

The Village Voice



Volume 11, Number 10

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

January 8, 2002

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 15, 2002, 7:00 p.m.
Indian Springs Village Town Hall

Agenda

- I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports
- II. Ordinances and Resolutions
- III. Citizens' Forum

Indian Springs Village Telephone Directory Number
is 982-1755

For Town Hall Reservations please call
Patricia Crapet Voice Mail 802-2753

website: www.indianspringsvillage.org

Editor's Notes

The Village Voice is the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990. The mission of this newsletter is to foster a spirit of community and co-operation. It is the vehicle for reporting the monthly deliberations of the mayor and the council in town council meetings; additionally it provides these officials and other Villagers a means of communicating--it is a "voice." Expenses are covered by the efforts and donations of ISV volunteers. Deliveries are made at no charge by volunteer couriers.

Address letters to the editor and news items to: Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Editor, 151 Choctaw Lane, Indian Springs, Alabama, 35124 phone number (988-0896), or e-mail Ruthgoodwyn@aol.com. Questions about circulation should be addressed to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Rd., Indian Springs, AL 35124 (802-2753). Reporter for the Homestead neighborhood is Bonnie Murphy, 5164 Hollow Log Lane, Birmingham 35244 (991-2535) e-mail: BamO1126@aol.com.

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the Feb. 2002 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Feb. 5. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication, including signed letters to the editor, which will be published if space permits. All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles; any opinions expressed should not be attributed to the mayor or council.

Editor's Appreciation to:

ISV aluminum can recyclers for their support
Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing
Tricia Crapet, RealtySouth, for production

A Message From the Mayor

By Gene Weingarten

The Indian Springs Children's Christmas Fund was something to be very proud of a few weeks ago. Some 16 children at the Oak Mountain elementary and intermediate schools received Christmas presents from proceeds of the fund. These are special children, who have major family problems, and who would otherwise have seen a very bleak celebration on Christmas Day. A special thank you to the folks who collected, wrapped, and distributed the gifts: Margie and Herb Robins, Allison Stigers, Bonnie, Alan, and Mandy Murphy.

In addition, the ISV Children's Fund helps out during the balance of the school year with special needs of these same children. Certain supplies not reimbursed by the school, participation in extra-curricular activities such as school field trips--items that would seem normal for my kids and your kids--are difficult if not impossible for a number of children. Special needs might also include dental work, or eye glasses, or even paying the family's electrical bill. All of this is possible through the generous contributions by the townspeople of Indian Springs Village. We need your donations for the coming year. Please send your check, made payable to the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund, to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Rd., Indian Springs, AL 35124.

Thanks again to Margie, Herb, Allison, Bonnie, Alan, and Mandy. If you would like to be a Santa's helper next December, contact any of these folks, who shopped two Saturday mornings at WalMart at Brook Highlands. There Glenn Smith, manager, gave generous discounts and the assistant manager, known to all the store associates as "Miss Ida," gave plenty of help. When children turned in their "wish lists" to counselors Pat Holder, Christy Chandler, and Cheryl Ponder, two were written in Spanish. Mandy Murphy, who takes Spanish, translated. As an old Little League coach and a former member of the Santa's Helper brigade, I can attest to the fact that no monetary reward compares with the reward of helping "little people."

If you passed the town hall this week, you noticed that the wheel chair ramp has been completed. Every effort was made, architecturally and colorwise, to match the exterior of our building. Both the exterior and rest room doors were widened to accommodate the physically impaired. A new wash basin was added to allow for more maneuverability in the restroom area. Concrete parking ramps were poured and have been painted with the ADA easily-recognizable markings. I know you will respect these parking ramps. (continued on page 2)

Mayor's Message (continued)

We have many dedicated volunteers, several of whom are appointed to maintain our town hall and grounds. The town hall has become so popular that Councilperson Patricia Crapet's phone rings constantly with requests for booking dates. Naturally, with increased usage, the town hall has suffered some wear and tear. The door closer on the front door was completely torn from its moorings. Massive stains have shown up on the carpet. During the summer, the A/C was turned down to 58! And just reported this week, someone opened two windows (in 40 degree weather) and then went off and left them open!

A tremendous amount of time, work, planning, and money went into the remodeling of an historical old home. We have all received numerous compliments on the building and grounds. The town hall is an extension of every Indian Springs Villager's home. It would be a shame if stringent limitations would have to be put in place.

Names in the News

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Ida Bishop of Bishop Lane, an area pioneer, was featured in an article in *The Birmingham News* January 2 after the occasion of her 93rd birthday. "Age is a plus, not a minus," is the motto of this resident of the valley for 75 years who once owned and operated Valley Grocery on Cahaba Valley Rd. She was the subject of "Villager Profile" in *The Village Voice* on April 14, 1998.

Theresa Farmer, a fourth grade teacher at Oak Mountain Intermediate School, reigned as the state's top teacher for 2001. Reasons for her selection were innovative teaching methods, successful inclusion of handicapped youngsters in the regular classroom, and her willingness to help other teachers be successful. She was honored at an assembly at her school and pictured in the Dec. 26 *Birmingham News*.

Collyn Loper of Indian Springs earned the junior women's bronze medal at the World Clay Target championships in Cairo, Egypt. The 14-year-old, who is blind in her right eye, was featured in "The highs and lows of 2001" in the Shelby Co. Sports section, Dec. 26 *Birmingham News*.

Also in the same issue was the headline, "Judge among those making news in 2001" concerning the Village's **Patti Smith**, Shelby County's juvenile court judge who was named the nation's top juvenile judge in May by an organization dedicated to helping troubled children. The National Court-Appointed Special Advocates Association chose Judge Smith from among nominations submitted by more than 800 CASA chapters.

Village Voice Couriers Needed

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Village Voice needs you! There is an immediate need for a new courier for the Cahaba Oaks subdivision and for the McGuire Road area. A new distribution courier is also needed for delivery of *The Village Voice* to individual couriers. Delivery takes less than 30 minutes once a month, on the weekend prior to our third Tuesday council meetings. Please call my voice mail (802-2753) and leave your name and number if you can volunteer your assistance. Thanks!

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Around the Village

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Accolades

Many thanks to Garden Club member **Frances Dudley** for trimming the ISV sign on 119W for Christmas and the New Year and for the bright pansies placed there earlier.

Thanks also to **Jim and Nora Boyett** for their work in decorating the town hall for the holidays again this season.

John Rosemond to Speak

The keynote speaker for Oak Mountain's Parent College 2002 on Sunday, Feb. 24, at Oak Mountain High School will be psychologist and best-selling author John Rosemond. He will speak on parenting and be available for book signing.

AARP Driving Course Offered

The popular AARP Driving Course will be held again at the Mary Ellen Estes Senior Community Center, Heardmont Park, on Friday, Jan. 25, continuing on Monday, Jan. 28, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. both days. The cost is \$10 for the course. To register please call the center, 991-5742. The center will be closed Jan. 21 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Building Permit for December

Marty Martin, Town Engineer, reported one building permit was approved for December, as follows:

Address: Lot 8 Mountain Cove; Applicant: Grant; Request: new residence.

Garden Club to Meet Jan. 24

By Del Levesque & Marge Dunn

The Indian Springs Garden Club and Welcome Committee extends warm wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year. We are grateful for the wonderful fellowship and gardening adventures of 2001 that we have shared with one another. We extend a heartfelt welcome to new members.

We have a very full agenda for our next meeting at the town hall on Jan. 24 at 7:00 p.m. Included will be the planning and finalizing of our programs for 2002 so that our yearbook will be ready for our February meeting.

Members who took pictures of any of our gardening ventures—we would appreciate it if you would bring them to the meeting. We are hoping to make a creative memories scrapbook for the club.

The Welcome Committee headed by Mary Hearn will be distributing baskets to new Village neighbors. If you know of folks who have moved here, please contact Mary (995-2166)

A special Friendship Bread will be served at the meeting along with coffee and tea. We look forward to enjoying your presence. If you have any questions, please contact Marge Dunn (987-4765) or Del Levesque (987-5029).

Town Council Highlights

December 18, 2001

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, December 18, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, and Brian Stauss present. The minutes of the November meeting were adopted as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported the following revenues for the month: building permits, \$1,782; vehicle licenses, \$441; beer taxes, \$1,028; real estate licenses, \$143; and road fund, \$1,079. The general fund balance was \$98,670 and the road fund balance was \$69,460.

Committee reports included the following items: Councilman Herb Robins reported that the Indian Springs Village Childrens Fund provided for 16 children from seven different families this year. As in years past, all of the families had children in the Oak Mountain schools. Other donations will be made to the schools benevolent funds in the amount of \$600 for field trips, school supplies, and eyeglasses for needy children. Councilman Robins also reported that bids will be taken in April 2002 for Highgate Hill Road and Choctaw Lane for re-paving. Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that town hall reservations are increasing, with word spreading to other communities regarding our facility. Councilwoman Crapet asked Villagers to please refrain from telling non-ISV citizens that our facility is "free" to all, as this is not the case. Councilman Brian Stauss has an "old" computer that needs a home. Anyone interested may contact Brian via email on the ISV website.

Special guests were Boy Scout Troop 5 from Christ Church United Methodist, who were in attendance as a part of their First Class Scout Requirements.

The meeting was adjourned so that Villagers could enjoy home-baked Christmas goodies during the annual holiday social. Thanks to everyone who brought the delicious treats to share.

ISV Childrens' Fund Plea

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

Whew! Where did December go? Santa Claus has come, and he has gone, all in what seems like the flash of an eye. Our newsletter has been so full of "news" that there was no room for the usual plea for donations to the ISV Childrens' Fund prior to Christmas. BUT, not to worry -- "our children" were taken care of just the same. There was a small surplus from last year which provided some of the expense of this year's "cheer", but we are in need of money to replenish the monies that usually go for other items such as field trips, school supplies and fees, medical or other necessities that some children may need, and that we all tend to take for granted. So please send your gift of love as follows: Make checks payable to ISV Childrens' Fund; and mail to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, Alabama, 35124. Special thanks to those who sent their donations in without even having to be reminded: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Inman; William and Peggy Gaines; and Bob and Judith Konecny. Thanks for your donation and your dedication to the children.

Recycling Wednesday January 16

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

Please place your recycling by the curb, clearly separated from your trash, by 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 16. Please remember never to put sharp objects (needles, glass, etc.) in with your recycling. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and entrances to Homestead.

In December your recycling volunteers were Margie and Herb Robins, Pat and Russ Favorite, Trudy and Paul Scokel, and Art Johnson. Herb pulled double duty; he also helped me in addition to driving his normal route. Bob Durbin volunteered to bring the recycling trailer to the town hall. In the last three recycling collections, we collected 820 lbs. of recycled aluminum. For the year recycling weight was slightly lower but essentially level with last year.

The primary reason for our recycling success is the support of our town's citizens and recycling team volunteers. This team effort helps protect the environment, saves energy and landfill space, and helps support the publishing costs of our community newsletter, *The Village Voice*. Thank you very much for your support in 2001.

If you have not started recycling, please join your fellow citizens and help protect the environment. Recycling aluminum is so easy--just rinse and store until the next monthly pickup.

Library Receives Donations

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Michael Jones, North Shelby Library Director, is pleased to report that over \$30,000 in donations was received by last December 14. This amount was in addition to the yearly assessment fee of \$15 per household and 1.75 mills for commercial property. It is hoped that more donations will come in and the library will be able to re-open for weekends.

The Board of Trustees will meet Jan. 22 at 8:30 a.m. The Trustees meetings, open to the public, are held upstairs before the library opens. Please call the business office, 439-5555, before Jan. 22 if you plan, to attend to receive directions to the meeting room.

Wildlife Center Needs Volunteers

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Volunteers are urgently needed at the Alabama Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at Oak Mountain State Park to provide care for injured and orphaned native wildlife and to educate Alabamians to appreciate and understand their wild neighbors. The center needs help with animal care, educational tours, emergency telephone response, carpentry, or office work. The next training session for new volunteers is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 13, 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. For a volunteer information packet, call 663-7930.

Villager Is Olympic Torchbearer

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Olympic Torch, which by now should be in the Terre Haute, Indiana - St. Louis - Kansas City, Missouri area, had a local torchbearer on Day 2 of the Relay in the state of North Carolina.

He is Michael (Mike) Lovett, age 55, of 5126 Split Rail Trail, Homestead Subdivision, who is now in Salt Lake City preparing for the 2002 Winter Olympic games opening Feb. 8. Lovett is involved with technology design for phone, cable, and data systems for timing, score keeping, and security.

This is the fifth Olympics Lovett has been involved with, starting with Atlanta in 1996, when he worked with that Olympic Committee for five years. He has since been to Lillehammer, Norway, and Nagano, Japan, for Winter Olympics, then to Sydney, Australia in 2000.

"It was all very exciting," said Lovett, whose wife, Terry--the whole family--were all present in Ashville, NC, where Lovett's 1/8 mile run began at the Vanderbilt Biltmore Estate. The next torch runner lit his torch from Lovett's and proceeded to the next designated city. The Torch Relay in the USA had begun in Atlanta, site of the 1996 Olympics, the day before.

The Lovetts, who have lived in Indian Springs about 25 years, have three children. Their daughter, Shannon Mills, and her husband, Michael, live in Greystone. She teaches at Oak Mountain Elementary. The other daughter, Michele Pimentel, and her husband, Kurt, have two daughters and live at Eagle Point. A son, Michael, is an Auburn University freshman.

Mike's Olympic torch is now on display at the Lovett home, where a shadowbox will be built on the wall for its safekeeping. Lovett was able to keep his torch, a present from Lucent Technologies, for which he does consultant work. He retired in 1996 from AT&T after 32 years service.

The torch, which weighs about 3 lbs., is made of aged silver finish, high-polish silver, copper, and glass and is designed to look like a mountain icicle, being 33" long, 3" wide at the top, and 1/2" at the bottom. The Olympic Flame emerges from within the torch through a frosted glass top, meant to symbolize the fire that burns within each torchbearer. The Salt Lake City logo and the words, "Light the Fire Within," are emblazoned on the front of the torch.



Mike Lovett, runner # 48, receiving the Olympic torch from predecessor, runner # 47.

The final stop for the torch will be the Salt Lake City Olympic Cauldron, kept from public view until the Opening Ceremony on Feb. 8 at Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium.

Lovett is one of some 11,500 torchbearers selected from 210,000 nominations. Stops are scheduled in 125 major cities crisscrossing 46 states for a total of 13,500 miles during 65 days. The torch travels an average of 208 miles every 12 hours. In 1996 the Olympic torchbearer visited Birmingham, as the Magic City was the site of the Soccer Venue. This time the torchbearer visited only Mobile on Dec. 9.

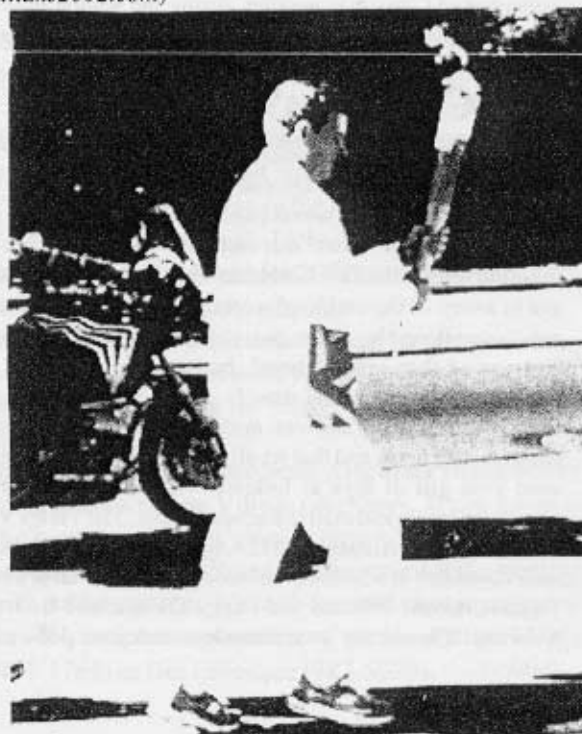
The flame is first lighted during a ceremony at the site of the ancient Olympic stadium in Olympia, Greece, this time on Nov. 19, 2001. A curved mirror is used to light the torch naturally with the sun's rays. The torch is then presented to the first relay runner.

The flame is kept in a lantern traveling with the relay, guarded closely to prevent its being extinguished. In addition to the torchbearers, who will carry the torch for approximately 17 percent of the distance, the flame will be transported by auto, airplane, train, ship, dogsled, skier, horse-drawn sleigh, snowmobile, ice skaters, prairie schooner, and other unique modes. The lantern is a standby in case the torch flame goes out.

The Olympic Flame first became a tradition of the modern Olympics at the 1928 Amsterdam games, when it was lighted and remained at Olympic Stadium throughout the event. Eight years later a German, inspired by ancient Greek drawings, created the first Olympic Torch Relay. The flame traveled from Olympia to Berlin as part of the 1936 Opening Ceremony. A torch relay has been held, in one form or another, at every Olympics since.

The Olympic Games, the world's foremost amateur sports competition, were first started in 776 B. C. and were held until 393 A.D. when abolished by the Roman emperor after Greece lost its independence. The Olympic games of the modern cycle were revived in 1896 in Athens and held at four-year intervals in various cities of the world except for lapses during the two world wars. A separate cycle of winter games was initiated in 1924 at Chamonix, France.

(Other sources: *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 15th ed., Website: www.saltlake2002.com)



Mike Lovett carries the Olympic Flame in North Carolina