

The Village Voice



Volume 13, Number 4

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

July 8, 2003

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 15, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 5, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

Indian Springs Village Town Hall

Agenda

I. Mayor/Council/Committee Reports

II. Ordinances and Resolutions

III. July 15: Comprehensive Plan Presentation

IV. Citizens' Forum

Indian Springs Village Telephone Directory Number is 982-1755

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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 (988-0896), FAX: 988-0896, or e-mail: Ruthgoodwyn@aol.com. Questions about circulation should be addressed to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (802-2753), or e-mail: ISVillage@aol.com. Reporter for the Homestead neighborhood is Jana Hagan, 5121 Hollow Log Lane, Birmingham 35244 (980-9419); e-mail byzx4@charter.net

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the August 2003 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Aug. 5. All materials submitted for publication may be edited, including **letters to the editor, which must be signed & give writer's address and phone number.** All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles; any opinions expressed should not be attributed to the mayor or the 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

Villagers Like New Comprehensive Plan

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Long-time resident Jim Wyatt of Indian Trail was the first citizen to speak at the Zoning and Planning Commission's public hearing Tuesday evening, July 8, at the North Shelby Library. The meeting was to hear citizen feedback on the Indian Springs Village Comprehensive Plan as distributed in the June issue of *The Village Voice*. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the plan, as amended, to the Indian Springs Village Town Council on July 15.

"Most of you remember how opposed I was to the first plan. I am **for** this plan as much as I was **opposed** to the first one." This plan was written by our own Villagers and is not something some company copied from another plan or pulled off the Internet, Wyatt explained, concluding, "I can live with this one."

"Some company" referred to the KPS Group, Inc., hired to draft a comprehensive plan when it became evident that Indian Springs Village had become a city by virtue of population growth and was required by law to have such a plan. KPS gathered input from citizens at a well-attended meeting on February 26, 2002. A hearing was held on the second draft of their comprehensive plan September 10, 2002, and the plan was vehemently opposed by many.

Wyatt's comments set the tone for the meeting, with many giving compliments to the Zoning and Planning Commission and the Comprehensive Plan Citizen Committee members who drafted the document under discussion.

Committee members are Tom Allison, Jean Baker, Mary S. Bowman, Mary H. Bowman, Robert Burr, Marge Dunn, Jean Grimes, Brenda Bell-Guercio, Jake Guercio, Rufus Hartley, Buzz Kelly, Dwayne Kloewer, Betty Michels, Nathan Park, Michael Stephens, John Strozier, Jim Wyatt, and Steve Zerkis.

Serving on the Commission chaired by Jerry Templeton are Harry Little, Nelda Kelly, Kevin Miller, Warren Jones, Bart Trammell, Foster Mathews, and Brian Stauss, who headed the various citizen committees.

Brian Stauss, Councilman, Place #3, in charge of website maintenance, made changes in the comprehensive plan document as they were suggested by residents and approved. The majority of changes were typographical errors, clarification of locations mentioned, definitions to be added to the glossary, and an explanation of "eminent domain."

Typically, most homes in Indian Springs Village are on one acre lots. Citizens stressed retaining estate lots and building on lots larger than one acre. It was pointed out that 90 percent of ISV is residential and a large percentage of that is in estate lots. The Alabama Department of Transportation (DOT) has on the drawing boards the turn lane project which it is hoped will improve traffic flow through the Village, another big concern.

How will the plan be implemented? This will be done mostly through revised zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations, adhering to the recommendations of the plan requiring such revision (p.34, Comprehensive Plan).

Town Council Highlights

July 1, 2003

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall with a sparse attendance following two days of pouring down rain. Present were Councilmen Art Johnson and Herb Robins and Mayor Gene Weingartner. Since two of five members does not constitute a quorum, no business could be conducted. Minutes from the June 17 meeting were read and will be presented again at the July 15 meeting by Town Clerk Shirley Church.

Councilman Art Johnson reminded those present of the recycling on Wednesday night, July 16.

Councilman Herb Robins reported that he and Councilwoman Patricia Crapet had attended the Chelsea Citizen Observer Patrol (COP) meeting last month. At this meeting the COP unveiled a new portable electronic speed limit display (or, radar speed display sign), bought at a cost of \$3200-\$3300. Weighing 176 lbs., the speed display sign is situated on wheels and will display speeds up to to 99 miles per hour. The plan is to move the vehicle around in Chelsea, not staying in one neighborhood more than about three days. At night it is chained to a tree, or post, as a theft-preventive measure.

COP is a volunteer organization of citizens who, after training, patrol neighborhoods and business areas and help deter crime, plus offer assistance in auto accidents and other emergencies. Councilwoman Crapet talked with Jay Jerman, organizer of COP in Chelsea. Bill Cook and Bryan Weldon, COP volunteers, will be Village guests at the Fourth of July celebration and will ride in the parade. They will be present to answer any questions about Chelsea's success with this program. Hopefully, many will volunteer to launch a similar program in Indian Springs Village.

Discussed after reports was the rental of a home in the Willow Ridge neighborhood by the Dungarvin Company. Dungarvin is a national organization with services in 12 states and headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, according to their website, www.dungarvin.com.

The home is rented to house two staff members, or caretakers, and three individuals who have lived in an institution most of their lives. Moving these and other individuals into community-like settings by the State of Alabama, through Dungarvin, is the outcome of the *Wyatt v. Stickney* lawsuit, finally settled in late 2000. The lawsuit claimed that residents in Alabama's developmental institutions (such as Partlow in Tuscaloosa) were not receiving the necessary individualized care. Our town attorney is researching whether infringement on municipal ordinances is in accordance with state or federal laws.

Also discussed was a Villager in the Bishop Subdivision who has junked cars, other vehicles, and outbuildings on the property in violation of the neighborhood covenant.

Gardeners to Learn Orchid Care

By Del Levesque, Vice-President/Marge Dunn, President

Summer greetings from the happy gardeners! This wet season has certainly been a challenge for us.

On June 24 we enjoyed our annual summer salad supper at the town hall. This was followed by a regular business meeting during which we warmly welcomed back home Malak McNinch, who recently returned after spending almost six months in Iran visiting her mother. Eleven members were present along with two guests, Villager Lynn Hendricks and Pamela Dewberry, the daughter of Marge Dunn. She and her husband and children were visiting from Houston, TX.

We appreciate the Villagers who supported our first annual plant sale at the Fourth of July barbecue. Surprisingly, the most popular items were the cut flowers. The club did sell plants, enough to net \$155 to add to our treasury, and members were pleased at the participation and interest. We hope to make this an annual event.

On July 24 we will depart from the town hall at 8:30 a.m. for a trip to Alabaster. Mike Classen, the owner of Farris Orchids, will give us a tour of his greenhouses. He will demonstrate the care and techniques of transplanting orchids. We can hardly wait to make this trip! Call Marge at 987-4765 or Dell at 987-5029 with questions.

In closing we offer you some thoughts as found in this lovely poem from our yearbook. Come grow with us!

All I Need to Know about Life I Learned from Gardening

*You always reap what you sow.
The plot always thickens when it rains.
Some people are naturally corny.
Weed out all the annoyances in your life.
We've all got our own rows to hoe.
Stay away from seedy characters.
Always try to be outstanding in your field.
It's okay to be a late bloomer.
Keep your hands off your neighbor's peonies.
Sow your wild oaks with care.
It's very prestigious to be in the ivy league.
Some problems are perennial.
It's best to keep mum about certain subjects.
A little manure goes a long way.
One person's garbage is another's compost.
There's nothing more refreshing than a morning shower.
It's important to branch out.
There are some things best left unfertilized.
Remember, that life's full of surprises...
You never know just what might crop up next.*

--Author Unknown

Quilt Circle to Meet July 16

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Members of the Indian Springs Quilt Circle will meet the third Wednesday of this month, July 16, 9:30 a.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Members should bring a sack lunch and beverage, as there is no set time for the meeting to end. There is much enthusiasm, Elizabeth Eastman reports, with everyone learning from each other, and she encourages all to bring handiwork. At this meeting an easier approach to making perfect points in a mariner's compass block will be presented.

Del Levesque of Indian Springs was the winner of the raffle at the Fourth of July celebration. The prize was a small quilt in a patriotic pattern, which can be used as a wall hanging or a table covering. A total of \$210 was raised in the raffle and donated to the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund.

For information about the Quilt Circle, call Elizabeth Eastman at 985-0842.

Trip to New Orleans Planned

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Rita Seales at the Heardmont Senior Center has announced there are some openings for the trip to New Orleans planned for Monday, September 29 through Friday, October 3. Seniors will depart from the Mary Ellen Estes facility, 5452 Cahaba Valley Road, at 8:00 a.m. to spend five days and four nights touring New Orleans and environs.

Activities include a "bayou view" on a Swamp Tour, touring a historic Louisiana Plantation, the French Quarter, gaming at Harrah's Casino, and a Riverboat Jazz Cruise, plus dining at New Orleans restaurants. The cost is \$410 per person. For information and reservations contact Rita Seales at 991-5742.

New Computer Class to Begin

A new computer class starts Wednesday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m. This is a free class to be taught by personnel from the Harrison Regional Library in Columbiana. Ms. Seales is seeking volunteers to share their expertise with others by teaching classes at the Senior Center.

Wildlife Center Calls for Helpers

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Volunteers are urgently needed at the Wildlife Center to provide care for Alabama's injured and orphaned native wildlife and to educate Alabamians to understand and appreciate our wild neighbors. Help is needed with animal care, educational tours, emergency telephone response, carpentry, or office work. The next training session for new volunteers is Sunday, July 20, 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. at the Wildlife Center, Oak Mountain State Park. Call 663-7930 to receive your volunteer information packet.

Village Recycling - July 16

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, July 16. Please place your recycling on the curbside before 7:00 p.m. To help our volunteers identify your recycling, please use light-colored or clear plastic bags and place your recycling on the other side of the driveway from your Waste Management garbage pickup. Please tie your recycling bag with a knot. If the bags are not tied, our volunteers have to take extra time to tie them. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

In June your recycling team members were Margie and Herb Robins, Trudy and Paul Scokel, Russ and Pat Favorite, Bo Holmes, and Art Johnson. A special thanks to Charles Matthews for bringing the recycling trailer to the town hall.

Last year more aluminum cans were littered, landfilled, or incinerated than in 2001, according to the Container Recycling Institute (CRI), a research group that studies container recycling issues and tracks container recycling rates. CRI data also shows that the recycling rate has been in a state of decline for the last two years. "The 50.7 billion aluminum cans wasted last year squandered enormous energy resources. The energy value of those trashed cans was equivalent to 16 million barrels of crude oil, or enough energy to supply 2.7 million American homes with electricity for a year," said Pat Franklin, executive director of the Container Recycling Institute.

If you are not recycling, please join the growing number of ISV residents who recycle. Recycling just one aluminum can will save up to 95 percent of the energy needed to produce it from raw materials. Your participation is the primary reason for ISV's recycling success. Thank you for recycling in 2002. Proceeds from recycling help to fund this newsletter, *The Village Voice*.

"P.J. Storytime" to Continue

At the North Shelby Library, "P.J. Storytime" from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Thursdays, at which time children may come dressed in pajamas, will be continued through August. The popular program is conducted by Kristy Hearn, co-ordinator of children's programs, and is open to all ages.

West Nile Virus Symptoms

From Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Most people who are infected with West Nile virus will not develop symptoms. Some people may become ill three to 15 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. A minority of infected persons will develop a mild illness with fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes skin rash and swollen glands. There are no known long-term effects due to mild illness.

West Nile virus infection infrequently results in a severe illness, however, known as West Nile encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain that may be marked by headache, high fever, stiff neck, stupor, disorientation, coma, convulsions, muscle weakness, and paralysis. A small number of cases have been fatal.

Village Personals

By Ruth Goodwyn and Jana Hagen

In Memoriam

Dr. Warren McCormick Andrews, age 71, of Pawnee Lane, died of cancer June 19 at the transitional living unit of Lakeshore Rehabilitation Facility. He was born and raised in Montgomery, where he graduated from Sidney Lanier High School.

He attended Auburn University for undergraduate studies, Vanderbilt University for his M.S. in physics, and University of California-Berkeley where he earned both an M.S. and Ph.D. in nuclear engineering. While at Berkeley he was employed by Aerojet General Nucleonics to design nuclear reactors. Upon earning his doctorate he was hired by Auburn University to coordinate and develop plans for a Nuclear Science Center; he then served as the Director of the center, overseeing construction and staffing. He worked for Southern Nuclear, Birmingham, retiring after 26 years.

Dr. Andrews had served as a Lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers and then the Army Reserves. He was a member of the Alabama State Radiation Advisory Board and Phi Delta Theta. He was a founding member of St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

Immediate survivors are his wife, Lynn Martin Hobbie Andrews (also originally from Montgomery), two daughters and a son-in-law, Elizabeth-Lee Andrews Lawley and Carlton Roger Lawley of Winston-Salem, NC and Lynn Martin-Hobbie Andrews of New York, NY. The funeral was held Sunday, June 22, at Church of the Ascension (Episcopal) on Lawrence Street in Montgomery, with visitation prior to the service.

Michael Anthony ("Mike") Cencula, age 51, of Indian Springs and originally from St. Clairsville, Ohio, passed away on June 27 of lung cancer. He graduated from Ohio University and was employed as a field engineer for Rast Construction. He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany during the Vietnam War.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Schilleci Cencula; son, Michael Anthony Cencula, II, age 13; daughter, Lacey Ann Cencula, age 8, all of Park View Circle; four brothers and three sisters, most of whom live in Ohio; many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Visitation was held at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on Monday, June 30, with the funeral taking place on Tuesday morning. Burial was in Southern Heritage Cemetery.

Inez George Pate, age 80, wife of Donald Pate, passed away Sunday, June 29, at her home in Indian Springs. Their daughters and sons-in-law are Rixey and Donna Pate Kelly of Grayson Valley and Larry and Pamela Pate Lowery of Lilburn, Ga. They have four grandchildren. Other surviving relatives include a sister, two brothers, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 1; visitation had been on Monday evening, June 30, both at the Southern Heritage Funeral Home.

The family respectfully acknowledges the compassionate caregivers of Hospice South and had requested that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Adventure fund at Valleydale Baptist Church.

Newcomers to the Village

Now making their home at 33 Indian Forest Trail are newly-weds (wed last October) **Brandon A. and Jeannie E. Horton**, with her son, **Adam Edwards**, age 7, who will be entering the second grade at Oak Mountain Elementary School this fall. The Hortons also have two dogs and a cat.

Jeannie is from Fairhope, AL, while Brandon is new to this area, having lived with his parents on Miller Circle. He is a financial advisor for American Express and Jeannie is Director of Development, School of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Jeannie and Brandon both like the "small town atmosphere" of the Village.

In the Homestead Subdivision, **Chad and Linda Burdett**, both teachers at Oak Mountain Middle School, are in residence at 2652 Buckboard. Their daughter **Julia** will be three years old on July 26.

Moving from Miami to 5132 Hollow Log Lane are **Doug and Linda Chamness**. Doug works for T-Chek Systems in sales, and Linda manages Workmen's Compensation for Sheffield Risk Management. They have two sons in college, one in Miami and the other in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

New Babies in the Village

New babies in the Homestead neighborhood born recently include **Hudson Hewett**, born January 7 to **David and Marjorie Green** of 5104 Hollow Log Lane. He joins his big sisters, Sarah Peyton, 6, and Mallie Carrington, 3.

Darren and Carol Popwell of 2628 Buckboard are the proud parents of **Tatum Cathron**, born 12/11/02, who joins big sisters Callen Grace and Jamie Elizabeth, twins who just turned four years old on June 14.

Leaving Indian Springs

University of Alabama at Birmingham football coach John Neal, his wife, Jan, and daughter Caitlin have moved from Willow Ridge to Eugene, Oregon. There he will coach at the University of Oregon. Jan was a school teacher in Vestavia. Their two adult children are a son, Casey, and a daughter, Christin. We wish them well in their new location.