



# The Village Voice

Vol 1, No.12

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

March 3, 1992

## **INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Indian Springs School Town Hall  
Tuesday, March 10, 1992, 7 p.m.

### **Agenda**

- I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports**
- II. Resolutions/Ordinances**
- III. Citizen's Forum**

(Council meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday each month)

### **Editor's Notes**

*The Village Voice* is the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990. The primary purpose of this newsletter is to report the monthly deliberations of the mayor and the council in town council meetings as well as to give the mayor and council members the opportunity to communicate with the electorate. In addition, your editor's hope is to foster a spirit of community and cooperation along with fun and fairness. Good neighbors need less legislation. Expenses are covered by the efforts and donations of ISV volunteers. Deliveries are also made at no charge by volunteer couriers.

Address letters to the editor and appropriate news articles to: LaVerne Ramsey, Editor, 530 Indian Crest Drive, Indian Springs, AL 35124. Newcomer information should be reported to Patricia Crapet (985-9205).

*The Village Voice* is published the first Tuesday of the month. Articles for publication in the April, 1992, edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, March 31. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. All opinions are those of the author, unless otherwise indicated. All articles not attributed to other writers are written by the editor. Any opinions she expresses are her own and should not be attributed to the mayor or the council.

### **Editor's Appreciation to:**

The donors who subsidize printing expenses  
Patricia Crapet for circulation (985-9205)  
Dr. Ruth Goodwyn for editorial consultation  
Indian Springs couriers for hand delivery  
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing

## **REGISTERED VOTER IDENTIFICATION**

In case anyone is unaware, this is an election year. From the Shelby County Commission's administrator, Walter Turner, comes this admonition:

"Before the Shelby County 1992 election, all registered voters must reidentify and be informed of their correct voting place. To this date, Shelby County has 57,000 registered voters. During the week of February 24, 1992, each registered voter will receive a letter from the Shelby County Board of Registrars requesting verification of current address and other pertinent information. This information must be completed and returned to the Board of Registrars. Following receipt of this information, the voter will receive notification of his/her proper voting place...urge each registered voter to complete and return the letter received from the Shelby County Board of Registrars on or before March 9, 1992.... If you have any questions, feel free to call the Shelby County Board of Registrars at 669-3913 or myself [Walter Turner] at 669-3740."

In your editor's mailbox, the above mentioned reidentification letter was received by one registered voter, but not by another. If you have not received the promised mailing by the time of the receipt of this newsletter, or, if you are not yet registered to vote, please call 669-3913.

## **Reidentify or Register, Get Informed...Vote**

Redistricting in the county and the state will set the tone for those elections. The 1992 elections will set the tone, both locally and nationally, for our future government and its power over us. On the local level, Mayor Hub Harrington anticipates calling an ISV election in June, and candidates will be expected to qualify by July 21. Municipal elections are held in August, with runoffs in September.

On the county level, we will elect nine Shelby County commissioners by district. In the past, seven commissioners were elected at large. Of local interest is the fact that Lindsey Allison, a local attorney and ISV resident, intends to run for a place on the county commission. It appears that ISV will vote in two different districts because it is split by highway AL 119.

Our new state congressional districts are, at this writing, undetermined. Potential incumbents are Claude Harris, our current representative, and Ben Erdreich. Of course, we have to elect a President, and that election promises to be more interesting than usual. Do not forget the old saw about getting a government that is as good as we deserve. Ignorance and apathy will not serve us well. Know and care...

## **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, SHELBY COUNTY UNIT**

March 19--Shelby County Unit LWV Meeting  
7:00 p.m., Thursday  
Hostess Shandra Smith  
741 Heatherwood Drive, Heatherwood  
Guests and prospective members welcome  
For additional information call LaVerne Ramsey,  
988-0059

## **PRESS COVERAGE OF SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

*Birmingham News* reporter Kent Faulk was the guest speaker at the League's February meeting. Faulk has eight years of experience with the *News* and has covered Shelby County government for two and a half of those years. He took the audience from the beginning of the news gathering process and his notebook to delivery at their doors. Of special interest to the League members and guests was his depth of knowledge about Shelby County, its government, and its politics.

Faulk was asked about Shelby Medical Center's closed board meetings and answered that he had to depend on the information furnished by the hospital administrator to keep the taxpayers informed. *The Birmingham News* had published a February 11 editorial condemning the closed board meetings and ending with, "Taxpayers can't be expected to pay a tax for another 17 years without input into what the hospital is doing. That's the message SMC officials need to hear. Keep those cards and letters coming, folks." Faulk said that *Birmingham News* reporters take pains not to editorialize. He explained that he does try to report opposing views when he finds that they exist, but further explained that he is prohibited from using anonymous sources.

A final tidbit was that there were, up to that time, about 42 potential candidates for the nine Shelby County Commission places and Faulk expected over 50 to put out feelers, even though they might not file

The League of Women Voters looks forward to an exciting election year and welcomes guests and prospective members at all meetings. The League is not partisan. It does not back candidates and takes a stand on issues only after much study. Usually positions are taken only on the state or national level. Men are welcome to membership.

## **NEXT LITTER WALK, SATURDAY, MARCH 21 Jinx on Third Saturday?**

Daunted by a six-inch snow in January, your Adopt-a-mile road gang longed to redeem itself in February. But the elements defeated us once more as buckets of rain fell on the third Saturday. Our pride wounded, our reputation intolerably threatened, we hurled defiance in the face of a grim weather prediction and set our sights on the following Saturday. Behold, the clouds parted, and a successful Litter Walk was conducted on February 22 by Nora Boyett, Jackie and Art Johnson, Emily McAdory, Virginia Rancourt, Margaret Roy, Julie and Rusty Schenk, Lola and Pam Stephens, Anne and Graeme Wilson, and Jim Wyatt. With a suspicious eye on the sky, we will schedule the next Litter Walk for March 21. Join us if you dare.

--Virginia Rancourt

## **ISV DIRECTORY FORMAT IN FINAL STAGES**

The most important component of the ISV resident directory will be the correct names, addresses and phone numbers. This must, of necessity, serve as a last request for the names of household members, the 911 assigned addresses, and phone numbers, unless unlisted. In the absence of full resident participation names and addresses that can be added from public sources will be included also.

In addition to the resident directory, there is much to include that might be helpful to residents and especially to newcomers. The directory is planned to provide information on council meetings, community services, and all levels of government. Our elected

officials from ISV, Shelby County, the state of Alabama, and the U. S. House and Senate will be listed with phone numbers and mailing addresses.

This is an opportunity for Villagers to list their favorite organizations that have open memberships. If you are a member of an organization that would benefit from a presence in North Shelby as well as benefit the residents of ISV, your editor would like to have details of the organization's purpose, member qualifications, meeting dates, and a contact name. Boy and Girl Scout Troops, Wildlife Rescue, Audubon Society, garden clubs, tennis groups, bikers, joggers, artists, and literary groups all can have a chance to find members and associates through the directory. The deadline for this information and any listings of residents is Friday, March 27. The editor's mailing address is 530 Indian Crest Drive; you may also use the paper tube.

## **FEBRUARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The town council of Indian Springs Village met at 7:00 p.m. in the Indian Springs School Town Hall on Tuesday, February 11, 1992. Presiding was Mayor Hub Harrington, with council members Patricia Crapet, Ron Luster, and Dr. Peter Peacock in attendance. The minutes of the meeting were adopted as read by Town Clerk Paul Stephens.

Mayor Harrington congratulated the Indian Springs Village residents who had organized and conducted a very successful telephone and write-in campaign to halt temporarily the highway construction on Interstate 65. The halt will allow the method of handling the construction to be reevaluated with alternative times and methods of routing the traffic. Those who traveled Interstate 65 had become very frustrated by dangerous miles of traffic stalling and barrel dodging for the distance between the Village and Hoover.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the town's debt had been reduced by \$1500, leaving a loan balance of \$5000 of the original \$10,000. Ms. Crapet also reported that ISV received \$594 in county beer tax and \$512 in state road maintenance funds. Councilman Ron Luster confirmed that ISV will join other municipalities and Shelby County in applying for a permit for compliance with the Federal Clean Air and Water Act. Luster reported that Shelby

County will be paying the costs and billing the existing municipalities based on the number of test points monitored. It is possible that ISV will have no test points and no expense.

Luster also reported that the covered bridge proposed for Indian Trail is still under consideration by the county, but funding comes from a source that is not yet available. A covered bridge is expected to be less expensive and more picturesque than the alternative.

In a discussion of the North Shelby Fire District, Mayor Harrington reported that there is no damaging legislation pending this year. In the meantime, legislation to protect the district is being drafted by supporters of the district.

An ordinance was introduced a second time to allow Alabama Power Company (APC) a franchise to use current easements within ISV. The ordinance, which had been passed first in June, 1991, had expired, according to APC representatives. The actual ordinance had not been returned to their legal department for acceptance and approval within 90 days of passage, complete with ISV's seal affixed. The council is now informed by APC of proper procedure, will vote on the ordinance in March.

Mayor Harrington has received confirmation from APC that a utility tax, if adopted by the council, will not affect individual utility bills. These taxes, which are adopted routinely by most municipalities, are part of the operational expenses of utilities. When expenses become such that a rate increase is needed, users across the entire state absorb the increase. These increases can only be granted by the Alabama Public Service Commission. APC could not give revenue projections, but other sources estimate it to be a substantial figure. If passed, the utility tax would be part of the business tax and licensing ordinance.

The ISV zoning ordinances are still being improved by the Zoning Committee and may be brought up for discussion at the March meeting. Some new items that could possibly be added relate to abandoned vehicles, certain types of signs, and upkeep of certain properties. Mayor Harrington distributed copies of similar ordinances from Mountain Brook to those in attendance.

The Shelby County Environmental Task Force is organizing a county-wide program for recycling. Anyone who is interested in representing ISV in this

effort should call Councilman Peter Peacock or any member of ISV's Environmental Committee.

Mayor Harrington reported that he had received a couple of requests for a "no burn" ordinance for the Village. NSFD Chief Boutwell, an ISV resident, commented that this type of ordinance would probably be unenforceable. Dr. Peacock reminded the council that the Environmental Committee's earlier questionnaire had addressed the problem, and most respondents were against restrictions on burning.

The mayor gave an update on the lawsuit against Pelham's annexations of ISV areas...negotiations continue.

--Patricia Crapet

**ATTENTION:** When attending ISV town meetings please park **only** in designated parking areas. During basketball season, we have been asked not to park in the lot nearest the gymnasium and the cafeteria. Indian Springs School has been most generous with its facilities for town activities. It is a resource that we cannot replace, so please be accommodating guests.

## ISV Receives Flag From U.S. Capitol

U.S. Representative Claude Harris presented Mayor Hub Harrington, Council Members Patricia Crapet and Peter Peacock, Town Clerk Paul Stephens, and Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt with a flag that has flown over the U.S. Capitol. The ceremony took place at the fire station on Caldwell Mill road where the electorate had voted to incorporate. That seemed appropriate, even though Harris would have preferred to attend one of our council meetings. He had been trying to schedule a visit to the Village ever since our own Benjy Thomas, on a Capitol visit, told him about ISV and its incorporation. Even though this was a last minute ceremony tailored to Harris's busy schedule, it was attended by a number of Villagers. By the way, does anyone have a portable flag pole?

## PERSONALS

### Third Generation Villager

Jeffrey Nathaniel Holmes was born January 27, 1992. Proud parents, Jeff and Mona Holmes of 133 Skyline Circle, and grandparents, Roy and Ilene Holmes of

145 Willow Ridge, call the little Villager Nathan.

## Newcomers

Robert and Marcia and daughter, Lisa, 20, are at home at 35 Indian Forest Road. They came to the Village from Montana via Charlotte, NC, and Alabaster. Mr. Tripp is a principal in a document processing firm named Hybrid Systems.

Mike and Susan Babiasz (pronounced **Bab-ish**) moved to 134 Highgate Hill Road last summer with twelve-year-old twins Erik and Lyndsey. The twins have joined the local Boy and Girl Scout troops. The family came to Indian Springs from Cleveland, Ohio, and Mike is in sales with Jemison Steel.

## Honors

Villager, Dr. Albert Pacifico, Director, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, at UAB Hospital, Birmingham, has been chosen for listing in *The Best Doctors in America* which lists 3,840 physicians in virtually every specialty. Congratulations, Dr. Pacifico, for additional national recognition.

## Accolades

Dr. Peter Peacock, a busy physician, is also a councilman who is ISV's environmental representative. In addition to his unpaid service in an elected position, Dr. Peacock was generous enough to send a donation to *The Village Voice* fund to subsidize printing expenses.

Also welcome was a generous contribution from Michael and Donna Bruno of 182 Skyline Drive. The funding of the newsletter on a voluntary basis not only saves the town's tax collections for the absolute necessities, it also gives renewed energy to those who write, publish and deliver. Not enough can be said for those couriers led by Councilwoman Patricia Crapet who personally delivers 80 newsletters on a route of her own. On behalf of the Village, thanks to the Peacocks, the Brunos, all the previous donors, and to Ms. Crapet and the couriers.

Much appreciation to Emily McAdory and Virginia Rancont for hosting the February meeting of the League of Women Voters. Their volunteer spirit is typical of so many tireless Villagers. They will, on occasion, even submit to the draft.



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