

The Village Voice

Vol. 3, No.8

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

November 9, 1993

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs School Town Hall
Tuesday, November 16, 1993, 7 p.m.

Agenda

Mayor/Council Committee
Reports
Citizens Forum

Editor's Notes

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

Address letters to the editor and appropriate news articles to: Olivia Weingarten, Editor, 1617 Indian Crest Drive, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (988-5417). Newcomer information should be reported to Patricia Crapet (985-9205).

The *Village Voice* is published the second Tuesday of the month. Articles for publication in the December, 1993 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, December 7th. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. *The Village Voice* will publish letters to the editor if space permits.

Letters may be edited for length and other considerations; however, the meaning will be preserved. All opinions are those of the author, unless otherwise indicated. All articles not attributed to other writers are written by the editor. Any opinions she expresses are her own and should not be attributed to the mayor or the council.

Editor's Appreciation to:

The donors who subsidize printing expenses
Patricia Crapet for circulation (985-9205)
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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The most recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of the North Shelby County Fire District was held on Tuesday, November 2, 1993. On behalf of Indian Springs Village, I was in attendance at the meeting. Also in attendance were representatives of Taylor-Mathis. Of primary concern to our citizenry was an unofficial inquiry made at the meeting by the City of Hoover.

As Hoover has annexed property in Shelby County, areas which were under the sole jurisdiction of the North Shelby County Fire District have begun receiving fire protection from both the Fire District and Hoover. The newly-annexed property owners are required to pay the existing fire district dues as well as Hoover city taxes, a portion of which goes to support Hoover's fire department. This concern was expressed by the representatives of Taylor-Mathis, who related that they no longer wished to pay for services that were not required. Taylor-Mathis, which owns and manages most of the commercial property in the Inverness area, pays approximately \$65,000 per year to our fire district, and refusal to pay dues next year could mean financial ruin for NSFD. Fire District Board member and County Commissioner Larry Dillard stated that he had been "bombarded" by complaints from individuals concerning this payment for duplicate services. As a result, Mr. Dillard has been in contact with officials from the City of Hoover in an effort to resolve this problem.

Hoover's solution, as presented by Mr. Dillard, is that Hoover would take over the entire fire district. In doing so, Hoover would contract with all residents of the fire district who are not within the Hoover city limits and provide residential fire protection with no increase in dues. It is possible that the City of Hoover would reduce the present residential rate to \$100 per year. In taking over our fire district, Hoover would retain the present employees, who would then become employees of the City of Hoover.

Apparently, this unofficial inquiry from Hoover is very similar to an official offer made by Hoover to acquire the Cahaba Valley Fire District. In that offer Hoover agreed to maintain services for a period of ten years. There was apparently no provision or guarantee that fire protection or emergency services would continue after that time.

I am happy to report that most members of the NSFD Board seemed reluctant to embrace or encourage Hoover's inquiry. Nevertheless, the door was left opened for Hoover to submit an official written proposal which would be considered by the Board at a later date.

It was related to the Board that ISV would vehemently oppose any arrangement that did not absolutely guarantee that emergency services would

continue without interruption and would be of the nature and quality of the exemplary services that we have come to expect and rely upon from the existing fire district. It was also related that ISV would oppose any proposal that removed the management of the fire district from the current Board of Trustees to replace it with management and administrative personnel of the City of Hoover. If that were the case, no one other than Hoover residents would be allowed to cast votes to elect the officials responsible for our emergency services. Hoover would then be able to wield a frightening power over both the citizens of ISV and those in the unincorporated areas of the fire district. I believe that the NSFD Board generally concurred with these basic principles.

It was suggested that the simple solution to the existing problem would be to allow the fire district to continue providing the excellent service that it has provided in the past; that Hoover decline from providing emergency services within the fire district; and that Hoover rebate the proportionate share of taxes which are garnered in support of this activity. Hopefully, the property owners in the newly-annexed areas will take that proposal to the City of Hoover. In the meantime, there remains nothing further for us to do but to carefully monitor the situation.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please forward these to the North Shelby Fire District Board of Trustees. Likewise, feel free to contact me with your thoughts and suggestions. This is a very important issue to us all, and your input is most welcome.

—Mayor
Hub Harrington

The Babysitters Club Update

Villagers are lining up for copies of "The Babysitters Club Directory." What we might have here is a simple economics lesson on supply and demand. The main problem is that there may not be enough babysitters to go around! Hopefully, a few more industrious teenagers will call and ask to be included among this prestigious group of young entrepreneurs. With the holiday season upon us, there will be an increasing demand for good babysitters, and those who join soon could really rack up on extra money for clothes and CD's that the old allowance just won't cover.

As previously stated, the directory will not be published in *The Village Voice* and will be given out only to families who request a copy. Names, addresses and phone numbers of the club members will be included in the directory.

To join The Babysitters Club, request a copy of the

directory, or for further information, please call Councilwoman Patricia Crapet at 985-9205.

-- Patricia Crapet

New Neighbors

Brookstone Estates is bursting at the seams with new neighbors. Jerry and Becky Stovall and their three daughters now call 291 Valley View Road their home. The Stovalls come to ISV from the Linwood subdivision in Hoover. Jerry is self-employed and Becky is employed by Olsten Health Care. Jamie, 14, attends Pelham High School; Jenny, 13, is a student at Oak Mountain Middle School; and Kristen, 5, will attend Oak Mountain Elementary next year.

George and Bertie Johnson are now residing at 61 Valley View Road. George is a semi-retired engineer, formerly with the United States military. They have lived all over the world including such exotic places as Korca and Alaska, and come to ISV directly from the Green Valley section of Hoover. The Johnsons were turned in by nosey neighbor Betty Wain.

Judith and Dalton Edwards recently moved to 190 Valley View Lane from their native state of New Mexico. They were missionaries for 24 years to the Navajo Indians. Dalton is a retired military chaplain, and Judith is an editor with the Women's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Association, where she edits *Dimension* magazine. They have three children and five grandchildren.

ISV welcomes Jay and Stephanie Nordyke and family to 1580 Indian Crest Drive. Jay is employed at Rust Engineering and Stephanie is a busy housewife. Their six children are: Jason, 18; Rebecca, 15; Janice, 13; Joseph, 12; Thomas, 6; and Michael, 4. Rebecca is on the championship Pelham High School volleyball team.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Harry and Bea Little of 867 Valley View Road on the birth of their son, Davis Edward, on October 5th. Davis weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 3/4 inches long. Mother and child are doing well. Big brother Jack is helping mom with baby.

ISV Tags for Sale

A great gift for Christmas this year is the Indian Springs Village automobile tag. The beautiful tags are now being displayed on many Village cars. The tags can be purchased at Neil's Pharmacy and the Carousel Tack Shoppe, both on Cahaba Valley Road. The cost is \$8.00 each.

-- Patricia Crapet

Town Council Highlights

A Letter to the Editor

October 19, 1993

Business was definitely not the order of the evening when the Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, October 19, 1993, at 7:00 p.m. at the barbecue pit on the campus of Indian Springs School. Convening the meeting for the Third Annual Indian Springs Village Birthday Party in honor of the founding of Indian Springs Village was Mayor Hub Harrington. In attendance for the celebration were councilmembers Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley.

The turnout for the event was quite impressive, with approximately 200 people being served hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the trimmings, free of charge, of course. All of the cooking was done by the infamous ISV Pothole Crew: Jim Boyett, Paul Stephens, Bart Trammell, and Jim Wyatt. Desserts were supplied by residents.

After supper Mayor Harrington opened the meeting by introducing Tiger Cub Pack #71 from Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, who led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance while waving American flags and saluting. Scout Leader Mike Flemming and Tiger Cubs Joseph Aultman, Joseph Crapet, Ryan Flemming, Matthew Frosina, Tommy Labarde, Christopher Rafetto, and Michael Sellers had done a great job in preparing for the event.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that revenues for the month were: beer taxes \$701 and road funds of \$711. Balances were \$26,600 in the general fund and \$14,285 in the road fund. During the past fiscal year there was no money spent out of the road fund because the town had enough materials on hand for all maintenance. Mayor Harrington reminded the crowd that the first year after incorporation had seen the town have a deficit of \$10,000. The entire balance of the loan was paid in full and we now have a surplus due to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers.

Mayor Harrington recognized the members of the Pothole Crew and those who trod the road sides cleaning up trash for the litter walks, praising them for their community spirit and volunteer efforts the past year.

Though the meeting officially ended with the singing of Happy Birthday to ISV and the cutting of the birthday cake, there was still work to be done. All of the extra food was carefully boxed up and donated to the Shelby County Attention Home, a facility for abused mothers and children.

-- Patricia Crapet

On behalf of Special Equestrians, I would like to thank Pothole Crew members Paul Stephens and Jim Wyatt for helping patch the roof of the Special Equestrians barn at Indian Springs School. What a great group of guys! I hope everyone in ISV realizes just how lucky we are to have such wonderful folks living here - folks who truly exemplify "volunteer spirit".

If anyone in the community would like to help the Special Equestrian program, either by fixing up the facility or working with the horses and students, please call Rita Mendel, 987-1680 (H), or 991-0007 (W) or Cathy Claybrook, program director, 987-WHOA.

Love and Thanks,
Rita Mendel

Litter Walk

Eight dedicated citizens, Nora and Jim Boyett, Jackie and Art Johnson, Herbert Joiner, Alleta Lowe, Margaret Roy, and Jim Wyatt joined forces on the crisp fall morning of October 23 and after about an hour, Highway 119 was again swept clean of litter.

During the last month, many yard sale signs had not been removed after the sales, remaining for days. If you post a yard sale sign, be a good neighbor and remove it as soon as the sale is over.

If you like our town's uncluttered, litter-free main thoroughfare, bring your work gloves to the Mormon Church parking lot on Cahaba Valley Road on November 20th at 8:30 a.m. Will you help? Join us if you care.

Aluminum Can Collections

Wednesday, November 17th is the next date for aluminum can collection. Please place bagged aluminum cans on your driveway before 8 p.m., and please use clear or white plastic bags with the top knotted.

On October 20th, the ISV recycling crews kept from getting drenched by the downpour that let up about 8:15 p.m. Our two trucks, carrying volunteers Jana Clark, Jason Durbin, Gene Weingarten, and Art Johnson, dodged

raindrops as they searched for the aluminum cans recycled by dedicated Villagers. The combined loads had Gene's pickup bulging with cans and weighed 180 pounds. A well done and thank you to all the recycling participants.

-- Art Johnson

Tis the Season

Anyone interested in Christmas Caroling in December in ISV please call Deb Gibson at 987-1343. Date to be announced. Last year was terrific fun, so don't miss out!

Accolades

A great big thank you goes out to Jean Owens, Robert and Phyllis Holmes and Robert and Madeline Cross for their thoughtful and generous donations last month to *The Village Voice*. The donations were received at the ISV Birthday Party at Indian Springs School. Both Olivia Weingarten, editor, and myself received numerous compliments at the town birthday party regarding our efforts to produce the town's newsletter. We are very appreciative of your comments and suggestions, as well as your donations. Thank you, and keep them all coming!

-- Patricia Crapet

Drivers License and Tag Renewals

Judge of Probate Tommy Snowden, who was in attendance at the ISV Birthday Party, took time to remind Villagers that when your license or tag comes up for renewal, to remember to have your address change reflected on the renewals. This includes Indian Springs Village as the city in which you live. Judge Snowden, a big supporter of ISV, has been instrumental in helping our town and its citizens obtain the recognition that is so well deserved.

-- Patricia Crapet

In Sympathy

The Town of Indian Springs Village, and all of its citizens, wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Councilman Gary Dennis in the loss of his wife, Rhonda Powell Dennis. Rhonda passed away at the age of 45 on October 31, 1993, at Caraway Medical Center after a long illness. Rhonda's legacy includes a son, Brandon, and two daughters, Ashley and Katie.

-- Patricia Crapet

In Tribute

Rhonda Powell Dennis

On Sunday, October 31, 1993, with the passing of Mrs. Rhonda Dennis, Indian Springs Village lost one of its most active and enthusiastic supporters. Rhonda and her husband, Councilman Gary Dennis, became involved with ISV when incorporation was considered by most to be nothing more than an impossible dream. Because Rhonda and Gary have always had the ability to turn their dreams and visions into reality, they simply viewed the task as an exciting challenge.

Though Rhonda was already suffering from her terminal illness, she became completely emersed in the movement to incorporate our community, and she worked tirelessly toward that goal. Rhonda's steadfast dedication and hard work became an inspirational, guiding force in the creation and development of our town. Rhonda knew that the fledgling town, once incorporated, would require persons of integrity to step forward and provide innovative leadership. Knowing that there was no one better suited for this role, Rhonda urged Gary to seek election as one of our first council members. Rhonda's unselfish acts continually exemplified her care and concern for our town. She work diligently to ensure Gary's successful election, knowing all the while that her days with us, and with him, were limited.

Because Rhonda loved Indian Spring Village and its people, she unhesitatingly chose to give us many precious hours of her time. Often, Rhonda's outings were to attend ISV functions. Courageously, just days before her passing, she came to the ISV birthday party and cookout held at our October council meeting. Rhonda's unswerving dedication and bold spirit will remain an inspiration to all with whom she came in contact. As Gary said, "Rhonda loved this town." It can also be said that this town loved Rhonda Dennis.

Our love and heart-felt sympathy are extended to Gary and the entire Dennis family.

--Hub Harrington

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