



April 2011

Heardmont Park Senior Center

5452 Cahaba Valley Road, Birmingham, AL 35242

Phone: 991-5742 Fax: 991-5657 Email: heardmontpark@hotmail.com

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00a.m.—3:00p.m.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<i>Be sure to sign up and reserve your seat for our great outings this month</i>	<i>Save the Date—May 19th Shelby County Senior Picnic in Alabaster</i>	<i>Join us for Zumba Gold on Wednesdays & Fridays for only \$8 month</i>		9-10 Zumba Gold 1 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 4 10:30-1 Dominoes 10:30-2:30 Canasta	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 5 10:30-1 Lunch Bunch Outing 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch	9-12 Bridge 6 11:30-3 Rummikub 12 Lunch 1-2 Zumba Gold	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 7 11 Easter Bonnet Contest & Blood Pressure Clinic w/New Beacon 12 Lunch 12:30 Park Walk	9-10 Zumba Gold 8 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing 7-9 Dance
9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 11 9:30-12 Mah Jongg 10:30-1 Dominoes 10:30-2:30 Canasta	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 12 11-12 Bible Study 11-12 Couponing Class 12 Lunch 1-2 Advisory Council Meeting	9-12 Bridge 13 10-11 Computer Class 12 Lunch 1-2 Zumba Gold 9-4 Montgomery Outing	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 14 11-12 Men's Coffee 12 Lunch 12:30 Park Walk 10-2 Bingo & Board Games	9-10 Zumba Gold 15 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 18 9:30-12 Mah Jongg 10:30-1 Dominoes 10:30-2:30 Canasta	9-3 Strawberry Picking 19 10-11 Aerobic Workout 10-2 Bingo Bunch & Games 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch	9-12 Bridge 20 11:30-3 Rummikub 12 Lunch 1-2 Zumba Gold	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 21 11-12 Men's Coffee 11 Harrison Regional Library Progra 12 Lunch 12:30 Park Walk 10-2 Bingo & Board Games	CENTER CLOSED
9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 25 9:30-12 Mah Jongg 10:30-1 Dominoes 10:30-2:30 Canasta	10-11 Aerobic Workout 26 10-2 Bingo Bunch & Games 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch	9-12 Bridge 27 11:30-3 Rummikub 12 Lunch 1-2 Zumba Gold	10-11 Aerobic Workouts 28 11-12 Men's Coffee 12 Lunch 12:30 Park Walk 10-2 Bingo & Board Games	9-10 Zumba Gold 29 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Paula T. Lynch
Owner: Paula T. Lynch
Address: 395 Indian Crest Road
Proposed Use: Front Porch Addition

Applicant: Adkins On Time Electric
Owner: Jerry and Jean Satterwhite
Address: 141 Skyline Circle
Proposed Use: Electrical Service Upgrade

Applicant: Forehand Construction Group
Owner: Sharron D and Gary Dennis
Address: 795 Valley View Road
Proposed Use: Pool House Remodel



Recycling with WM, Inc.

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

If you have not done so yet, may I encourage you to sign up for recycling? Waste Management will pick up your recyclables every week on Wednesday for a monthly cost of \$5.06. The same service is available to unincorporated Shelby County residents for the same \$5.06 but with pickups every two weeks. This service gives you a convenient way of recycling a good portion of what you normally place in the garbage. A few items such as glass, plastic bags, styrofoam and food stained paper can't be recycled. Sign up by calling WMI at 205 841-2740. Make sure you tell them you live in Indian Springs Village.

The Village Voice



Volume 21, Number 1 Indian Springs Village, Alabama April 8, 2011

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS
Tuesday, April 19, 2011 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3, 2011 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 327-8791 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; Tel: 253-1605, Fax: 949-6279, or e-mail: alison@indianspringsvillage.org.

The Village Voice is published the first week of each month. Articles for the May edition should be submitted by Friday, April 29, 2011. 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

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up in a couple of weeks. This is our first family event of the year. It will be held on Saturday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m. Several thousand eggs will be hidden in the grass, trees and who knows where else for our kids to find. There will be lots of prizes for all children. Please come out and enjoy the scene and take photos with the Easter Bunny. Please volunteer a little time to help set up this event.

Bishop's Creek is normally a beautiful waterway running the length of our town. It drains down the valley and gets overflows from two lakes in Oak Mountain State Park. Much of our rainfall flows from our property and ends up in this creek. This creek is a real asset to our community. However, at times it will be dirty and possibly polluted. Please try to keep any pollutants from getting to the creek. Some of that is just nature. After all, there are animals up and down the valley, both domestic and wild. If you live along the creek, your neighbors would appreciate if you would do your part in keeping the creek clean. Please don't pile manure and other undesirable material where it could possibly be washed into the creek.

Residents living on Copena are complaining that Oak Mountain High School students are parking along their street and cutting through yards to get to school and trespassing. As if that was not bad enough, some students are driving recklessly endangering small children in the neighborhood, speeding and making a lot of noise. Copena is an out-of-the-way dead-end street. It is normally very quiet but not at 6:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. If your children are driving to school when they are not allowed to park on school grounds, they must be parking where they shouldn't be. The neighbors are getting the Sheriff's Department, OMHS Principal Jane Doyle and board of education to take action, and I have seen additional sheriff's patrols in that area. Vehicle descriptions and plates are being recorded. If your high school student is parking there, please talk with them.

We are having some exterior work done on our Town Hall. What started as the replacement of a few rotted floor boards on our porch has turned into a lot more rebuilding and replacement of rotted boards, rails and posts from front to back. Anything that has damage is being pulled out and replaced. The carpenter is doing a thorough job of rebuilding and caulking. The next phase will be the cleaning and repainting of all exterior surfaces over the next month or so.

Landfill "Free" Days - Saturday, April 9 and Saturday, October 8, 2011
Shelby County Landfill www.shelbycountyalabama.com
4154 Highway 70, Columbiana, AL 35051 205-669-1469
Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sat 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

February 15, 2011

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Mayor called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. Brenda Bell-Guercio arrived at 7:04. Stewart Dudley did not attend.

The meeting minutes for January 18 were presented to the Council for approval. Stauss made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mendel. The motion was accepted unanimously.

The meeting minutes for February 1 were presented to the Council for approval. Mendel made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Stauss. The motion was accepted unanimously.

The January financial report was presented. Mendel made a motion to endorse the report as presented, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Wayne Jones reported for the PAZ. The committee met today and heard the subdivision request for the Bankware property. The PAZ made a recommendation to approve the request subject to any certification requirements for the subdivision and recording of the final plat map by the City Engineer. Mendel made a motion to approve the subdivision request as presented by Jones, seconded by Stauss. The motion was accepted unanimously.

The PAZ has received the draft sign ordinance for review. Mendel requested a copy of the current sign ordinance.

Stauss reported for the ZBA. He has received the special exception use request for a home schooling business on Spring Garden and has tentatively scheduled a hearing for March 3.

Robins gave an update on the road paving request. Scott Holladay, County Engineer, said the paving list has not yet been finalized. He will provide cost estimates for the roads the City is responsible for. Jones asked the status of the cleanup of the debris at the lake property. Robins will follow up with Gary Ray of ALDOT.

Bell-Guercio will begin ordering items for the Easter Egg Hunt. She plans to cut back quantities enough for 200 children because so much has been left over in the past. The event is scheduled for April 23.

Stauss contacted Over the Mountain Glass about the conference room tabletop. They can only repair the glass by cutting the end off. They will provide an estimate for both repair and replacement.

Mayor Zerkis asked Town Hall Curator, Tricia Crapet, to arrange to have the carpet cleaned. The damaged boards on the porch will be replaced and the ramp will be checked also. We need to purchase a new bulletin board.

The Mayor noted that the continuation of the 30 mills of County school tax passed by a two to one vote.

Bart Trammell reported that the flag light and the siren light are both burned out. Robins will contact the electrician.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Council Meeting

March 1, 2011

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Mayor called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present.

The meeting minutes for February 15 were presented to the Council for approval. Robins made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Stauss reported for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. A meeting is scheduled to hear the special exception use and a variance request for Spring Garden Arts and Learning, which is located in a residential area.

Mayor Zerkis presented a letter regarding the three year term re-appointments of members to the ZBA. Those members are: Bruce Monical, Ralph Bodie, Benton Baker and Steve Zerkis. Their terms are effective February 6, 2011. Dudley made a motion to confirm the appointments, seconded by Robins. The motion was accepted unanimously. The letter further stated that the ZBA includes Brian Stauss as Chairman and John Strozier and Art Johnson as supernumerary members whose terms began February 6, 2009.

Robins reported that Delta Electric had repaired the exterior lighting except for the siren light. Robins has not been able to get in touch with Gary Ray of ALDOT concerning the removal of the debris at the lake property. Robins contacted Scott Holladay regarding the status of paving of county and ISV streets but Holladay has not yet finalized the list.

Bell-Guercio has emailed an article to the editor of *The Village Voice* announcing the Easter Egg Hunt. She is currently purchasing items for the event.

Dudley reported that the State finance office issued budget projections for the Education Trust Fund and the general budget. A discussion followed.

Mayor Zerkis reported that he gave two speeches in the last week. The first was at the Annual Mayor's Meeting of the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce on the state of the City, and a Chamber group with a focus on the Indian Springs area.

The U.S. Census Bureau now reports our 2010 population at 2,363 and 857 houses.

April Happenings by Cecelia Dean, North Shelby Library Youth Services Department

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 2011					1 April Fool's Day Want to play a trick on your friends today? Check out one of our magic books for a great idea!
4 Toddler Tales 9:30 & 10:30 *Registration Required Sit, Stay, Read 3:30, 3:50, 4:10	5 Baby Tales 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Birth - 18 Months *Registration Required	6 Family Storytime with Mr. Mac - 10:45 All Ages Welcome Homeschool Hangout Fossils with Roger Reid @ 1 *Registration Required	7 PJ Storytime "Silly Tales" 7:00 p.m.	8 Webby's Egg-Cellent Easter	
11 Toddler Tales 9:30 & 10:30 *Registration Required Sit, Stay, Read 3:30, 3:50, 4:10	12 PJ Storytime "Rain Tales" 7:00 p.m.	13 Family Storytime with Mr. Mac - 10:45 All Ages Welcome	14 PJ Storytime "Rain Tales" 7:00 p.m.	15 Family Movie Day 4-5:00 p.m. Snacks Served	
18 Toddler Tales 9:30 & 10:30 *Registration Required Sit, Stay, Read 3:30, 3:50, 4:10	19 Craft - Coffee Filter Butterfly at 4:00 p.m. *Registration Required	20 Family Storytime with Mr. Mac - 10:45 All Ages Welcome	21 PJ Storytime "Bunnies and Eggs" 7:00 p.m.	<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 10px;"> Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 23rd 10:30 - 11:00 Ages 4 & up 11:00 - 11:30 Birth to 3 Snacks Served *No Registration Required Join us at the library for a fun time and a special furry guest! </div>	
25 Sit, Stay, Read 3:30, 3:50, 4:10	26 Baby Tales 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Birth - 18 Months *Registration Required	27 Family Storytime with Mr. Mac - 10:45 All Ages Welcome	28 PJ Storytime "Sunny Tales" 7:00 p.m.		

APRIL YOUTH EVENTS

Toddler Tales - A story program for children 19 - 36 months and a caregiver. Stories, songs, finger plays and crafts make up a lively 30 minute program designed especially for short attention spans. Mondays at 9:30 & 10:30. Limit 15. Registration Required.

PJ Storytime - Bedtime stories for all ages. Wear your P.J.s and bring your favorite "snuggly." We'll provide the milk and cookies! No Registration Required. All Ages.

Family Storytime - Stories, puppets, and lots of music for every member of the family. This story program meets every Wednesday at 10:45. Performed by storyteller extraordinaire, Mr. Mac. All Ages. No Registration Required.

Baby Tales - A story program especially for children aged birth - 18 months and a caregiver. Stories and music provide interaction for the babies and time for caregivers to share with each other. Limit 8. Reservations Required.

North Shelby Library
 5521 Cahaba Valley Road
 Birmingham, AL 35242
 205-439-5504
 northshelbyyouth@gmail.com
 www.northshelbylibrary.org

Teen Scene

April 5: Local Author Spotlight: Roger Reid, *Time*, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Join us as Roger Reid, local author and EMMY Award-winning writer, director and producer for the *"Discovering Alabama"* series, discusses his new novel, *Time*, and signs copies. In his book, Jason Caldwell returns to Alabama, the scene of two previous adventures that nearly cost him his life, to participate in an archeological dig at the historic Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site. *Time* is a fast-moving story that incorporates real-life science into its intriguing tale of suspicion and pursuit. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and light refreshments will be served. Please call (205)439-5512 or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

April 11: How to Get a Literary Agent, 6:00-7:30 p.m. The first step to publication is getting a literary agent, but that can be a huge challenge. Research, query, write a synopsis... where do you start? Come hear local author and teacher Anne Riley discuss the process of researching literary agents, writing a query letter, constructing a book synopsis and making yourself stand out in the crowd. Snacks will be served. Please call (205)439-5512 or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

Teen Book Pick of the Month:
The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin by Josh Berk
 Being a hefty, deaf newcomer almost makes Will Halpin the least popular guy at Coaler High. But when he befriends the only guy less popular than he, the dork-namic duo has

the smarts and guts to figure out who knocked off the star quarterback. Will can't hear what's going on, but he's a great observer. So, who did it? And why does that guy talk to his fingers? And will the beautiful girl ever notice him? (Okay, so Will's interested in more than just murder . . .)

Those who prefer their heroes to be not-so-usual and with a side of wiseguy will gobble up this witty, geeks-rule debut. *(From Product Description)*

TOPS Weight Loss Support Group Meetings

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is a non-profit, non-commercial weight-loss support organization with thousands of associate chapters in the United States and Canada.

TOPS will meet every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church on Highway 119 in Indian Springs. For more information, call 620-0602.

Another TOPS group meets at St Francis Church at 10:30 a.m. each Tuesday. For information, call 995-2166 or 408-9340.

Surplus City Equipment for Sale

Kubota G1900 tractor, 18 hp 3 cylinder diesel engine, 54" mower deck, turf tires, approximately 600 hrs, always garaged. Excellent condition. \$5,000/offers. Contact Brian Stauss at 987-9997 or brian@indianspringsvillage.org by Monday, 04/18/2011 to purchase or make offer.

TOPS King submitted by Lori Anthony

In April 2010, Dale Smith of Birmingham was recognized by TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) as the State King of Alabama. This esteemed award was bestowed upon him for being the male who had the most weight-loss and achieved his physician's recommended healthy goal weight. Dale lost a total of 64 pounds, going from an all time high of 259 pounds to his goal weight of 195.

Dale's story is similar to many people's. In Dale's words, he gained and lost a lot of weight over the years, losing more than sixty pounds at one point. Even so, the weight always came back. Dale remembers vividly the day when he decided he needed a more permanent weight-loss solution. He recalls stepping on his scale and hitting his all-time high of 259 pounds, a hundred pounds more than he weighed in high school. Dale was in luck. In early 2009, a TOPS group was being formed and would be meeting at the St. Francis Episcopal Church, Indian Springs, Alabama every Tuesday evening. He had tried losing weight on his own and that didn't work, so Dale decided to give TOPS a try. To his surprise and delight, with the encouragement and support of his fellow TOPS members along with his own determination to live a healthier lifestyle, he achieved his healthy goal weight.

Dale has been enjoying the fruits of his labor. He has forged many new friendships with individuals from the TOPS group, locally and nationally. Dale has not only reached his healthy recommended goal-weight, he has achieved a successful personal goal of living a more healthy lifestyle, wearing smaller clothes sizes, enjoying more energy and experiencing an improvement in his overall health.

To honor his title of "King", Dale has committed to keeping the weight off and to continue to be a major presence at TOPS meetings, offering his encouragement and support to TOPS members in their quest to meet their weight-loss goals. Dale has maintained his weight loss for a full year now and will relinquish his crown on April 2nd during the TOPS Annual Recognition Days here in Birmingham, AL. Barbara Cady, the President of TOPS, will be in town for this event. www.tops.org.



SENIOR Health & Wellness Expo

Hosted by the Alabaster Senior Center
Sponsored by Baptist Health System and
Shelby Baptist Medical Center

Tuesday, May 3rd from 9am-12pm

Alabaster Senior Center
1097 7th Street SW
Alabaster, AL 35007

**Promoting healthy living for our
Shelby County Seniors!**

Take a day to indulge your mind and body at the Alabaster Senior Health and Wellness Expo. This event offers products and services to anyone 55+ actively seeking to improve their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual well being.

Free Screenings

Screenings by Shelby Baptist Health System and
Shelby Baptist Medical Center:

Ask the Doc	Body Fat Analysis
Blood Pressure	Derma Scan
PAD net Screening	Dietitian

Give-a-ways

There will be a variety of health and wellness providers on-hand to showcase available services and provide information!

Thank you to our sponsors:
City of Alabaster, Shelby Baptist Health System, Shelby Baptist Medical Center, and Target

For more information, please contact the Alabaster Senior Center at 663-1307 or awalters@cityofalabaster.com

Don Murphy, Pelham Mayor, is proposing a County Mayors association. Mayor Zerkis supports this idea and plans to join. The group will meet quarterly.

A resident asked if the monthly financial reports could be put on the website. A discussion followed. Stauss said he can make the report into a PDF and will place it on the website.

The City Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the Ethics Commission stating that everyone who is required to file a Statement of Economic Interest is now required to watch a 55-minute training video. Rasco will forward the information to the Council via email.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

"No Burn" Dates for 2011

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

A reminder to everyone that the burning of any brush, leaves and other yard and construction waste is prohibited by the State of Alabama starting on May 1, 2011. This prohibition runs through October 31, 2011. There may be restrictions against burning at any time in your neighborhood. ADEM regulations prohibit burning within 500 feet of an occupied dwelling at any time. Please check your property covenants and contact your neighborhood homeowner's associations.

If you need to burn before or after these dates, please be mindful of your neighbors. Smoke can irritate lungs and eyes and make breathing difficult for some individuals. Please keep any yard fire as small as possible to minimize smoke and soot. Try to burn on a day without wind to minimize drifting smoke. Please do not leave a fire unattended. Watch your fire closely and keep water near.

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes by Brian Stauss, ZBA Chair

The Zoning Board of Adjustment met on March 3, 2011 to consider a zoning variance application from Yurii and Heather Henriques. The Henriques requested a variance to Article VIII Section 4 Special Exception Use - Home Occupation. The application was for a home tutoring/school business, and the special exception use requirements affected included an increase in the maximum number of tutored students at one time from two to as many as twelve, hiring employees other than immediate family members and a possible adverse impact on the surrounding area. After discussion with the applicant and their attorney and hearing comments from nearby property owners, the application was denied. The Henriques were encouraged to apply for a business license if they can operate their business within the requirements of the home occupation special exception use.

18th Annual ISV Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 23, 2010
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 & 4 p.m. to pick up a "Goody Bag"

Volunteers are still needed in the morning to set up and during the hunt.
Please call Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581 to volunteer.

Indian Springs Gardeners Hear Experts on Low-Budget Gardens

by Ruth Goodwyn, Publicity Chair

Angela Boackle and Cat Martin, experts in creating gardens economically, fascinated members of the Indian Springs Garden Club with their suggestions on plants, insecticides, fungicides and organic gardening by the "lasagna" method. The meeting was at the Town Hall Thursday evening, March 24.

The two plant consultants suggested many flowers that are inexpensive and easy to grow, such as geraniums, snapdragons, dianthus, vinca, sweet potato plant, pink rose—a climber, four o'clock, cypress vine, salvia and zinnias, to name a few. They talked about how to get rid of privet and garden slugs, the merits of mushroom compost, liming in the spring, manure "tea" and touched on the subject of how to prepare a lasagna garden, so called because of the layering of the newspapers, peatmoss, manure, compost, leaves and other ingredients to enrich the soil. Members especially enjoyed being able to get answers to some of their questions. One member had brought in a plant to be identified. After racking her brain, Ms. Boackle came up with the name after the meeting and wanted to share it: Jerusalem sage.

Cat Martin maintains all flower gardens at Indian Springs School, including the one at the gate house which we all admire while driving by the campus on Cahaba Valley Road. She agreed to have members visit Indian Springs School on June 11 to see her handiwork. Ms. Boackle is consultant for her firm, "A Yard Sells" (telephone 370-8564), whose slogan is "Curb Appeal on Your Budget." Many of her clients call before getting their homes ready to put on the market. A brief business meeting was held, opened by Mary H. Bowman with devotions. All enjoyed refreshments provided by Laura Jones, Jennifer Bondi and Pat Zerkis.

A trip to the Huntsville Botanical Garden, originally planned for April, was taken Friday, March 25, by six members who were treated royally, according to Ginny Lusk, who is active with the Wildflower Society. The Wildflower Symposium was

very interesting and worthwhile, in spite of the fact that it was pouring down rain. They heard Harold Holmes, who at National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) concentrated on the heavens, talk about his new focus, the trillium, a wildflower. They had lunch under a shelter, heard Bill Brock speak and learned how to propagate from seed and separate trilliums. After the rain stopped, they toured the Linda and Bill Brock Trillium Garden. They learned that Dr. Jim Lacey, a retired geologist from the University of North Alabama, and his wife, Fay, of Tusculumbia, are donating 800 acres in Colbert County to the state of Alabama, in perpetuity, for a nature preserve.

Instead of a "plant swap", Garden Club members will bring a suggested two or more plants from their own gardens to sell to each other, or to visitors, at the meeting Thursday, April 28, 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Down by the Old Mill Stream



Take a step back in time on the grounds of the Old Siluria and Buck Creek Cotton Mill in Alabaster; now the newly constructed Alabaster Senior Center site, and join the fun at the

2011 Shelby County Senior Picnic

May 19th

from 9am to 1pm

- Lunch is on us
- Entertainment
- Vendors
- Exhibits
- Door Prizes



May is Older Americans Month! Let's have a cotton-pickin' good time and honor the seniors of Shelby County!

Call (205) 670-5770 by May 6 to make your reservation. Please indicate total number in your party. It is important to have an accurate count for ordering purposes. Thank you.

Thanks to our sponsors



From I-65 South, take exit no. 238.
 Turn right onto Hwy. 31 North (away from shopping center).
 Continue to the first red light.
 Turn left onto Hwy. 119 South.
 Cross over the railroad tracks.
 Continue to the 2nd red light.
 Turn right onto 11th Ave. SW at Mill House Natural Foods.
 Cross over the railroad tracks.
 The Senior Center parking lot will be straight ahead.

Alabama Wildlife Center Upcoming Events

by Janet Byars, Administrative Assistant

COST: Free after paid admission to Oak Mountain State Park: \$1 per child 6-11 & Seniors 62+; \$3 Adults

4/2/11 & 5/7/11, Saturday, 1:00 p.m. – Get Wild, a free, monthly family-oriented program promoting bird conservation and stewardship. Each program is hosted by wild bird educators and will feature a different topic. The program always includes our monthly conservation tip and may include an introduction to one of AWC's resident glove-trained Education Birds, a visit inside the workings of our unique rehabilitation clinic or maybe even a hands-on service project for our wild bird patients. Come get wild and have a learning adventure! Program starts at 1:00 p.m. and lasts 20-60 minutes.

4/3/11 & 5/1/11, Sunday, 1:00-2:30 p.m. – Volunteer Orientation – Introduction to the Alabama Wildlife Center: recommended if you're interested in volunteering or are simply curious about AWC. At this free session, you'll learn about our mission and history, volunteer opportunities and ways to support AWC's work. You'll meet some of the AWC staff and volunteers, have an opportunity to get answers to your questions and enjoy a brief tour of our facility. Register online at www.awrc.org. If your schedule does not permit you to register in advance, you can simply arrive a few minutes early to complete your registration in person. Quiet children are invited to attend, but please note that the minimum age to volunteer is 18 (16 accompanied by parent).

4/1/11 – 10/31/11? (Approximate date, depending on Mother Nature) Baby Season at the Alabama Wildlife Center: Every day, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Visitors can observe the care of Alabama native wild bird patients in the nurseries, solarium and raptor flight cages through one-way glass viewing windows. One never knows from one day to the next who the patients will be. The number of new arrivals at the start of baby bird season in 2010: 1 in Feb., 5 in Mar., 88 in Apr., 309 in May (peak of new arrivals; received babies through mid-Nov.) We received our first baby birds on 3/13/11: 4 House Finches, each no bigger than a nickel!

4/10/11 – Sunday, Audubon Teaches Nature at the Alabama Wildlife Center: An Introduction to the Fishes of Alabama. Mike Howell is the guest speaker. Refreshments are offered at 1:30 p.m. at the Alabama Wildlife Center followed by the program at 2:00 p.m. either at the Alabama Wildlife Center or the Oak Mountain Interpretive Center. Alabama is blessed with a wealth of waterways inhabited by an astounding array of fish and other aquatic species. Mike Howell will introduce us to a few of the fish species in our area, helping us to identify them and better understand their ecology. Weather permitting, we'll visit a stream within the park and discover for ourselves which species are found there.

5/7/11 – Baby Bird Shower, Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Mother's Day Weekend). Bring a Gift (see Support Us\Wish List at www.awrc.org), wildlife presentations, refreshments and children's activities! We're expecting!! About 900 baby birds will arrive at the Alabama Wildlife Center this season. Come join in the fun and bring a gift. There are many ways to "Chirp In & Help Alabama's Baby Birds:" go shopping – purchase and donate needed items; volunteer – Animal Care volunteer orientation held monthly (Sundays). Call for other volunteer opportunities 663-7930, Ext. 3; become a member – help preserve and protect Alabama's precious natural heritage with your annual dues; give what you can – express your love for wildlife by making a donation in any amount. Our monthly animal care expenses double during baby bird season. As funding increases, so does our ability to help more creatures.

5/22/11 – Audubon Teaches Nature at the Alabama Wildlife Center: Spring is Here – Time to Learn our Bird Songs. Greg Harber of the Birmingham Audubon Society is the guest speaker. Refreshments are offered at 1:30 p.m. at the Alabama Wildlife Center followed by the program at 2:00 p.m. either at the Alabama Wildlife Center or the Oak Mountain Interpretive Center. Weather permitting, an informal nature walk follows the program so be sure to bring binoculars and field guides for a seasonal look at the birds and critters of Oak Mountain State Park. Few experiences are as pleasant as a stroll through the woods and fields of Alabama – enjoying the sights and sounds of an early summer morning. Bird songs fill the air and insects hum an eternal tune. Greg will teach us the tricks and tips to recognizing the various species that are contributing to the cacophony of sound that reaches our ears. Your trips to the great outdoors will take on a whole new dimension when you identify birds by their songs!

Vacation Bible School at Indian Springs First Baptist Church

VBS Theme: "Big Apple Adventure - Where Faith and Life Connect"

Indian Springs First Baptist Church
 June 6th - 9th, 2011

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 Ages K5 - 5th grade

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