



The Village Voice

Vol. 3, No. 9

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

December 14, 1993

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs School Dining Hall
Tuesday, December 21, 1993, 7 p.m.

Agenda

- I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports
- II. Citizens Forum
- III. Christmas Cheer

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 January, 1994 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, January 4. 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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Indian Springs couriers for hand delivery
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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Traffic Problems Along Highway 119

At the November meeting of the Indian Springs Village Town Council, several citizens expressed concern over the recurring traffic hazards on Highway 119 in the Indian Springs area. On December 2, in response to this important issue, the following letter was sent to Gary Ray, the District Engineer for the State of Alabama Highway Department.

Dear Gary:

The recent rash of accidents that have occurred on Highway 119 in and around Indian Springs has once again brought to the forefront the need to better control the traffic in this area. To that end, several suggestions have been made by area residents which have my endorsement and that of our council. The suggestions are as follows:

1. The traffic signals which have been planned for sometime should forthwith be installed at the Caldwell Mill Road and County Road 14 intersections.
2. Because of the numerous residential and commercial outlets on Highway 119, the entire portion of the highway from County Road 14 to I-65 should be double yellow-lined and posted as a no passing zone.
3. The speed limit through Indian Springs Village and in its police jurisdiction should be reduced to 45 miles per hour.
4. As Valleydale Road (County Road 17) is largely commercial and has become the main east-west thoroughfare between Highway 280 and I-65, it should become the state highway. If an exchange could be effected with Shelby County, Indian Springs would certainly entertain some arrangement whereby the town assumed a portion of the road maintenance.
5. To improve safety for pedestrians, cyclers, and horseback riders along Highway 119, the town requests permission to establish suitable paths within the state's right-of-way which parallel the highway and to designate specific crossing areas.

We are of course amenable to any other suggestions that you may have, and express our desire to work with you in any way to help alleviate the hazardous situation that now exists on Highway 119. I trust that you will give this your immediate attention, and contact me so that we might discuss the matter further. If you would like direct input with our citizenry, you are more than welcome to attend an upcoming council meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Hub Harrington

Quickly responding to my letter, Gary Ray called to inform me of the following:

1. The traffic signal at Caldwell Mill Road and Highway 119 is presently scheduled for completion in January. A turn lane has presently been approved for the Highway 119 - County Road 14 intersection and should be under construction this winter. The traffic signal for that intersection has been recommended, but approval has not yet been received from Montgomery.

2. The Highway Department will undertake a "conflicts study" to assess the various locations where there is a potential for accidents. This information is utilized to determine no passing zones and other traffic control measures. Mr. Ray will inform us of the results of this study as soon as it is completed.

3. With regard to the speed limit, the Highway Department will conduct a speed study and begin collecting this data. Mr. Ray pointed out, however, that enforcement of the current speed limit would also be a desirable solution. I have discussed this with the Sheriff's Department and we are currently coordinating our efforts to secure additional exposure from the Sheriff's Department on Highway 119.

4. With regard to the improvements to Valleydale Road (County Road 17), Mr. Ray informed me that some time ago Valleydale Road was placed on a program which would provide for federal and state funding. It has been recommended that Valleydale Road be made into a multi-lane road, but as yet, the funds have not been made available. Valleydale is an ongoing concern of the Highway Department and it continues to be a high-priority item with them.

5. Our requests to create bike trails and horse paths in the state right-of-way along Highway 119 was met with no resistance. Mr. Ray will recommend that we be given permission to pursue this endeavor. He will seek approval from the Highway Director and make suggestions to assist us in planning and development.

Mr. Ray was very receptive to our suggestions and willing to work with us in any way. He assured me that he would undertake the necessary studies as soon as possible and report his findings to us in the near future. If any of you have knowledge of specific instances, or conditions and areas which pose a traffic hazard, please jot this information down and forward it to me. I will collate this information and forward it to the Highway Department. Thank you all for your input and assistance in helping alleviate one of our major problems. I will keep you advised of our progress.

—Mayor
Hub Harrington

ISV Tags for Sale

Don't forget to pick up your ISV tags for Christmas. Makes a great stocking stuffer. Available while they last at Neil's Pharmacy and Carousel Tack Shoppe. Hurry!

Crime Comes to the Village

Villagers take a certain pride in their neighborhoods. This is evident at all times of the year, but especially during the holiday seasons, when friends and neighbors take it upon themselves to decorate street corners and subdivision entryways.

Dr. Norma Rogers' Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations of pumpkins and hay at the corner of Spring Garden Street were blatantly stolen in broad daylight. A watchful eye from a nosy neighbor saw the getaway pickup truck and called the Shelby County Sheriff's Department with the information. Mysteriously enough, the hay was returned in a few short days.

Croce Cicio has for the last several years decorated the Brookstone Estates sign at the corner of Highway 119 and Valley View Road for Christmas. In broad open daylight on December 7th between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. a less conspicuous thief stole these lovely decorations.

The property of a family on Indian Crest Drive was vandalized in the middle of the night while they slept. Trash was strown; lights and a mailbox were smashed. The driveway had to be painted to cover up the obscenities written on the pavement.

On a more serious note, there have been a couple of attempted break-ins that occurred while the homeowners were in. In both cases, quick thinking by the homeowner and a good alarm system helped foil the crime.

Because we live in a rural setting and not in a crime ridden area, we all tend to feel very secure in our surroundings, but this is not always the case, no matter where you live. During this holiday season as well as throughout the rest of the year, let us all be a little more aware of the security of our homes and of the homes of our neighbors. Take every precaution that you can to insure that your environment is safe.

--Patricia Crapet

Christmas Cheer

Make plans to attend the December ISV Council meeting, which will be held on December 21, 1993, in the dining hall of Indian Springs School. As usual, after the meeting the best cookie, cake, and pastry chefs of the Village will be displaying their wares for your discriminating palate to sample. There will be an abundance of hot spiced apple cider and a host of good friends on hand to warm the evening. Put on your happiest holiday face and join us for some good cheer. You'll be glad you did.

--Patricia Crapet

Town Council Highlights

November 16, 1993

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met in the Town Hall of Indian Springs School at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16, 1992. The meeting was presided over by Mayor Hub Harrington, with Council Members Patricia Crapet and Art Johnson in attendance.

Since there was not a quorum present, no official town business was conducted.

Mayor Harrington reported that the monthly meeting of the trustees of the North Shelby Fire District was attended by Councilmen Stewart Dudley and Art Johnson. There were no new developments in the City of Hoover's plans for the possible purchase of the district.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet announced that revenues for the month were: beer taxes \$659 and road funds of \$663. Aluminum can recycling for September was \$36.20, donations to *The Village Voice* were \$150, and ISV tag sales garnered \$72. Town Clerk Paul Stephens announced that ISV account balances were \$26,810 in the general fund and \$14,947 in the road fund.

Dr. Norma Rogers was in attendance and discussed the need for a new high school in our area and the problems associated with finding a suitable and affordable location. Other issues relating to the schools were discussed, with input from the community invited by Dr. Rogers.

--Patricia Crapet

ISV Emergency Task Force

As we head into the winter season, the crispness in the air no doubt reminds us of last winter's snow storm and the problems that came along with the blizzard. With the loss of so many trees during that storm you would almost think that there would not be much danger of having more of the same this year. But, where there is a pine tree, there is the potential for more downed power lines! Bill and Alice Morrow, after having been trapped at home during the storm for several days with trees down on their cars and driveway, have cut down all the pines in the yard this fall, no doubt in anticipation of some foul winter weather.

With the thought of another winter like the last, the Town of Indian Springs Village has taken steps to form an emergency task force consisting of a group of dedicated volunteers who will work together to help their neighbors in case of this type of natural emergency. Ideally, volunteers from each street or neighborhood are needed in order to provide the necessary coverage to all areas of the town. Page 3

Last year's volunteers have stated that while the work was certainly far from easy, a great satisfaction was derived from the feeling of helping others.

If you have anything that can be of use in such an emergency, such as a good strong back, chain saw, four-wheel drive vehicle, or other equipment, and you would like to volunteer to be on the ISV Emergency Task Force, please call Paul Stephens at 988-4672.

--Patricia Crapet

ISV Celebrates the Season

It's that time of year again. Those pesky elves will be out in full force in an effort to find the best holiday decorations in the Village. These anonymous pixies will be making their list and checking it twice before giving their recommendations to *The Village Voice* for publications in the January edition. The elves will be judging by day and by night, and are looking for many different expressions of the season. Get out the lights, garland, wreaths and bows and get into the spirit!

--Patricia Crapet

The Shelby County Members of the
League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham
Invite you to attend the
Third Annual Shelby County Legislative Brunch

Saturday, January 8, 1994

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

at the home of

Homer and Kathryn Coleman

89 Pawnee Drive

Indian Springs Village

988-0368

Honoring

Senator Butch Ellis

Representative Mike Hill

Representative Al Knight

And including other elected and appointed public officials
as well as candidates for public office in 1994

Program

Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Speakers 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Informal Contacts 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact

LaVerne Ramsey 988-0059

or

Kathryn Coleman 988-0368

Litter Picker-Uppers

Alan Gaskins and his father, Tommy Gaskins, attended last month's litter walk on November 20th. Alan, who is a member of Cub Scout Pack 71, Den 17, from Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, came to earn credit for a wolf badge. The Gaskins joined Nora Boyett, Jackie and Art Johnson, Emily McAdory, Virginia Rancont, and Lola and Paul Stephens on this crisp fall morning. In less than an hour, Highway 119 was again litter-free due to the dedication and hard work of Indian Springs Village volunteers.

If you would like to help our town maintain a litter-free atmosphere for the Christmas season, you are invited to join us at the the Mormon Church on Cahaba Valley Road on December 18th at 8:30 a.m..

Elves report that three ladies were seen picking up litter along Indian Crest Drive. A big thanks goes out to them for their efforts.

--Art Johnson

Aluminum Can Collections

The next aluminum can collection will be on Wednesday, December 22nd. Please place your bagged aluminum cans next to your driveway before 8:00 p.m., and for easy identification, please use white or clear plastic bags, with the top tied in a knot.

ISV recycling team members Jana Clark, Jason Durbin, Art Johnson, and Gene Weingarten collected cans which resulted in \$35.00 in revenue for our community newsletter, *The Village Voice*.

A **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** to all of Indian Springs Village and a special thank you to all the recycling participants.

--Art Johnson

Welcome to the Village!

Bob and Jodie Zachow have recently moved to their newly completed home at 5309 Mountain Park Circle. The Zachow family comes to ISV from Crestline. They have two daughters: Laura, who is five years old and attends Briarwood School, and Kate who is 22 months old. Bob sells commercial stationary.

Shirley and Bill McGuffey of 36 Foxfire Circle have moved to ISV from Akron, Ohio. Bill is employed by BFI. They have three daughters who still live in Ohio. They are very impressed with our weather!

Steve and Donna Swofford are now calling 1865 Indian Crest Drive home. The Swoffords and their three-year-old son, Keith, did not have far to go when they moved from Red Stick Road. Steve is an executive vice president with the Alabama Credit Union League and Donna is a dental hygienist at the VA Hospital.

--Patricia Crapet

Babysitters Club Directory

The long-awaited Babysitter's Club Directory is now ready for all you needy parents. There are twelve ready, willing, able, and eager babysitters on the list. Their ages range from 13 to 18 and some even have their own transportation. All of the sitters live in or closely around Indian Springs Village and they are waiting to hear from you!

Remember, the directory is available only upon request. If you need a copy of the directory, please call Councilwoman Patricia Crapet's voice mail at 802-2753 and leave a message.
--Patricia Crapet

In Appreciation

Rhonda and I had a relationship that spanned twenty eight years. In all of those years, she inspired me to accomplish and succeed in ways that would have never been possible without a partner of her calibre.

Though I miss her more than I can express, her memory brings a smile to my face. She was a balcony person. The kind of person that lifts you and your spirits to new heights.

Rhonda loved Indian Springs Village and she cherished the relationships that she had with many of its residents. Your expressions of love and kindness following her death have been a source of strength to our entire family.

Thank you.

Brandon, Ashley, Kadie, and Gary Dennis

Zoning Request

A petition has been received by the Indian Springs Village Zoning and Planning Board for the resurvey of two lots in the Indian Highlands Estates subdivision. Mega Builders is requesting an equal land swap between Lots 5 and 6 due to the location of an underground electrical utility box that severely limits the placement of a driveway. According to the petition, both property owners have agreed to the swap.

The Zoning and Planning Board is in the process of setting a date and time for a meeting on this matter, which is expected to be approved. Should the Board be able to meet in December, it is possible that the Council would vote on the matter at its December meeting. If so, a special edition of *The Village Voice* will be published for notification of all interested parties.

--Patricia Crapet

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