

The Village Voice



Volume 15, Number 10

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

January 10, 2006

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 17, 2006 , 7:00 PM

Tuesday, February 7, 2006, 7:00 PM

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 February edition should be submitted by Friday noon, January 27, 2006. 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

Holidays

Our Holiday Season of Christmas and Hanukkah is passing and it has been a wonderful time for many of us. It was so nice to drive around town and see all the lights, ribbons and decorations on our homes and yards. I'm sure we all appreciated the efforts taken by many of our residents to brighten up their homes and neighborhoods with signs of good cheer. Many thanks to so many neighbors who have taken the time to decorate our street signs with ribbons and garland.

Many, many thanks to the Crapet family who arranged to have a certain red-suited bearded gentleman take a break from his busy schedule of toy making and fly down from his North Pole home to greet and talk at our Town Hall with children of all ages on December 10th. He obviously enjoyed the visit and we all enjoyed his company. Tricia, Mike and Joseph did a wonderful job of decorating the Town Hall both outside and the parlor.

And more thanks to the people who came to our Christmas and Holiday Party at the town Hall after our council meeting on December 20th and brought all those pastries and goodies for everyone to enjoy. I know I did, and now I am going to have to get on an exercise program for the new year, but it was worth it.

Many thanks to Margie Robins and her team who did such a wonderful job of bringing some joy to the homes of over fifty children this Christmas with gifts, toys and other items they otherwise would not have had. Thank you for your donations to the ISV Children's Fund which made this happen. Margie works with Oak Mountain school counselors to identify those children who have real needs. Some of those children will continue to need some help throughout the school year. If you can provide financial help for this effort, it will be most appreciated.

2006 is here, a new year, a new start. I wish you all Peace and a most Happy New Year.

Town Council Meeting

November 15, 2005

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, November 15, 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, Council Members Herb Robins, Brian Stauss, Brenda Bell Guercio and Jack Mendel. Also present was Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning & Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones.

The minutes of the November 01, 2005 council meeting were accepted as amended on a motion by Robins; seconded by Mendel.

The October 2005 financial report was accepted on a motion by Mendel; seconded by Stauss.

Jones presented a plat application combining the four Rite-Aid parcels into one parcel. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the application request. The application was unanimously accepted on a motion by Robins; seconded by Stauss.

Robins announced he is still working on a report to verify how many miles of road for which Indian Springs Village currently has maintenance responsibility according to State laws.

Robins reported the Emergency Disaster Relief Kit in CD format from the Alabama League of Municipalities will be available at no cost to each municipality in the first quarter of 2006.

There was discussion regarding a report presented by **Mendel** indicating his findings on the possible use of impact fees within our town.

Guercio reported the need for donations to the ISV Children's Fund. Marge Robins will continue to coordinate shopping for the children's gifts. Guercio also stressed the need for volunteers to assist Margie. Margie can be contacted at 980-9217. An article will be placed in the next issue of *The Village Voice*.

Guercio announced the Annual ISV Christmas Party will be held on December 20th where she plans to have a donation container for the ISV Children's Fund.

We understand there will be a visit by a certain bearded gentleman in a red suit to visit the Indian Springs Village children at the town hall on December 10th.

Stauss reported the parlor and dining room of the town hall will be painted in the near future. He announced there will be an annexation committee meeting next Monday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss possible parcels that could be considered for annexation and all who are interested are invited to attend this meeting.

There was discussion regarding some areas of ISV experiencing drainage problems.

There was general discussion regarding the selection of an auditor for ISV.

There was discussion regarding the Cease and Desist letters sent by the County and Mayor Zerkis regarding dumping of dirt and construction debris on a flood plain in and around Caldwell Mill Road and Highway 119. Amanda Lowery, ADEM, has talked to the property owner regarding this situation and will contact our Town Engineer. This situation is also being reviewed by our Town Attorney, Russ Allison.

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Zerkis.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Town Council Meeting

December 6, 2005

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, December 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, Council Members Herb Robins, Brian Stauss, Brenda Bell Guercio and Jack Mendel. Also present were Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning & Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones.

The minutes of the November 15, 2005 council meeting were accepted on a motion by Guercio; seconded by Robins.

Robins stated the road report concerning Indian Springs Village's road maintenance responsibilities has been completed. Pursuant to the procedures set out in the Code of Alabama, Sections 11-49-80 and 11-49-81, ISV is responsible for approximately two miles of road out of approximately fourteen miles within our town limits. These are portions of dedicated roads adjacent to properties annexed into ISV after July 7, 1995 and which are bounded on both sides by ISV. All other roads are either the responsibility of the County, the State or are undedicated roads which are not maintained by any governmental entity.

Robins announced Margie Robins along with Oak Mountain School Counselors will be shopping for families within our school system. Funding is provided through the ISV Children's Fund. Any volunteers to assist in this effort will be appreciated. We have approximately twice as many children in need this year.

Guercio reported she would have a box available at the Town Hall for ISV Children's Fund donations. She said the Shelby County Humane Society has been given approval to hold their fundraising function at the ISV Town Hall next spring.

Trespassing and Hunting

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Stauss reported there was an ISV annexation committee meeting on November 21. The committee continued discussions regarding an annexation vision for the City. Stauss reported Shelby Food Mart has agreed to allow us to use their facility as one of our four sites for posting of legal notices.

Stauss reported Shelby Food Mart is having drainage problems adjacent to the highway. Robins will contact State Highway Department District Engineer Gary Ray to investigate this problem.

Zerkis discussed the situation regarding dumping of dirt and construction debris on the flood plain of a lot at the Caldwell Mill Road/AL Highway 119 intersection and on an adjoining lot on 119 owned by Messrs. Maddox.

There was discussion regarding a flooding problem At Old Mill Road and McGuire Road. The County will be contacted regarding this situation.

There was discussion regarding the selection of an auditor for the town.

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Zerkis.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk



Top: Older kids, Sherrel and Billie McClure of Alpine Way, came by to visit Santa.

Bottom: Just one week old and already visiting Santa, Taylor Lee Vargas, newborn son of Esau and Christina Vargas and grandson of Mike and Phelan Webb of Cahaba Oaks.

Several of our home owners are informing their neighbors individually by letter that continued trespassing on their property must stop. Apparently there has been trespassing on these properties for some time by campers, dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles and the like, but recently it has become very ugly. Several boys set up a hunting blind and have been baiting the area with corn. They have shot several deer with bows and arrows. Recently a pregnant deer was mortally wounded and left to die, after which she was butchered. The details get more gruesome and I will not go into them.

It's against State law to hunt over bait such as corn. Trespassing is also against the law. The property owners have verbally asked trespassers to not come on their property and have been ignored. They have now talked to the Shelby County Sheriff and the State Game Warden. I'm bringing this to your attention because these neighbors are simply asking for cooperation in what has become a very nasty matter.

One more thing for everyone's information. The Alabama Power towers and lines are located on private property. Alabama Power has an easement from the individual property owners to run their high voltage power lines. Alabama Power does not own the property on which its towers are located, so if there is trespassing on that easement, that trespassing is occurring on private property.

Ho Ho Ho! Santa Visits ISV

by Tricia Crapet, Villager

The Indian Springs Village Town Hall was a scene of great activity on Saturday, December 10, 2005. This was a very important and eagerly awaited day, as a certain special guest from the North Pole paid a visit to all the good little girls and boys in the Village.

Santa Claus visited with children of all ages, handing out candy canes and attentively listening to wish lists as the wide-eyed children's parents snapped photos of the event. Occasionally, even the parents and grandparents took a turn in Santa's lap to make their own grown-up requests for Christmas. There were even a few tattle-tales in the crowd, telling Santa about their brothers or sisters who had slightly misrepresented just how good they had been all year. Imagine that!

Village families enjoyed refreshments, including fresh baked goodies and hot apple cider while visiting with Santa, neighbors, and friends. The day was enjoyed by all, especially those parents who loved not having to stand in the long lines at the mall for a short chat with the jolly old elf. Santa has promised to come back next year on Saturday, December 9, 2006 for a return visit, so mark your calendars early.

North Shelby Children's/Teen Department January Happenings

submitted by Tess Bouvier, North Shelby Library Children's/Teen Department Librarian

Visit our website www.northshelbylibrary.org for more details or call 439-5504 or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org!
Special Programming:

***Tuesday, Jan 24 at 4:30—Chinese New Year Craft and Story-Time.** Would you like to learn more about the Chinese culture from a Chinese native, Mrs. Chang? How about learning how to say “Hello” and “Happy New Year!” in Chinese? Come and join us for fun learning, “dragon dancing”, folk tales and a Chinese mask craft!!!

Registration Required. Grades 2-8.

For All Ages:

***Tuesday, Jan 10 at 4:30—“Happy New Year”! Craft. An explosion of paint and fun!**

Experiment with glue, paint, straws, toothbrushes, string and lots of glitter to create your very own beautiful fireworks painting! **Come dressed in old clothes!**

Registration Required. Registration begins Tuesday, January 3rd. All Ages.

For Grades 2 and up:

***January 14 at 1:30—Cinematic Saturday-Tim Burton’s, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”.** This newly released film from the classic children’s book by Roald Dahl is sure to make you laugh like crazy! Join us in the meeting room to watch the movie while you munch on popcorn and some special candy treats, of course!

(115 Minutes-PG). **Grades 2 and Up.**

Teen Zone

***January YA Pick: STORMBREAKER by Anthony Horowitz.** Visit our Teen website for information about this awesome, British spy thriller!

***Participate in our MONTHLY YA PICK!** Suggest one of your favorite YA books and we will buy some copies for the library and have them ready for you all to check out! If we pick your book to display, you’ll receive a cool gift as a thank you for your help!

***Sign up for the Teen Advisory Group!** Have a say in what your library does! Call or email Tess—439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org.

~Regular Programming~

Mondays, Jan. 9, 23 and 30

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. You may begin registration the last Monday of the month for the following month of programs.

Wednesdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25

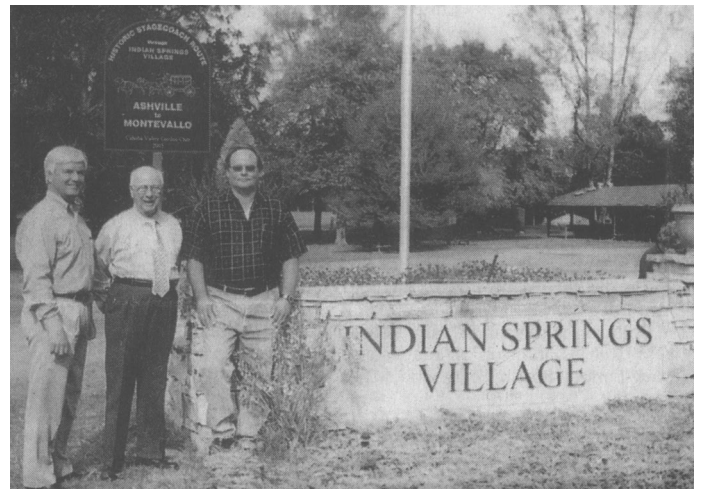
Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) @ 10:45 am

All ages.

Thursdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26

P. J. Storytime @ 7 pm

All ages.



Dedication of historic route marker in memory of Frances Dudley

At the November 9th meeting of the Cahaba Valley Garden Club, members gathered at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall to place a marker commemorating the historic stage coach route from Ashville to Montevallo. The marker was dedicated in memory of Frances Dudley, past president of the Garden Club who resided in Indian Springs Village. Her husband, Ray, and her sons, Stewart and Richard, were present for the dedication.



Holiday Gathering following December 20th Town Council Meeting. There was an amazing selection of delicious things to eat.



Bar t Trammel's t-shirt says "Does this shirt make me look fat?"

Community Brief

by *Natasha Hanna, Library Staff*

Just a week after the Alabama/Auburn football season officially ended, two fans scored big wins at the North Shelby Public Library. On December 2nd, Rick Ray and Shirley Reid were delighted to discover that their names had been drawn as the winners for two special pictures. Donated by the New Life Art Gallery, the images each depicted critical moments in both Alabama and Auburn football history, respectively. Director Carol Farr officiated the drawing with very special guests, former Alabama football star, Andrew Zow and former Auburn hero, Rob Pate, randomly selecting the winners. Both victors plan to surprise their grandchildren with the paintings as a Christmas gift. North Shelby's Children's Department also scored a touchdown with the raffle; fans and library patrons contributed \$700.00 during the month of November. The money will be used to purchase new books for the department.



Andrew Zow, Carol Farr and Rob Pate.

Building Permits

submitted by *Frazier Christy, Town Engineer*

Applicant: John Loper	Owner: William T. Bradford	764 Miller Circle	Pool and landscaping
Applicant: Sonny Garner	Owner: Phillip G. Pope	2560 Indian Crest Drive	Stand-by power
Applicant: Roseland Griffin	Owner: Same	190 New Hope Mountain Road	Residence

Indian Springs Garden Club News

by *Marge Dunn, President*

We are excited and looking forward to a fun year of garden club activities. We'll start the year at our first meeting by installing our new officers. Our new slate of officers will be:

Lynn Hendricks - President	Jean Jenkins - Vice President
Jennie Pittman - Secretary	Nola Stans - Treasurer

As usual in January it will be a cold evening, but we have a cozy, warm program planned. Our own Jennie Pittman is going to tell us about a special old hand-made quilt. It was made in 1977 by the ladies of New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church, as a fund-raising project. Jennie will show us this prized quilt which she and 15 ladies worked on together. She will also share many stories of the fellowship, assembly and quilting process, and how she came to be the owner of this valued treasure. We invite anyone in the Village to join us for this fun program.

We'll meet at the Town Hall on January 26th at 7 PM. At this meeting we'll renew our membership and invite anyone in the Village to join our club.

With our updated membership list, Del Levesque will compile our new year book for distribution at our February meeting. Come Grow with Us or for questions call Marge Dunn at 987-4765.

Garden Tips: Plan spring gardens, place seed orders and start garden journals.

Visit the internet resources listed:

Alabama Cooperative Extension Service: www.aces.edu

The plants database has over 45, 000 images of plants and extensive details on each: www.plantsdatabase.com

Garden Conservancy: www.gardenconservancy.org.

Thinking of Being Annexed?

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

If you are receiving this newsletter for the first time, or only recently, chances are you are not actually in the incorporated limits of Indian Springs Village but right on the very edge, in unincorporated Shelby county. We'd like to invite you to join and be annexed into our Town. There are some nice benefits of being in the Town with no costs to you. The Town has no property taxes. That means the only taxes you pay are those the county has been levying on you and we don't add anything to that. By being in Indian Springs Village, your government is local and close to you. We are easy to reach if you have any questions or suggestions, only a phone call away. Our Town Council meetings are twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 PM and you are welcome to attend and share your comments. Our Town Hall is available for private meetings and parties at no cost. We do distribute and hand deliver a monthly newsletter of Town activities, the one you are reading now. We have four annual events at the Town Hall and Pavilion that are opportunities to meet neighbors, share some food and pastries and generally have a good time: Easter Egg Hunt, Fourth of July, Founders Day in October and the Christmas Holiday party.

How do we function with no property taxes? We do get small amounts of revenue from the state and from fees on utilities. We can survive on this because we are frugal and maintain a low cost government. Our biggest asset is the time spent by many, many volunteers to help make Indian Springs Village a very good town in which to live.

If you would like to be annexed, the process is very easy. Please call our Assistant Town clerk, Jim Wyatt at 205 988-0327 and he will be glad to send you the application form. When you return the completed form, we will obtain some documents from Shelby County that give us the legal description of your property. These documents will be introduced to the Town Council in the form of an ordinance to accept your property into the town. It's as simple as that, and there are no fees or costs to do this. So, come on in. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jim Wyatt, or me at 733-9935, and we will be glad to discuss the process.

Coyotes are Back

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

I have received calls that a large coyote has been seen walking near Indian Crest Drive in the area of the water tower. This animal was described as being approximately 100 pounds. Regardless of its weight, a coyote is a predator and our pets can be at danger. Please keep an eye out for their safety.

In Memoriam

Thomas R. Allison, a resident of Montgomery, died November 27, 2005. Funeral services were held Tuesday, November 29th, at the First United Methodist Church at 11:00, with Dr. Karl Stegall, Bishop Paul Duffey, Rev. Ben Sawada, and Rev. Joe Ed Hastings officiating. Burial followed at Greenwood Cemetery. Visitation was at 10:00 in the Friendship Room at Fellowship Hall at the First United Methodist Church. Mr. Allison is survived by his wife of 49 years, Harriet Borland Allison; a son, Russell Allison and daughter-in-law, Lindsey, of Indian Springs Village; a daughter, Denise Woodham and son-in-law, Barry; four grandchildren, Kelsey and Leigh Allison, and Matthew and Jake Woodham; a sister, Jane Johnson and brother-in-law, Hubert of Franklin, TN. Mr. Allison was formerly a resident of Cecil, AL. In World War II he served in the Army Air Corps in the Third Emergency Air Rescue Squadron of the 5th Air Force. After graduating from Huntington College and going to graduate school at Tulane University, he had a 24 year career as a U.S. Treasury Agent with Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). He then had a ten year career as an attorney with the Office of the Attorney General. In 2000 he authored the book "Moonshine Memories". Pallbearers were Mr. Leonard Johnson, Mr. Robert Johnson, Mr. Stuart Johnson, Lt. Col. Brian Johnson, Mr. Walter Norris, and Mr. Robert Guilford. Honorary pallbearers were members of the Tower Class of the First United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church, 2416 West Cloverdale Park, Montgomery, AL 36106 or your favorite charity. (Reprinted from the Montgomery Advertiser.)

Bertie Poindexter Jones born January 9, 1906, died December 27, 2005 and is now at rest with her Lord. Predeceased by her husband, Walter Edward Jones, and son, Walter, Jr., Bertie is survived by son Donald Hugh Jones (Anita) of Indian Springs Village; sister, Mildred Adams of Birmingham; and brother, Walter Alvis Poindexter of Arlington, Texas; 7 grandchildren: Susan Horn (Charles), David Jones (Betty), Kathy Webster (David), Michael Jones (Shellie Jo), Donald Jones, Jr. (Lauree), Warren Jones (Leigh Fran) of Indian Springs Village, and Wayne Jones (Laura) of Indian Springs Village; 19 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren. The family received friends beginning at 10 a.m. on December 29th until the 11 am service at Elmwood Chapel. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery. Ridout's Elmwood Chapel directing (205) 251-7227. (Reprinted from The Birmingham News.)