

The Village Voice



Volume 16, Number 1 Indian Springs Village, Alabama April 11, 2006

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 18, 2006 , 7:00 PM

Tuesday, May 2, 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 May edition should be submitted by Friday, April 28, 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

Transitions

A lot has been occurring and will occur this year. We've lost another Village resident this month in Ed Lusk. His obituary is in the newsletter. If you knew him, you know he was warm, friendly and easy to talk with. The few conversations he and I had were special to me. Ginny, he will be missed.

What we won't find joyful this year is the road construction on Highway 119. As you know, the State Department of Transportation is going to have not just one, but two road projects on this road this year and part of 2007. They will be adding turn lanes and completely repaving the surface. This will create traffic problems on 119 and our other streets as lanes are blocked. Arrowhead, Indian Crest and Valley View are also going to see their share of heavy traffic. I can guarantee that there will be delays and more than a few Excedrin headaches so please bear with the problem. We will end up with a much safer highway for all of us.

Our Easter Egg Hunt is coming up this month so please bring your children to the Village park for some fun and goodies. Besides a visit from the Easter Bunny, there will be some special treats for the children. We also invite the parents of the children to come that morning to help with the set up at 9:00 a.m.

We will also be having a fun pet event in the Village park later this spring, and you and your pet will not want to miss that.

Final point: it's spring, the town is turning a beautiful green, and the dogwood and cherry trees are in bloom. Please take some time to do a spring trash pickup on a roadside near you. If you have a neighbor who needs some help with their roadside, I hope you will assist. Let's all do our part to keep Indian Springs Village a beautiful town.

A Reminder

submitted by Bart Trammell, Administrative Assistant

Just a reminder that the Town of Indian Springs Village no longer collects aluminum cans for recycling, so please do not leave them at the Town Hall. Recycling containers are located at Heardmont Park.

Also, there will be a free day at the Shelby County Landfill on Saturday, April 8, 2006.

Town Council Meeting

February 21, 2006

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. 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, Brenda Bell- Guercio and Brian Stauss. Also present were Chief Financial Officer Paul Stephens, Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning and Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones.

The Town Council Minutes of February 7, 2006 were accepted on a motion by Guercio, seconded by Stauss. The December, 2005 financial report was approved on a motion by Stauss, seconded by Robins. The January, 2006 financial report was approved on a motion by Stauss, seconded by Robins.

Stephens reported his findings for best interest rates for a \$100,000 Road Fund CD and \$75,000 General Fund CD. His research indicated Compass Bank would provide these CDs for one year at an interest rate of 5%. Stauss made a motion, seconded by Guercio, that these CDs be purchased at the bank that would provide at least a 5% interest return for one year.

Stephens announced he will get in touch with the new auditor, Barfield Murphy Shank & Smith, tomorrow to set up a review of FY2005 financial records.

There was discussion regarding missing signs on several streets. These will be ordered and replaced.

Robins announced drainage problems with culverts at Double Oak Lane had been corrected and the Double Oak/Highway 119 entrance had been repaired.

Robins reported a solar light has been ordered and he will determine how effective it will be to use at the town entrance signs.

Guercio announced that the Shelby County Humane Society has decided to change their event at the Town Hall grounds to a celebration of pets with a blessing of the animals to be given by Reverend Rebecca S. DeBow followed by coffee and continental breakfast. Reverend DeBow is Rector of The Episcopal Church of St. Francis in ISV.

Guercio reported the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 15, and as many volunteers as possible are needed.

Zerkis announced the Shelby County Commission and ISV are pursuing a lawsuit regarding floodway and debris violations at the properties located at and near the corner of Caldwell Mill Road and Cahaba Valley Road owned by Larry Maddox.

ISV will begin to enforce the Abandoned Car Ordinance in the near future. Many ISV residents have complied while others have not.

Zerkis announced that a cleanup on Highway 119 will be conducted in mid-March and coordinated with volunteers from the town, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Residents are also encouraged to perform spring cleaning along streets in their neighborhoods.

It was reported that Alison Stigers needs everyone in ISV to send her noteworthy information for *The Village Voice*.

Zerkis met with several smaller Shelby County municipalities regarding possible animal control services from the County. He will attend a second meeting on February 22nd regarding this matter.

Stauss made a motion, seconded by Guercio, that the Shelby Food Mart, located at 3125 Cahaba Valley Road, be declared as one of the four designated sites for posting of public notices for ISV. Motion was approved. This site replaces the Sunny Food store on Caldwell Mill Road.

Wyatt discussed ADEM and the testing of pollution in ISV creeks. This will be researched and a report requested from ADEM.

Zerkis adjourned meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Town Council Meeting

March 7, 2006

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Mayor Steve Zerkis called the roll. Present were Council Members Herb Robins, Jack Mendel, Brenda Bell Guercio and Stewart Dudley. Also present were Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning and Zoning Chair Wayne Jones.

Town Council Minutes of February 21, 2006 were accepted on a motion by Guercio, seconded by Robins.

Robins has ordered a solar light to be used as a test with the Town's entry sign on Highway 119, and will follow-up on payment and delivery. He will also obtain catalogs from Econo Signs from which to order street and traffic signs. The turn-lane project along Highway 119 should be let out for bid by the State in April, 2006 and the work should take from twelve to eighteen months to complete.

Dudley pointed out that some or all of the original water pipes along Highway 119 had been manufactured using asbestos and that the road contractor should be made aware of that possible situation.

13th Annual Indian Springs Village Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15,
2006 - 3:00 p.m.
Indian Springs
Village Town Hall

All children through the age of 12
are invited! Bring your own baskets,
and be ready to hunt for eggs, trinkets,
candy & CASH PRIZES!

In case of rain, please stop by
between 3 & 5 to pick up a
“Goody Bag”

Guercio reported on her planning for the annual Easter Egg Hunt including small gifts and coupons for the children. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for the children. Volunteers are encouraged to assist in the set-up of this annual program, at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15.

A Litter Clean-UP Walk will be held by the village and local church organizations along Highway 119 on Saturday, March 11. Residents are also encouraged to pick up the streets and roads in their areas.

Funds from the General Fund (\$75k) and the Road Fund (\$100k) have been invested in Certificates of Deposit at Regions Bank paying 5% for one year.

The annual audit is underway and Paul Stephens has been asked to provide the Town's accounting records for the auditor's review.

County and Town lawyers are working on a complaint to be filed regarding the dumping of dirt and

material in the floodway on Highway 119 properties on or near Caldwell Mill Road. These properties are owned by members of the Maddox family. Attorney Jim Fuhrmeister has been retained by the Town to pursue this matter.

The Mayor has attended two meetings regarding the possibility of obtaining animal control services from the County for towns in Shelby County.

The County Engineer has installed additional 25 mph speed signs along Indian Crest Drive and Valley View Drive.

Robins has requested a report from ADEM regarding their program of testing for pollution in waterways within the Town.

Zerkis made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Bless Them All...Great and Small

by Diane Henderson, Board Member

Shelby Humane Society is hosting a spring celebration acknowledging the many blessings pets bring into our lives. ***Bless Them All...Great and Small*** will be held on April 29, 2006 at Indian Springs Village Town Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Money raised from the event will assist the shelter in caring for the thousands of animals they take in each year. Additionally, the event will promote their Guardian Angel Program that allows an individual or business the opportunity to become a Guardian Angel to a pet waiting for a loving family.

The public is invited to bring their pets to receive individual blessings by The Rev. Rebecca Debow, Rector of St. Francis Episcopal Church and enjoy a morning of soft sounds by a trio from the Alabama Symphony.

Coffee, bagels and doughnuts will be available as well as unique gifts for you and your pet. In lieu of admission donations are welcome.

We hope to have good support from the residents of Indian Springs and the surrounding communities and plan to make it an annual event each spring.

For further information or if anyone is interested in helping out by volunteering their time or contributing a sponsorship, please contact Kay Till at 563-6284 or Diane Henderson at 999-1572.

North Shelby Children's/Teen Department April Happenings

by Tess Bouvier, North Shelby Library Children's & Young Adult Librarian

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

Special Programming:

* **“Young People’s Poetry Contest”** Did you know that ***Young People’s Poetry Week*** begins on April 10th? Come to the library and submit a poem that you love, or one that you have written yourself by **April 18th**! After submitting your poem, you may enter your name in our drawing for a prize! **All Ages Welcome!**

* **Wednesday, April 19 at 4:30- “Amazing Animals”** Come and celebrate Earth Day with the McWane Center and some of their *amazing* slimy, fuzzy and furry friends!

All Ages. Registration Required.

* **Tuesday, April 25th at 4:30 - “Sunflowers!”** Do you like to play in the dirt? How about planting flowers? Come and plant some **Sunflowers** here at the library. Then, take them home and watch them **grow!** **Grades K-3. Registration Required.**

For All Ages:

* **Tuesday, April 11 at 4:30- Craft-“Easter Eggstravaganza!”** Come and join us for some edible art! We are going to decorate some egg shaped cookies with icing, sprinkles and other sweet treats. **Registration Required.**

* **Saturday, April 29 at 1:30—Cinematic Saturday-“Homeward Bound, the Incredible Journey”.** Come and join three sweet animals, Chance, Sassy and Shadow on an incredible journey across the Sierras as they encounter unexpected surprises from man, animal and nature alike! **Snacks Served! (1 Hour and 24 Minutes. Rated G).**

Teen Zone

* **“Teen Book Group”** Do you think that Book Discussion Groups are only for adults? No way! How would you like to **meet people** your age, read books that YOU find **interesting** and eat **pizza**?! Call or email Tess—439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org to **register**.

* **April YA Pick: Looking for Alaska** by John Green. Visit our Teen website for more information about this new book. The story takes place at a teen boarding school in Birmingham, Alabama.

* **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!

~Regular Programming~

Mondays, April 10, 17 and 24

Toddler Tales @ 10:30 & 11:30 am

For ages **24-36 months**. You can call the library at 439-5504 to sign-up. You may begin registration the last Toddler Tales of the month for the following month of Toddler Tales programs. **Registration Required.**

Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26

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

All ages. Registration NOT Required

Thursdays, April 6, 13, 20 and 27

P. J. Story time @ 7 pm

All ages. Registration NOT Required

Computer Class Schedule at Library

by Michelyn Reid, North Shelby Library Reference Librarian

The North Shelby Library’s computer schedule for April is as follows:

Tues., April 11 - Word I

Wed., April 12 - Word II

Tues., April 18 - Internet for Seniors

Wed., April 19 - Email Class for Seniors

These classes fill up quickly. Please call or email Michelyn at 439-5510 or nsref@shelbycounty-al.org to register.

President's List

Joseph L. (Joey) Aultman, son of Bobbie and Joe Aultman of 161 Brook Green Lane received academic honors at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa by making the President's List for the 2005 fall term.

A freshman at the University of Alabama, Joey is majoring in Finance at the School of Business. He earned a 4.07 out of a possible 4.0 grade point average.

Joey is a member of the Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity where he has been named Rush Chairman for 2006-2007 fall semester. He has participated in, and helped organize, the AKL community service projects of Hurricane Katrina Relief, Walk for Breast Cancer and the clean up of Hurricane Creek in Tuscaloosa.

(The University of Alabama lists the highest GPA attainable to be 4.33 or A+, but states that the maximum GPA that will be reported is 4.00. Editor)

Clarification

Last month's issue of *The Village Voice* included some comments submitted by Ruth Goodwyn to accompany the obituary of Emmett Cloud, a local Realtor. Ruth has asked to clarify a comment she made regarding the ownership of the former Cloud home. "Lonnie and Esther Tidwell bought the house at 395 Brook Green Lane 18-19 years ago from Emmett and Margaret Cloud, and have lived here ever since, according to Mr. Tidwell, who said that Mr. Cloud had developed the area east of Indian Springs School to about Indian Trail, known as the original Indian Springs Ranch, and other areas in this region. He later concentrated on High Gate Hill. The Clouds lived on Brook Green while he was working here, then he moved when he started developing a residential area around Pelham." *Editor*

New Courier Needed

A volunteer is needed to deliver *The Village Voice* monthly to Spring Garden Street and Alpine Way. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Alison Stigers at 981-1750 or at alison@indianspringsvillage.org. Thank you.

Garden Club News

by Lynn Hendricks, President, Indian Springs Garden Club

Last month, the Garden Club had an excellent field trip to the Wholesaler's Greenhouses where we observed plants in over 20 plus greenhouses from seed germination to shipments to the retail nurseries.

On April 27, 2006, our meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. for our annual plant exchange. It may be a little early this year, but many plants have already popped out of the ground. Please bring two plants to share and exchange. We have invited the Heatherwood Garden Club to join us. This is one of our most attended meetings so we hope to see you there.

Remember to prune spring flowering shrubs after they flower and before new growth appears. The buds for next year's flowers begin to set on the new growth. If your spring flowering shrubs are top-heavy, cut a third of the old stalks to the ground to promote full growth.

Essay Finalist

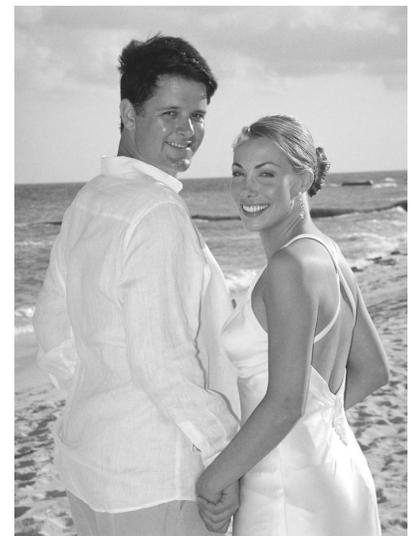
Susan and Ken Jernigan, residents of Indian Springs, report their daughter, Ariel Casey, recently entered an essay competition sponsored by Turner Broadcasting and Bright House called "My South Speaks." The contest was open to all area high school students. The students were to write a short essay, poem or other writing describing what their south means to them. Ariel was chosen as one of 10 finalists. The finalists then presented their submission before cameras and judges on Wednesday, March 21st. Ariel competed against 5 other students from the area. She was the only participant from Oak Mountain High School and the only freshman in the finals. She was selected as first runner-up. The contest will be edited and will air at a later date.

New Neighbors

John and Renée Rives have recently moved to 388 Highgate Hill Road. Longtime friends of the Owens family who live on Wildwood Lane in the Village, the Rives family took the opportunity to buy the Flynn home when it became available. After having lived for 15 years in Vestavia, the Rives family welcomes the more rural feel of Indian Springs. John and Renée have two boys – Thomas, 15 and a freshman at Oak Mountain High School, and Robert, 10 and a student at Oak Mountain Intermediate School.

Congratulations are in Order!

Jessica Allison Hegarty and Gregory Francis Zerkis were united in marriage on Saturday, March 4, 2006 at the El Dorado Royale resort in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico. The 3:00 p.m. wedding was held on the beach. A reception was hosted by the bride's parents and family at the resort. The bride is the daughter of Terrence and Maureen Hegarty of Hinsdale, IL, and Tim and Judi Peters of Sarasota, FL. The groom is the son of Steve and Patricia Zerkis of Indian Springs Village, AL. The bride was given in marriage by her parents and escorted by her father, Terrence Hegarty. Attending the bride as maid of honor was Katie Hegarty, sister of the bride. Serving the groom as best lady was Christina Zerkis, sister of the groom. Serving as formal witnesses were Christina Zerkis, Nicole McKay and Wendy Mazurk of Chicago, IL, and Brooke Craig of Colorado Springs, CO. The couple will make their home in Chicago.



In Memoriam

Edwin Lusk died March 15, 2006 from complications from prostate cancer. The son of George Hubert Lusk and Mary Hazel Lockhart, Mr. Lusk was born on Nov. 5, 1918 on a small farm in Grundy County, Tennessee and attended the first eight grades of school at Marvin's Chapel School, where his father was the only teacher. He graduated from high school in Tracy City, TN at the age of 16, and from the University of Tennessee in May, 1941 with a major in Agronomy. While at UT, he was in ROTC and on the UT Rifle Team, which, in his senior year, won first place at the National Intercollegiate competition and the Southeastern Randolph Hearst Trophy. Mr. Lusk was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Army and in August, 1941, he was ordered to active duty at Fort Bragg, NC and assigned to "B" company of the 60th Infantry, 9th division. He attended a 2-month Weapons & Tactics course at Fort Benning, GA and in Dec. 1941, was transferred to "M" company of the 3rd Bn, 60th Inf. He was then selected to go to Norfolk, VA to work with the Navy and load combat battalions onto naval ships. Mr. Lusk participated in the invasion of North Africa on 8 Nov. 1942 under the overall command of Gen. George Patton. In Morocco he was promoted to Battalion S-3 by Comdr. Lt. Col. John J. Toffey, and led the battalion across North Africa to Tunisia. There he was in several battles against Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's seasoned troop, the Afrika Corps. Mr. Lusk was wounded on 8 April 1943 at the Battle of Maknassy, Tunisia by an artillery shell that exploded 6 inches from his right leg. After spending 3 1/2 months in hospitals from Tunisia to Oran, Algeria, he was promoted to Captain and then returned to duty as ship-loading inspector at 3rd Port Headquarters in Oran, Algeria. Mr. Lusk returned to the U.S. in May 1944 and was an instructor in Combat Tactics at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, GA. On 20 Aug. 1944, he married Mary Virginia Higgins of Elora, TN in the Post Chapel at Fort Benning. In July 1945, he was transferred to G-2 at the Pentagon and worked there until he was discharged from the Regular Army in Dec. 1945. He spent 20 more years in the Army Active Reserves and was promoted to Lt. Col. on 26 June 1951. He retired from service in November, 1978. Mr. Lusk's professional career began in 1946 with mapping soils in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Missouri for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the Univ. of Tennessee. In 1953, he accepted a job with The Prudential Financial in Knoxville, TN. He was transferred to Birmingham, AL in 1975 and retired from the company in Nov. 1978 Mr. Lusk was a passionate gardener, fisherman and hunter and was a proud member of the Abbott Hunting Club in Shelby County. He also belonged to the Alabama Wildflower Society, the Birmingham Fern Society, the VFW, Military Officers of America, the Combat Infantry Association, and received a 50-yr. pin from the Corinthian Lodge #462 F. & A.M. in Alabaster, AL. Mr. Lusk is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary Virginia Higgins Lusk; daughter Anne Virginia Lusk Moore Kitchens (Richard Wright Kitchens), Huntsville, AL; son George Edwin Lusk (Martha June Chauvin Lusk), Covington, LA; daughter Susan

Florence Lusk Kelley (Frank Kelley), Boston, MA; grandchildren, Christopher Lee Moore, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Margaret Lillian Kelley, Boston, MA; sister Janie Muriel Lusk Hurst (Kenneth Hurst), Chattanooga, TN; and a number of nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on Sunday, 19 March at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Homewood, AL, where Ed was a member for more than thirty years. Burial was at 11:00 a.m. Monday, 20 March at the Elora Cemetery in Elora, TN, Lincoln County. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to either the Alabama Baptist Children's Homes, P.O. Box 361767, B'ham, AL 35236 or to the Alabama Wildflower Society Scholarship Fund, Margie Anderton, Treasurer, 271 Co. Rd. 68, Killen, AL 35645. (Reprinted from The Birmingham News)

John H. Cherkas, age 63, of Wanaque, NJ, passed away March 16, 2006 at his home. He was born and raised in Tenafly, NJ. He was a graduate of Bethany College in Kansas. He worked in consumer and commercial banking for his entire career and retired from Keybank Corp in 2005. He was an Elder in the Holy Ascension Church for many years. He was also an avid Civil War CSA reenactor, railroad enthusiast and hobbyist. He is survived by his brother Steve Zerkis, and sister-in-law Pat Zerkis of Indian Springs Village; his aunt, Anna Sule of Woodbine, NJ; nephew, Greg Zerkis, married to Jessica; niece, Christina Zerkis of Chicago; and numerous cousins. Funeral services were held in Philadelphia, PA.

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Ron Stokes **Owner:** Ron Stokes

Section 21, Twp 19 S, 2 West

Subdivision: Indian Crest Estates 2nd Sector Lot 6 Block 2

Address: 1730 Indian Crest Drive

Proposed use: Residential – Plot plan approval for addition with added driveway.

Applicant: Jim H. Hayes Jr., Rigsby Construction Company, Inc. **Owner:** David Sanders

Section 32, Twp 19 S, 2 West

Subdivision: Stapleton Resurvey amended map of Indian

Springs Ranch Lot 4 AA Address: 364 Signal Trail

Proposed use: Room Addition to Guest House - Plot plan approval.

Applicant: Hughes Pools and Spas

Owner: Charles and Kelly Carlton

Section 22, Twp 19 S, 2 West

Subdivision: Carltons Addition to Miller Circle Lot 2

Address: 400 Miller Circle

Proposed use: Residence - Plot plan approval

Applicant: Jeff Williamson **Owner:** Bob Flayhart

Address: 2908 Oak Mountain Trail

Proposed use: Interior work only – plot plan not required.

Applicant: Leigh McKibben with Media Merge.

Owner: David Foley – Our Lady of the Valley

Address: 5514 Double Oak Lane

Proposed use: Audio Video Installation – Low Voltage Permit - Interior work only – plot plan not required.