementary schools are participating in a fire prevention poster contest.

Young artists are to take their posters to the nearest fire house where the one judged to be the best will be entered in a county-wide contest.

Jefferson County has relied solely on volunteer fire departments since Jan. 15, 1950, when its three fully paid fire departments were abolished in favor of the present fire protection program.

Since that time, the volunteer program has grown to 30 departments and the 75 fully paid men have been replaced by the volunteers.

During the same period, Trautwein said, insurance rates have been consistently reduced and today the majority of residents of fire protection areas are subject to sixth class rates.

Trautwein estimates that it would cost the county between \$3 and \$4 million annually to duplicate the service if firemen were on a paid basis.

A proclamation for the recognition day

was issued by County Judge E. P. Sawyer Sept. 16, a week before he was killed in an auto mishap on I - 64.

October 16,  
1969, *The Voice-*

## Grand opening festivities underway at The Mall

Grand opening festivities for stores in Phase II of The Mall shopping center began yesterday and will continue through Saturday.

Ground was broken in the spring of 1968 on the 18 new stores and two store expansions that constitute Phase II.

The Rouse Company of Baltimore, Md., is the developer of The Mall.

A total of 306,000 square feet have been added to the original 332,000 square feet, making The Mall Kentucky and Southern Indiana's largest enclosed shopping mall.

The J. C. Penney Co. store and automotive center occupy 200,000 square feet of the expansion area. Penney's opening, however, has been delayed until the first part of January.

Kaufman's 40,000 square foot addition is scheduled to open in November.

Other stores include The Trend, Spencer's Gifts, Susie's Casuals, House of Nine, National Shirt, Parkland Hosiery, Kinney's Shoes, Bonnell's, Kay Jewelry, Taylor Trunk Co., Bernard Wigs, Picadilly, Christopher Robin, Mary Lester Fabrics, General Nutrition, Brooks Fashions, and the Patio Lounge expansion.

Jack L. Caudill, Mall manager, estimated the cost of the expansion in excess of \$6,000,000. He expects the center to double in sales volume over the next year.

The Promotion Director Terry R. Armstrong has scheduled a Petting Zoo, strolling musical groups, the Kentucky Opera Association Chorus and square dancing on the mall for the celebration.

**HOSPITALMAN Third Class Lawrence C. Pilcher, Jr.**, whose parents live at 803 Macon Ave., has returned from Vietnam where he was serving with the First Marine Division. He has been reassigned to Oceana, Va. Pilcher has received three Purple Hearts, two Navy Commendation Medals with Combat V, the Bronze Star with V for valor and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

Future STMFD firefighter







October 23, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## Grass fire occurs on Westport Road

A grass fire was extinguished Tuesday by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department on Westport Road south of the I-64 overpass.

The alarm was turned in at 6:09 pm. In only 45 minutes, the volunteers had extinguished the fire and were returning to the station.

No persons or homes were injured by the blaze which covered approximately one acre.

However, a residential district immediately across from the field where the fire originated was threatened.

The cause of the fire is not known at this time.

About seven cars stopped on the nearby expressway to witness the flames, a practice which is prohibited by law.



THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL St. Matthews Sugar Maple trees to die this fall. Located on St. Germaine Court, the tree was probably victimized by a variety of factors, including verticillium wilt. Most of the trees to die are located in the southwestern section of St. Matthews.

SECTION II, PAGE 6, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1969



BEAUTIFICATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS were presented Sunday by the St. Matthews Business and Professional Women's Club at their annual Prayer Breakfast held at Howard Johnson's Restaurant. Receiving the awards and keys to the city were from left: John Ratterman; Newell Fox; Albert Earwistle; Mrs. John Mich, president of the BPPW; Mrs. Gretchen Kaiser; Al Ring and Jack Sutton. Earlier an award was presented to Mayor Bernard Bowling for the City of St. Matthews.

## Six beautification awards presented by local club

Beautification awards were presented Sunday by the St. Matthews Business and Professional Women's Club to five local businesses.

Mayor Bernard F. Bowling also received a special award prior to the meeting for his beautification efforts in

the city hall area.

Awards were presented by Gretchen Kaiser, Awards Committee Chairwoman, to Howard Johnson's Hotel and Restaurant, Burger King Corporation, Jansons Apartments at St. Matthews, Ratterman Brothers Funeral Home, and Al Ring EMD Service.

Keys to the city were presented to the group by Councilman Harry Jones in the absence of Mayor Bowling.

The club received a proclamation from Councilman John Barker, also on behalf of Mayor Bowling.

The proclamation declared Oct. 19-25 Business Week in St. Matthews.

The awards meeting was one of several programs the local club held in conjunction with National Business Week. Eighty-two other Business and Professional Women's Clubs across the country also have been observing National Business Week.

## Retired teacher honored at picnic

Mrs. J. Gladys Post, of Prospect, was the guest of honor at a picnic and outing on the Ohio River Sunday, Oct. 13. The outing was sponsored by the senior class of Kentucky Home School, where Mrs. Post taught English literature and dramatic arts until her retirement last

STMFD firefighter Al Ring

1969

October 29, 1969, STMFD firefighter Al Ring

# Playground to Replace Woodlawn Park Weeds



Staff Photo

Al Ring views playground site.

THE CITY of Woodlawn Park, a tree-shaded subdivision just east of Louisville, is developing a 25-acre playground on a vacant neighborhood site.

That means the kids won't be playing ball in the streets. And it means Al Ring won't have to don his volunteer firefighting gear to battle weed fires on the property.

Ring, 26, lives a few blocks from the weed-choked lot. He rounded up backers for the park idea this summer, and the City Council approved it last month.

Some residents of the 350-home neighborhood wondered why Ring, who is single, was so interested in the park.

Besides rushing with the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. to fight those weed fires, he said, "I've had to stop many times to dodge the kids. And it will take care of an eyesore in this area, plus give us something we can be proud of."

Eline Realty Co., owners of the land, donated it to the City Council on a yearly basis. Ring, who heads a seven-man board named to supervise the park, hopes to develop it "with a minimum amount of money" and a lot of volunteer help.

The park will include play equipment, baseball and football fields, tracks for jogging and bike-riding, and a picnic area.



1969

Courtesy Betsy Stanis, Holy Trinity Church: 125 Anniversary booklet



Blessed and Dedicated 11/2/1969



FROM THE DESK OF

LAWRENCE S. GRAUMAN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
425 WEST LIBERTY STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
TELEPHONE 585-4824

November 5, 1969

Mr. John M. Monohan Jr.  
3909 Elmwood Ave  
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Mr. Monohan:

I received your legal cap statement showing the three items for the damage to the truck, same amounting to \$852.54.

Can you get statements or receipts from the three companies and send them to me; also if there are cancelled checks showing the payment it might be that the attorney for the insurance company would accept them for consideration. Please see if you can get receipts and if not then send me the cancelled checks.

Also Mr. Durning the attorney called me and wants to know what will be done about the bill his father wants the association to pay?

Your attention in the above matters will be appreciated.

Cordially,

*Lawrence S. Grauman*  
Lawrence S. Grauman.

November 5, 1969, Letter:

"AN OLE  
*Grand Opening*  
JIM'S BODY SHOP  
141 ST. MATTHEWS AVE.



Y'ALL COME TO OUR  
"OPEN HOUSE"  
SATURDAY NOV. 8th 8:00 p.m. till ?  
HELD INSIDE OUR SPACIOUS NEW SHOP

REFRESHMENTS FRED J. WOLF	MUSIC by the KAELIN'S	DANCING ELMER E. KAELIN
------------------------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------

1969

November 11, 1969:

November 11, 1969

Chief John Monohan  
St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department  
St. Matthews Ave.  
Louisville, Ky. 40206

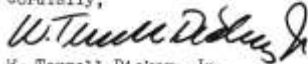
Dear John:

Mr. Dan Burke has brought to my attention the fact that there is a letter in existence from the Harrods Creek Fire Department stating that we prefer you to "keepout" of our area unless the senior officer present calls for your assistance.

This I disagree with wholeheartedly. I feel that the best interests of the people protected by fire departments of Jefferson County cannot be best served if each department operates as a "sacred" untouchable territory. Fast and efficient mutual aid is a necessity we both need as well as training and pre-planning together.

In this interest I think we should meet in the very near future to discuss areas where we have high risks involved (nursing homes, churches, etc.) and possibly discuss ways of assisting each other and the use of back-ups.

Cordially,



W. Terrell Dickey, Jr.

Chief, Harrods Creek Volunteer Fire Department

WTD/dmh

November 13, 1969, Board meeting:

ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



117 St. Matthews Ave.

LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of meeting of the Board of Directors  
held November 13, 1969 at the First National  
Bank in St. Matthews.

Directors Present

J. F. Terry	W. Leland Wilson
John Erich	Harry E. Babcock
John Monohan	George E. Miller
Fred C. Boss	

Minutes of the last meeting, held October 9, 1969, read by acting chairman John Erich. Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by W. Leland Wilson, that they be accepted as corrected.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by Harry E. Babcock, that we give turkeys to all firemen and directors.

A moment of silent prayer was said for the repose of the soul of Lawrence Graum.

John Erich was appointed to consult Horace Barker, attorney, to come on the board. He will be paid \$50.00 per month for attorney fees.

Motion made by J. F. Terry, seconded by Fred Boss, that we pay past due bill at J. Bacon's, which was fraudulently bought by Mrs. Elsie McFarland.

There being no further business motion made by George Miller, seconded by J. F. Terry that we adjourn.

Please note resolution attached.

Respectfully submitted



George E. Miller, Secretary

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"



1969

November, 1969, Rosters:

SIGN IN SHEET  
ST. PATRICKS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

DATE 11-5-69 NUMBER OF MEN 23  
FIRE Engine LOCATION 214 Graham Rd

Place the number of the truck you rode in block at right of your name.

NAME	TRUCK	NAME	TRUCK
Col. Noonan	#33	Tommy Martin	#27
Major Ferdt	#19	W. Hercke	#
Capt. Walling	#48	Tommy Miller	#30
Capt. Babcock	#2	Bob Morgan	#31
Capt. Andriot	#1	Clinton McAffee	#59
Capt. DeHart	#10	C.F. McBride	#
Lt. Jackson	#21	Malcolm McAlkin	#57
Lt. D. Noonan	#31	Jim McGrath	#62
Lt. King	#30	Raymond McStraw	#62
Lt. Lange	#25	Ken Reising	#
Phil Schneider	#41	Harvey Schults	#42
Jerry Beckman	#5	Allan Scott	#43
Herb Chaste	#6	G.P. Schreck	#
Don Daniels	#9	George Soules	#44
Bill Dieckman	#11	Don Sullivan	#45
Paul Dillman	#12	David Nooton	#60
Denny Enguhl	#13	Ed Zehnder	#50
Clark Fenimore	#14	Charles Davis	#
Walt Frank	#58	Richard Tackett	#
Skip Golden	#56	Allen Lambert	#
J. Graven	#		
Al Hasberlin	#16		
Ferry Ruhn	#24		
Pat Maloney	#53		

SIGN IN SHEET  
ST. PATRICKS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

DATE 11-12-69 NUMBER OF MEN 11  
FIRE ✓ LOCATION VE38 Wiggins

Place the number of the truck you rode in block at right of your name.

NAME	TRUCK	NAME	TRUCK
Col. Noonan	#33	Tommy Martin	#27
Major Ferdt	#19	W. Hercke	#
Capt. Walling	#48	Tommy Miller	#30
Capt. Babcock	#2	Bob Morgan	#31
Capt. Andriot	#1	Clinton McAffee	#59
Capt. DeHart	#10	C.F. McBride	#
Lt. Jackson	#21	Malcolm McAlkin	#57
Lt. D. Noonan	#31	Jim McGrath	#62
Lt. King	#30	Raymond McStraw	#62
Lt. Lange	#25	Ken Reising	#
Phil Schneider	#41	Harvey Schults	#42
Jerry Beckman	#5	Allan Scott	#43
Herb Chaste	#6	G.P. Schreck	#
Don Daniels	#9	George Soules	#44
Bill Dieckman	#11	Don Sullivan	#45
Paul Dillman	#12	David Nooton	#60
Denny Enguhl	#13	Ed Zehnder	#50
Clark Fenimore	#14	Charles Davis	#
Walt Frank	#58	Richard Tackett	#
Skip Golden	#56	Allen Lambert	#
J. Graven	#		
Al Hasberlin	#16		
Ferry Ruhn	#24		
Pat Maloney	#53		

SIGN IN SHEET  
ST. PATRICKS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

DATE 11/2/69 NUMBER OF MEN 9  
FIRE ✓ LOCATION 310 Woodawex

Place the number of the truck you rode in block at right of your name.

NAME	TRUCK	NAME	TRUCK
Col. Noonan	#33	Tommy Martin	#27
Major Ferdt	#19	W. Hercke	#
Capt. Walling	#48	Tommy Miller	#30
Capt. Babcock	#2	Bob Morgan	#31
Capt. Andriot	#1	Clinton McAffee	#59
Capt. DeHart	#10	C.F. McBride	#
Lt. Jackson	#21	Malcolm McAlkin	#57
Lt. D. Noonan	#31	Jim McGrath	#62
Lt. King	#30	Raymond McStraw	#62
Lt. Lange	#25	Ken Reising	#
Phil Schneider	#41	Harvey Schults	#42
Jerry Beckman	#5	Allan Scott	#43
Herb Chaste	#6	G.P. Schreck	#
Don Daniels	#9	George Soules	#44
Bill Dieckman	#11	Don Sullivan	#45
Paul Dillman	#12	David Nooton	#60
Denny Enguhl	#13	Ed Zehnder	#50
Clark Fenimore	#14	Charles Davis	#
Walt Frank	#58	Richard Tackett	#
Skip Golden	#56	Allen Lambert	#
J. Graven	#		
Al Hasberlin	#16		
Ferry Ruhn	#24		
Pat Maloney	#53		

1969

November 13, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

*Grand* Saturday Nov. 15  
**OPENING**  
**SPRUCE HILL NURSERY**  
Corner Westport Rd. and Ridgeway



**Opening SPECIALS!**

**SPRUCE TREES**  
REG. \$12.00  
OPENING SPECIAL **4.95**

**LIVING CHRISTMAS TREES**  
Mark Your Xmas Tree  
NOW AT GRAND OPENING PRICES

**FERTILIZER 2 for 1 SPECIAL**  
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE  
GRAND OPENING SPECIAL

**COMPLETE NURSERY LINE**  
HOURS 8:00 am to 6 pm Owner Joe Akers

**BULBS** *Holiday Flowers*

STMFD Board Member

# Lawrence Grauman, former judge, dies

Lawrence S. Grauman, 72, a Louisville area attorney 51 years and a former judge of Jefferson Circuit Court, died of a heart attack early Sunday afternoon in his home, 3939 Napanee Rd.

Deputy Coroner Barry Foreman reported Judge Grauman was stricken while he and his wife were eating lunch. Death was instantaneous.

A native of Louisville, Grauman was a graduate of Male High School and Jefferson School of Law, now part of the University of Louisville School of Law, and had been active in the Democratic party many years.

He had been active in the recent political campaign and was among those who attended a victory celebration at party headquarters in the Seelbach Hotel Tuesday night, Nov. 4.

His first appointment to public office came in 1921 when he was named trustee of the fund that paid Criminal Court jurors, a position he held a year.

In 1927, Grauman served briefly as Police Court prosecutor before resigning to become candidate for commonwealth's attorney. He lost the election as did all other Democratic candidates in that and other races in the 1920's.

When the Democrats came into power in the early 1930s, Grauman was elected county attorney in 1933 and won re-elections in 1937 and 1941.

He was appointed judge of the Common Pleas Branch, Fifth Division of Jefferson Circuit Court, when it was created in 1950 and was elected to a full six-year term in 1957.

Grauman also served as a special judge of the state Court of Appeals. During the appointments, he sat on the bench in 15 counties, including adjoining Oldham and Hardin.

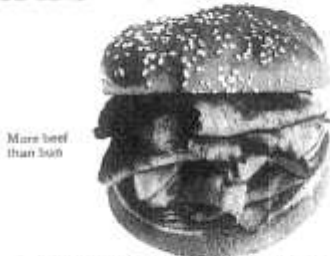
He was a member of the Kentucky State Bar Examiners in 1948 and also served as a commissioner of the Kentucky Bar Association in dealing with disciplinary actions against lawyers. He was elected president of the association in 1948.

Grauman was a life member and past master of the Daylight Lodge of Masons, a member of the Scottish Rite, the Kosair Shrine Temple and Adath Israel Temple where he taught Sunday School 29 years. He also was a 33rd Degree Mason.

Surviving are his wife, the former Katherine Helms; two sons, Lawrence S. Grauman, Jr., Yellow Springs, Ohio, a professor of English at Antioch College and editor of *The Antioch Review*, and Philip Lee Grauman, a San Francisco attorney; two sisters, Misses Sadie J. and Edna J. Grauman, and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Herman Meyer & Son Funeral Home. Burial was in Adath Israel Cemetery.

## NOW VISIT THE COLONEL FOR KENTUCKY ROAST BEEF



More beef than bun

U.S. Choice Beef  
Cooked country style  
Tossed sesame seed bun

### AND THESE OTHER FAMOUS SANDWICHES



**Kentucky Slice**  
The Colonel's own  
Best white meat roast beef  
served sliced high on a  
tossed sesame seed bun



**Colonel Beef**  
Tender slices of roast  
beef on a tossed sesame  
seed bun



**Colonelburger**  
A full 1/2 pound of ground  
beef with sliced  
cheese, tomato slices  
and the Colonel's secret  
sauce



4090 Shelbyville Road  
St. Matthews  
4652 Dixie Highway  
Shively

November 1969: Lawrence Grauman died, a man named Mr. Barker was hired as an attorney.

November 15, 1969 House fire, 217 Ring Road 7:48 P.M.

Comments by Al Ring: November 15, 1969 Working fire at 217 Ring Road. I remember I was dating a girl named Jody Anderson at the time, and we were at Doug Monohan's house (I think we were going to a show), we left the girls and made the fire run. Jack DeHart (now Jackie after an operation) got into a big argument with the Chief so I and others went in and put the fire out. I remember Chief Monohan complimenting me on getting the job done, in

1969

November 20, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:



THE BROWNSBORO MANAGEMENT CORPORATION has set up offices in St. Matthews on Chenoweth Lane. The Corporation owns and manages the East, Northeast, and Central Holiday Inns. The firm also owns ten Arby's Roast Beef restaurants in three states and several apartment complexes. The principals of the corporation are George A. Bush Jr. and Samuel G. Miller.



STMFD firefighter Al Ring

HONORED FOR LANDSCAPING: Joe A. Akers, left, a St. Matthews nurseryman, receives a Certificate of Merit Award from Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin at the 17th Annual Landscape Awards Program of the American Association of Nurserymen in Washington, D. C., on Oct. 15. Akers was cited for landscaping at Al Ring's Service Station at 4201 Shelbyville Road.

## 2500 students attend opening of new Waggener High gym

Twenty-five hundred students from all six grades of Waggener High School assembled for the opening of the new gym on Oct. 24.

The gym will be in use for the 1969 - 70 basketball season and for wrestling matches.

It is already in use for boys' gym classes. Construction of the gym, begun in 1968, was delayed by a strike.

The gathering on Oct. 24 included a pep rally. The assembly was the first in which students in all grades participated. The size of the new facility allowed the entire student body to gather.

selected from five candidates picked to make up the court. These girls were Susan Ehrman, Jenny Storm, Debbie Harrison, and Katie Heuman.

Dancing to the music of the Midwest Spectacular, the theme, "A Salute to Our Team" set the atmosphere.

\*\*\*\*\*

President Susan Turner led 80 new members in the Beta Club oath as they were inducted at a meeting Tuesday morning, Oct. 14. Their initiation brought the total membership of the organization

to 141 senior high students.

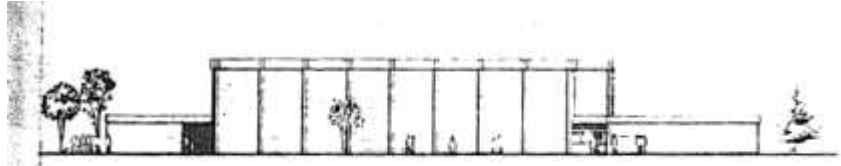
The club is involved in several projects. On Nov. 4, election day, 60 students worked at the polls, phoning precinct results to WHAS. The station will pay the Beta Club \$25 for this service. March of Dimes MOD MUMS were sold by the Beta Club Nov. 15 at the Shelbyville Road Plaza.

Other officers of the Beta Club include Peggy Hopkins, vice - president; Kathy Wilson, recording secretary; Debbie Winesett, corresponding secretary; Nancy Tassie, treasurer, and Greg Glvan, parliamentarian.

See next page

1969

## 1969, Waggener High School Gym Completed:



THE NEW PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING at Waggener High School is shown in this architect's sketch. Plans for the \$500,000 structure were approved Monday night by the Jefferson County Board of Education.

## Plans for \$500,000 gym at Waggener High okayed



New gym finally begins to take shape



December 4, 1969, The  
Courier-Journal,  
STMFD firefighter's  
daughter.

## Adding Is a Chore When You're Only 4

Four-year-old Deborah Fenimore got a lesson in adding yesterday that she won't forget for awhile.

She was playing with her father's adding machine at home when she got her thumb caught in the space behind the keys at 1 p.m.

Her mother, Mrs. Clarke E. Fenimore, called the St. Matthews police and Officer Robert Gatz took Debbie—and the machine—to Children's Hospital.

There her thumb was lubricated and extricated from the machine. No bones were broken and Debbie returned home to 3943 Kennison.

Asked if Debbie was frightened by her ordeal, Mrs. Fenimore said, "No, she didn't seem to be. Her daddy's a volunteer fireman, so she's used to sirens."





November 27, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:**MAJOR DISASTER AVERTED**

# Explosives found at fire site

Enough explosives to have caused a major disaster were found Monday after firemen had extinguished a blaze that damaged four units of the Jamestown Apartment Complex on Breckenridge Lane.

The explosives--40 sticks of dynamite--were found in a closet of one of the apartments hit by fire.

A police official, who asked not to be quoted, said jarring could have set off the dynamite and killed firemen and spectators at the fire and caused major property damages.

The St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department was notified of the fire at 5:30 am and rushed to the scene. Also answering the call were units from the McMahan and Lyndon Fire Departments.

Families who lived in the vicinity of the blaze were warned by garbage collectors who were the first to spot the flames.

Three of the apartments were heavily damaged. The fourth was only slightly damaged.

Evacuated from their apartments were Mr. and Mrs. Pettit, apt. 922; Mr. and

Mrs. Lawson, apt. 920; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Payne, apt. 918, and Mr. and Mrs. James Shelley, apt. 908.

The fire reportedly started in apartment 908 and then spread to the other apartments.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

The presence of the dynamite is under investigation by local police.

No one was injured in the blaze.

## Forty-bed wing added to nursing home in St. M.

A new wing for the St. Matthews Manor Nursing Home is presently under construction and scheduled for completion this spring.

Construction was begun Oct. 1 on the multipurpose structure which will include 40 private rooms, a chapel and a recreational area.

The new rooms will be fitted with furniture custom-designed for nursing home use. Beds will be automatically adjustable, and the rooms will have private baths.

The chapel will be used for interdenominational services and personal meditation.

A pool table will be included in the recreational room as well as a shuffleboard court, a movie screen, and a television set.

The wing will be staffed with registered nurses who will be on duty around the clock.

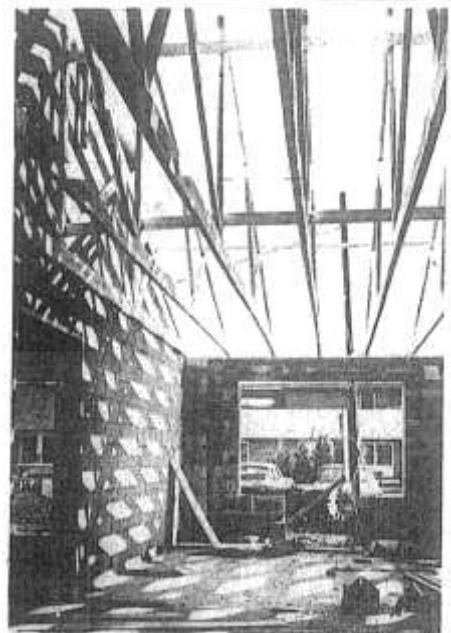
The nursing home started operation three years ago and is under private corporate ownership.

Officials of the institution said that there has been a growing demand for this type of nursing home care which finally resulted in the construction of the new wing.

They also said that some of the rooms in the new room are already reserved for future patients.



PEERING FROM THE RUBBLE of a gutted unit of the Jamestown Apartment Complex on Breckenridge Lane is a stuffed beagle. The fire damaged four apartments before it was extinguished by the St. Matthews Volunteer Department at 9:20 am Monday.



SHADOWS LACE THE WALLS of this unfinished addition to the St. Matthews Manor Nursing Home. The wing, which is to include 40 private rooms, is scheduled to be in operation this spring. Construction began Oct. 1.

1969

November 24, 1969, Unknown:

## Fire Damages 4 Apartments

A fire extensively damaged three townhouse apartments and the roof of another early today at the Jamestown development in St. Matthews.

No one was injured, according to W. R. Herdt, assistant chief of the St. Matthews Fire Department.

Sanitation workers discovered the blaze in an apartment at 908 Milford Lane at about 5:30 a.m., Herdt said. The occupants were not at home at the time.

The workers awakened Robert L. Woolsey, who lives in the adjoining apartment at 910 Milford Lane.

"Our phone was dead," Woolsey said. "A neighbor called firemen."

Woolsey, his wife and four children

fled their apartment with a few of their belongings.

"I think we are pretty well wiped out," he said. "But nobody got hurt . . . that's the important thing."

When seven fire trucks and about 45 firemen from the St. Matthews and the McMahan volunteer departments arrived, flames were pouring from the apartment at 908, Herdt said.

The fire was extinguished in less than 30 minutes, he said.

The cause of the fire has not been determined. The four apartments damaged were in the same two-story townhouse, Herdt said. Others were damaged by fire and smoke, he said.

Courtesy Al Ring private collection:

November 25, 1969, *The Courier-Journal*:



## Blaze Damages 3 Apartments In St. Matthews

Seven fire trucks were summoned to the Jamestown development in St. Matthews early yesterday to fight a fire that extensively damaged three townhouse apartments and the roof of another.

No one was injured, according to W. R. Herdt, assistant chief of the St. Matthews Fire Department. He said the fire was discovered by sanitation workers about 5:30 a.m. at an apartment at 908 Milford Lane.

The workers awakened Robert L. Woolsey, who lives in the adjoining apartment at 910 Milford Lane. Woolsey, who fled with his wife and four children, said his phone was dead. A neighbor called firemen, he said.

Herdt said flames were pouring from the apartment at 908 when firemen arrived. The fire was extinguished in less than 30 minutes.

The cause has not been determined. The four apartments damaged were in the same two-story townhouse, Herdt said. Others were damaged by fire and smoke, he said.

1969

Courtesy Al Ring private collection:





1969

Courtesy Al Ring private collection:



**Nov. 27, 1969 Jamestown Apartments, Breckenridge Lane by Jerry Schreck:**

**Another “snot jerker” for me. It was an eye opener at 5:30 in the morning After it was over and daylight came I found out I had been sitting on a case of stolen dynamite upstairs.**

**Comments by Al Ring: November 24, 1969 Second major fire at Jamestown Apartments on Breckenridge Lane. This was a fun one to put out and only one building burned. McMahan and Lyndon helped. I remember after several hours of work myself and I think Babcock grabbed a big stuffed animal and ran outside yelling victim, victim, and really shook everyone up. I know for a while I was up in the rafters with an 1 1/2 inch and there was lots of over-hall.**



1969

Courtesy Al Ring private collection:



Courtesy Malcolm McMakin private collection:



1969

December 11, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

## 2 burned seriously in St. M. fire

Two St. Matthews residents remained in serious condition late Tuesday at Kentucky Baptist Hospital, the victims of burns received in an early morning fire at 3615 Norbourne Blvd.

Peter Peterson, 42, and Phyllis Teasdale, 35, both of whom said they live at the Norbourne residence, were hospitalized at 4:30 pm after they ran through flames to escape the burning house.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan, said damage to the house was extensive.

The cause of the fire has not yet been discovered. County police are investigating the possibility of arson, but have come to no definite conclusions.



December 6, 1969: A man and women were in critical condition at Baptist Hospital with burns received at an early morning house fire at 3615 Norbourne Boulevard. The pair ran through flames to escape the house. Damage was extensive.

STMFD firefighter with a on back is Al Ring



A fireman atop a ladder chops at a burning home at 3615 Norbourne Blvd., early today while a second fireman works from within. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

## Man, Woman Badly Burned In St. Matthews-Area Fire

A man and a woman were severely burned today in a fire that extensively damaged a house at 3615 Norbourne Blvd., near St. Matthews.

Peter Peterson, 42, and Phyllis Teasdale, 35, both of whom said they live at the Norbourne address, were taken to a.m. Jefferson County police said. Their condition was described as critical.

The cause of the fire has not been determined, police said.

Peterson's next-door neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Norbert J. Walsh, of 3617 Norbourne Blvd., said premonitions on their back door and screams for help awakened them about 4 a.m.

They found the couple on the back

porch, brought them into the kitchen, and called the St. Matthews Fire and Police departments, they said.

"They were in pretty bad shape," Mrs. Walsh said. She said Mrs. Teasdale collapsed on the kitchen floor after saying she and Peterson had run through flames to escape the burning house.

Firemen and an ambulance arrived about 15 minutes later, Mrs. Walsh said.

John Monohan, chief of the St. Matthews Fire Department, said when firemen arrived, "There was fire all over."

An English sheepdog was found dead in a screened-in side porch, police said.

Arson detectives said they would begin an investigation of the fire today.

## Two Badly Burned In Blaze at House

A man and a woman remained in serious condition at Kentucky Baptist Hospital late yesterday with burns received in an early morning house fire at 3615 Norbourne Blvd.

Peter Peterson, 42, and Phyllis Teasdale, 35, both of whom said they live at the Norbourne address, were hospitalized about 4:30 a.m. after they ran through flames to escape the burning house.

St. Matthews Fire Chief John Monohan said damage to the house was extensive, and Jefferson County police are investigating the possibility of arson.

However, arson detectives said they had "nothing definite to report" late yesterday.

1969

December 6, 1969: 3615 Norbourne Blvd.  
Courtesy Al Ring



1969

**December 6, 1969: 3615 Norbourne Blvd.  
Courtesy Al Ring private collection:**



**Dec 6, 1969 3615 Norborne Blvd. House fire, two people seriously burned. As we drove up I observed that the house was burning from the outside in. As it turned out it was arson. Jim McGrath and I were going to charge in the front door with another fireman (we called them fire men back then because there were no women) until Chief Monohan grabbed us and told us the floor was gone. We laddered the front dormer with an inch and a half and knocked the fire back. The fire was so hot we had to get in a closet while water was sprayed in the room. By Jerry Schreck**

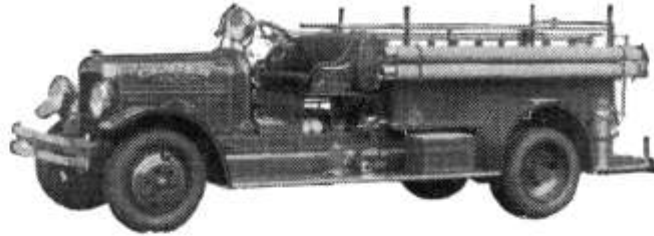


1969

December 11, 1969, Board meeting:

## ST. MATTHEWS VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



117 St. Matthews Ave.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors St.  
Matthews Volunteer Fire Dept. held December 11, 1969  
at Fire House.

### Directors Present

W. Leland Wilson	Harry Babcock
John Monohan	Fred C. Boss
George E. Miller	J. P. Terry
Henry Monohan	

Mr. Sidney Baer, attorney associate to Lawrence Grauman, met with Board to discuss accident case on Breckenridge Lane.

Minutes of last meeting, held November 13, 1969, read by President Monohan. Motion made by W. Leland Wilson, seconded by J. P. Terry, that they be accepted as read.

Motion made by Henry Monohan, seconded by Fred C. Boss, that we buy hams for firemen and board of directors for Christmas.

Motion made by Fred C. Boss, seconded by Henry Monohan, that we pay \$2,522.77 to City of St. Matthews for assessment for storm sewers.

There being no further business motion made by George E. Miller, seconded by J. P. Terry that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

*George E. Miller*  
George E. Miller, Secy <sup>FB</sup>

"ORGANIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION"

# Fire Destroys Grade School In LaGrange

By JOHN FILIATREAU  
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Fire started by a gas furnace and fed by a crisp wind yesterday gutted a 58-year-old section of the LaGrange Elementary School. The cost of replacing the three-story brick structure was estimated at \$500,000.

The blaze, fought by some 200 firemen with at least fifteen pieces of fire-fighting equipment, burned out of control for nearly an hour, but was prevented from spreading to either of two adjoining wings of the school. Four firemen suffered minor cuts on their hands, but there were no major injuries.

LaGrange Volunteer Fire Department Chief Thomas N. Roberts said the fire apparently started in a boiler room in the building's basement. He said the fire was reported at 4:45 p.m. by a piano teacher working in the room directly above the furnace, who "saw smoke coming up behind her piano." Roberts said his department was on the scene within five minutes of the alarm.

## Wind Works Both Ways

The gusty wind helped spread the blaze throughout the older section of the school before firemen could contain it, but the same wind probably saved the newer sections, Roberts said.

"The wind got up against us a little," he said, "but it was a help to us in a way, because it was blowing away from the new building."

Roberts said ten volunteer fire departments from Oldham and Jefferson Counties worked the fire. Units came from as far away as St. Matthews and London. The fire was contained shortly after 5:30 p.m., he said, and under control by 6:30 p.m.

The fire began shortly after 250-odd students had been dismissed after a day of classes in the old section of the building.

Ted Akers, the school's principal, and Alton Ross, Oldham Co. superintendent of schools, arrived at the school shortly after the fire was discovered, and closed two fire doors, to separate the building's burning section from the rest of the school.

## Not Enough Insurance

Ross said the furnace had been inspected, repaired and given a clean bill of health in August. "It was in A-1 shape during the summer," he said. "I know that, because I just got the bill on that job today." Ross added that the furnaces in the building, installed in 1958, had been completely renovated in 1967.

Ross also said that the building was insured "for as much as the law allows," but added that insurance coverage would not replace the building. Later, he estimated it will take "about a half-million" to replace it.

Ross said a meeting of the Oldham County Board of Education would be called to determine a temporary location for teaching the children displaced by the fire.

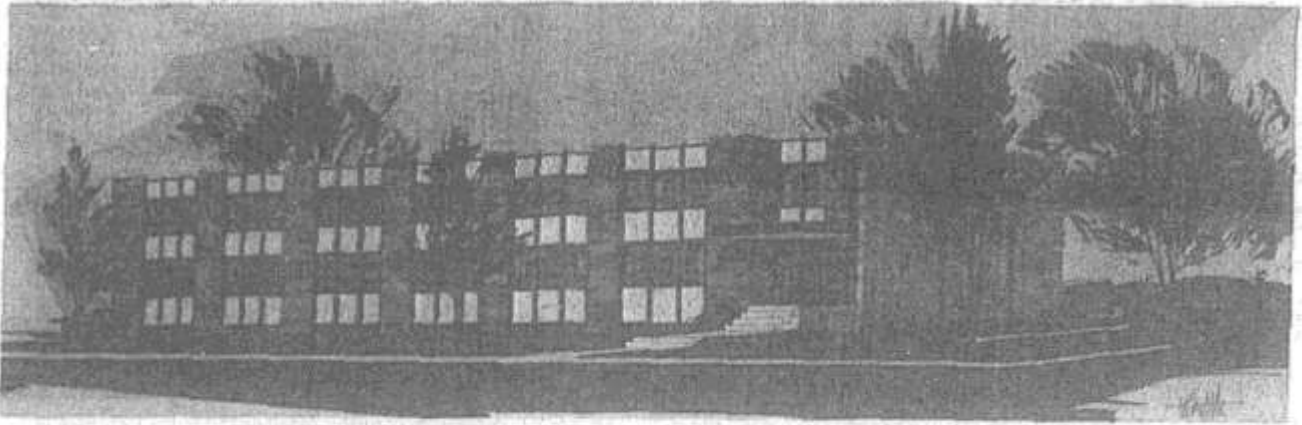
In addition to the structure itself, the blaze destroyed desks, textbooks and the school's 8,000-volume library, Ross said.

After the fire had been brought under control a man surveyed the collapsing walls of the school, approached Ross and said, "It hurts to see it burn, Mr. Ross—I got a lot of teaching in that old building."

Note, in a few years STMFD will have a Major fire at Greathouse School, which was saved from destruction and opened again for school 3 months later. Greathouse was a sister school of the LaGrange and one other school. (built almost the same). In southern Kentucky. Both sister schools burned to the ground.

1969

December 25, 1969, *The Voice-Jeffersonian*



CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN in early January, weather permitting, on this three-story office building. Located at the corner of Chanoweth and Staebler, it will be built by the St. Matthews Co.,

realtors. Housed in the building will be the St. Matthews Co., as well as other businesses which will lease space according to their needs. The buildings will have elevator service.

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue:

We think 1969

## April 1 flood no joke for many here

By Glee Crutcher  
Staff Writer

Flash floods in basements and crashing tree limbs kept many St. Matthews residents up all night on April 1 when one of the worst rainstorms in 50 years struck Jefferson County.

Many homes were temporarily without heat and lights.

A tornado touched down along a line that stretched from Plantation Subdivision, off Westport Road, to Worthington at Chamberlain Lane and Ky. 22.

Parts of Hikes Point also were hard hit. Mopping up and pumping of water went on for several days.

One of the hardest workers during the

storm was St. Matthews Mayor Bernard Bowling, who labored all night and into the next day, assisting the residents of the St. Germaine Court area, whose basements were filled with water when the sanitary sewers backed up.

Bowling got help from the Metropolitan Sewer District, which sent pumping crews to the rescue.

Gas furnaces had to be turned off.

### Why it flooded

A spokesman at City Hall said that the sewer lines cannot handle the rain when it pours down that fast -- between 4 and 6 inches fell. The result was a soggy mess all over town.

Another complication was that the terrain already was saturated, according to John R. Burke, director of the weather station at Standiford Field. Thus, the water had no place to run off, he said. It took several days for the low spots to drain.

The high winds that accompanied the storm caused heavy property damage. Trees and huge limbs were blown down all over the East End, blocking streets.

The roof of a four-unit apartment in the 2500 block of Hermitage Way was heavily damaged, and only the side walls of the home of Bobby Head at 4510 Chamberlain Lane were left standing by the twister.

1969

Construction the last quarter of 1969 of the new fire house, courtesy Al Ring





1969

Construction the last quarter of 1969 of the new fire house, courtesy Al Ring



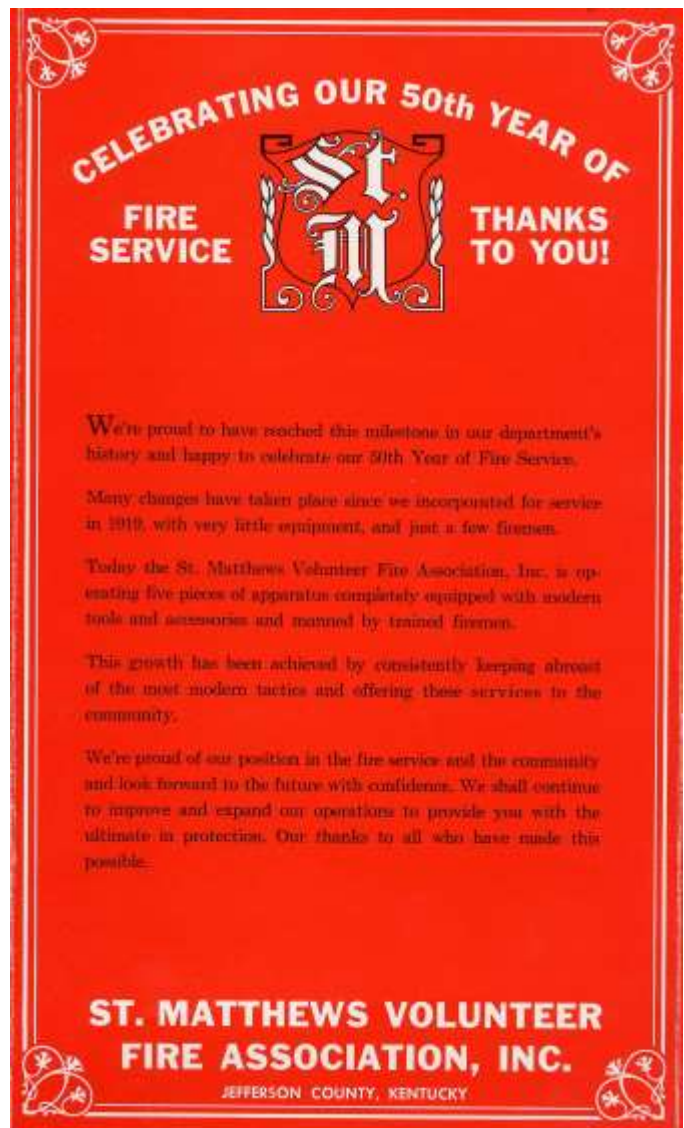
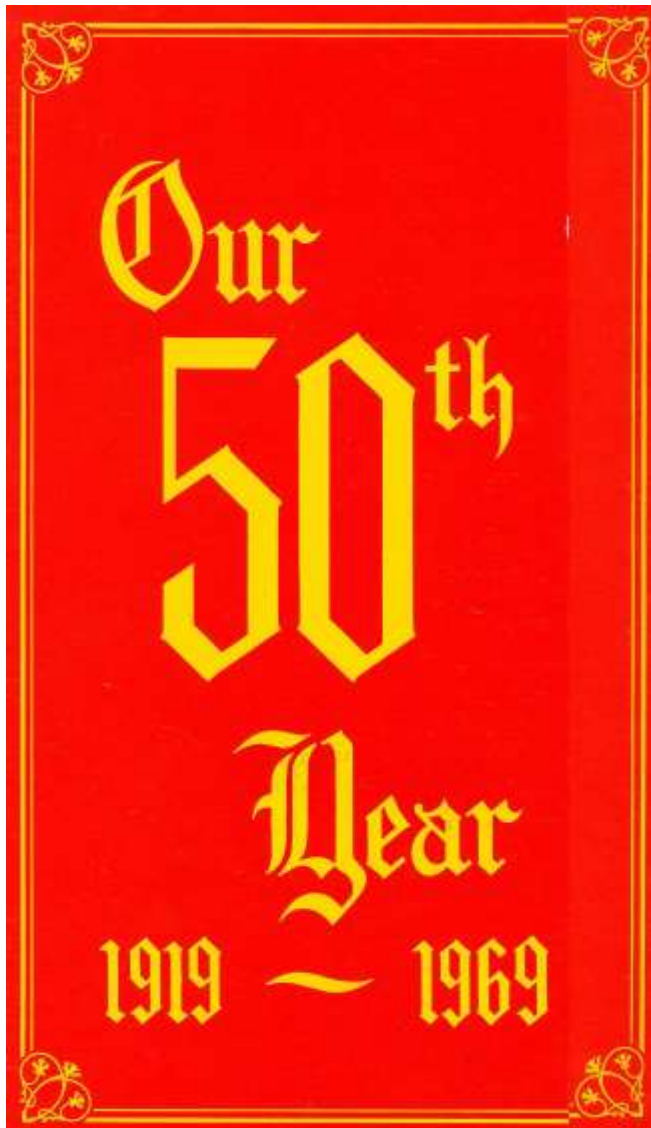
1969

Construction the last quarter of 1969 of the new fire house, courtesy Al Ring from home movie.



1969

A brochure was designed celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> year of fire service. It was to be used for a grand opening for our new fire house which we moved into in 1970 and to help with recruiting.



**1969**

**A brochure was designed celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> year of fire service. It was to be used for a grand opening for our new fire house which we moved into in 1970 and to help with recruiting.**

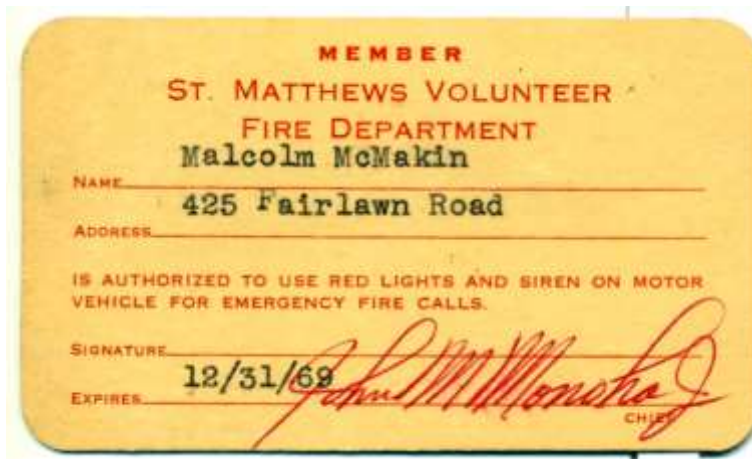


**Unknown photo of S-4, may be in late 1960s.**



1969

Courtesy Malcolm McMakin, Red Light & Siren card and equipment identification stickers we used.



## An Averted Disaster

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

Seldom in one's experience is gratitude for friends and neighbors more deeply appreciated than when the sense of thankfulness is aroused by their response to the threat of danger and disaster. Such was our good fortune on Saturday, April 27, when fire in a storage room in the basement of the Bingham Building at Central State Hospital threatened the lives and safety of 57 infirm patients. The volunteer fire departments from Middletown, Lyndon, Eastwood, Jefferson-town and St. Matthews, neighbors, off-duty personnel, patients, student nurses and staff responded to the call for help.

Thanks to the gentle, rapid and efficient efforts of all, not a single patient was injured. The building was quickly evacuated. The fire was contained to the storage room, and damage was kept to a minimum. The building was cleared of smoke, mopped, cleaned, and the patients were returned to their rooms by bedtime.

Central State Hospital extends its thanks and appreciation to all who came and helped. We are certainly in their debt.

RAY H. HAYES, M.D., Superintendent  
Central State Hospital  
Louisville, Ky.

# County Votes Penalties For Blocking Fire Lanes

Jefferson Fiscal Court voted yesterday to use the county police, if necessary, to keep the fire lanes open in the county's shopping centers.

The court passed a resolution saying persons who block fire lanes with their vehicles are subject to fines of up to \$500, along with a jail sentence.

The idea behind the resolution is to protect the shopping centers and their patrons by providing marked, and open, fire lanes for use in emergencies. Volunteer fire departments have been urging this for years.

County Atty. J. Bruce Miller told the court that in the past people often would "pull right up in front of the store and get out and go in," leaving their parked

cars where they would block fire trucks in an emergency.

Miller said a state law clearly making police enforcement possible will become effective June 18. That's when enforcement will begin.

Miller has said, however, that the county plans an educational program, complete with leaflets, before cars are actually towed away by police.

Courtesy Lyndon Fire & Rescue:

1969  
We think 1969



While another crew fights the fire in the background, members of the Lyndon volunteer fire department get ready to shoot water onto a real blazer.



Barker goes out of the roof as a fireman aims up one of the burning homes. About 90 volunteers took part in the burnings.

## Fires Are Just Practice

*It isn't often that the volunteer fire departments get a couple of old houses to burn down. These practice burnings give the firemen invaluable experience that could never be duplicated in any other way. The men have a chance to make mistakes and correct them, knowing that someone's life or property is not involved.*

STAFF PHOTOS BY CHARLES FENTRESS JR.



Norman Gentry holds the hose while Jerry VanNort cools off with a drink. They are members of the McMahan volunteer fire department. The Jeffersonsontown department was there, too.

Capt. Robert Totten of the Middletown department shows Dennis Sheffer and Robert White how to hold a fire hose.

1969

## STMFD Fire Run Reports 1969:

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 200

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-23-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:23 AM TIME RETURNED 3:14 PM

LOCATION 3947 massive ave APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Shed

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT J. S. Scheibel

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS work for in shed, people not home

OFFICER IN CHARGE 2.00 King REPORT WRITTEN BY 2.00 King

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 236

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-1-69 TIME OF ALARM 6:35 AM TIME RETURNED 8:16 PM

LOCATION 4200 Upper River Road #101 APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS Louisville Boat Club Backup on ladder truck

OFFICER IN CHARGE S.6+ Capt D. Hays REPORT WRITTEN BY J. Hays

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 220

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 2-11-69 TIME OF ALARM 7:15 AM TIME RETURNED 7:24 PM

LOCATION HUBBARD LAKE AND TAILERS APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐ C.A.A.

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER Bernie Quinlan

OWNER ADDRESS 4616 TWEEB RD

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS again launch

711-708

OFFICER IN CHARGE 2.00 King REPORT WRITTEN BY 2.00 King

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 236

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-1-69 TIME OF ALARM 6:35 AM TIME RETURNED 8:16 PM

LOCATION 4200 Upper River Road #101 APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS Louisville Boat Club Backup on ladder truck

OFFICER IN CHARGE S.6+ Capt D. Hays REPORT WRITTEN BY J. Hays

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 247

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:15 AM TIME RETURNED 2:57 PM

LOCATION Louisville County Club APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Shed floor

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS FIRE confined to 1 room, STRIPHEAT

107 RAC OUT

OFFICER IN CHARGE 2.00 King REPORT WRITTEN BY 2.00 King

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 246

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-4-69 TIME OF ALARM 2:26 AM TIME RETURNED 11:45 PM

LOCATION 4053 Westport APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT.

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE MODEL TAG NO.

OWNER ADDRESS

OCCUPANT

OWNER

OWNER ADDRESS

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS Marshall's Plumbing

OFFICER IN CHARGE 2.00 King REPORT WRITTEN BY 2.00 King



## STMFD Fire Run Reports 1969:

47

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 243

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 8-4-68 TIME OF ALARM 8:37 A.M. (P.M.) TIME RETURNED 8-4-9 A.M. (P.M.)

LOCATION Sherrin Ave. + Brandon Ave. APC NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OTHER ☐

SMOKES ☒ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WHEELS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACUP ☐ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

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

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 108 ☐

REMARKS Determined smoke from Microwave Heating Unit  
Pow. made about 4:30

OFFICER IN CHARGE Ed Miller #57 REPORT WRITTEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc N° 261

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 3-12-89 TIME OF ALARM 205 A.M. ☒ P.M. DATE RETURNED 3-12-89 A.M. ☒ P.M.

LOCATION 205 ROCKBOLT ST. N.E. ST. NO. 205 SEC. 1

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SNOKE ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WHEELS ☒ BRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESISTORATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DIFT ☐

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE ☐ MODEL ☐ TAG NO. ☐

OWNER ☐ ADDRESS ☐

OCCUPANT 205 ROCKBOLT 205 ROCKBOLT

OWNER ELITE ESTATE ELITE ESTATE

OWNER ADDRESS ☐

COMPANY RESPONSE ☒ 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☒ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐

REMARKS ARR. AT 205 ROCKBOLT ST. N.E. FIRE IN 205 ON 101  
205 ON 101 HOUSE. WE WERE BOTH ENTERED FROM 101 AND  
205 ON 101 TO EXTERIOR THE FIRE.

OFFICER IN CHARGE 205 Al King REPORT WRITTEN BY 205 Al King

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N<sup>o</sup> 912

#7 FIRE REPORT

DATE 4/19/69 TIME OF ALARM 3:03 AM TIME RETURNED 5:24 AM

LOCATION 607 Maryland Lane APT. NO.

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKES ☐ FLAMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WHEELS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

REINSTATUTOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BAKUP ☒ OFF. *Lyndon Fire Dept. Overhaulman*

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

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

OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER *Thomas Nelson*

OWNER ADDRESS *607 Maryland Lane*

COMPANY RESPONSE IN ☒ 1 ☒ 2 ☒ 3 ☒ 4 ☒ 5 ☒ 6 ☒ 7 ☒ 8 ☒ 9 ☒ 10

REMARKS *Fire was in the attic space. 4 upstairs people. Considerable damage to upstairs. Delay in getting a call placed to Lyndon*

OFFICER IN CHARGE *Chief Alvin* REPORT WRITTEN BY *LT. McDaniel*

1969

## STMFD Fire Run Reports 1969:

109 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 307  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 7-24-69 TIME OF ALARM 7:40 P.M. TIME RETURNED 8:15 P.M.  
 LOCATION 204 Gibson Road APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☒ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT T.C. WITTE  
 OWNER Squire  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS Fire in TV (Working) - Heavy smoke - used  
 Two Fans - Two Boosters 1-20' ladder  
 Mrs. T.C. Witte  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE Capt. DeHantz REPORT WRITTEN BY Juel DeHantz

115 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 283  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 4/1/69 TIME OF ALARM 8:40 P.M. TIME RETURNED 10:57 P.M.  
 LOCATION Tropical Gardens Motel - (Gardens Road) APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Glass on Grill  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☒ DEPT. McLean, Lynden  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT Tropical Gardens Restaurant  
 OWNER RICKEL HANLEY MGR.  
 OWNER ADDRESS The Bell  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS used 20' ladder, CO2 and bucket  
 20' ladder got stuck in over door also  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE Sgt. DeHantz REPORT WRITTEN BY Bill DeHantz

138 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 341  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 6/12/69 TIME OF ALARM 9:41 P.M. TIME RETURNED 11:44 P.M.  
 LOCATION 416 Peach Ave APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT E. DeHantz  
 OWNER 416 Peach Ave  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS Fire in the garage appeared to be long  
 time and hot smoke garage destroyed  
 Some damage to house and several bulbs  
 in the house and up S-1 had sections S-4  
 2 on spot light  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE J. DeHantz REPORT WRITTEN BY J. DeHantz

156 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 603  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 6/19/69 TIME OF ALARM 9:35 P.M. TIME RETURNED 11:08 P.M.  
 LOCATION 416 Peach Ave APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐ Glass  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT John Behnden  
 OWNER Squire  
 OWNER ADDRESS 416 Peach  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS S-6 S-1 used 2-1/2 - 4-1/2  
 Horse Firemaster 2 Boosters 1-100  
 Fire in 2nd story 5-10 ladder 2-100  
 Westside came through roof 3-100  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE S-7 S-6 Capt. DeHantz REPORT WRITTEN BY J. DeHantz

158 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 611  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 6-22-69 TIME OF ALARM 12:16 A.M. TIME RETURNED 2:09 A.M.  
 LOCATION 4317 FOREBARD Way APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER R. HADDAD ADDRESS 4317 FOREBARD Way  
 OCCUPANT R. Joseph F. HADDAD JR.  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS Used two 14' ladders on house. Also  
 used Big Fan. The kitchen and upstairs hall  
 way burned. Small amount of water damage  
 in the basement  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE Lt. Lange REPORT WRITTEN BY Lt. Lange

170 St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 622  
**FIRE REPORT**  
 DATE 6/22/69 TIME OF ALARM 6:40 P.M. TIME RETURNED 7:27 P.M.  
 LOCATION 4317 FOREBARD Way APT. NO.  
 TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐  
 SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐  
 WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐  
 RESURICATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐  
 BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐  
 VEHICLE ☐ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ TAG NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPANT Maries 4317 Forebard Place  
 OWNER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐  
 REMARKS Fire in Basement Used 1  
 Fan 1 generator  
 2-100 ladders 2-1/2" 2-2 1/2"  
 changed 1 only - Released than city  
 OFFICER IN CHARGE S-6 REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt. DeHantz

1969

STMFD Fire Run Reports 1969:

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 695

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 8/31/69 TIME OF ALARM 4:25 TIME RETURNED 4:58

LOCATION 104 Don Bldg. APT. NO. 104

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE ☐ MODEL ☐ TAG NO. ☐

OWNER ☐ ADDRESS ☐

OCCUPANT R. Williams Clemente

OWNER 118 Wm Allen Road

OWNER ADDRESS same

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☒ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS Working fire 1st - 2nd floor -  
cause by Murphy 1st floor

OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Monahan REPORT WRITTEN BY Chief Monahan

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 679

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 9/28/69 TIME OF ALARM 7:07 TIME RETURNED 12:01

LOCATION East-end Shelbyville APT. NO. ☐

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☐ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☒ DEPT. Shelbyville Ky - City Dept

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE ☐ MODEL ☐ TAG NO. ☐

OWNER ☐ ADDRESS ☐

OCCUPANT ☐

OWNER ☐

OWNER ADDRESS ☐

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☒ 105 ☒ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS Tobacco Whse -

OFFICER IN CHARGE Capt Walling REPORT WRITTEN BY Capt Walling

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. N° 742

**FIRE REPORT**

DATE 12-6-69 TIME OF ALARM 4:11 TIME RETURNED 6:39

LOCATION 3615 Norbourne Blvd APT. NO. ☐

TYPE OF CALL HOUSE ☒ APARTMENT ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ OFFICE ☐

SMOKE ☐ FUMES ☐ LOCK OUT ☐ DRYER ☐ WASHER ☐

WEEDS ☐ TRASH ☐ OTHER ☐

RESUSCITATOR ☐ RESCUE ☐ WASH OFF ☐

BACKUP ☐ DEPT. ☐

VEHICLE ☐ MAKE ☐ MODEL ☐ TAG NO. ☐

OWNER ☐ ADDRESS ☐

OCCUPANT ☐

OWNER ☐

OWNER ADDRESS ☐

COMPANY RESPONSE 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐

REMARKS S-1 S-3 S-4 S-5 S-6 S-7

Working Fire - Doing Extensive Damage To Entire House  
Major Damage 1st Floor - Moderate Damage  
2nd Floor. Cause Suspicious - Police Investigating

OFFICER IN CHARGE Chief Monahan REPORT WRITTEN BY Chief Monahan

32 men

**1969**  
**Fire Statistics For 1969**

<b>Total number of fire runs:</b>	<b>298</b>
<b>Total working fires:</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total hours of fire fighting:</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Total 1 1/2" hose used:</b>	<b>9,200 feet</b>
<b>Total 2 1/2" hose used:</b>	<b>31,600 feet</b>
<b>Back up City of Louisville:</b>	<b>5 times</b>
<b>Number of A. M. runs:</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Number of P. M. runs:</b>	<b>227</b>

**Number of runs made by fire apparatus:**

<b>S1:</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>S2:</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>S3:</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>S4:</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>S5:</b>	<b>68</b>

**Types of fire runs:**

<b>House</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Automobile</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Field &amp; trash</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Malicious false</b>	<b>16</b>

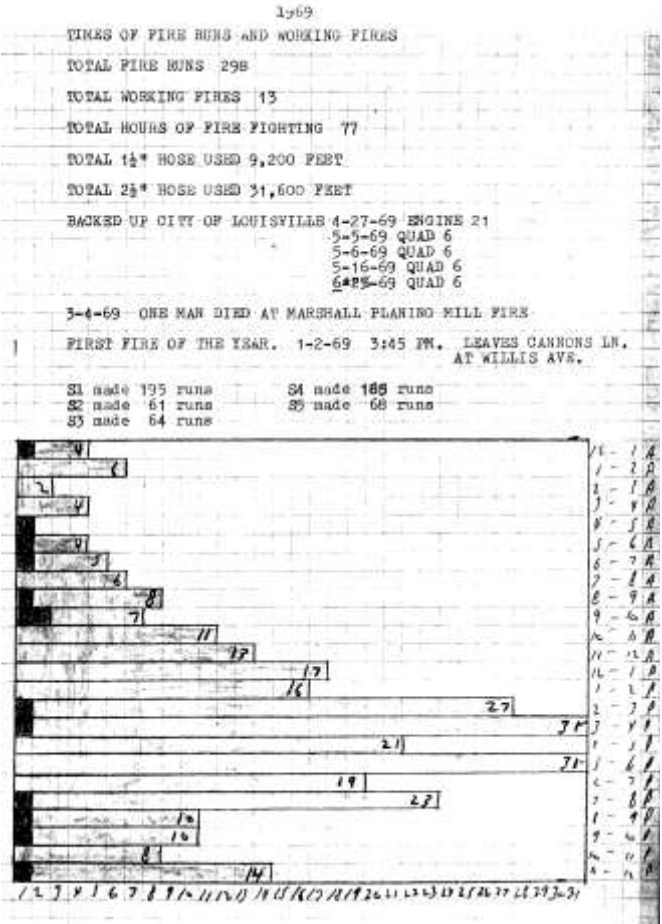
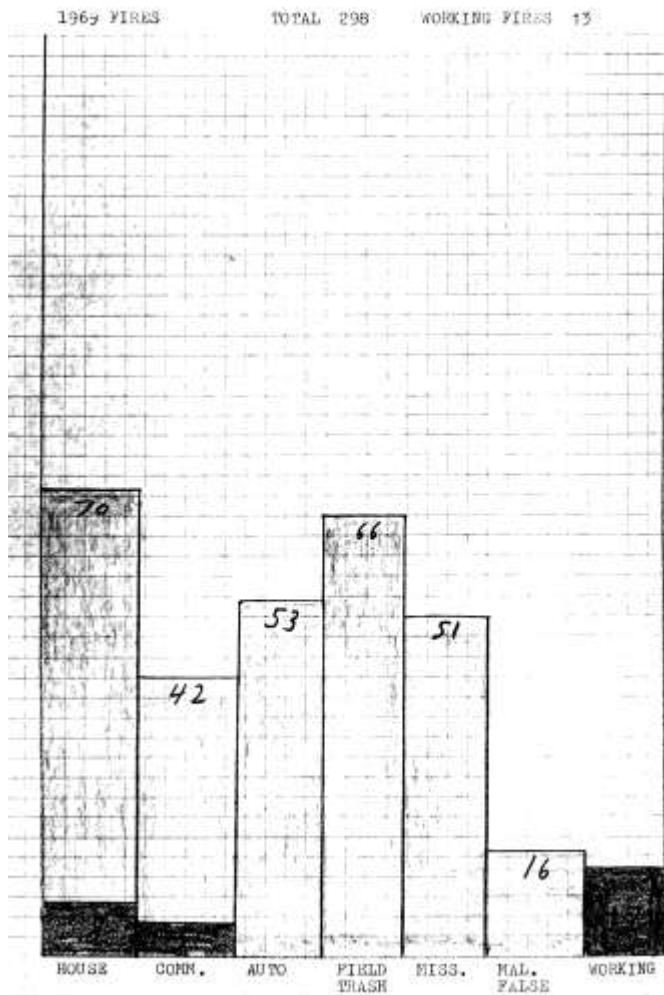
**Working fires:**

<b>3/1/1969</b>	<b>6:25 a.m.</b>	<b>Louisville Boat Club, 4200 Upper River Rd, mutual aid to Harrods Creek VFD</b>
<b>3/4/1969</b>	<b>2:14 p.m.</b>	<b>Louisville Country Club, Upper River Road, clubhouse fire, Harrods Creek VFD assisted. Lyndon VFD called to cover firehouse</b>
<b>3/4/1969</b>	<b>2:26 p.m.</b>	<b>Marshall Planing Mill, 4053 Westport Rd. one civilian fatality. Mutual -Aid received from Lyndon, Louisville, McMahan, Jeffersontown, Harrods Creek, and Middletown</b>
<b>4/7/1969</b>	<b>9:31 a.m.</b>	<b>House, 311 Iola Road, McMahan VFD assisted</b>
<b>4/13/1969</b>	<b>11:41 p.m.</b>	<b>House, 142 Chenoweth Lane</b>
<b>4/19/1969</b>	<b>3:03 p.m.</b>	<b>House, 607 Maryhill Lane, Lyndon VFD assisted</b>
<b>5/1/1969</b>	<b>8:44 a.m.</b>	<b>Tropical Gardens Restaurant, Mall</b>
<b>6/3/1969</b>	<b>9:41 a.m.</b>	<b>House, 436 Club Lane, Lyndon VFD assisted</b>
<b>6/19/1969</b>	<b>9:35 a.m.</b>	<b>House, 416 Bauer Avenue, 2nd floor</b>
<b>6/22/1969</b>	<b>12:06 a.m.</b>	<b>House, 4317 Foeburn Lane</b>
<b>9/29/1969</b>	<b>7:09 p.m.</b>	<b>Mutual-Aid to Shelbyville, KY for warehouse fire</b>
<b>11/15/1969</b>	<b>8:05 p.m.</b>	<b>House, 217 Ring Road</b>
<b>11/24/1969</b>	<b>5:31 a.m.</b>	<b>Jamestown Apartments, Breckenridge Lane, McMahan &amp; Lyndon VFD assisted</b>
<b>12/6/1969</b>	<b>4:11 a.m.</b>	<b>House, 3615 Norbourne Blvd. arson, 2 injured</b>



# STMFD Fire Run Charts by Al Ring

1969  
Total runs 298      working fires 13



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM 1-2-68 TO 1-17-69

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF St. Matthews[illegible]

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM 1-18-69 TO 2-9-69

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *Ir Matthews*[illegible]

There is also a record of other collisions, which is somewhat similar to each other, the collision of the two, but no other collisions.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM 2/9/69 TO 3/4/69

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF St. Matthews[illegible]

\*If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM 3/4/69 TO 3/14/69

[illegible]









## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *St. Matthews*[illegible]

<sup>410</sup> If the spread is other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original claim but on lines below.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM 4/20/69 TO 5/3/69[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

## FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM 5/3/69 TO

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF H. Matthews and[illegible]

\*If a fire started in other buildings, make a statement covered of work under the contract when but an hour before.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM May 25 TO June 2

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *St. Matthews ave*[illegible]

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM June 10-69 TO June 24, 1969

[illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

\*If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM June 23/69 TO July 8, 1969

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF July 9, 1969

[illegible]

<sup>4</sup>If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM July 7, 1969 TO \_\_\_\_\_[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

## TO

[illegible]





## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *H. matthews*[illegible]

\*If a fire spread to other buildings, make a separate record of each under the original alarm but on lines below.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM August 22, 1969[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

FIRE RECORD OF *M. mathiasii*[illegible]

did a few hundred or other buildings make a sidewalk instead of walk under the sidewalk alone but are there below

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM September 8, 1969 TO October 14, 1969

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible]

\*It is then moved to other buildings, make a massive mound of earth under the original stone but on time before

[illegible]

## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

[illegible][illegible]



## STMFD Fire Run book, top and bottom are one section

## FIRE RECORD OF

[illegible]

\*If a fire started in either building, make a complete record of work under the subject above that is done.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** FROM December 8, 1969 TO December 26, 1969

[illegible]

1969

**Board Of Directors**

H. K. Babcock, became director October 1969  
F. C. Boss  
J. C. Emrich  
L. S. Grauman Died, November 1969  
G. Miller  
H. A Monohan  
J. M. Monohan, Jr.  
J. P. Terry  
W. L. Wilson

**Officers**

1969 Chief J. M. Monohan, Jr.  
Assistant Chief W. R. Herdt  
Captain A. E. Andriot, Jr.  
Captain H. K. Babcock  
Captain J. T. DeHart  
Captain R. C. Walling  
Lieutenant P. A. Iwan.  
Lieutenant J. C. Jackson  
Lieutenant D. C. Lange  
Lieutenant D. L. Monohan  
Lieutenant Al Ring

**Firefighters**

A. E. "Bill" Andriot, III	W. F. Mercke
G. A. "Jerry" Beckman	W. T. Miller
W. C. Colson	D. L. Morgan, Jr.
H. L. Chreste	J. L. Noon
D. L. Daniels	K. Reagan
C. T. Davis	R. M. Rakestraw
W. E. Dieckman	K. C. Reising, Jr.
P. G. Dillman	P. L. Schneider
D. L. Engnehl	G. R. Schreck
C. E. Fenimore	R. H. Schultze
E. C. Foley	A. R. Scott
Walt Frank	George L. Soules, Jr.
B. J. "Skip" Golden, Jr.	Dan J. Sullivan
J. R. Graven	Richard Tackett
A. R. Haeberlin	S. E. Wayne
B. J. Karem	D. C. Wooton
H. C. Kuhn, Jr.	M. R. Zehnder
R. H. "Pat" Maloney	
T. L. Martin	
C. S. McAfee	
C. F. McBride	
J. R. McFarland	
Jim J. McGrath	
Malcolm McMakin	