

The Village Voice

Vol. 4, No. 2

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

May 10, 1994

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs School Town Hall
Tuesday, May 17, 1994 7 p.m.

Agenda

- I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports
- II. Guest Speakers:
Candidates for office
Larry Dillard, NSFD Trustee
- III. Ordinances and Resolutions
- IV. 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 June, 1994 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, June 7. 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:

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Mayor Hub Harrington

In the past few months there has been an increased awareness of the lack of park and recreational facilities in the North Shelby County area. This concern has increased dramatically following Pelham's recent exclusion of non-residents from the use of its athletic facilities. On April 21, in response to this important issue, the following letter was sent to Dr. Norma Rogers, Superintendent of the Shelby County Schools.

Dear Dr. Rogers:

As has often been discussed in public forums and in the media, one of the major concerns of North Shelby County residents is the lack of park and recreational facilities. As you know, it has been my position that we need not look to the surrounding municipalities to provide these services, and that we are fully capable of addressing the needs of our local community. To that end, I have suggested that the residents of this area investigate the creation of a North Shelby County Park and Recreation District, established along the lines of the presently existing fire and library districts. In conjunction with that effort, the Town of Indian Springs Village would like to begin a community wide recreational program through a joint venture with the Shelby County Board of Education.

I would propose for your consideration an agreement whereby the Board would permit the development of property at the Oak Mountain Elementary and Middle Schools for use as public ball parks and soccer fields. Indian Springs Village could combine its resources with other areas of the community to develop the property into first class playing fields. The operation of the fields and the scheduling of events could be coordinated with the Board so that both the community and the schools could maximize the use of the facilities.

The current development of Oak Mountain Intermediate School provides an unique opportunity for the low cost construction of additional athletic fields. I would propose that, during the initial construction of the new school, consideration be given to expanding the site work to include the installation of athletic playing fields as the property may accommodate. If this concept could be incorporated into the initial site plans and specifications for the project, the athletic field portion of the site development could be included as an alternate for future evaluation. If accepted, the town and surrounding communities could come together to provide completion of the above-ground facilities.

It is my understanding that arrangements of this type have proven successful in Columbiana and Alabaster. At this time, I merely ask that the Board consider the possibility of entering into the same type of arrangement with Indian Springs Village and authorize the appropriate Board representative to fully explore this matter with officials from the town and school community.

I apologize for being unable to attend the Board meeting and present this proposal in person. I had previously committed this time to meet with members of the Blue Ribbon Committee who are currently evaluating the application of Oak Mountain Elementary School. I understand that the Blue Ribbon Committee is quite interested in the school's involvement with its local community and the surrounding area, and I believe that a joint venture of the nature outlined above would be viewed most favorably by the Committee, and would be embraced by the residents of North Shelby County. I trust that you will see fit to permit us to enter into a dialogue to fully examine the development of Board property for community-wide athletic and recreational use.

Thank you for your consideration if this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

Hub Harrington

I am happy to report that the Shelby County Board of Education has readily embraced our proposal. They are in the process of incorporating plans into the site work for the new intermediate school excavation that would provide for two softball fields which will alternate as a soccer field. The Board will also permit us to establish fields at the other Oak Mountain Schools. Because there is already a ball field at Inverness Elementary, this facility merely needs to be upgraded. These playing fields could easily accommodate an athletic association made up of the North Shelby County areas which are served by these schools. The association would be in charge of fund raising, completing or upgrading the facilities, establishing leagues, scheduling and coordinating the league play and other events with the schools.

We need a group of individuals to come forward and assume a leadership role in this endeavor. This group should include individuals from Indian Springs Village and the Sunny Meadows, Broken Bow, Meadowbrook and Inverness areas as well, so that the interests and needs of all North Shelby County residents are addressed. Please contact me as soon as possible if you would be willing to become involved in establishing such an association.

If this project is successful, the citizens of North Shelby County will have then provided for themselves all of the services that we expect from government. We will have avoided establishing governmental entities to provide for our needs and we will have retained for ourselves control of our children's future athletic activities. An organizational meeting will be announced within the next week.

Shelby County 9-1-1 Concerned

By John Ellison, 9-1-1 Director, Shelby County

In my capacity as 9-1-1 Director for Shelby County I have noticed two problems that hamper the delivery of emergency services in Indian Springs Village. While these problems also occur in other areas of the county, your town has several factors that increase the impact in your area. The items I want to discuss are burglar and fire alarms and the need for properly posted address numbers.

You are served by an excellent fire and emergency medical service, North Shelby Fire and Rescue. They have a quick response time and highly trained professional employees ready to render aid in time of emergency. The Shelby County Sheriff's Department is equally prepared to deal with law enforcement emergencies. Our 9-1-1 system also has highly trained personnel that use sophisticated computer and communications equipment to notify these emergency agencies of calls. The citizens of Indian Springs Village can rest well knowing they have a very capable emergency service team ready to serve them at a moment's notice.

If this system is to serve you at its best, your home must be able to be easily located. Each home should be well marked with its address numbers so there is no doubt which home and driveway are which. Most Indian Springs Village homes sit well back from the road, and having numbers posted on the house may not be very helpful. Problems are also caused when the mailbox is not near the appropriate driveway or the numbers are on only one side of the mailbox. **The fire truck or ambulance may not come from the same direction as the mail carrier.**

A similar problem exists with alarm companies or automatic dialers that are not calling the correct dispatch center. Verify that your alarm system or company is calling Shelby 9-1-1 for fire or medical alarms and the Shelby County Sheriff's Department for burglar alarms. These numbers apply to alarms only. If you need emergency assistance, simply dial 9-1-1. Contact our office at 669-1911 to confirm the alarm numbers.

During an emergency there is no time to waste. Make sure your home can be easily located and that your address number is plainly marked on both sides of your mailbox and again at your driveway, if needed. Do not let the lack of a properly posted house number complicate an emergency and delay the arrival of help to your home.

Seconds save lives!

TLC for ISV

By Kathryn Sumrall Harrington

The first meeting of the **TLC for ISV** was held on Saturday, April 23, 1994 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Max Davis. "Resounding success" are the only words that can be used to describe the response! Approximately 40 people were present for our first meeting. Present also was Lee Laechelt with the Alabama Forestry Commission, who spoke regarding purchases of new trees, soil erosion prevention, pruning of damaged trees, and other matters of immediate interest. A wealth of information was shared by attendees on ways to prevent soil erosion until more permanent plans can be made concerning landscaping and planting large areas where not only the trees have been destroyed, but the topsoil is exposed.

The temporary chairman of **TLC**, Kathryn Sumrall Harrington, addressed organizational aspects. It was unanimously decided that the **TLC** will form as a non-profit corporation, **Tree and Landscaping Cooperative, Inc.** Committees were formed and members assigned to address the business of organization, informing the residents of ISV about the cooperative, and obtaining information on tree acquisition prices. It was emphasized that we want to preserve the natural character of our area in future plans for replanting.

The next **TLC** meeting will be at the home of Kathryn Harrington, 291 Valley View Lane, at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 14, 1994. Membership in the cooperative is open to all Indian Springs Village residents. Those who could not attend the first meeting should make plans to attend our next meeting. For those who were present at the initial meeting, the **TLC** desperately needs your help. Please return on Saturday, May 14, and bring a neighbor. I promise the meeting will not run as long as the organizational meeting.

Trees will be available to interested attendees immediately following the May 14 meeting as a bonus for attendance. Thanks to a grant by the National Tree Trust, **TLC** has acquired 111 oak and ash trees, each about three to four feet tall, for individuals to plant in their yards. There are strings attached, one of them being that the trees must be planted on your property where they can be viewed and enjoyed by all. You must guarantee to water the trees heavily during the summer. And you must attend the **TLC** meeting to receive your trees.

Advice and tips presented at the first **TLC** meeting which residents may want to consider are as follows:

1. Don't be hasty to purchase trees. As summer is extremely stressful on young trees, fall and winter are the most preferable times to plant trees.
2. Take time and make a plan for your planting. Information will be forthcoming from the **TLC** concerning the trees that do best in our area, trees that grow quickly, those which provide the most shade, special price considerations and potential for obtaining low cost trees, shrubs, bulbs, seed, and grasses.
3. Soil erosion prevention measures need to be started NOW. Throwing out cow peas or buck wheat seeds will result in quick summer growth. This will hold your soil and also add nutrients for future plantings.
4. Fill large areas with COSMOS seeds. They will bloom all summer and will attract beautiful butterflies.
5. The **TLC** hopes to be in a position within the next few weeks to publish a catalogue of trees, shrubs, and seeds from which residents can order at special low cost, bulk rates. You may want to delay your purchases until you have an opportunity to see what the **TLC** can provide and the cost comparison.

Attend on Saturday, May 14, for additional important information.

NOTICE
CALL FOR SPECIAL ELECTION
FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY
STATE OF ALABAMA, SHELBY COUNTY

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-42-2 of the Code of Alabama, 1975;

An election is hereby ORDERED to be held to permit qualified voters residing within the territory proposed for annexation into the corporate limits of the Town of Indian Springs Village, Alabama to vote on the question of whether said territory shall be annexed and brought within the limits of the Town.

Said election shall be held on Tuesday, May 24, 1994, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the residence of JoAnn D. Weatherly located at 2652 Buckboard Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35244.

Three electors residing within the limits of the territory proposed for annexation, Herbert V. Robbins, Jr., Edwin Alan Jackson and Lewis H. Rusinko, are hereby appointed as inspectors of said election, with Mr. Robbins serving as the Returning Officer, and Messrs. Jackson and Rusinko as the Clerks.

As there is no newspaper published within the Town whose limits are proposed to be extended by annexation, notice of said election shall forthwith be posted in at least three public places within the municipality, and in at least three public places within the territory proposed for annexation. Said notices shall be posted by the Clerk of the Town of Indian Springs Village, and said posting shall be certified by the Clerk to the office of the Judge of Probate.

The territory proposed to be annexed in said election is hereby described as follows:

- 1) the property located in the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 15, Township 19 South, Range 2 West which lies west of Caldwell Mill Road (County Road 29) less and except parcel 53 and parcel 54 (which are currently within the limits of the Town of Indian Springs Village), and parcel 54.01, and including parcel 48 and parcel 49 which lie east of Caldwell Mill Road (County Road 29), and as more particularly described on the map and exhibits attached to the resolution for annexation; and
- 2) the property located in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 15, Township 19 South, Range 2 West which lies south of Valleydale Road less and except parcel 57 (which lies within the limits of the City of Hoover), and parcel 27 (lot 40), and including parcel 64 which lies north of Valleydale Road, and as more particularly described on the map and exhibits attached to the resolution for annexation; and
- 3) the property located in the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 16, Township 19 South, Range 2 West which lies south of Valleydale Road, and including parcel 05 and parcel 08 which lie north of Valleydale Road, and as more particularly described on the map and exhibits attached to the resolution for annexation; and
- 4) the property located in the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 16, Township 19 South, Range 2 West which lies south of Valleydale Road and north of the diagonal line which bisects said quarter/quarter from the northwest to the southeast less and except parcel 09 (lot 30), parcel 21 (lot 17), parcel 24 (lot 14), parcel 25 (lot 13) and including parcel 40, and parcel 41 which lie south of said diagonal line which bisects the quarter/quarter and as more particularly described on the map and exhibits attached to the resolution for annexation; and
- 5) the property located in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 15, Township 19 South, Range 2 West less and except parcel 16 (lot 56), parcel 17 (lot 55), parcel 33 (lot 37), parcel 41 (lot 85), and parcel 44 (lot 82), and as more particularly described on the map and exhibits attached to the resolution for annexation.

A map of the above-described territory is on file in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Shelby County, Alabama, and said map is open for public inspection.

DONE and ORDERED this 2nd day of May, 1994

Thomas A. Snowden, Jr.
Judge of Probate

Town Council Highlights

March 15, 1994

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Town Council of Indian Springs Village met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 1994, in classroom #6 at Indian Springs School. Mayor Hub Harrington presided over the meeting with Council members Ron Luster, Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley present.

Candidates for local and state offices made the usual promises, answered questions and addressed concerns on the local level. Sheriff James Jones, who is running once again for the same office, was the first to speak. Following were Leon Archer, current County Commissioner from Westover and a candidate for the office of Probate Judge, and Bill Armistead, a businessman from Columbiana who is running for the State Senate in District 14.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that revenues for the month were beer taxes, \$560 and road funds, \$632. The balance in the general fund was \$56,700, with the road fund balance being \$18,228. Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that aluminum can recycling had resulted in revenues of \$37.20 and donations to *The Village Voice* were \$225.

Mayor Hub Harrington announced that the town will be reimbursed by Federal Emergency Management Assessment (FEMA) and Alabama Emergency Management Assessment (AEMA) for 90% of the cost of the cleanup of storm debris. Cleanup of debris in Bishop Creek will be divided between the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Division, which will pay 75% of the cost, with ISV paying the remaining 25%.

Mayor Harrington presented to the council two petitions for annexation of contiguous properties. The fourth annexation petition in a series for the Oak Mountain School properties, along with a petition from Charles and Nellie Estes on Highway 14. The rules were suspended by unanimous vote to allow for consideration of the petitions. Both properties were annexed by unanimous vote of the Council.

The Council passed a resolution appointing Mayor Harrington as the designated representative of ISV to assist the town in entering into any contracts with federal or state agencies regarding the Palm Sunday tornado. This was a requirement of both FEMA and AEMA before any reimbursements could be made to the town for storm debris cleanup.

Herb Robbins and Alan Jackson from the Homestead Homeowners Association presented petitions, maps, and legal descriptions for annexation of most of the Homestead subdivision. There are 88 homes and a small park in Homestead, with approximately 60 homes involved in the annexation request. Citing the need for preservation of their community from encroaching commercialization, the contiguous neighborhood has asked for ISV to annex them by the election method. (See notice on page 6) As an

offering of sorts, the Homestead representatives have gotten signatures and drawn the lines of the election so that the entire Winn-Dixie Marketplace shopping center is included in the petition. This would bring in additional revenues for ISV of approximately \$15,000 per year in utility taxes alone. This also insures that these businesses will not be taken in by Hoover and will remain subject to only 6% sales tax instead of the 9% sales tax paid to merchants in the Hoover areas of Shelby County.

The Council unanimously voted to pass a resolution for annexation by the election method described in the petition, which was to be filed with the Judge of Probate for execution and setting of the election.

North Shelby Fire District Update

By Russ Allison, Board of Trustees

On Tuesday, April 26, 1994, the Board of Trustees of the North Shelby Fire District met at Fire Station #3 for its monthly meeting. Board members in attendance were Russ Allison, Charlie Waldrop, Sally Cox, and Larry Dillard. The Board addressed the "proposal" of a "merger" by the City of Hoover. A subcommittee made up of Trustees Russ Allison, Martha Geyer, and Charlie Waldrop that had sought and obtained an expert legal opinion, discussed the ramifications of the opinion, and made a recommendation to the entire Board of Trustees. The recommendation was that the discussions and/or proposal advanced by Hoover for a merger of the North Shelby Fire District be rejected. The basis for the subcommittee's rejection was that the "merger" proposal by Hoover would essentially end the existence of the North Shelby Fire District, making the District's only function to collect dues for the City of Hoover. The law under which the Fire District was created mandates that abolishment of the Fire District would take a vote of the people. Furthermore, there would have to be no indebtedness owed by the District. In addition, the legal opinion provided that the Fire District could not legally "exempt" people who lived in Hoover from paying their fire dues. The rejection of the Hoover proposal was carried unanimously, except for Larry Dillard's abstention. The Fire District will pursue discussions with State Senator Butch Ellis to investigate the possibility of receiving legislative relief through a buyout plan for Hoover citizens.

NSFD Gets New Equipment

By NSFD Fire Chief Winston Boutwell

The North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District will soon receive the latest in technology for caring for its patients in the field. This improvement will be made possible by a donation from Shelby Medical Center of the MLR 360 ECG SLX Monitor and Defibrillator. This new state-of-the-art equipment has a feature called external pacing, which allows the paramedic to externally pace the heart when a patient's heart rate drops below a safe rate. Another feature, hands free defibrillation, eliminates the use of defibrillating paddles such as those on current electrocardiographs. The unit has a complete code summary which keeps track of the heart activity and number of defibrillations, as well as types and amounts of drugs given to the patient.

In Appreciation

The following letter was received following the death on April 2 of Hayden Graham, who was killed while clearing storm debris from his front yard at 224 Jasmine Hill Road:

On behalf of the family of Hayden Graham, we would like to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, food, and friendship during this difficult time. Knowing there are so many people who care helps us get through this a little easier.

Sincerely,
Sharon and Emris Graham

New Arrival

Congratulations to *Village Voice* couriers Danny and Lynda Bedgood of McGuire Lane on the arrival of their bundle of joy, John Henry Bedgood. John Henry was born April 9th at Brookwood Hospital weighing in at a hearty 9 pounds, being 21 1/2 inches in length, and having a very healthy set of lungs. In about twenty years we may be reading more about linebacker John Henry playing football for Auburn or Alabama.

Adopt-A-Mile and Recycling

By Councilman Art Johnson

The litter walk in April was canceled for safety reasons due to the tornado damage. But I am happy to report there have been sightings of residents picking up litter along Highway 119 and Indian Crest Drive. Nevertheless, we still anticipate we will need more volunteers than usual to help us pick up the litter at our next litter walk.

Some residents of the Indian Crest area have reminded me that Indian Crest Drive is also a part of the Adopt-A-Mile program. I agree that citizens of Indian Springs Village have pride in their town and don't want litter cluttering any of their roads. Starting in May we will be having a combined litter walk, picking up litter on Cahaba Valley Road and Indian Crest Drive. Come join us and help beautify the road of your choice. Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 21, at 8:30 a.m., and meet us at the Mormon Church parking lot on Cahaba Valley Road. Volunteer your time for the betterment of your community. All you need is a pair of gloves.

April was a record month for Indian Springs Village recycling program. We reached a new milestone by collecting 200 pounds of aluminum cans, a 25% increase over January's collection. The sixty dollars we collected is another record. Accolades to all the citizens who helped contribute to the environment and the successes of Indian Springs Village recycling. Also thank you to volunteers Sharon Durbin, Jackie Johnson, and Gene Weingarten who collected and took the cans to the recycling center.

To recycle, place your bagged aluminum cans near your driveway opposite the normal BFI garbage pickup before 8:00 p.m. on May 18th. Please use white or clear plastic bags with the top tied in a knot. This will help volunteers quickly identify the cans from the garbage.

Villagers On the Ballot

Look for familiar names on the ballot June 7th in the local races. Running for a spot on the Shelby County Republican Executive Committee is our own Hub Harrington. Running for reelection as Shelby County Superintendent of Schools is Village resident Dr. Norma Rogers.

Newcomers to ISV

A belated but warm welcome to Deliece and Walter Ayers who have moved to 845 Valley View Road. The Ayers moved to Birmingham two years ago from Texas, but are Virginia natives. Both are graduates of the University of Texas where Walter, a geologist, was a research scientist after he completed his Ph.D. Walter now works for Taurus Exploration, Inc., a subsidiary of the Energen Corporation. Deliece, who taught in Texas public schools is now a graduate student at the University of Montevallo, majoring in history. She hopes to teach locally on the junior college level.

Council Hold Emergency Session

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Town Council of Indian Springs Village held an emergency session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 1994, at Indian Springs School. Mayor Hub Harrington presided over the meeting, with Council members Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, and Stewart Duffey present.

The emergency session was called by Mayor Harrington the morning after a meeting he attended with Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) representatives. The purpose of the meeting was to authorize an action by the Town of Indian Springs Village to enter into a contract with these agencies for cleanup of that part of Bishop Creek which is in the town limits. This contract had to be agreed upon by vote of the Council before the bidding began. The action will get federal funds from the Department of Soil Conservation Services, a division of the USDA, released to pay for their 75% share of the cleanup of the waterway.

The USDA and ADEM were to begin the process of bidding out the project on Wednesday. Upon awarding of the bid, a check from the town would be due immediately, in advance, for our 25% share of the cost of the cleanup. The council voted unanimously to enter into the agreement.

Since the council was in session with a quorum present, a petition for annexation of the next section of the Oak Mountain Elementary and Middle Schools was introduced by Mayor Harrington. The Council voted unanimously to waive the rules to allow for a vote on the petition. The petition for annexation passed unanimously.



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