

The Village Voice

Vol. 4, No. 11

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

February 14, 1995

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs School Dining Hall
Wednesday, February 21, 1995 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

- I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports
- II. Ordinances and Resolutions
- III. Citizens' Forum

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Mayor Hub Harrington

ISV to Purchase Town Landmark

As we discussed at the last Indian Springs Village town council meeting, the town has been offered a unique opportunity to acquire property to be used for the entire community. Pursuant to the vote of the council which authorized negotiations for the purchase of the property to take place, an offer to purchase the property has been made and this offer has subsequently been accepted by the seller. The contract to purchase has been executed and the financial arrangements have been finalized. We hope to close on the property by the first of March.

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 March, 1995 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, March 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 expressed are those of the authors of articles, 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
ISV aluminum can recyclers for their support
Patricia Crapet for circulation (985-9205)
Dr. Ruth Goodwyn for editorial consultation
Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing
Patricia Crapet, Johnson - Rast & Hays for production

When spring comes ISV will be the proud owner of the McClellan house, located at 2635 Cahaba Valley Road. This 3.3 acre parcel lies in the heart of Indian Springs Village and boasts one of the oldest homesteads in the valley. The house was built in 1905 by Jim McGuire for his family and has been home to someone from their family ever since, most recently to Ruby McGuire McClellan, who was born in the home and lived her entire life there. Her son, Casey, has graciously offered the family homestead to the town so that the house and grounds may be preserved. The house will be able to serve as our town hall and meeting place and provide much-needed office space for the town's officials and storage for the town's records. We will be able to develop a small community park on the grounds, which will eventually include a tot lot and informal ball fields for neighborhood kids to play on. Other ideas for the use of the house and grounds have included a book exchange facility, reading room, municipal court, walking track, senior activities, and similar suggestions.

The total cost to the town for the purchase of the real estate and certain personal property that is still located on the grounds will be in the amount of \$100,000, to be paid over a period of five years. The home and grounds will be purchased at a cost of \$90,000, with \$15,000 to be paid down at closing. The loan balance, which will consist of yearly installment payments of \$15,000 for a period of five years, will be interest free. The personal property is being purchased for \$10,000 and will be paid at closing. The personal property includes all appliances, some antique furniture, yard equipment, portable out buildings and other items.

We have been in contact with the office of Shelby County Sheriff James Jones and we may be able to utilize a portion of the house as a sheriff's substation. For quite some time we have tried to establish a program whereby Indian Springs Village and the North Shelby area could receive the benefit of increased coverage and exposure by the Sheriff's Department. Coupled with the additional cars and deputies recently authorized by the Shelby County Commission, the availability of a substation on Highway 119 poses an attractive opportunity for us to achieve this goal.

Given the recent resurgence of vandalism that has occurred, an increased presence by the Sheriff's Department would be most welcome. We have reported the recent instances of vandalism and theft to the Sheriff's Department and have hard evidence concerning the identity of past perpetrators. We will keep you advised of the progress of the investigation and trust that you will report to us any and all future acts of vandalism in your area. Through a cooperative effort we will bring this type of conduct to a halt.

We will have more details concerning the purchase of the McClellan house at the next council meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

Senator Frank "Butch" Ellis Retires from Public Service

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

February 2, 1995, was not just another Groundhog's Day for Shelby County Senator Frank "Butch" Ellis. The highly respected senator received accolades for his public service to Shelby County by having a day named in his honor. Senator Frank "Butch" Ellis Day was proclaimed by the Shelby County Commission, as well as by all cities and towns in Shelby County.

The day was capped off with an evening of toasting and roasting at the Wynfrey Hotel, where Senator Ellis received proclamations from various municipalities and governmental entities for dedication to his constituency. The black-tie event was attended by Mayor and Mrs. Hub Harrington, where a handcrafted plaque by villager Sam Montalbano, our official sign maker, was awarded to the Senator. According to Mayor Harrington, the plaque was by far the prettiest and most unique, as well as the most discussed, item presented to Senator Ellis.

Thieves Strike Again

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

On Thursday night, February 9th, ISV once again fell victim to vandalism. This time, three of our beautiful street signs, McGuire Road, Indian Ridge Drive, and Indian Trail, were stolen. The thieves were apparently in a hurry, as thieves usually are, and literally ripped the signs down from their posts, leaving pieces of jagged wood hanging from the metal brackets. The theft was discovered early the next morning by many villagers on their way to work and school.

These signs cost approximately \$250 each. The first theft, on October 1, 1994, saw the loss of two of our signs, Valley View Road and Arrowhead Lane, both of which were stolen in a very similar manner. Whether the crime was committed by the same persons has yet to be determined, but the Shelby County Sheriff's Department has been notified of these thefts. According to the deputy sheriff called to the scene, some acts of vandalism were also experienced that same night in some nearby North Shelby County communities.

Vandals and thieves come in all shapes and sizes. Adults as well as juveniles commit these crimes. Vandalism is a misdemeanor, but theft of property valued at \$250 or more is not considered vandalism. Theft of this degree is a felony offense, punishable by law in many different ways depending on the ages and previous records, if any, of the perpetrators. The Town of Indian Springs Village does not discriminate. We are prepared to have these offenders prosecuted to the fullest extent that the law will allow, regardless of the age, sex, race, or creed of these individuals.

Our street signs are very pretty, but they look much prettier hanging on ISV's corners, where everyone can enjoy them, rather than on someone's wall or in a ditch. If you or anyone you know has information regarding the theft of town property or of vandalism in any form in Indian Springs Village, please have them get in touch with any of our town officials or with the Sheriff's Department.

Tips regarding these incidents and others have come to our attention, and the investigation is underway. Meanwhile, the \$1000 reward is still being offered, with all reported information remaining in the strictest of confidence.

Town Council Highlights

January 17, 1994

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Town Council of Indian Springs Village met on January 17, 1995, at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall of Indian Springs School. Mayor Hub Harrington presided over the meeting with council members Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, Gary Dennis, and Stewart Dudley present.

The minutes of the November and December meetings were adopted as written.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt reported revenues for the month were: ISV Children's Fund, \$1985; beer tax, \$628; sale of ISV tags, \$32; and road funds, \$731. The balance in the general fund was \$15,326 and the balance in the road fund was \$24,614.

Onnie Dickerson, chairman of the ISV Planning and Zoning Board, presented the recommendation of the board to the council to allow a land swap between the Stovalls and the Bensons, who are next door neighbors living on Valley View Road. There was a very narrow strip of land owned by the Stovall family, which extended along the paved road about two-thirds of the length of the adjoining parcel owned by the Benson family. The land swap would allow the Bensons to acquire the property directly in front of their home in exchange for property on the side and rear of the parcels, which would then become Stovall property. The council approved the exchange unanimously.

Karen Hollis, a part-time employee at Onnie Dickerson's law firm who is currently working on her political science degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will be donating ten hours per week to the town of ISV as part of community service, which will count toward extra credit for graduation. Karen will be helping the town by assisting Mr. Dickerson and Mayor Harrington with their town duties.

A discussion was held regarding the possible purchase by the town of property located at 2635 Cahaba Valley Road (see Mayor's Message, p.1.) The hour-long discussion and open forum was very positive, with few objections being raised to the idea. The feeling of the vast majority of those townspeople in attendance was that the town should proceed with negotiations to purchase the property. After the citizens' forum on the issue, the council voted unanimously to proceed with those negotiations.

ISV Honors Tommy Snowden

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

Former Judge of Probate Thomas Snowden received a standing ovation and ISV's highest honor for his service to Shelby County and his friendship and dedication to the Town of Indian Springs Village. A key to the town was presented to Judge Snowden on his first official day in 27 years of not being a public servant.

Mayor Harrington presented the hand-crafted key to Judge Snowden during the January council meeting, stating, "In honor of his long service to Shelby County, particularly to this town, we have made a little something special for Tommy, because Tommy is so special to us. On behalf of all the citizens of Indian Springs Village and for believing in us when no one else did, thank you very much." Mayor Harrington noted that only one other key to the town had ever been given, and that to Miss America, Heather Whitestone. The Mayor, who got a hug and a kiss from Miss America, told Snowden he would "pass" on that part of the ceremony.

Judge Snowden, who was teary-eyed throughout the presentation, was most appreciative and highly complimentary of the town and its citizens, saying he had used ISV often as an example of a community that he believed in and that working with ISV was a part of his service that had been very fulfilling.

A reception was held after the presentation with home-baked refreshments supplied by villagers.

In Sympathy

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The community of Indian Springs Village extends its deepest condolences to Jarrett and Janet Ives of Hollow Log Lane in Homestead, whose only child and son, Jarrett, age 6, passed away on Saturday, January 14, 1995. Jarrett, who attended kindergarten at Oak Mountain Elementary School and would have been a first grader this school year, had been suffering from a malignant brain tumor for over a year.

The Ives family requests that all donations be made to either Shelby County Hospice or Oak Mountain Elementary School, where a memorial fund has been established to purchase books for the school library.

ISV Aluminum Can Recycling

By Councilman Art Johnson

The next collection date for aluminum cans is Wednesday, February 22nd. Please place bagged aluminum cans on your driveway, opposite the normal Waste-Away garbage pickup, before 7:30 p.m. It is important that you separate the cans from your usual garbage. Please use white or clear plastic bags with the tops tied in a knot. And remember, aluminum cans only, please.

On January 18th, three trucks manned by volunteers Margie and Herb Robbins, John Hauser, Gene Weingarten, and Jackie and Art Johnson collected the recyclables. The exact number of pounds was not available at press time, but it was another super month for the village. Thanks go to all our neighbors and recycling participants.

Adopt-A-Mile Is February 25

By Councilman Art Johnson

Four dedicated picker-uppers attended the litter walk in January. Aletta Lowe, Jean Owens, and Art and Jackie Johnson removed the unsightly clutter of litter along Indian Crest Drive.

The next Adopt-a-Mile will be on Saturday, February 25, 1995, at 8:30 a.m., weather permitting. Will you help? We all enjoy the efforts put forth by our litter walkers, so **please** help our town maintain its uncluttered, litter-free atmosphere. Come join your friendly neighbors at the Mormon Church on Cahaba Valley Road. Call me at 988-3217 for more information.

REWARD \$1000

To be paid to any individual providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for, or engaged in, any acts of vandalism in the Town of Indian Springs Village.

Any and all information will be held in the strictest of confidence.

Legislative Constituents' Office

Mr. George Ethridge opened an office at 2969 M, Alpine Square, Pelham, Alabama, 35124, for constituents to communicate with the legislative offices of Messrs. Mike Hill, Al Knight, and Bill Armistead. The phone number is 664-9607. If you have inquires of pending legislation or would like messages relayed to these representatives, Mr. Etheridge or his assistant, Ms. Elizabeth Allen, will be available to help you.

Indian Springs Paper Tubes

A survey is being conducted by the town concerning the installation of paper tubes with the Indian Springs Village logo by the *Shelby County Reporter*. The latest listing of residents available to us is being used, but this listing is not completely up-to-date.

If you have not been called and would like a paper tube, please call the editor at 988-5417.

Hippity-Hoppity, It's Easter Time

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

On your mark...get set...GO! The Second Annual ISV Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 15, 1995. As with last year's successful event, there will be prizes galore and hundreds of eggs to hunt. More details will be available in next month's newsletter.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer to help with this fun event, please call my voice mail, 802-2753, and leave a message. We need volunteers!

An Ordinance To Amend The Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Indian Springs Village to Specifically Exempt Property Owned by the Town From the Provisions of Said Zoning Ordinance

The Town of Indian Springs Village is hereby exempted from the provisions of the zoning ordinance of the Town of Indian Springs Village

This ordinance shall go into effect upon the passage and publication as required by law.