

The Village Voice



Volume 15, Number 7 Indian Springs Village, Alabama October 11, 2005

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 18, 2005, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 1, 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: ISVillage@aol.com

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.

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the November edition should be submitted by Friday noon, October 28, 2005. 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
Herb Robins for proofing

Message from the Mayor

by Steve Zerkis

We are all going to hear a lot about the disaster that Katrina caused to people's lives. I was at a church social on a recent Sunday and local evacuees were invited. I was surprised at the numbers who had come up and were staying with relatives and friends from the church.

They would love to go home, but most know they can't for now and are working to move into their new home, Shelby County. Many children from Louisiana and Mississippi have enrolled in ISV public and private schools. There are several dozen in the Oak Mountain schools alone. Parents are looking for places to live, and for jobs. Many of our churches are providing assistance. If you can help in any way, it will be most appreciated.

ISV will have its annual Founder's Day Council Meeting the third Tuesday in October at the town pavilion at 7:00 pm. If you have any evacuees living with you or that you know of in the area, please invite them to join us as your guests for some good food and friendship from our ISV community.

We will also be glad to accept your financial donations for Katrina evacuees and disaster assistance.

Pat and I were driving on I-65 a number of times over the past several weeks, and we really were impressed to see the convoys of fire trucks and emergency vehicles driving south through the state from around the country. We saw a large part of a convoy of 100 fire trucks from the New York City Fire Department. They were accompanied by a number of command vehicles and NYPD squad cars. Illinois also sent convoys of fire equipment through the state. Most of these came from small towns from all around the state. I understand that they only stopped to refuel along the way, and carried their own water, food, gasoline/diesel and even mechanics into the disaster area. Everyone's help is most appreciated.

We have budgets

by Steve Zerkis

By the time you read this, ISV should have its Fiscal Year 2006 budget in place. Your Mayor and Council worked at length at our September 20th council meeting to discuss and create the coming fiscal year's budget.

The biggest change is a budget item to pay for additional sheriff's service. Several revisions to the draft budget will be made and a final version prepared for the Council by early October. Improved and more timely financial reporting is the major consequence of this review process.

Town Council Meeting

September 6, 2005

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, September 6, 2005 at 7:00 pm at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Steve Zerkis and Council Members Herb Robins, Brian Stauss, Brenda Guercio and Jack Mendel. Also present were Chief Financial Officer Paul Stephens and Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell.

The minutes of July 19, 2005 were presented and unanimously adopted and the minutes of August 2, 2005 and August 16, 2005 were presented and unanimously adopted as amended on a motion by Guercio; seconded by Stauss.

The financial report for July, 2005 was presented to the Council and unanimously adopted on a motion by Mendel; seconded by Zerkis.

Robins requested an updated map which would reflect current town limits. This will aid the town council in their discussions with the County Engineer concerning road maintenance responsibility. Trammell will obtain sufficient copies for all council members.

Mendel discussed the changes made on the financial report to allow for Certificate of Deposit and Capital Improvement Account information to be incorporated

The Town Council reviewed a letter from Dr. and Mrs. Robert Slaughter regarding development of their property. They are proposing to annex all of their property on Cahaba Valley Road into ISV and subdivide the rear acreage into lots conforming to the town's E-1 subdivision regulations.

Zerkis said that Sheriff Curry is discussing the sharing of police protection contract with Westover. Several questions from the city attorney about the contract will be submitted to Curry.

Zerkis will ask the four Oak Mountain school principals to submit a proposal within the next two weeks for possible ISV educational grants.

Zerkis will have a rough draft of the 2006 budget to present at the next council meeting.

There was discussion of possible ways that ISV may be of assistance in Katrina disaster relief efforts. Donations for relief assistance will be accepted at the October ISV Founders Day council meeting.

A presentation was made by Director Paige Phillips, and Board Members Diane Henderson and Kay Till of the Shelby County Humane Society asking ISV to be the site of their annual fund raising event.

There being no further business, the council accepted a motion by Mendel that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Helping Schools

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

At our September 20th Town Council meeting, the Mayor and Council were pleased to unanimously vote to award grants of \$4,000 to each of the four Oak Mountain schools. Each school was asked to describe how they will use the funds to help students and teachers to improve their performance. Here are examples of how these grant funds will be used:

Intermediate School: They have identified over 200 students who are not reading at the Alabama Reading Initiative benchmark, or scored lower than 50% on their Stanford Achievement Test. Levelized reading materials specifically designed for these learners will be purchased.

High School: They will be purchasing science laboratory equipment, library books, periodicals and supplies, support a health-wellness program, provide job-embedded professional development for teachers, and a peer assistance program.

Middle School: Develop their broadcast journalism program. Assist students in providing a daily newscast via the school's closed-circuit system, and purchasing studio and educational equipment.

Elementary School: They will be investing these funds in professional development for their teachers to attend literacy and instruction workshop and conferences. These funds will pay the workshop fees and the cost of the substitutes for the teachers attending.

The ISV grant program is an excellent way we can directly assist our neighborhood schools.

New Neighbors

The Hale family has just moved into the Jones property at 505 Highgate Hill Road: Keith, Cheryl, Joie Ann, age 10, and Clark, age 8. Cheryl works in the same RealtySouth office as Village resident Tricia Crapet. We welcome the Hale family to Indian Springs.

Garden Club News

by Marge Dunn, President, Indian Springs Garden Club

It is fall harvest time. We will celebrate with a Harvest Supper on October 27th at the Indian Springs Town Hall at 6:00 pm. This will be our regular monthly meeting.

Any villagers interested in joining our club feel free to call Marge Dunn at 987-4765. We'll have lots of good home-cooked food and warm fellowship to share.



*Happy 15th Birthday
Indian Springs Village!*

Fifteenth Annual Founders' Day Celebration
Tuesday, October 18, 2005 ISV Town Hall Pavilion

Free Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks and Home-Made Desserts
Come celebrate the founding of your town with family, friends and neighbors

Dinner will be served beginning at 6:00 pm Town Council meeting begins at 7:00 pm
Bring a favorite dessert to share!

Donations will be accepted to aid those victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
currently in Shelby County.

Checks can be made payable to the **Salvation Army** and be designated for:
Shelby County Disaster Relief.

Captains Kevin and Rita Strickland of the Salvation Army will join us as our special guests.

Community Food Drive

submitted by Kelly Rasco, Villager

Valleydale Church will be sponsoring a community-wide food drive in November. They are partnering with Oak Mountain Ministries, a local charitable organization that provides food, clothing and household items to the needy in Shelby County and to displaced hurricane victims. Valleydale church members will be in your neighborhood November 6-12 collecting non-perishable food items. For more information, go to www.valleydale.org.

October Happenings

Submitted by Rachel Hodges, North Shelby Library
Children's/Teen Department Librarian

**Beginning October 1, the library will be open until 4:00
on Saturdays.**

Visit our website www.northshelbylibrary.org for more
details or call 439-5504 or email [nsyouth@shelbycounty-
al.org](mailto:nsyouth@shelbycounty-
al.org)!

Special Programming

Thursday, Oct 13 at 5:00—Bat House Program. Join us in
welcoming bats into our library family! We will watch a video
on the wondrous world of bats and then hang a bat box to
invite these highly beneficial and amazing animals to the North
Shelby Library.

**Tuesday, Oct 18 at 6:30—Evenings at the Library presents,
“Hoodoo, Haints, and Horror: Alabama’s Historically
Haunted Places.”** Brought to you by the Alabama Humanities
Foundation. Join professor Alan Brown as he takes you
on a journey to some of Alabama’s most haunted places.
Refreshments served.

For all ages: *It’s that time of year again to visit the **Pump-
kin Patch!** Decorate a pumpkin and bring it to the library
Oct 17-27. Every entry is a winner! You can pick up your
pumpkins Friday, October 28 just in time for Halloween!

***Saturday, Oct 15 at 12:00—Cinematic Saturday.** We’ll be
showing “Scooby Doo’s Creepiest Capers” and serving pop-
corn and drinks.

***Tuesday, Oct 18 at 4:00—Autumn Wreath Craft.** Celebrate
the beginning of fall by making a wreath to decorate your
home!

***Thursday, Oct 27 at 5:00—Halloween Movie Night!** Join
us for that all-time classic, *It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie
Brown!* Snacks served.

***Saturday, Oct 29 5-7—Halloween Carnival!!!** Join us for a
spookadelic time with the haunting tunes of Bobby T, strange
games and crafts, and creepy food! Come in costume to be
eligible for the costume contest!

For Grades 2 and up:

***Tuesday, Oct 11 at 4:30—R. L. Stine’s Birthday!!** Help us
celebrate this master of horror’s birthday with a *Goosebumps*
movie, games and snacks. Grades 2 and up. **Must register
to attend.**

Teen Zone *Sign up for the Teen Advisory Group! **Have a
say in what your library does! Call or email Rachel—
439-5504 or [nsyouth@shelbycounty-
al.org](mailto:nsyouth@shelbycounty-
al.org).**

~Regular Programming~

Mondays, October 3, 10, 17, and 24

Toddler Tales @ 10:30 & 11:30 am

For ages 18-36 months. Registration required. You can call
the library at 439-5504 to sign-up or put your name down for
the coming weeks after the program.

Wednesdays, October 5, 12, 19, and 26

Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) @ 10:45 am. For all
ages.

Thursdays, October 6, 13, 20, and 27

P. J. Storytime @ 7 pm. For all Ages.

Villager Publishes Thirteenth Book

Indian Springs Village resident Don Keith has published
his thirteenth book, the true tale of an amazing World War II
submarine. Keith tells the story of the USS *Batfish*, which
sank three enemy submarines in three days, an almost impos-
sible feat. However, the details of the story make it an even
more remarkable, death-defying accomplishment. Keith also
recounts how that submarine has come to rest today in a bean
field in the middle of the Dust Bowl in Oklahoma, not far
from the Cherokee Nation’s capital.

In the Course of Duty is not just of interest to historians
or military buffs. It delves into the very human story of the
submarine’s unbelievably young crew and the personalities of
her strong-willed commanding officers who voluntarily risked
their lives to defend their country from a fanatical enemy. That
theme resonates with events of today. And Keith also de-
scribes the determined group of sub veterans in Oklahoma
who decided they wanted themselves a submarine—come hell
or high water—to serve as a memorial to their fellow submar-
iners who died in the course of duty, and how those men
conspired to bring *Batfish* to the middle of the Cherokee Na-
tion.

The book has been selected as a featured selection of The
Military Book Club in its special Veterans’ Day offering. Best-
selling author Robert Vaughn (*Whose Voice the Waters Heard*)
says, “This is a must read for anyone who has a concept of
duty, honor and service to one’s country.” Former submarine
skipper William Anderson, who took USS *Nautilus* under the
polar ice cap on her historic mission, says of *In the Course of
Duty*, “Well told... a fascinating true adventure.” The Associ-
ated Press has described Keith’s work as “moving and worth-
while reading.”

Keith’s other works have dealt fictionally with college foot-
ball, the broadcasting business, NASCAR racing and a nuclear
submarine stalking drug dealers who are intent on bringing a
deadly strain of cocaine into the U.S. aboard a mini-sub. That
novel, *Final Bearing*, is a national bestseller. His debut novel,
The Forever Season, was named “Fiction of the Year” by the
Alabama Library Association. He also did another non-fic-
tion book, *Gallant Lady*, which told the amazing story of
Batfish’s sister World War II submarine, USS *Archerfish*,
which sank the largest vessel ever sunk by a submarine, at
one point had the Navy’s only all bachelor crew, and per-
formed a top-secret mission that contributed mightily to our
victory over the Soviets in the Cold War.

Details of all of Keith’s works can be found at his web site:
www.donkeith.com.

Upcoming area events:

Wednesday, October 19, 4 to 6 PM, reading and signing at
Alabama Booksmith, 2626 19th Place South, Homewood, (205)
870-4242.

Friday, October 21, 7 PM, reading and signing at Barnes &
Noble Booksellers, 201 Summit Boulevard, Birmingham, (205)
967-2647.