

The Village Voice



Volume 21, Number 11

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

February 3, 2012

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 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 contact
Patricia Crapet. 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 March edition should be submitted by Friday, February 25, 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*

Your City Council is very conservative with Indian Springs Village funds. State law requires that our cash be invested in financial instruments that are guaranteed by both the FDIC and the State of Alabama. In January, the Council approved the investment of \$600,000 of the City's funds in a secure certificate of deposit with Compass Bank. The interest rate is 1.25% for 15 months which is the best rate we could obtain for our needs. We still have no debt or loan obligations. As you know, we have a government of volunteers and we levy no property or sales taxes. The utility taxes we do receive are managed carefully and conservatively and expenses are well-controlled.

I had a good conversation with Sheriff Chris Curry last week about how crime is investigated in our town. He confirms that there is no big outbreak of crime in ISV. However, he urges all residents who may see something wrong or have had people come onto their property, into their homes, barns or cars, to call his office (669-3738) and let investigators get involved. The sheriff's office wants to know about all incidents large or small even if what was taken is trivial. The investigators may pick up clues to help them identify perpetrators of your crime or other crimes in the area. He would appreciate your cooperation.

If you are not recycling, I urge you to take advantage of the recycling program offered through Waste Management. For a cost of about \$5.06 per month, Waste Management will come by weekly on Wednesdays and pick up your recyclables in those green carts with yellow lids. Please contact Waste Management at 841-2740 to get enrolled and help your environment.

Please mark your calendar for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7, 2012. There will be a few hundred children, thousands of plastic eggs and prizes for everyone. Volunteers are needed for this event and I urge you to contact Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581 to offer your help.

Plan Ahead!

Landfill “Free” Day
Saturday, April 14, 2012

(Also, Saturday, October 6th)

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

December 20, 2011

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

The November financial report was presented. Mendel made a motion to endorse the report, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously. There was a discussion about renewing the CDs that will mature on January 20.

Robins gave an update on the Children's Fund. He read a thank-you letter from Hayden Belisle, the counselor at OMES. This year, toys and clothing were purchased for eleven families consisting of twenty-six children. Grocery gift cards were purchased for four additional families.

Mendel noted that the December financial report will include the Children's Fund account. Mendel also stated that with approval of these minutes, the \$7,000 flooring project will be added to the budget as a capital expense.

Mendel noted that a neighbor on Brook Green was concerned about the privet brush growing and blocking the line of sight on the Mountain Vista right-of-way. Mendel asked Robins to contact the County to see if they will remove it because it is a safety issue. Robins will contact the County.

Stauss noticed that the missing mile marker and Adopt-A-Mile signs have been replaced. He sent a thank you email to Gary Ray of ALDOT.

Mayor Zerkis gave an update on the \$3,800 ADEM expense. A representative of Shelby County delivered a large binder of data that was compiled and submitted to the EPA on County storm water monitoring.

Zerkis stated that new carpeting will be installed in the meeting room tomorrow. Oak floors will be installed in the parlor and dining room in January.

Zerkis noted that Menchie's and Selco Cleaners are closed. Alabama Credit Union has been operating out of a truck. Mayor Zerkis welcomed them to the City and asked that they get a business license.

Mayor Zerkis asked for comments from the audience. He then invited everyone to attend the annual holiday reception.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting

January 3, 2012

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Mayor Zerkis called the meeting

to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present except Stewart Dudley. The Mayor reviewed the agenda.

The December 20 meeting minutes were reviewed. Stauss motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Mendel. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Robins reported that County Engineer Scott Holladay will have the maintenance department inspect and remove the privet hedge on Mountain Vista. Robins spoke with Scout Justin Stoessel about his possible Eagle Project installing security cameras at the Town Hall. Stauss will contact Stoessel to discuss further. Robins will call Marlin Bennetech to get a quote for lighting on the city entry signs on Highway 119 near I-65 and at OMMS.

Mendel has contacted three banks for CD rates to re-invest the CD that is maturing. He plans to combine the funds from the CD with 20K from the money market fund. He will continue to contact other banks and credit unions. Mayor Zerkis suggested a treasury bond.

Stauss reported that he has listed the Kubota for sale on Craigslist.

Mayor Zerkis announced that Fire Chief Mike O'Connor had passed away earlier today. As the procession came through town earlier today, fire trucks from various fire departments lined the way between Brookwood Medical Center and the funeral home in Alabaster. Zerkis lowered the flag to half-staff at Town Hall. He then went to NSFD Station 2 where the firemen had hung a garrison size American flag from the ladder truck over Caldwell Mill Road and they stood at attention as the procession passed. Zerkis noted that Chief O'Connor was an advocate for fire safety and often lobbied in Montgomery. This is a great loss.

Stauss suggested creating a proclamation for Chief O'Connor.

Mayor Zerkis received a call from a resident who was upset about teens hunting and shooting guns on her property. A neighbor spoke to them. There was a discussion about safety, license and supervision requirements for teens.

Zerkis reported that several ordinances are planned to be revised including storm water and subdivision (for flooding issues). The fee scheduled is also planned to be revised. He also noted the international building code has not yet been presented by the PAZ. He will contact the PAZ Chair.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. A resident reported that there were four to five potholes on Valley View Drive. Robins will contact the County.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Elections in 2012

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

This is a big year for elections at all levels: federal, state, county and local. The first election will be the primaries on March 13, 2012. A number of contests will have two or more candidates. So we will have choices and I urge you all to exercise your constitutional right to vote.

The only way any of us can vote is to first register. To qualify to register, you must be a U.S. Citizen, reside in Alabama, be at least 18 years of age, not been declared mentally incompetent by a court and have not been convicted of a disqualifying felony (or have rights restored). The registration process is straightforward. You can get a registration form on-line from the Secretary of State (www.sos.state.al.us) or from many different government offices including public libraries. Complete and mail the form to the Shelby County election official in Columbiana. Registration is open until ten days before an election, so you have time to register for the primaries. If you have a son or daughter who is turning 18, please encourage them to register and vote.

Most Indian Springs Village residents vote at either of two polling places: New Hope Presbyterian Church on Double Oak Lane or the Valleydale Baptist Church on Valleydale Road. You can also vote by absentee ballot.

This March 13 is also the primary date for candidates for President of the United States. Because our primary date is early in the year, how Alabama votes may well have an impact on the outcome of the Republican primary. Later this summer and fall, we will have additional elections including a municipal election for council members and mayor of ISV on August 28. Our federal election will be on November 6, 2012.

Business License Update

As of January 29, ISV has granted 2012 business licenses to the following new businesses: Hardin Grace Investments, Mancha Hardscapes, Marty Comer Construction and Tempting Treats of Alabama.

The following businesses have renewed their license for 2012: Alabama Computers, Anything Audio & Video, BBVA Compass, Frieda Hanson (rental property), G&RK Consulting, Gulfeagle Supply, JL Auto Sales, Kangaroo Express, Lasso the Moon Interiors, Noland Design, Pelham Water, ProBuild, R. Scott Howell Home Building & Landscape, Sanpeggio's Pizza, Shelby Food Mart, Shook & Fletcher, Vulcan Interior Products and Winn Dixie.

Digital Mason, Haute Kitsch and Signature Minerals remain delinquent for 2011.

Storm Sirens

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

If you live close to one of our storm sirens, you know just how LOUD they can be. The term "wake the dead" comes to mind. But they are not the only way or even best way to be informed of a pending severe storm or tornado. They are not designed to be heard in every home in town. My house is well insulated and when the TV is on, I may not even hear a siren. It's better to rely on several warning systems, including your home radio, TV and especially a battery-operated emergency radio. They are inexpensive and will operate when your power is out.

Our sirens are activated by Shelby County's emergency services and they are getting their information from the U.S. Weather Bureau. The North Shelby Fire District checks to see that our sirens are operating. Our sirens are designed to operate on batteries that are continuously charged. So, even if the power is out, the sirens will work.

My understanding is that Hoover's sirens are linked to the Jefferson County system and occasionally their sirens may sound and Shelby's may not. This can occur because the storm warning being issued by Hoover sirens may reflect a storm that is actually in north Jefferson County and not affect Shelby. But it's better to be safe than sorry. Check the weather reports. What's most important is that we use some system of warning to protect our families and ourselves.

Re-Election

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

When you do go to vote on March 13, 2012, I hope you will keep in mind a couple of good friends of Indian Springs Village. Shelby County Commissioner Lindsey Allison is running for re-election. Besides being a fellow resident of ISV, she has well represented her district and has served several terms as County Commission chair.

Judge James Fuhrmeister is running for re-election as Judge of Probate. Prior to becoming Judge of Probate, Attorney Jim Fuhrmeister was very helpful to ISV and gave our town government legal assistance on several matters.

Upcoming Scholastic Chess Tournament

February 11, 2012: Birmingham, AL (Oak Mountain Intermediate School)

OAK MOUNTAIN SCHOLASTIC - 5 Rounds Swiss – USCF Rated and "Not Rated" sections. Host Site is Oak Mountain Intermediate School at 5486 Caldwell Mill Road, Birmingham, AL. Prizes: Trophies and Medallions.

Visit the ACF website - www.AlabamaChess.com - for the latest news about Alabama chess tournaments

Oak Mountain Middle School Wrestling Team Wins 3rd Straight Metro Championship!

by Sandy Tipton, Villager

Congratulations to Oak Middle School for winning their third-straight Metro Championship.

Fourteen of the Eagles' wrestlers finished in the top six.: Redding Tipton, 75lb. – 3rd Place; Michael John Harris, 85lb. – 1st Place; Logan Marbut, 85lb. – 3rd Place; Hall Morton, 95lb. – 1st Place; Mason James, 95lb. – 6th Place; Landon White, 103lb. – 6th Place; Jason Webb, 112lb. – 4th Place; Coleman Reeves, 125lb. – 2nd Place; Will Sayers, 130lb. – 4th Place; Dalton Bradford, 141lb – 2nd Place; Jaried Buxton, 155lb. – 2nd Place; Josh Jones, 165lb. – 6th Place; Manny Allan, 175lb. – 1st Place; Armond Lloyd, Heavyweight – 3rd Place. Oak Mountain wrestlers' dominance on the mat gave their team 353 final match points and 37 pins. Coach McGuaghy, Coach Buckner and Coach Patton led their team to a 41-3 season!



Town Hall Improvements

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Next time you are in our Town Hall, please take a look around. All of the old carpeting is gone. The flooring in the council chamber has been replaced with new carpeting and red oak floors have been installed in the front parlor and small meeting room. The main hallway has been refinished to match the new wooden floors. All of these wooden floors were installed with a wider board that is more typical of the period in which the house was built. The hearth of the fireplace has been replaced with slate. Exterior lighting fixtures on the three porches have been replaced with more traditional fixtures that also provide more light and safety. We will be looking to see what other improvements are needed. We are working to maintain the condition of our century-old Town Hall and make it a more pleasant facility to use both for town meetings and your personal events.

Spay/Neuter Vouchers

In conjunction with the Shelby Humane Society, the City is providing vouchers for a free spay or neuter surgery for your dog or cat. If you would like a voucher, please contact City Clerk, Kelly Rasco at Kelly@indianspringsvillage.org. The vouchers expire 30 days from the date of issue. Shelby Humane Quick Fix provides the surgeries. For more information, visit www.shelbyhumane.org.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

SPECIAL EQUESTRIANS

If you like horses, the outdoors, and helping people, we have the perfect opportunity for you. Please join the force of over 250 volunteers that assist with Special Equestrians. Special Equestrians is a therapeutic horseback riding program for people with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. All levels of experience are available (no horse experience necessary), must be 14 years or older; just attend one of our Volunteer Training sessions on **Thursday, February 16th 5-7pm, Saturday, February 18th 10am-12pm OR Tuesday, February 21st 5-7pm.** Training sessions will take place at our facility on the campus of Indian Springs School. To reserve a spot at the training session or to find out more information, please email: volunteer@specialequest.org, call: 205-987-9462 or visit our website www.specialequest.org

North Shelby Library February Happenings

by Cecelia Dean, North Shelby Library Youth Services Department

****You can now register for our programs online. Visit our website at www.northshelbylibrary.org/children.html to view our calendar and make reservations.**

Special Programming

Monday, January 23rd – Friday, February 10th: Valentine Cards for Children’s Hospital. The Library is collecting Valentine Cards for kids in Children’s Hospital. You can stop by the Children’s Department to make a card or bring by a store-bought card. No candy please. Cards must be turned in by Friday, February 10th.

Saturday, February 4th from 10:00-11:30 a.m.: Lego Club. The Library will provide the Legos and snacks, the kids will provide the imagination and creativity. Families are welcome to drop in anytime between 10:00 and 11:00 to build spectacular creations. Creations will then go on display in the Children’s Department. Snacks served. All ages welcome. Registration is required.

Friday, February 10th from 4:00-5:30 p.m.: Valentine Party. Join us from 4:00-5:30 to celebrate Valentines with a special craft, sweet treats and a movie. Registration is required.

Wednesday, February 15th at 1:00 p.m.: Homeschool Hangout – Mardi Gras. Join us for a discussion of Mardi Gras’ history and traditions. We will also be eating some awesome king cake and making a Mardi Gras mask! Ages 8-12. Registration required.

Thursday, February 23rd at 4:00 p.m.: B’Tween the Pages Book Club. Join us to discuss great books that have become movies and create book reviews. Snacks served. Ages 8-12. Registration required.

Story-Time Programming

Mondays, February 6th, 13th and 20th at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Tales. Stories, songs, fingerplays and crafts make up a lively 30-minute program designed especially for short attention spans. Registration will begin one week prior to each storytime. Ages 19-36 months. Registration required.

Tuesdays, February 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th from 9:30- 10:00 a.m.: Baby Tales Story Time. A story time designed especially for babies and their caregivers. Stories and music provide interaction for the babies and time for caregivers to talk and share with each other. Ages: Birth to 18 months. Registration required. Registration will begin one week prior to program date.

Wednesdays, February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th at 10:45 am.: Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) Stories, puppets and lots of music for every member of

the family. All ages. No registration.

Thursdays, February 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd at 7:00 p.m.: P. J. Story Time. Come in your PJs, have milk and cookies and hear some wonderful bedtime tales. All ages. No registration required.

*** For more information or to register for any of our programs or storytimes, call or email the Children’s Department at 205-439-5504 or northshelbyyouth@gmail.com or visit our website at**

www.northshelbylibrary.org/children.html

Teen Happenings February 2012

Gaming: Fridays, February 3, 10, 17 and 24 – 3:30-6:00 p.m. Can you *Just Dance* better than the librarians? Are you the month’s top scorer in *Super Mario Bros*? Can you hold your own in the *Brawl*? Join us each Friday afternoon for open gaming and mini-tournaments on the Wii. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Anime Night: Thursday, February 9 @ 6:00 p.m. Join us in the teen department for an evening of anime. The audience will pick what we watch. Exotic treats will be served and cosplay welcome! Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Teen Advisory Council: Monday, February 13 @ 6:00 p.m. Interested in helping the Teen Department be even better than it is now? The Teen Advisory Council is the place for you! The TAC meets the second Monday of each month to work on projects for the Library. Bring your ideas and your appetite! Snacks served and community service hours earned. Call 205-439-5512 or email Kate or Daniel at nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information or to sign up.

Teen Book Club: Monday, February 20 @ 6:00 p.m. The Teen Book Club will meet to discuss *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness. “Thirteen-year-old Conor awakens one night to find a monster outside his bedroom window, but not the one from the recurring nightmare that began when his mother became ill – an ancient, wild creature that wants him to face truth and loss.” Grab the book and start reading and then stop by to let us know your opinion! Snacks served. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Craft: Thursday, February 23 @ 6:00 p.m. Use extra Legos to make cool jewelry or a keychain. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com to register.

Happy Valentine’s
Day



Indian Springs School to Hold Summer @ Springs Enrichment Program

submitted by Melanie Kieve, Assistant Director of Development

With courses from SAT/PSAT preparation to acting to entrepreneurship, Indian Springs School will hold its popular Summer @ Springs enrichment program during selected weeks in June and July at its campus just south of downtown Birmingham.

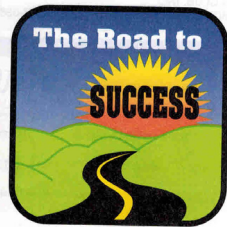
Spanning academics, athletics and the arts, course offerings include black and white photography, creative writing and bookmaking, acting (including mime, juggling and improvisation), wetlands ecology, writing organically, geometry readiness, algebra readiness, cryptography, entrepreneurship, SAT/PSAT preparation, French language and culture, grammar boot camp, cross country training, music recording and production and science discovery. Courses run one to two weeks.

A non-residential program, Summer @ Springs is open to students who are entering grades 4-12, and grades and tuition vary per class. A French language and culture course will also be offered to adults. All courses will be taught at Indian Springs' 350-acre campus located near the intersection of I-65 and I-459, just south of downtown Birmingham.

For more information including specific dates, length of courses and tuition, visit www.indiansprings.org/summer or contact Summer @ Springs Director Douglas Ray at dray@indiansprings.org.

TOPS Weight Loss Support Group Meetings

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS Chapter 0566) meets every Tuesday morning at St. Frances Episcopal Church, 3545 Cahaba Valley Rd, Indian Springs Village, 35242. Weigh in at 10:30 a.m. Meeting at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Call 995-2166 for more information.



The Take Off Pounds Sensibly Weight Loss Support Group meets on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. at Indian Springs First Baptist Church, 3375 Cahaba Valley Road, Indian Springs Village. Call 620-0602 with questions. Please join us! Lose weight with friends!

ISS Students Elect Second Semester Leaders

submitted by Melanie Kieve, Assistant Director of Development

The following Indian Springs School (ISS) students have been elected to student leadership positions for the second half of the 2011-2012 academic year:

- Mayor: Leah Fox, Birmingham, AL.
- Commissioner of Boarding: Neha Hebbani, Brisbane, Australia and Jacob Thigpen, Birmingham, AL.
- Commissioner of Citizenship: Noah Lapidus, Birmingham, AL and Cameron Westbrook, Birmingham, AL.
- Commissioner of Education: Cori Mazer, Birmingham, AL.
- Commissioner of Protection: Jessie Hook, Birmingham, AL and Benjamin Kitchens, Indian Springs, AL.
- Commissioner of Recreation: Jennie Killebrew, Birmingham, AL and Paris Kissel, Clanton, AL.
- Commissioner of Services: Alistair Delchamps, Helena, AL and Danny Kang, Seoul, South Korea.
- Grade 12 Class Representatives: Lia Bargeron, Birmingham, AL and Laura McMullan, Birmingham, AL.
- Grade 11 Class Representatives: Matias Gutierrez, Birmingham, AL and Stephen Himic, Birmingham, AL.
- Grade 10 Class Representatives: Mack Krell, Birmingham, AL and Seth Perlman, Birmingham, AL.
- Grade 9 Class Representatives: Eli Cohen, Birmingham, AL and Ramsey Rossmann, Birmingham, AL.
- Grade 8 Class Representatives: Thomas Barr, Birmingham, AL and Clara Scott, Birmingham, AL.
- Judiciary: Virginia Barr, Hoover, AL; Jessie Hook, Birmingham, AL; Benjamin Kitchens, Indian Springs, AL; Emma Knapp, Birmingham, AL; Michael Lee, Birmingham, AL; Alice Marson, Mountain Brook, AL; Will Riley, Birmingham, AL; Candace vonHoffman, Maxwell AFB, AL; Cameron Westbrook, Birmingham, AL.

The ISS student body governs in a town hall format, with a mayor who provides leadership to the community and commissioners who direct various aspects of student life. Class representatives represent their grades in student government meetings and organize class activities, and judiciary members rule on infractions of student rules and standards.

19th Annual ISV Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7, 2012 - 3:00 p.m.
Indian Springs Village Town Hall



If you would like to volunteer to set up in the morning, and/or help during the hunt, please call Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581.

Alabama Clean Water Partnership Is Subject of Garden Club Meeting

by Ruth Goodwyn, Publicity Chair, Indian Springs Garden Club

Using rain barrels as a conservation measure was one of the topics of the Thursday evening meeting of the Indian Springs Garden Club at the Town Hall.

Using two slide shows, the two speakers showed pictures of the process of constructing the rain barrels and placing them on your property, their use—and much more. Addressing the group were Glen Littleton and Johnnie Johnston of the Alabama Clean Water Partnership (ACWP), which “links individuals, companies, organizations and governing bodies in order to educate the public and initiate projects to protect and preserve Alabama’s water resources and aquatic ecosystems.” The ACWP has about one and a half dozen partnerships. Also present was Mrs. Edith Johnston.

A statewide non-profit organization, the Partnership is a coalition of public and private interest groups working together to advocate for clean water. Ten River Basin Facilitators and a Statewide Coordinator are charged with coordinating and putting into action watershed efforts. A watershed (or drainage basin) is an area of land that drains to a central location—in this case, 1,870 square miles of interconnecting springs, creeks and smaller rivers feeding into the Cahaba River, which covers portions of eight counties.

Mr. Johnston, a member of the ACWP Board of Directors and a volunteer speaker, has been in water treatment and reuse business for years. (Mrs. Johnston said they had five rain barrels in use at their home.) Mr. Littleton is the Facilitator for the Cahaba River Basin, whose projects include rain barrel workshops. Projects of ACWP have included many creek renovations, of special interest to Villagers because of recurring problems with

Bishop Creek. Among other projects, the Basin is looking to assist Shelby County in the development of a new park along the Cahaba River and has purchased several hundred acres of land surrounding the river towards that development, which will begin as budgets allow.

The speakers gave many interesting facts about water reuse and showed some slides of gorgeous garden spots which previously had been, for example, an old rock quarry. As an aside, they also included slides of Butchert Gardens of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Facilitator Littleton was wearing a T-shirt featuring one of the Partnership’s Limited Edition Prints, the “Sly Crayfish.” Members were surprised when a drawing was held for packages of bookmarks and notecards of previous year’s prints, “Great Blue Herron,” “Speckled Darter,” “Spotted Salamander,” “Georgia River Cruiser,” and “Shoals Spider Lily,” as well as an 18x24” sized print of the “Sly Crayfish,” which was “won” by member Jennifer Bondi. The prints, gifts from our guest speakers, were done by Keith Smith, born in Hawaii and now a resident of Montgomery, where he works for the Alabama Department of Transportation. He is associated with the Alabama Clean Water Partnership.

Members and guests enjoyed refreshments provided by the Hospitality Committee, comprised of Liz Eich, Jean Jenkins, Laura Jones, Jennie Pittman and Pat Zerkis. Afterwards, a brief meeting was held, presided over by new president, Liz Alosi.

A list of proposed field trips was distributed for member perusal and suggestions taken; dues collected and new yearbooks created by Kelly Rasco were distributed..

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Paul S. Skokel

Owner: Paul S. Skokel

Address: 1080 Indian Crest Drive

Proposed Use: Interior Remodel

In Memoriam



Larry D. Striplin, Jr. of Birmingham, age 82, passed away on Monday, January 23, 2012. He was a devoted husband and father, and a noted businessman, public servant, philanthropist, and sports enthusiast. He was born on November 11, 1929, in Selma, Alabama, as the only child of Larry D. Striplin, Sr. and Ethel Henderson Striplin. Mr. Striplin graduated from Albert G. Parrish High School in Selma in 1948. He attended Spring Hill College in Mobile for two years and graduated from Birmingham-Southern College in 1951 with a bachelor's degree in education. At Birmingham-Southern, he was regarded as one of the college's greatest student-athletes. He was a member of the swimming and diving, basketball and baseball teams during his undergraduate years. He continued his education at George Peabody College for Teachers (now a part of Vanderbilt University) in Nashville where he earned his master's degree in education in 1952. After graduation from Peabody, Mr. Striplin established the men's basketball program at Belmont College (now Belmont University) in Nashville in 1952, serving as head coach for four years. He also coached baseball and served as Belmont's first athletics director. In 1956, he turned his attention and tremendous energy to the business world, where he left his mark as one of Alabama's success stories. Beginning with Pittsburgh Plate Glass in Jackson, Tenn., he began a remarkable journey in the business world that led him to ownership of his own company, Nelson-Brantley Glass, in 1963. He came home to Selma in 1971 bringing an industry, DISCO Aluminum Products, that provided hundreds of jobs for the area. He later formed a holding company, Circle 'S' Industries, and added another manufacturing business, American Fine Wire, to the Selma economy. Additional companies were added to the holding company that further contributed to his success. Mr. Striplin was a passionate supporter of his alma maters, his communities, and youth through the years, tirelessly giving his wisdom, his leadership, his time, and his resources to better the lives of those around him. He considered himself blessed and therefore generously shared his blessings with others. He founded the Bryant-Jordan Student-Athlete Scholarship Program in 1986 in memory of legendary football coaches Paul "Bear" Bryant of Alabama and Ralph "Shug" Jordan of Auburn. Almost \$10 million in college scholarship support has been distributed to more than 2,200 high school senior student-athletes since the program's inception. Mr. Striplin joined the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1975, serving as chairman for 13 years and on the board for 23 years. He was instrumental in the establishment of the museum in downtown Birmingham that now houses the hall's collection of memorabilia. He was the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame's 1998 Distinguished American Sportsman and was inducted into the 2007 Class of the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame

in Montgomery. For his many contributions to the State of Alabama, he was inducted into the State of Alabama Academy of Honor in 1997. Among his philanthropic contributions, he established the Striplin Physical Fitness and Recreation Center, Striplin Baseball Complex, and Larry D. Striplin III Scholarship Fund at Birmingham-Southern. Mr. Striplin was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Birmingham-Southern in 1983. He was inducted into the BSC Sports Hall of Fame in 1986, and, in 2003, he was awarded the Bob Strain Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the college's intercollegiate athletics programs. Belmont University's former Striplin Gymnasium was named in his honor, along with its Striplin-Wiseman Athletic Office Complex in the university's Curb Event Center. In 1980, he was one of the first three charter members of the Belmont Athletic Hall of Fame. His contributions funded the Larry D. Striplin, Jr. Performing Arts Center in Selma, and renovation of the basketball practice gymnasium at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, which now is named in memory of his son, Larry D. Striplin III, a one-time student manager at the school. He was a longtime supporter of the United Way of Central Alabama and a member of its Tocqueville Society. Over the years, he was a member of numerous boards of businesses, charitable organizations, and educational institutions, including the U.S. Olympic Committee; boards of the Lakeshore Foundation, National Football Foundation, and College Football Hall of Fame; and as a Trustee at Birmingham-Southern and at the University of South Alabama. Mr. Striplin is survived by his wife, Rhonda Bass Striplin; daughter, Janet S. Nottrodt (Clay) of Indian Springs Village, AL; son, David R. Striplin (Isabelle) of Roswell, GA; and daughter, Cynthia S. Victor (Jerry) of Selma, AL. He is predeceased by his son, Larry D. Striplin, III of Birmingham, AL. He also leaves eight grandchildren: Lauren Striplin, Scott Fussell, Taylor Striplin, Christy Striplin, Barrett Striplin, Beverly Smith, Katie Rives, and Holly Carter. He is predeceased by his granddaughter, Megan Weavil. He also has two great-grandchildren, Lilly Smith and Landon Rives. Other survivors include stepchildren, Heather Gentry and Jessica Ceurvels, and step-grandchild, Ella Gentry. He leaves behind many colleagues and friends who admired and loved him and will miss him dearly. The family would like to thank all of the medical personnel and other caregivers who gave him care and support through his final days. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Mr. Striplin's name to Birmingham-Southern College through the Office of Institutional Advancement, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254; to the Bryant-Jordan Student-Athlete Program, P.O. Box 10163, Birmingham, AL 35202; or to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, 2150 Richard Arrington, Jr. Boulevard, Birmingham, AL. *(Reprinted from The Birmingham News)-*

In Memoriam



Joan Margaret Harvey Bishop, aged 75, of Hoover, AL, passed away on January 19, 2012 after a short but courageous battle with cancer. She was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania yet lived most of her adult life in Northern Virginia. Her career as a nursing home administrator was marked by

the prestigious appointment to the Virginia State Board of Health. She relocated to Birmingham in 1998 to be closer to her children. She is preceded in death by her parents, Thomas Dewitt and Marion Wilson Harvey. She is survived by her children Dr. Paul Harvey (Dana) Bishop of Decatur, AL; Dr. Laura Melanie Bishop Fiveash (John) of Indian Springs, AL; grandchildren Justin Mitchell and Caroline Anne Bishop and triplets Jacob John, Nicholas Bishop, and Hannah Helen Fiveash; brother, David (Sally) Harvey (Kennett Square, PA); brother-in-laws Jim (Arlene) Bishop (Atlanta, GA) and Robert (Jayne) Bishop (Pittsburgh, PA); sister-in-laws Ann (Ralph) Messick (Cary, NC) and Mary (Norman) Reign (South Hampton, NJ); former husband, Arthur (Nadine) Bishop (Gainesville, VA); many nieces and nephews; and special friend Charles Rapp. Joan was blessed with a large and caring extended family and a tremendous number of friends. She will be remembered for her sharp sense of humor, caring spirit and as a devoted mother and grandmother (Nana) who loved to play bridge with her New Neighbors group of Birmingham and the Birthday Club. One of her favorite places was North Myrtle Beach, SC. She was a founding trustee of Grace Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Helena, AL where she remained an active member till her death. The family wishes to thank her care provider, Gwen Hampton and Dr. Gorman Jones for their gracious, loving care and to family and friends for their numerous acts of kindness. The family suggests memorial contributions be sent to any of the following: Grace Christian Church, Fishers of Men International Missions, P.O. Box 387, Selma, AL 36702-0387, or the Southeast Cancer Foundation (www.southeastcancer.org). (Reprinted from *The Birmingham News*)

Oak Mountain High School Hosts Eagle Vision Dinner and Silent Auction

submitted by Kathryn Acree, Community Editor, 280 Living

Oak Mountain High School's PTO will once again host the annual Eagle Vision Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, February 25 at the high school. Ticket sales begin on January 9 at OMHS. Dinner will be provided by Joe's Italian catering. A silent auction and student entertainment will be available from 4:30-8:00 p.m. This is the high school's main fundraising event for the year and the entire community is invited to be a part of this wonderful evening.

Alabama Wildlife Center

Upcoming Events

submitted by Janet Byars, Administrative Assistant, Alabama Wildlife Center

Wild About Chocolate:

2/11/12, Saturday, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at The Harbert Center (2019 4th Ave. N., free parking in deck directly across the street).

An elegant and philanthropic evening for you and your special guests. Perfect Valentine's date! Enjoy an unique social event that offers a lavish chocolate dessert buffet provided by many of Birmingham's finest restaurants, bakeries and confectioners (list of participants at www.awrc.org), a silent auction and live auction with Ken Jackson. Cocktail attire. Cost: \$75 in advance; \$100 at the door.

COST OF PROGRAMS AT AWC: Free admission after paid entrance to Oak Mountain State Park: \$1 per child 6-11 & Seniors 62+; \$3 Adults 205-663-7930, Ext. 8; www.awrc.org; follow us on Facebook

2/19/12, Sunday, 2:00 p.m. – Great Backyard Bird Count – Citizen Science You Can Do!; Greg Harber, Guest Speaker. The GBBC is an annual event enjoyed by many. What's not to like? We get to watch birds – our favorite activity – and be a citizen scientist, too! We'll take a moment to outline the purpose and the methodology of the bird count, and then go into the field to conduct our survey. Afterwards, we'll return to the auditorium to enter our data online. This will be a good opportunity for teachers and educators to learn how they can teach their students to be scientists too!

Get Wild! Programs: a free, monthly, family-oriented program promoting bird conservation and stewardship hosted by Alabama Wildlife Center Educators.

3/3/12, Saturday, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Volunteer Orientation:

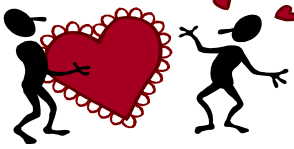
3/4/12, Sunday, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m., Volunteer Orientation; Introduction to AWC: recommended if you're interested in volunteering or are simply curious about AWC. At this free session you'll learn about our mission and history, volunteer opportunities and ways to support AWC's work. You'll meet some of 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 a parent).

FEBRUARY 2012

Heardmont Park Senior Center

5452 Cahaba Valley Road, Birmingham, AL 35242

(205) 991-5742 or Fax (205) 991-5657 heardmontpark@hotmail.com

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	AARP Tax preparations begin Tuesdays and Thursdays Feb 7 th thru April 12 th .. Please call for an appointment.	1 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing with Curt	2 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games <i>11:15 New Beacon Blood Pressure and Sugar Testing</i> 12- LUNCH	3 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning LineDancing
6 9:30 – 10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta	7 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics <i>11 YMCA Senior Health Promo</i> 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	8 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing with Curt	9 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH	10 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing 7 pm Heardmont Dance
13 9:30 – 10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta	14 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH <i>Valentine's Party</i>	15 9-12 Bridge <i>10-11 Computer Class</i> 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing with Curt	16 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games <i>11 Harrison Regional Library</i> 12- LUNCH	17 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
20 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta	21 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	22 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing with Curt	23 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH	24 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
27 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta	29 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games <i>10-1 Lunch Bunch outing</i> 12 - LUNCH	29 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing with Curt		

Aspiring Instructors Meet for Training at Special Equestrians

by Dorrie Fuchs, Assistant Director, Special Equestrians

People from the horse industry, teachers, therapists and other aspiring instructors from five states spent the last weekend in January here in Indian Springs learning what it takes to be a therapeutic riding instructor. The workshop, hosted by Special Equestrians, Inc., was just the beginning of a training process required for certification by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International. The workshop was led by two Advanced Level PATH Instructors, Mandy Branton from Georgia and Lindsey Wood from Tennessee, and included both classroom instruction and hands-on work in the riding arena. Safety procedures, tack and equipment, how to evaluate riders, effective use of volunteers, analyzing the movement of the horse, teaching techniques and aspects of a wide range of disabilities were just some of the topics covered during the two and a half day program.

Special Equestrians, which was founded by Carousel Tack Shoppe owner Rita Mendel, has been offering therapeutic riding and equine-assisted activities for people with disabilities for over 25 years. They hold Premier Accredited Center status through PATH International and have taken a leadership role in supporting the therapeutic riding industry by offering workshops such as these and by hosting regional PATH conferences. Executive Director Kathleen Claybrook is committed to providing these opportunities. "To serve the growing number of people that would benefit from therapeutic riding and other equine-assisted activities, we need more qualified instructors. We are excited to help these new instructors and new centers get started."

People interested in learning more about Special Equestrians, or about therapeutic riding in general, should contact Special Equestrians at (205) 987-WHOA (9462) or visit their website at www.specialequest.org.