

The Village Voice

Vol 1, No. 6

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

September 3, 1991

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs School Town Hall
Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1991, 7 P.M.

Agenda

Featured Speakers

Ala. Power Co. Representatives

Mayor/Council

Committee Reports

Resolutions/Ordinances

Citizen's Forum

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

BIRTHDAY ANTICIPATION

Next month our infant town will celebrate the anniversary of its incorporation. Plans for the October issue of this newsletter are to give the mayor and council members the opportunity to give us a progress report. We are fortunate to have elected a number of qualified leaders with professional backgrounds and experience which benefit the town. Our leaders have legal, accounting and taxation, medical, engineering, computer and communication training and experience.

To set the tone for the mayor's message and the council's comments, it seems appropriate to quote the first resolution passed by the council on February 26, 1991, General Purpose and Goals. After a number of legal whereas's, it continues, *"Whereas, the stated purpose for incorporation was to preserve and protect the integrity of the community. Therefore, be it resolved, that it is hereby declared that the stated purpose for founding the town of Indian Springs Village and the goals of the town are set forth herein:*

"To preserve, protect and enhance the quality of life that the citizens of Indian Springs Village enjoy, now and for generations to come;

"To preserve, protect and enhance the peaceful and uncluttered atmosphere of our town, for now and for generations to come;

"To preserve, protect and enhance the beauty and serenity and tranquility which is the very essence of Indian Springs Village, for now and for generations to come;

"To protect the integrity of our community from random commercialization, piecemeal annexation, and inconsistent spot zoning; and,

"To preserve and protect the right of self determination for the town of Indian Springs Village and for all its citizens.

"Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that the objectives stated herein shall be achieved with a minimum amount of government involvement at minimal expense, and relying primarily upon the voluntary efforts and support of community residents.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that all present and future officials of the town of Indian Springs Village, whether elected or appointed, pledge to achieve and maintain the goals and objectives as stated herein."

Editor's Notes

The Village Voice, the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990, is delivered at no charge to your home by volunteer couriers. *The Village Voice* is published the first Tuesday of the month. Articles for publication in each month's edition should be submitted by the last Tuesday of the preceding month. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. All opinions expressed in *The Village Voice* are those of the author, unless otherwise indicated.

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

Editor's Appreciation to :

Frieda Hanson of 113 Willow Ridge Drive, for printing this issue of *The Village Voice*.

Patricia Crapet for circulation (985-9205)
Dr. Ruth Goodwyn for editorial consultation
Indian Springs Couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing

Editor's Special Appreciation to: Virginia Rancont and Emily McAdory for hosting the organizational meeting of a League of Women Voters unit in August. Together, you set a standard for hospitality that may intimidate the rest of us; thank you for that and for your continuing support of the Village and its goals.

AUGUST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The August 13 meeting of the ISV Town Council was held, as usual, in the Town Hall of Indian Springs School at 7 p.m. Councilman Ron Luster presided with council members Patricia Crapet and Gary Dennis present. The minutes of the July meeting were read and adopted as presented by Assistant City Clerk, James Wyatt.

Because there was no quorum, those present could not act on new business. Ron Luster updated the group on the status of several issues. The latest annexations by ISV have been filed and officially recorded in the office of the probate judge of Shelby County. Peyton Lacey, Chairman of the Zoning and Planning Board, and Chris Glenos have been working on the first draft of the ISV zoning ordinances, which will be available to the council soon. The Adopt-A-Mile program has been well received except for a few complaints from people whose signs (primarily real estate) were removed from the state and county rights of way. Until everyone gets the message, the clean-up committee will notify the owners that the signs have been removed and of the location where they may be retrieved. The ordinance for utility tax is near the final draft stage, and Councilman Stewart Dudley will present it at the September council meeting. The volunteer pothole repair crew has repaired three potholes on Valley View Lane at a materials cost of \$12. The request for a zoning variance from a resident on McGuire Lane will be acted on at the September meeting.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the ISV share of beer tax revenue July was \$701. She also reported that a limited number of ISV T-shirts in all sizes were available at the Carousel Tack Shoppe. All proceeds go to ISV.

Councilman Gary Dennis is trying to schedule a representative from Alabama Power Company for the September meeting to answer an inquiry about magnetic emissions from the power lines that run through ISV.*

Shelby County Planning Department Project Manager, Rick Mitchell, has told Jim Wyatt that it is being

considered that the Indian Trail bridge design be a reconstruction of a covered bridge. The county would probably encourage this because the state historical society would then share the cost. Those council members present seemed favorable to supporting the covered bridge design as a unique landmark for ISV.

Jim Wyatt also reported having received a call from Kris Davis, one of the newly annexed residents, about pollution in the creek that runs through her family property. After his own inspection, Jim notified the proper authorities that the creek appeared to contain raw sewage. Jim will keep us informed of efforts to find and correct the problem.

During the Citizens' Forum, Betty Grady, a resident of Brook Green Lane, expressed concern for the condition of an absentee owner's property next door to her. She reported that the lot is unkempt and that she has also sustained some water damage from the overflow of a neglected ditch on the adjacent property. Her several contacts with the owner have produced no cooperation, and she appealed to the council to intervene. The council took the matter under advisement.

-Patricia Crapet

**This has been scheduled for the September 10 Council Meeting.*

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday night, August 19, a special ISV Town Council meeting was held to assist Indian Springs School. Because of a change in legislation dealing with educational finance, the school and its legal counsel found itself fighting to meet a September 7 deadline to establish an Educational Building Authority under the auspices of a municipality. The existence of such an incorporated authority and an agreement with a city, county or incorporation like ISV were needed to allow the school to finance pre-existing buildings with tax-free bonds. Since the interest paid by the school to bond buyers is free from state and federal taxes, the finance charges are lower for the school.

Alston Ray of the law firm of Haskell Slaughter & Young was on hand to represent the school and answer any questions. He explained that the Building Authority would issue the bonds as revenue bonds payable only from school revenues. The school indemnifies the Authority and the directors who apply

to the town to adopt the resolution. Neither the town nor The Educational Building Authority of the Town of Indian Springs Village will bear liability for Indian Springs School's bond debts.

ISV property owners and duly qualified electors Anita J. Jones, Rita D. Mendel, and Robert Thomas applied to the ISV Council for the authority to incorporate **The Educational Building Authority of The Town of Indian Springs Village**. The Council approved unanimously and the Resolution will be posted for not less than five consecutive days at four public places in the town limits. In anticipation of the incorporation, the ISV Town Council elected the incorporators as directors with staggered terms: Anita J. Jones, 1993; Rita D. Mendel, 1995; and Robert Thomas, 1997.

It is anticipated that Indian Springs School will become part of ISV by annexation as soon as the proper legal work can be done. The school administrators have been generous in the use of their facilities by allowing us to hold our town meetings and social functions there.

ANONYMOUS GIFT TO ISV

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reports that one of the Villagers has donated \$100 to ISV for general use.

This is generosity of the highest order, tantamount to paying taxes that aren't due. While Ms. Crapet and the mayor respect this donor's desire to remain unknown they wish to recognize that this resident has also been generous with time, energy and in-kind donations as well. This is a beautiful example of what another "anonymous" meant when he said, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

CONGRATULATIONS, BENJY THOMAS

In addition to other honors for achievement too numerous to mention, Benjy has been named the National Boy Scout of the Year. He will be recognized at the National American Legion Convention in Phoenix. President George Bush and General Norman Schwarzkopf will be on the program also.

Benjy, a recent graduate of Indian Springs School, was also awarded a scholarship to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked for ISV's

incorporation, served as a courier for *The Village Voice* and has attended most council meetings. We will miss you, Benjy; our good wishes go with you.

NORTH SHELBY UNIT LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ORGANIZED

The League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham mentors were gratified at the enthusiasm of Villagers who came to the home of Virginia Rancont and Emily McAdory to learn more about the benefits of working for better government through the League. The group's mentor will be League member Collette Scott, who was the Greater Birmingham LWV's nominee for a vacancy on the Alabama Ethics Commission. The LWV team explained the organization and purpose of the League, starting with its history during the Women's Suffrage Movement. The group is open to both men and women but keeps its original name in deference to the hard-won right of women to vote.

The new ISV unit decided to hold its six local meetings on the third Thursday nights of the appropriate months. The next local meeting is scheduled for October 17, 7 p.m., with the location to be announced. If anyone is willing to host a group of 10 to 15 for the October neighborhood meeting, please call LaVerne Ramsey at 988-0059.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM

Focus on Education, Sunday, September 22
Alabama Power Company Auditorium
600 North 18 Street, Birmingham
Get Acquainted 2 p.m.
Program 2:30 p.m.
Reception following

A panel representing the Chamber of Commerce, The A+ Coalition, and educators, including our own Dr. Norma Rogers, Superintendent of Shelby County Schools, will address educational issues. Odessa Woolfolk will be the moderator. Those interested in attending may gather at 1:45 p.m. at the shopping center across from Indian Springs School and form car pools. Call LaVerne Ramsey for more details, if necessary.

FOURTH LITTER WALK SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 21 ROAD GANG MARCHES ON

Have you noticed that we are branching out? In addition to continuing a successful campaign against litter and sign blight on Highway 119, last month's Adopt-A-Milers made a clean sweep of a section of Valley View Drive. Will the next surprise raid be on your street?

The road gang of August 17 included Gene Cashion, Councilwoman Patricia Crapet, Jackie and Art Johnson, Emily McAdory, Virginia Rancont, Julie and Rusty Schenk, Paul Stephens and Jim Wyatt.

If you like what you see on our highway (better yet, what you don't see) bring your work gloves to Dr. Peacock's driveway near the corner of Highway 119 and Indian Trail at 8 a.m. on September 21, slip into an orange vest, and stroll for an hour or so with some caring neighbors. You'll enjoy the fellowship, and you'll love the special glow of community pride when the job is done and there is uncluttered green bordering our main thoroughfare.

-Virginia Rancont

VILLAGE PERSONALS

Welcome to a tiny Villager! Dorothy and Terry Carlisle of 55 Mountain Vista Drive have a second son, Matthew Alexander Carlisle, born August 16. Dorothy is a courier for *The Village Voice* and Terry is employed by ATCON, a transportation consulting firm. Adam, the first born, is busy being four years old.

VILLAGE COURIERS ASK COOPERATION

Please Install Paper Tubes--they are usually available at no charge from the Birmingham News/Post Herald building in downtown Birmingham, but be sure to call before making the trip. The couriers who deliver *The Village Voice* and other notices such as the one on the recent special session have problems because they are not supposed to use the mail boxes. It is impossible for them to stick or tape ISV communications anywhere that is protected from rain when there is no paper tube or receptacle.

DIRECTORY FOR VILLAGE COMMUNICATIONS PROPOSED

The need to communicate that has been engendered by our incorporation and our cooperation to achieve common goals has been greatly hampered by the address changes effected by the 911 Service. While we are grateful for the emergency service, as Villagers, we need to know who is in ISV's limits and to be able to make contact. Even with new phone book listings we cannot expect mailing addresses to be complete because of the space limitations. Therefore it has been proposed that we publish our own town directory using the database of 911. If a resident has an unpublished number it would not be listed in the ISV directory without permission. Councilman Gary Dennis has volunteered to use his company facilities to do much of the work, and your editor is working on a format that will include the appropriate warnings about commercial use of the directory. The directory will be intended solely for the use of Villagers to make personal contacts and to conduct town business and community events.

NOTICE

Lost Dog - White chow, bad back legs. 985-4065

EDITOR'S APPEAL

Producing, editing, and doing much of the writing for *The Village Voice* is a labor of love for me. Councilwoman Patricia Crapet has written the column Council Meeting Highlights for every council meeting and has gathered most of the "personals" news. She also makes sure that the newsletter and any other Village communications are delivered. Another responsibility is for recruiting the Village Couriers and coordinating their routes and delivery schedules. It takes Ms. Crapet and your editor an inordinate amount of time to find people who will either print the "Voice" or pay for commercial printing. The latter usually costs about \$65, a donation too high for many people.

If you would like to relieve our stress and support *The Village Voice*, please send any amount to help with printing costs to: Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Drive, Indian Springs, AL 35124. Make checks payable to Indian Springs Village and designate the amount for *The Village Voice*. Stress relief in this case is spelled M O N E Y!