

The Village Voice



Volume 26, Number 11

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

February 8, 2017

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

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

Indian Springs Village Telephone
Directory Number is 982-1755

For Town Hall Reservations please
contact Amy Easton.
Email: isvtownhallres@charter.net
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 council in town council meetings; additionally it provides these officials and other Villagers a means of communicating – it is a “voice.”

The Village Voice is published the second week of each month. Articles for the January edition should be submitted by February 24, 2017. All materials submitted for publication may be edited, including letters to the editor, which must be signed and give writer's address and phone number: All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles.

Address letters to the editor and news items to:
Leigh Whatley, Editor
5301 Mountain Park Drive
Indian Springs Village, AL 35124
Tel: 205.238.5924 or
email: leighwhatley@gmail.com.

Editor's Appreciation:
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing. Although Mrs. Wyatt has passed away, this acknowledgement will continue in honor of the contributions of Mrs. Wyatt and her family to *The Village Voice* and the town of Indian Springs Village.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Thursday, February 2 is Groundhog Day. According to folklore, if it is cloudy, spring is around the corner; but if it is sunny and the groundhog sees its shadow, supposedly he or she will go back into its den and winter will last 6 more weeks.

By the time you are reading this, we will know the outcome. I am really hoping for an early spring. I love seeing the rebirth of the trees and flowers and smell of new grass. Our Village is especially beautiful that time of year.

You may have noticed we have a new section on our website called “environmental outreach page.” We will be adding pertinent information and educational articles or links to this site periodically.

I will take this opportunity to slip in a reminder to sign up for recycling with Waste Pro if you have not. Currently, North Shelby County averages about 60% participation. Participating in recycling along with litter patrol in your neighborhood and not adding to littering in our town will help keep Indian Springs one of the most beautiful and pristine of cities in our area. Though not directly related to storm water quality, this will still help with the Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping portion of our Storm Water Management Plan.

Sincerely,
Brenda Bell-Guercio

SAVE THE DATE



24TH Annual ISV Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 15, 2017 3:00 p.m.

FROM THE DESK OF THE TOWN CLERK

As I sit here, collecting checks and making deposits for business licenses revenue, it occurred to me to mention our local businesses in my article this month. I was in a planning meeting today for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and we were discussing the local businesses who generously donate prizes for the event. Once again, it made me think how important our businesses are and how much we depend on them. Therefore, it is not the policy of *The Village Voice* to advertise for any specific business and it is not my intent to do so, nonetheless you know who they are, and I do ask you support our local ISV businesses.

Look for a new and improved Easter Egg Hunt (EEH) this year. We anticipate a larger group this year as Easter does not fall within the Spring Break timeframe. It will also not compete with the Oak Mountain State Park EEH as their event is being held April 1. Our EEH is as usual the Saturday before Easter, April 15th at 3:00. We are asking for youth helpers to work on April 8th at the Town Hall from 10-12 stuffing eggs and gift bags. We are seeking youth helpers for the day of the hunt to assist with set up, clean up, supervision of inflatables and supervision of children. This would qualify for community service hours required by school or scout badges. Though, civic pride and contribution to community is the ultimately goal. Please contact me if you can help.

While in Washington recently, I had the opportunity of meeting with Representative Gary Palmer. I updated him on our zip-code petition progress. He was very receptive and informative with regard to our cause. We are still short by about 125 names. We will run the petition in *The Village Voice* one more time, so please if you have not sent it in, please do so.

Sincerely,
Joan Downs, Town Clerk

eVillage Voice

Have *The Village Voice* delivered to your email! Please forward your name, address and email address to: myvillagevoice@yahoo.com. Sign up now to make sure you don't miss any future issue.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Dec. 6, 2016

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, December 6, 2016. Mayor Bell-Guercio called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Town Clerk called the roll and all council members were present except Councilman Herb Robins.

The minutes of November 15, 2016 were approved as written.

Chief Tyler was not in attendance but he sent the November statistics. Total calls – 146, Fire Related – 58 and Medical Related – 88. It was noted during the meeting that the “Burn Ban” has been lifted.

Councilman Elliott summarized his CPR training project. The project will kick off in January, after the holidays.

Councilman Stauss thanked Robins for this timely reaction to the downed yield sign at Caldwell and Hwy. 119. The sign is back up.

It was noted that Indian Springs has received \$421.25 in “Amazon tax” and will continue to receive this tax on a quarterly basis.

Bell-Guercio gave all Councilmembers a copy of the ISV Comprehensive Plan and asked they review. She would like to tweak the twelve year old plan in order to take the Town into the future, while also addressing potential problems that may be imminent with regard to widening Hwy. 119.

Bell-Guercio also informed the Council that the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee will be meeting December 29th in order for the City Engineer to prepare the report required by ADEM MS4 directive. She will also be meeting with Chad Scoggins concerning where the County Emergency Action Plan stands as related to Oak Mountain State Park dams. County Commissioner Lindsey Allison, who was in attendance, reported that Shelby County has drained and will be rebuilding the lower lake located at the Oak Mountain State Park.

The Town Clerk reported that three checks have been written from the ISV Children’s Fund. Oak Mountain Elementary received \$5,000. Oak Mountain Intermediate and Oak Mountain Middle school received \$500 each. She also reported that she and Amy Easton would be handling the Town Christmas party unless there were objections, which there were none.

Alabama State Representative Arnold Mooney was in attendance and reported that when House convenes February 7th the agenda will include budget and tax incentives.

Lindsey Allison reported that according to law, by January 20th, Shelby County must appoint someone to the Birmingham Water Works Board. She discussed the

legalities along with the politics and difficulties of this appointment.

Prior ISV Councilman Jack Mendel was in attendance and informed the Council that he had personally inspected the Oak Mountain State Park dams and they appeared to be in good shape. He also reiterated the impact of a four lane Hwy. 119. He said, in his opinion, it would create a flooding problem that could not be solved and expressed his concern and the importance of fighting any plans the State might have in this potential endeavor.

Bell-Guercio adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Joan Downs, Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Jan. 3, 2017

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, January 3, 2017. Mayor Bell-Guercio called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council members not in attendance were Kathryn Harrington, Ed Whatley, and Brian Stauss. Council members in attendance were Brenda Bell-Guercio, Herb Robins, and Dale Elliott. There was not a quorum for this meeting.

Bell-Guercio gave an update on the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of December 29th. The committee discussed how to proceed on getting all of year 1 Minimum Control Measures completed by May 31st. This included web-site development, setting up an education workshop, implementing watershed signage, work on Town Comprehensive Plan, area inspections and mapping of storm water discharge into State waters, NSFD action plan, and review of post construction BMPs. Bell-Guercio advised that a work session will be set for January 17th at 6:30 pm in order to work on updating the ISV Comprehensive Plan.

Bell-Guercio also advised that Hub Harvey and Chad Scoggins updated her on the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) developed with relationship to Oak Mountain State Park dams.

Bell-Guercio informed the Council that Gene (previous Mayor) and Olivia Weingarten's son Ron recently passed away.

State Representative Arnold Moony was in attendance and discussed local issues.

Bell-Guercio adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Joan Downs, Town Clerk

BUILDING PERMITS

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: On Time Electric
Owner: Shahid Syed
Address: 455 McGuire Road
Proposed Use: Replace A/C and Electrical Service

Applicant: Metro Heating and Air
Owner: Dale Elliott
Address: 2014 Cahaba Valley Road
Proposed Use: Replace A/C

GARDEN CLUB NEWS: THE GARDENS OF DOWNTON ABBAY COME TO INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE

by Mickey Farmer

On January 26th, June Mays spoke to a standing room only crowd at the Garden Club's January meeting. The Morning Glories Garden Club of Hoover, Indian Springs Village residents and club members were in awe of the beauty of the Gardens of Highclere Castle. Highclere Castle, an English manor, and its gardens serve as the backdrop for the PBS television series, Downton Abbey. Because June has successfully grown some of the plants seen in these gardens, she was able to advise us as to which plants would grow well in our yards and gardens.



Please visit June's website at www.junemays.com or like her on Facebook to see other beautiful gardens and flowers.

The February 23 meeting will be a soup and sandwich supper, sharing of members' favorite garden memories and an overview of the planned activities for the 2017 year. Those interested in joining the Indian Springs Village Garden Club are welcome to attend any of our meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

TALES FROM THE HALL...

COCONUT CAKES AND RETIREMENT

by BJ Scharath

This series of articles started almost a year and half ago, in an attempt to introduce our Town Council members to Indian Springs Villagers. The last and second newest member on the City Council is Dr. Dale Elliott, a retired cardiologist who has lived in Indian Springs Village for 22 years. Dr. Elliott is originally from Virginia, coming to the Birmingham area for a residency at UAB Hospital in the mid-70's, after graduation from Medical College of Virginia. Interestingly, he was an electrical engineer for several years before deciding that people were his real life interest, and following a chance encounter that led to a life changing alternation in his career path, decided to become a doctor, applied for medical school, and received a full scholarship. What a happy chance encounter for so many who would later benefit from his medical abilities! Following his residency at UAB, he did a fellowship at Mayo Clinic, before coming back to the Birmingham area in the early 80's. He and his wife moved to the Indian Springs area when his cardiology practice landed him at Brookwood and Shelby Memorial Hospital as primary practice locations. When I asked him why he wanted to live here, his reply was classic; he was blessed to live in paradise. Why live anywhere else? He and his wife had given their heart and soul to Shelby County and to Indian Springs Village and this is where he intended to live until he died. As a long time resident and practicing cardiologist of Shelby County, Dr. Elliott of course had many stories to tell of treating various heart conditions of patients. One of his favorite patients was a sweet lady who always came in to see him bringing a homemade coconut cake, with a big smile on her face. She brought joy not only to Dr. Elliott, but to the other members of his medical practice. One day shortly before his retirement, she came in bearing another beautifully made homemade coconut cake and told him she needed to talk to him. She just had to tell him her story. Turns out there were many sad details to relate involving activities that would make a daytime soap opera seem unreal. But she had tried to rise above it all, by keeping a smile on her face, and distributing coconut cakes to bring cheer to others. He was touched by her story, and touched by her courage to be positive in the face of adversity. He admired those qualities.

Dr. Elliott recently (if you consider 3 years "recent") retired from active medical practice. After doing consulting work for a year or so, and spending time traveling (including a memorable trip to Machu Picchu, Peru which required many months of dedicated physical preparation to be able to make the hike up to that mystical place which stands at almost 8,000 feet), he began looking around for something else to do using his considerable talents and skills. He served on the Shelby Judicial Commission for a three year term. He joined, as a charter member, the ISV Kiwanis Club formed last year. He, laughing said his wife had encouraged him to run for council membership because he needed something to do. He ran for Place #5 (Revenue Liaison) on the City Council this past fall when that position came up for election. With only a few council meetings under his belt, he said his goal was to be there, listen and learn about the history of the council operations, and absorb as much information as he could to make wise decisions and votes on behalf of the Village.

When asked about Indian Springs Village attributes, he made several significant observations. He commented on the dedicated council members, all of whom had reached out to welcome him and mentor him in his new role; he cited the unified homogeneous population of the Village along with the low crime rates. He also saw it a huge positive that the city was financially sound and had a positive operating budget. Lastly, he commented on the beautiful natural setting of the Village and the unified spirit of cooperation of our citizens. Those were things few cities could boast of. He went on to say that he thought on of the most significant issue facing the Village would be the pressure to widen and 4-lane Highway 119.

Many locals in the Pelham/Indian Springs area may have picked blueberries at the wonderful blueberry farm by Oak Mountain State Park that was originally owned by a mentor of Dr. Elliott's by the name of Dr. Dewey White. Dr. White told him many, many years ago that a person didn't need to retire FROM something, but should retire to DO something. I believe Dr. Elliott has retired to help lead Indian Springs Village into the future while keeping a steady hand on the heartbeat of the community.



NORTH SHELBY FIRE DISTRICT

4617 Valleydale Road, Birmingham Alabama, 35242

Office 205-991-6439 Fax 205-991-7331

“Turn Your Attention to Fire Prevention”

PRESS RELEASE

North Shelby Fire District is proud to announce the purchase of a new Pierce 107' ladder truck. The new ladder truck will replace the 1984 model ladder truck that is currently in service at fire station 2. The current ladder truck is 33 years old and has come to the end of its service life. The new ladder truck was purchased from Emergency Equipment Professionals, a Pierce dealership in Pelham. The ladder truck was purchased for \$847,837.00 and should be placed in-service around March 2018.



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE

by Dale Elliott

The Indian Springs Kiwanis Club was chartered in November 2016. The mission of all Kiwanis Clubs is to work to promote the health and well being of children. Since our clubs founding, we sponsored a warm clothing drive for needy children over the holidays. We are currently working to provide supplemental food for students in need.

We meet twice monthly at 6:30 PM on the first and third Thursday at the ISV Town Hall for a pot luck dinner and to enjoy interesting local speakers.

Our speaker in December was James Spann discussing weather forecasting and broadcasting.

The January speaker was Doug Adaire, Executive Director of Alabama Wildlife Rescue. He also brought some of his staff with some of the raptors they have rescued.

Our speaker on February 2nd was Dr. Hudson Segrest, cardiologist from HeartSouth Cardiovascular Group, discussing prevention of heart disease and demonstrating CPR techniques.



Kathleen Claybrook, Executive Director of Special Equestrians, will speak at our February 16th meeting.

We are looking for new members. All are welcome to attend.



NORTH SHELBY
LIBRARY

INDOOR YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 18th
8am - 4pm**

**Please call 439-5540 for more information
and to schedule donation drop-off.**

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Barbara Joan King. Mrs. King passed away on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. Mrs. King was a long time resident of Indian Springs, Alabama.

Mrs. King was born in 1943 in Jasper, Alabama. Joan was married for 55 years to Charles Wayne King, also of Jasper. Joan was the heart and hub of her family and she and Wayne travelled with the Air Force for the first twenty-five years of their marriage. During those years, they had two children, Tinya Wetzel, of Birmingham, Alabama, and Tony King of Dothan, Alabama. They spent time in Florida, Texas, Japan, California, and Mississippi before settling back in Alabama after Wayne retired from the Air Force. After all the years with the Air Force, there was nothing Joan enjoyed more than travelling. One of her favorite trips was the opportunity she and Wayne had to spend several weeks in Turkey. During that trip, Joan was thrilled to have the opportunity to visit Ephesus and the home of the mother of Jesus.

Joan was a strong Christian and loved exploring history. She also had a heart for the Smokey Mountains, and took annual trips to watch the leaves change color. Her children and grandchildren are blessed with many fond memories of mountain trips with her and have inherited her love of the Smokies. Joan also loved animals, dogs in particular, and no dog was more blessed than the pampered pooch who resided in her care. She has passed this tender heart for animals to her children and grandchildren, as well. Joan touched everyone she met with her sincere love of people and her love of Christ. But most of all, she was a joy and a light to her family, especially to her twelve grandchildren: Adam King, of Houston, Texas; Lauren and Jonathan Anderson, of Atlanta, Georgia; Eli and Anna King, of Dothan; Isaac King, of Birmingham; Cade Wetzel, of Birmingham; Colby Wetzel, of Birmingham; Noah King, of Dothan; Micah King, of Dothan; ChapelAnn Wetzel of Birmingham; Samuel King, of Dothan; Benjamin King, of Dothan; and Hannah King, of Dothan.

She was a constant source of love and support to her children and their spouses, Tinya and Don Wetzel, and Tony and Karen King. She is also survived by a brother and sister-in-law, Jimmy and Robin Richardson, of Jasper, Alabama. Joan had a smile that would light up a room and a sense of humor that permeated her family's gatherings. She will be greatly missed, but her family rejoices that, after many years of immobility, she is walking in heaven with Jesus.

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Betty Ruth Goodwyn, Ph.D. Mrs. Goodwyn passed away on January 27, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Edward T. Goodwyn, who passed away Nov. 1, 2004 of lung cancer; her parents, Elzie Ervin and Nellie (Blackwell) O'Rear of Old Parrish Rd., Jasper; a brother, Pvt. Lecil E. O'Rear, who gave his life for his country at Anzio Beach, Italy, in 1944; a sister, Blanche Gaia Wilson, Memphis; and another sister, Doris Mildred Swindle, Millbrook, AL.

Immediate survivors are three brothers, Dr. John W. O'Rear, Ft. Worth, Texas; James R. O'Rear, Daphne, AL (Baldwin County); and Tommy J. O'Rear, Florence. Other survivors are a brother-in-law, Elro M. Swindle, Lake Mitchell; sister-in-laws Linda O'Rear, Daphne, and Brenda O'Rear, Florence; nephews John J. Gaia, Jr. (Debbie) and Donald E. Gaia, (Linda), niece, Pamela Gaia, all of Memphis; nephew John E. Swindle (Genye) and niece Becki McCallum (William, nicknamed "Mau"), all of Lake Mitchell, and niece Ruth Henry (Tom) Vestavia Hills; John Mark O'Rear (Beverly) and Stephen O'Rear (Deborah), Ft. Worth; Melissa Putland (Karl), Englewood, CO; Jonathan B. O'Rear (Rachael), Florence, and Patrick O'Rear (Elizabeth), Tifton, GA.; several nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and one great-great niece.

Dr. Goodwyn was a journalist, teacher, and librarian. She and two other members of her family, Mildred and John, and an aunt, Fay O'Rear, worked at The Mountain Eagle, Jasper. She was enrolled in Journalism School at the University of Alabama when she met Edward T. Goodwyn, also of Walker County. Upon his graduation in ceramics and employment in Ohio, she left at mid-term her junior year after their marriage Dec. 22, 1951. In Alliance, Ohio she graduated at Mount Union College and taught English at a local school, after having worked for the College in their Department of Publicity. In Florence, AL she received a master's degree in education from Florence State University, minoring in library science. In Knoxville, TN, she worked as a high school librarian commuted to Nashville for three summers to earn a master of library science degree at Peabody College.

The couple returned to Alabama in 1972 where she was librarian at Mountain Brook High School for 23 years, in the meanwhile earning a certificate of advanced study at University of Alabama at Birmingham and a doctorate in educational leadership, awarded in 1985, from the University of

Alabama. She was named "Most Outstanding Student" by the faculty of that department. She was very active in the Alabama Library Association, serving as president in 1985-96, after having been chairman of the Children's and School Librarians Division and on many committees. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Alabama Libraries, and later was active with the Friends of the Library organization for North Shelby Library.

what's cooking

Enjoy a Fresh Berry Trifle with a Valentine twist!
Recipe featured on www.makinglifeblissful.com.

EASY VALENTINE TRIFLE DESSERT

Ingredients

- 4 cups cheesecake flavor pudding (instant works fine, also vanilla flavor is okay)
- Red food coloring or strawberry flavor
- 3-4 cups whipped cream (fresh is the best!)
- 2-3 cups of cake cubes (about a 9x13 size cake)
- 1 cup raspberries
- 2 cups strawberries (sliced)
- Optional: you can add more and different types berries if you like, the more the better!



Instructions

1. Wash and pat the berries dry. Let them air dry while you prepare the rest of the dessert.
2. Bake your cake according to package directions and cut your into cubes.
3. Whip your cream.
4. Prepare your pudding according to package directions.
5. Begin layering your ingredients in a medium size bowl or trifle dish. Start with the pudding, then add cake cubes so they can soak in the pudding. Add the fruit and whipped cream. (Note: to make it look pretty, stick the outer-edge row of ingredients to the glass in a nice line, alternating with strawberries, cake, raspberries, etc.)
6. Continue layering until all the ingredients are gone, finishing with whipped cream on top.
7. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Enjoy!

Send us your favorite recipe; we would love to share it with everyone. Please send recipes to leighwhatley@gmail.com and include Village Voice Recipe in the subject line.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT SPECIAL EQUESTRIANS

If you like horses, the outdoors, and helping people, we have the perfect opportunity for you. We welcome you to join our volunteer team of over 240 volunteers at Special Equestrians. Special Equestrians is a therapeutic horseback riding program for people with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. All levels of experience are available (no horse experience necessary). Volunteers must be 14 years or older. Call or email today to attend one of our Volunteer Training sessions:

Monday, February 20th, 12:00 – 2:00 pm
Wednesday, February 22nd, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Training sessions will take place at our facility on the campus of Indian Springs School. To reserve a spot at the training session or to find out more information, please email: volunteer@specialequest.org, call: 205-987-9462 or visit our website www.specialequest.org

DR. RUTH GOODWYN – A LIFE WELL LIVED

by Tricia Crapet



Indian Springs Village has lost a true friend, great supporter, and contributor to our community. Dr. Betty Ruth O'Rear Goodwyn, age 86, passed away peacefully at her Danberry home on January 27, 2017 with her beloved cat, "Buddy", by her side.

Ruth, whose Father was a coal miner, grew up in Jasper, Alabama during the days of the Great Depression. One of seven children in a family of meager means, yet abundant in love and faith, Ruth had a great thirst for knowledge and a determined will to succeed. From early on, Ruth was dedicated to education, journalism, proper English, and writing. She became a highly accomplished and scholarly woman, earning an undergraduate degree from Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio. Afterwards, Ruth earned master's degrees from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, as well as Florence State University. Ruth went on to pursue and attain a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama where she was named "Most Outstanding Student". No easy task for someone born in the depression years.

After marrying the love of her life Edward T. Goodwyn on December 22, 1951, they settled in Zanesville, Ohio where Ed worked as a ceramics engineer, and Ruth began a career as a school teacher. In 1972, Ruth and Ed returned to Alabama and in 1974 chose Indian Springs as their home because of the natural and uncluttered beauty of the area. Deeply dedicated to Indian Springs, Ruth joined the local garden club where many friendships blossomed. Ruth remained a contributing member to the Indian Springs Village Garden Club through the years.

Ruth continued her teaching career in Alabama and went on to become the head Librarian for Mountain Brook High School, remaining in that position until she retired. Always the consummate librarian, Ruth took charge of turning a room full of books into a grand and superbly functioning library at Christ the King Lutheran Church, where she was a devoted member.

Ruth wasn't just smart...she was beautiful, as well. Her brother recounts that in her youth, Ruth won several beauty contests. As the years came and went, Ruth's beauty remained, with skin like that of a porcelain doll. But, Ruth's beauty was not just skin deep, as she was even more beautiful inside than out. Ruth was a friend to all who knew her, and was in love with nature and animals. She became a sort of Patron Saint to cats in Indian Springs Village, faithfully feeding and watching over many cats for 40 plus years. Deer, squirrels, birds and other wildlife knew that there would always be an abundance of corn and feed on the Goodwyn property. It was not unusual to see Ruth tending to the feeding areas of her property on Choctaw Lane. When Ruth became physically unable to distribute feed to her menagerie, she hired someone to do it for her.

Ruth and Ed both became strong advocates for the incorporation of Indian Springs Village, working tirelessly toward that effort as an integral part of a small group of citizens. After incorporation, Ruth immediately volunteered her expertise to the new town. The first meeting to develop our community's newsletter was at my kitchen table, where Ruth, Laverne Ramsey and I tackled the task. It was decided that Laverne would be our first Editor, as she had the desktop publishing means to do so. I would write informative articles and keep the townspeople abreast of all things ISV. Ruth would write articles including Village Personals, up close article on citizens, and happenings with the ISV Garden Club, North Shelby Library, and Indian Springs School. Ruth became the Editorial Consultant for *The Village Voice* from the first Issue April 1991 until October, 1996 when she took over the full duties of Editor until October, 2004. Laverne and I both learned so much from Ruth. We would spend many days and hours each month preparing *The Village Voice* for publication. She would correct us on grammar, punctuation, run on sentences and dangling participles. Rest assured, there was never a misplaced comma or a misspelled word when Ruth was in charge! A stickler for deadlines, *The Village Voice* was never late to ISV's residents' mailboxes! Ruth continued to consult and to contribute articles almost monthly, her last being in the November 2016 issue.

Ruth was appointed ISV Historian soon after incorporation, attending all council meetings and functions. Ruth collected photos of all events, clipped articles out of all local newspapers that pertained to

ISV, and kept copies of every issue of *The Village Voice*. She made sure that all of the local libraries, elected county and state officials, and the Alabama Library Association had copies every month. At one point, she had all of the copies of *The Village Voice* hard-bound into books and presented them to the town and to former mayor, Hub Harrington. In recent years, Ruth had undertaken the task of writing a book about the history of Indian Springs, from the early days to the present, an effort that she was very focused on and in which she took great pride. She had planned on nine chapters, and had finished eight of them when she passed away.

Ruth never really came to terms with having to leave her and Ed's home in ISV. Though it may have been the best thing for her to do physically, her heart and her spirit were still as much a part of the Village as ever. She longed to come back "home" - a hope that she never gave up on. Ruth has gone to a better place now, flying high on eagles' wings. I, and many others, will miss her unique lilting Southern voice and charm, her witty sense of humor, her laughter and her smile. But, most of all, we will miss her friendship.

Dr. Ruth - a life well-lived. Indeed.



**NORTH SHELBY
LIBRARY**

Join us for an hour of STEM fun as we learn about all the parts of a plant! Hands-on activities will include potting a bulb of your very own to take home and grow. Taught by a Birmingham Botanical Gardens docent, this program is based on their Discovery Field Trip program: Garden Gates. Ages 5 and up. Registration required.

garden gates: flower to seed

Monday, February 20 @ 4:00 pm

Ages 5 & Up | Registration Required



HOW TO OBTAIN A BUILDING PERMIT

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Before you pick up a hammer, a shovel or call a contractor or the Town Engineer, I suggest you read the ordinances listed at the following link:

<http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/ordinances-2/>

There are now two items that **MUST** be submitted fully complete in order for you to go to Shelby County to obtain a permit to complete any improvements to your property if the value of you intended work is over Fifteen Hundred (\$1,500.00) dollars. These are the "Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance" and the "Zoning and Foundation Verification" process.

The "Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance" and its requirements can be found at:

<http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016-003-Erosion-and-Sedimentation.pdf>

and the application is found at:

<http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Land-Disturbance-Application1.pdf>

The process for the Zoning and Foundation Verification can be found at:

<http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ISV-Building-Permit-Application-Feb-20141.pdf>

Shelby County Inspection Services is the actual “permitting agency” for work undertaken in Indian Springs Village (ISV) with the exception of issues that are land disturbance related, where ISV issues the permit and Shelby County will contact us if there are noticeable issues on any construction site in the Town Limits. However, they do not permit and inspect all of the items that are required to be permitted in ISV. The following is a list comparing Shelby County to ISV:

Anticipated Work

**Shelby
County**

**Indian
Springs**

GENERAL STATEMENT OF WHEN A PERMIT IS REQUIRED

The ISV Zoning Ordinance, Article IV – Administration, defines the requirements for a building permit for all improvements when the cost is over \$1,500

Required

Shelby County - Section R105 - Permits - "... Construct, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of any building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by Code, or to cause any such work to be done, ,,, "

Required

GENERAL STATEMENT OF WHEN A PERMIT IS NOT REQUIRED

However, all other applicable State and Federal Laws Must be complied with in total.

One story Accessory Structure under 200 SF of Floor Area

**Not
Required**

Required

Fences not over 6' high

**Not
Required**

Required

Retaining walls not over 4' high measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall, unless there is a surcharge, upward sloping fill behind the wall.

**Not
Required**

Required

NOTE: IN ISV - All walls over 28" high from finished grade of lower level to upper level must have fence installed at upper level.

N/A

Required

Water Tanks supported directly on grade if the capacity does no exceed 5,000 gal and the ratio of height to diameter does not exceed 2:1.

**Not
Required**

**Will
Require
Zoning
Variance**

Sidewalks and Driveways

**Not
Required**

Required

Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops, and similar finish work.

**Not
Required**

**Not
Required**

Swings and Other Playground Equipment

**Not
Required**

**May
Require
Zoning
Variance**

Decks not exceeding 200 SF in area, that are not more than 30" above grade at any point, are not attached to a dwelling and do not serve the entrance or exit door required by Section R311.4	Not Required	Required
ELECTRICAL: Listed Cord and plug connected to temporary decorative lighting	Not Required	Not Required
ELECTRICAL: Reinstallation of attachment plug receptacles but not the outlets therefore	Not Required	Not Required
ELECTRICAL: Replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices of the required capacity in the same location	Not Required	Not Required
ELECTRICAL: Electrical wiring, devices, appliances, apparatus or equipment operating less than 25 volts and not capable of supplying more than 50 watts	Not Required	Not Required
ELECTRICAL: Minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps, on the connection of approved portable electrical equipment to approved permanently installed receptacles	Not Required	Not Required
GAS: Portable heating, cooking or cloths drying appliances	Not Required	Not Required
GAS: Replacement of any part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe	Not Required	Not Required
GAS: Portable fuel cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to the power grid.	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Portable heating appliances	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Portable ventilation appliances	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Portable cooling units	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Steam, hot- or chilled-water piping within any heating or cooling equipment regulated by this code.	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Replacement of any part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Portable evaporative coolers	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Self-contained refrigeration systems containing 10 pounds or less of refrigerant or that are actuated by motors of 1 horsepower or less	Not Required	Not Required
MECHANICAL: Portable fuel cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to the power grid.	Not Required	Not Required

HOW TO OBTAIN A PERMIT

The ISV Zoning Ordinance, Article IV – Administration, defines the requirements for a building permit for **all** improvements when the cost is over \$1,500. Generally excavation and landscaping projects, except where fences or alterations to drainage are contemplated, are exempt from Shelby County permitting. However, these undertakings **may be** subject to the ISV Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance. The Town Engineer should be contacted prior to beginning **ANY** project to determine the need for a Zoning Verification or ESCO permit. The process is very simple. The basic process is as follows:

1. ISV does not actually issue a “Building Permit” We depend on Shelby County Inspection Services the act as our permitting authority. We, through the Zoning Verification process, authorize the County to issue the actual permit. Therefore, the first step, after you have read ALL the regulations and rules in the process is to contact the Town Engineer, Frazier Christy. He is available to discuss the process from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday via phone (205-617-0565) or Email (frazier@eandlsg.com).
2. After discussing your project with Mr. Christy, if a permit is required, you will be requested to **complete** the Zoning and Foundation Verification Review Application. It can be found at the following link; <http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ISV-Building-Permit-ApplicationFeb-20141.pdf>
3. The Zoning and Foundation Verification Review Application **MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL** and all required information reviewed and approved by the Town Engineer before Shelby County Inspection Services will be released to issue a Building Permit. The Town Engineer cannot complete the application for you but is available to answer questions. The ISV Fee Ordinance requires the Town Engineer to bill you for each review of your application. Therefore, it is suggested that you properly complete the form and submit all required documents the first time.
4. In the event of new construction, additions to existing structures, construction of accessory structures, pools. etc, a Foundation Verification is also required once the foundation is in place and before any framing or other work is begun. This involves having a new “As-Built” survey performed by a Land Surveyor, licensed in the State of Alabama by the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. A new Zoning and Foundation Verification Review Application is also required to be submitted and a fee for the Foundation Verification is required.
5. Item 4 of the Zoning and Foundation Verification Review Application **MAY** not be required. Mr. Christy will notify you as to this requirement during your initial discussions with him about your work. In the event a Plot Plan or Survey is required, it must be current and be prepared by a licensed Land Surveyor. The information must be in accordance with the Standards of Practice for Land Surveying in Alabama. It **MUST** show all existing improvements and proposed improvements with ties to all side, front and rear lot lines. I do NOT accept plot plans by Homeowners, Architects or Contractors.
6. Again, since this one seems to be misunderstood by many, for ALL new construction effecting the footprint of the structure, a Foundation survey will be required to be submitted before any framing can be started. At the time of submitting the Foundation Survey, you must also submit the completed Foundation Verification form: <http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ISV-Building-PermitApplication-Feb-20141.pdf>
7. Since we are only verifying “Zoning” we will also need a Front Elevation View of the house that clearly defines the height of the house from the average front ground elevation to the highest point on the roof. This will require a ground run profile, by a Surveyor, of the existing ground elevation along the front of the house. If the grades are to be modified along that line, then the existing and proposed grades must be shown.
8. The current fees for these applications are \$100.00 each. However, if you begin construction before the ZV or framing before the FV are approved by the Town Engineer, regardless of what Shelby County says, your project will be stopped and the fee will be tripled.
9. All checks for fees **MUST** be delivered or mailed to Town Hall. **DO NOT MAIL OR DELIVER THEM TO THE TOWN ENGINEER.**
10. Again, there is a new Erosion and Sediment Control. You will need to obtain a permit to disturb land, regardless of the land area. This is the link to the ordinance: <http://www.indianspringsvillage.org/site/wpcontent/uploads/2016/02/2016-003-Erosion-and-Sedimentation.pdf>