

The Village Voice



Volume 14, Number 9

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

December 14, 2004

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, December 21, 2004, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 4, 2005, 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 call Patricia
Crapet Voice Mail 802-2753

or E-Mail: tricia@indianspringsvillage.org

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.” 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: Alison Stigers, Editor, 5110 Split Rail Trail, Birmingham, Alabama, 35244 (981-1750), Fax: 980-0408, or e-mail: villagevoice@indianspringsvillage.org. 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 November, 2004 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, November 2. 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; any opinions expressed should not be attributed to the mayor or the council.

Editor's Appreciation to

Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing

Message from the Mayor

Steve Zerkis

You've been reading and hearing about the town's Comprehensive Plan and now it's a reality. A final public hearing on the plan was held on November 16. There was some additional discussion, and the plan was officially approved by the Town Council. We even made the 9PM news on Channel 21. A hearty thanks to all of the many residents and friends who participated in this multi-year process. We will continue to look for your comments, advice and assistance as we move into the action phase of this plan's implementation.

Another area we are working on is a review of the town's ordinances. Indian Springs Village has a good set of ordinances to control zoning and subdivision development. But as with all things, they, and our other ordinances need to be reviewed and updated to support current needs. This process is going to take time and as we move through this process, we will have public hearings for your input before any changes are made.

December is a wonderful month for celebrating our holidays and sharing joy with family and friends. Pat and I would like to wish everyone a most joyful holiday season.



*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year*

from

Mayor Steve Zerkis

Councilmembers

Herb Robins Brian Stauss

*Stuart Dudley Brenda Bell Guercio
& Jack Mendel*

&

The Village Voice

Gateway Series

Alabama Symphony Orchestra

by Shelby Hammer, Director of External Affairs,
Indian Springs School

All concerts are held in the Concert Hall in the Town Hall of Indian Springs School and begin at 8 p.m. Performances last 90 minutes and have no intermission. Contact the Alabama Symphony Orchestra at (205) 251-7727.

January 15, 2005 **Movie Magic**

KORNGOLD Overture to The Seahawk
WILLIAMS Three Pieces from
Schindler's List
PROKOFIEV Lieutenant Kije Suite
WAXMAN Rear Window Suite
E. BERNSTEIN Magnificent Seven
WILLIAMS Star Wars Suite

February 12, 2005 **Concert Favorites**

VON SUPPE Light Cavalry Overture
LISZT Les Preludes
ROSSINI Barber of Seville Overture
BORODIN Polovetsian Dances
SIBELIUS Valse Triste
ELGAR Salut d'amour
ELGAR Pomp and Circumstance
March no. 4

March 19, 2005 **España!**

BIZET Selections from Carmen
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Capriccio
Espagnole
FALLA Suite from Three Cornered Hat

May 14, 2005 **American Originals**

GOULD Symphonette No. 2
COPLAND Letter from Home
GERSHWIN
Promenade from Walking the Dog
IVES The Unanswered Question
DESBY Spiritual
BERNSTEIN Fancy Free

Volunteers Needed to Help

The Wildlife Center

Submitted by Ruth Goodwyn

Earlier this summer, The Wildlife Center's baby animal programs were endangered due to lack of funding and volunteers. Thanks to the wonderful response from the community, the baby animal program has remained open and over 1,700 orphans have been received so far. However, the baby animals are still pouring in and will continue to do so. Meanwhile, hundreds of injured adult animals are being cared for throughout the year. The need for support is still vital.

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.

We need your skills and hard work to help with animal care, educational tours, emergency telephone response, carpentry, or office work.

The Wildlife Center is located in Oak Mountain State Park. To volunteer call 663-7930.

In Memoriam

Ida Lucrecia Moro Taylor

Mrs. Taylor, age 88, died Friday, November 5, following a long illness of Alzheimer's disease. She was preceded in death by her parents, Martha and Tony Moro; her husband, Elmer W. Taylor; her grandson, Karl Uhrig; her brothers, John, Tony and Melvin Moro. She is survived by two daughters, Theresa Joan Youngblood (Harold) of Indian Springs Village, and Willis Dean Uhrig (Bill); a brother, James Moro; grandsons, David Uhrig, Hal Youngblood (Leslie), and Bradley Youngblood (Dawn); and a great grandchild, Kendal Marie Youngblood. The service, with Reverend Keith Ellis officiating, was held on Sunday, November 7, at Southern Heritage Funeral Home, with visitation preceding the service. Burial followed in Southern Heritage Cemetery.

Where do you live????? By Bart Trammell, Administrative Assistant

Since the payment of our annual ad valorem taxes is now upon us, now would be an ideal time to check your tax notice to ensure that the Shelby County Tax Commissioner has your property listed in Indian Springs Village. Look down at the bottom left portion of your tax notice under "Municipality". Over to the right should be the entry "Indian Springs". Anything other than that (It would probably read "Shelby County") indicates that your property has never been annexed into our town. If this is the case, contact Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt for assistance. Mr. Wyatt has handled annexations for the town since our incorporation and he will get the situation corrected.

Town Council Meeting

October 04, 2004

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Monday, October 04, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Town Clerk Shirley Church announced that the regular organizational meeting was in session. She then asked Brian Stauss to introduce Father Raymond Dunmyer who gave the invocation. Town Clerk Shirley Church then asked Patricia Crapet to introduce Judge Hub Harrington who administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Mayor Steve Zerkis, newly elected Council Members Brenda Bell Guercio and Jack M. Mendel, and incumbent Council Members Herb Robins Brian Stauss and Stewart Dudley. Copies of the Oath of Office were signed by each elected official and will be recorded with the Probate Judge in Columbiana and one copy will be retained in the files of the town. Each elected official will receive a copy of his/her oath of office.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Steve Zerkis and Council Members Herb Robins, Brenda Guercio, Brian Stauss, Jack Mendel and Stewart Dudley.

Mayor Steve Zerkis recognized Ruth Goodwyn for her many hours of service to the Town as Editor of the Village Voice and introduced Indian Springs Villager Alison Stigers as the person who will assume these responsibilities.

Mayor Zerkis announced the first order of business—the election of a Council Chairman Pro Tem. Council Member Brian Stauss made a motion to elect Herb Robins to this position. Council Member Brenda Guercio seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis asked the Council if they had reviewed the minutes of September 21, 2004. Council Member Robins made a motion to waive adoption of the September 21, 2004 minutes. Council Member Stauss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis requested the Council establish the time and place of the Town Council regular, twice monthly meetings. Council Member Stauss made a motion that these meetings be held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Council Member Robins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted. The Mayor noted the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 19, 2004 and would be held at the pavilion where everyone will celebrate Founders' Day.

Mayor Zerkis requested the Council elect (voice Vote) a Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Financial Officer/Treasurer and an Administrative Assistant. Council

Member Stewart Dudley made a motion to elect Shirley Church as Town Clerk; Jim Wyatt as Assistant Town Clerk, Paul Stephens as Financial Officer/Treasurer; and Bart Trammell as Administrative Assistant. Council Member Robins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis announced he would now hear a motion to ratify the use of present depositories. Council Member Dudley made a motion to ratify the use of the present depository; namely, Regions Bank. Council Member Stauss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis requested a motion to authorize signatories for the general checking account. Council Member Dudley made a motion for authorized signatories for the general checking account to remain the same with the exception of replacing Gene Weingarten with Mayor Zerkis. Council Member Guercio seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis requested the Town Council review and revise, if necessary, professional/general liability insurance policies. Council Member Dudley suggested the general liability policy be reviewed to insure that former officials are still covered for any official acts prior to resigning or leaving their official positions. He then made a motion that the professional/general liability insurance policies remain in effect. Council Member Robins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Zerkis recommended the Town Council review bond action to be taken and specify the amount of bond to be provided new appointees who will be required to handle money or exercise authority over property of the Town. The Mayor should approve such bonds and the Town Council should provide that the premium on such bonds should be born by the town treasury.

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Paul Stephens announced the books are in balance and are closed as of September 30, 2004. An engagement letter will be signed and the books will be handed over to our Auditor for the annual audit of these books from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004.

Council Member Robins thanked our past Mayor Gene Weingarten and past Council Members Patricia Crapet and Art Johnson for the privilege of working with them and expressed appreciation for their contributions in keeping the spirit of the Town alive.

Mayor Zerkis asked if there was any other business. Council Member Dudley made a motion the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church
Town Clerk

Town Council Meeting

October 19, 2004

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, October 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall Pavilion where the 14th Annual Founders' Day was celebrated with free hamburgers, hotdogs and homemade desserts.

Mayor Steve Zerkis expressed appreciation for everyone involved in keeping the spirit of the Town alive. He then presented plaques to the outgoing Mayor, Gene Weingarten, and Council Members Art Johnson and Patricia Crapet and past Editor of the Village Voice, Ruth Goodwyn. There was a special plaque awarded to Collyn Loper who won the gold medal in the Pan American games held in Santo Domingo that secured her the right to participate the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece this past August. There Ms. Loper placed fourth in trap shooting at the world competition. She has represented Indian Springs Village and the State of Alabama well.

Shelby County Commissioner and Villager Lindsey Allison presented a new ISV flag to the Town from Patricia Crapet to show her appreciation to the citizens of ISV for their past support and friendship. Patricia hopes this flag can serve the new Mayor and Council by becoming a symbol of encouragement to them for their continued efforts to preserve, protect, and enhance our Village.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Steve Zerkis and Council Members Herb Robins, Brenda Guercio and Jack Mendel.

Town Clerk Shirley Church presented the minutes of September 21, 2004 to the Council. Council Member Herb Robins made a motion to adopt the minutes. Council Member Brenda Guercio seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted. The minutes of October 04, 2004 were presented to the Council. Council Member Jack Mendel made a motion to adopt the minutes. Council Member Herb Robins seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.

Town Clerk Shirley Church reported revenues for the month as follows: General Account: Beer Tax - \$1,124; Building Permits - (Aug. & Sept.) \$3,368; Real Estate License: \$1; Vehicle License - \$664, resulting in a balance of \$68,336. The Road Fund received \$1,072 resulting in a balance of \$83,484. The

Children's Fund has approximately \$5,945. There were no non-routine expenses.

Council Member Brenda Guercio made a plea for assistance to the Shelby Humane Society, who had a sudden acquisition of approximately 200 dogs. The Society is in desperate need of blankets, towels and similar items in addition to any monetary assistance.

Mayor Steve Zerkis welcomed Glenn and Lucy Siddle and family as new residents. They are building a new home on acreage behind their present residence. The Mayor asked if there was any other business. Council Member Robins made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church
Town Clerk

Garden Club News

by Gladys Price, Indian Springs Village Garden Club

A Big Thank You to our fellow villagers and neighbors for making our Holiday Greenery Sale EVEN BIGGER this year. We appreciate all who contributed greenery and all who purchased from our sale.

We are and now looking forward to our annual christmas dinner party at the home of Ms. Eleana Bennett this month. In January we will return to our regular meeting date on the 4th Thursday of the month. That evening we'll be hosted by Mrs. Sandy Luster for a soup and salad supper followed by a brief meeting. New members are welcome - "Come Grow With Us" at the start of 2005. Questions - call Marge Dunn at 987-4765.

A very Merry Christmas and Many Blessings to you and yours in the New Year.

Help Needed! Mark Your Calendar!

Volunteers are needed to help us with grounds maintenance at the Town Hall. We are in need of some villagers who are willing to do heavy digging and pruning. Our work day will be the last Saturday of each month, starting Jan. 29th at 8:30 a.m. If rain or snow, or below 25°, we'll postpone to the following month.

North Shelby Library December Schedule

by Rachel Hodges, Children's/Teen Librarian

North Shelby Children's/Teen Department DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

The library will be closed 12/23-12/27 for the Christmas Holidays and 12/31-1/2 for the New Year's holidays.

Mondays, Dec. 6th, 13th, and 20th

Toddler Tales @ 10:30 & 11:30 am

~Special guest storyteller Amy Hogan on 12/13
(only @ 10:30)

Wednesdays, Dec. 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th

Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) @ 10:30 am

~Christmas Party with a Special Secret Guest, 12/15!

Thursdays, Dec. 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th

P. J. Storytime @ 7 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS!!!

***Join us Tuesday, December 14 from 6:30-7:30
for a Non-Party to Not Celebrate
the opening of the movie,**

"Lemony Snicket's Series of Unfortunate Events!!!"

For 3rd-6th graders

We'll have a miserable time eating horrible food and playing ridiculous games and we'll even give away pointless prizes! Limit 30, so sign up fast or you'll miss out on all the gloom!

Visit our website www.northshelbylibrary.org for more details or call 439-5504!

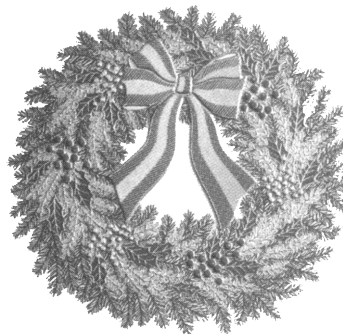
Donations for the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund

There are children who attend schools within Indian Springs Village who need your help. Each year school counselors provide an ISV representative with names of children who would not have Christmas without help. They provide the name of the child, age, and a 'wish list' prepared by the child. The list typically includes toys and clothes, and often will reflect the family's needs – towels, sheets, cookware. Every dollar donated goes directly to meet these needs. There are no administrative costs as all shopping and distribution of gifts is done by ISV volunteers. If you would like to donate to this most worthy cause, please make your checks payable to the **ISV Children's Fund** and mail to Shirley Church, ISV Town Clerk, 335 New Hope Mountain Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124.

Holiday Cheer at Town Council Meeting

by Alison Stigers, Editor

Come one, come all to the Town Council meeting on Tuesday, December 21. Following the meeting, attendees will gather for Indian Spring Village's annual holiday social. Bring your favorite holiday treat, whether savory or sweet, to share and enjoy egg nog and cider provided by the council.



Business Licenses

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

A reminder to everyone who operates a business within the city limits of Indian Springs Village that it's the time of the year when business licenses need to be renewed or obtained. If you haven't registered your business with the City Clerk, you are urged to do so now. You are required to have a license to operate a

business in any location in ISV. As a courtesy, invoices will be sent out in December. It is your responsibility to make sure those fees are paid on time. Annual business fees are due on January 1, 2005 and delinquent after January 31, 2005. The fees vary from \$25 to approximately \$200 depending on the type or types of businesses involved. As examples, the fee for professional services, or businesses engaged in various kinds of construction and remodeling, is \$100 per year. The fee is \$25 for businesses involved in sales including retail and wholesale, and also for those in the service industry. Enterprises with multiple lines of business could possibly have multiple fees. Checks should be sent to the City Clerk, Indian Springs Village, 2635 Cahaba Valley Road, Indian Springs Village, AL 35124

Creche Exhibit

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Cahaba Valley Road hosted a display of over 300 Nativity Exhibits from around the world. This exhibit was a joint effort by Latter Day Saints churches in Hoover and Indian Springs Village and was held in early December. Four years ago, members of two congregations got together to present a Nativity exhibit similar to one that they had known in a previous location. The churches made plans to present a joint Creche exhibit which has grown into this year's exhibit.

A Creche is the term used to describe the Christmas nativity scene. It initially referred to a crib but now refers to the entire nativity scene. People in various countries use local materials and styles to depict their view of this scene. Examples of these depictions were on display, and accompanied daily by music performances from several choirs including those from Oak Mountain Elementary third grade and faculty, Valley Intermediate School, Pelham High School and several church choirs.

Coyote Concerns and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

I've spoken to the Oak Mountain Wildlife Center recently. They say that coyotes have moved into our area in the past few years, and our cooler weather has made them more visible as they come out to forage for food. These sightings have raised some concerns about public safety. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions to help alleviate these concerns.

Should I worry about the coyotes?

Coyotes are part of the natural wildlife that surrounds Indian Springs Village. Generally they are non-aggressive and spend most of their time in the forest. They eat a variety of foods including plants and small animals and cause few problems for the community.

Are the coyotes dangerous?

Although they are wild animals and do hunt to survive, they will generally shy away and avoid people if possible and get aggressive only when approached or harassed. Although aggressive behavior toward people is rare, it is suggested that you watch from a distance and not try to follow or chase them. Children should be cautioned that coyotes are not dogs and they should not chase or try to pet them.

What about my pets?

It is the pet owner's responsibility to keep their pets safe. Small pets are susceptible to attack from coyotes and should be watched when outside. Unfortunately, coyotes will search out small animals for food so pet owners must be careful.

How do I keep coyotes away from my home?

Coyotes have no real desire to interact with people. They'd rather stay in our forests. They are near our homes because they are looking for food. Take some simple precautions and you may not have any unwanted coyote visitors. Make sure your garbage containers are closed and cannot be easily opened. Do not feed your pet outside, or leave pet food or snacks outside. Please pickup any food wrappers, and NEVER EVER feed the coyotes.

Fire Drills

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Did you know that 8 out of 10 people who die in a fire in this country die in their home? Most of these tragic deaths could be prevented if people took a little time to prepare themselves and their children for actions to survive a fire. Know what to do when your smoke alarm goes off! Have a "great escape" plan, and rehearse it.

What makes a "great escape" plan?

- Having at least one working smoke detector on every level of your home and near each sleeping area.
- Check your smoke detectors and change batteries frequently to make sure they work.
- Draw a floor plan of your home showing each room with windows and doors identified.
- Locate two ways out of each room. The first is the door and the second a window.
- Touch the door before opening to see if it is hot. If it is, try to use the second exit.
- Crawl low through smoke.
- Make sure all doors and windows can be easily opened from the inside.
- Pick out a meeting place outside a safe distance from your home and mark it on your plan. This could be a tree, mailbox etc.
- Make sure your address is clearly displayed on your home. Numerals should be at least 4" high.
- Practice your home escape plan at least twice a year.