



The Village Voice

Vol. 5, No. 11 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- February 13, 1996

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, February 20, 1996 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

- Mayor/Council Committee Reports
- Ordinances and Resolutions
- Citizens' Forum

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Mayor Hub Harrington

THANK YOU, INDIAN SPRINGS SCHOOL

With the opening of our new Town Hall we have begun holding our council meetings and other town activities at the new site. Since the original incorporation of ISV we have held virtually all town functions, including the original swearing-in ceremony for the first council, at Indian Springs School, our town's namesake. Without the generosity of the school and its willingness to make available its facilities, our town would have had a very difficult time establishing a true sense of community.

Because Indian Springs School opened its doors to the new town, we were able immediately to have a true physical identity instead of just being a legal entity. Though many of our functions and council meetings posed an imposition on the school, our needs were always considered and accommodations were always made for us.

We offer a special thanks to Doug Jennings, the Headmaster of Indian Springs School, for his long-standing support of the town and for the many considerations that he has shown to us since the earliest beginnings of Indian Springs Village.

On a day-to-day basis, the person most responsible for coordinating our activities and ensuring that our needs were met has been Coach Greg Van Horn. Coach Van Horn is responsible for scheduling all activities on the school's campus. We wish to recognize his many contributions and thank him for his patience and good will.

Thanks also to Wayne Roberts, head of maintenance at the school, for his ever-valuable assistance through the years. Wayne always made sure the doors to our meeting rooms were unlocked and that our Fourth of July and Founders' Day functions had picnic tables readily available.

The Town of Indian Springs Village has been able to reciprocate in some small measure by establishing an educational board which allowed Indian Springs School to make capital improvements at substantial savings. I am certain that we will continue the mutually beneficial relationship that we have had with the school, and look forward to working closely together in the future.

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 Springs 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, 1996 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, March 5th. 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 expressed 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)
K. 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

Update on Fire District Lawsuit

By Russ Allison, NSFD Trustee

The lawsuit filed by the City of Hoover and two residents of Valley Station, Robert and Cathy Ingram, is still pending in Shelby County Circuit Court. This lawsuit asks for a judicial determination that the City of Hoover and its residents should not have to pay fire dues to the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District because the service is not wanted, not needed and is being provided through taxes paid by the residents of Hoover. The attorney for the Ingrams and Hoover has asked that all of the residents of Hoover who are also within the Fire District be added as parties and that the case be made a class action. A ruling is expected on the request for class action status within the next two months.

The outcome of the lawsuit is pivotal to the continued financial viability of the Fire District. If the City of Hoover and its residents are successful in obtaining a ruling that they do not have to pay fire dues, it will cause a severe financial hardship on the Fire District that may be hard to survive. At the very least, it would necessitate a vote of the residents in the Fire District to raise the fire dues to offset the financial loss and to maintain current services.

Comments from the Commish

By Lindsey Allison, Shelby County Commissioner

After a rather uneventful 1995 with the Shelby County Commission, I am sure this year will make up for any dullness. As you may have already read, the Commission approved a resolution (7-1) allowing the citizens of Shelby County (excluding those living in Birmingham, Hoover, and Vestavia) to vote on a millage increase for the Shelby County school system. The vote will occur on Tuesday, April 9, 1996. The commission has no other legal responsibility on this issue except to help manage the election process.

June 4, 1996 is the primary election which will involve many county officials. Also included on that ballot will be the question of selling Shelby County Medical Center. The Health Care Authority Board had previously selected the Baptist System as their only suitor for the "merger." Included in your decision on the hospital issue should be the question "Do I want the hospital sold to Baptist or one of the many other suitors

who since made their intentions known so publicly?" Be careful though, as the question on the ballot will ask only if you want to merge with the Baptist System.

Of the elections involved in the June primary are all nine Shelby County Commission seats. This is due to a 1988 federal court order. This is not a healthy situation for the county, particularly at this time in the county's financial recovery. For those who may not remember, in 1992 when this commission took office the county was \$43 million in debt, there was no money in the bank, and our first order of business after being sworn in was to authorize a short-term note to make payroll that week. This commission has subsequently reduced the debt so that by the year 2000 Shelby County should have no debt. We have a very comfortable reserve thanks to the philosophy of "pay as you go." This includes paying cash for a new jail in the coming years.

If a majority of the incumbent commissioners were to be defeated, this trend could end. From a personal perspective, it has been very difficult to maintain this conservative financial philosophy. Shelby County's growth is phenomenal and the demands are great. Quite honestly, I have had to say "No" many times, especially when it has not been popular to do so. By saying "No" the entire commission has put the county in a very healthy financial condition. I, for one, would like to see this philosophy continue.

Considering all of the above, and that there are town elections in August, Fire District elections in November, and, oh yes, Presidential elections as well, 1996 may prove to be quite an eventful year.

Recipes, Please

By Bee Little

We are currently in the process of working on a cookbook for Indian Springs Village. During the Open House at the Town Hall so many people were interested in the recipes of the delicious food brought by villagers that the concept of an ISV cookbook was born.

Plans are to include a history of the area and the village in the cookbook, along with favorite recipes of ISV's finest gourmets. If you have historical information and/or recipes that you would like to share, please send them to: Bee Little, Village Cookbook, 867 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, 35124. (985-9988) All proceeds will go toward the Town Hall and grounds.

ISV Recycling - February 21

By Councilman Art Johnson

On Wednesday, January 17, volunteers Margie and Herb Robbins, Sharon Durbin, Gene Weingarten, and Jackie and Art Johnson rode the streets of ISV, collecting 265 pounds of recyclable aluminum. Later in the week, Gene Weingarten took the cans to the recycling center.

The continuing success of ISV Recycling goes to each villager who helped contribute to a new ISV aluminum recycling record in 1995. Just some of the superstars in January were the Klinkers on Indian Crest, the Allardes and Joiners on Cahaba Valley Road, the DeBoers on Brookgreen Lane, the Carters on New Hope Mountain Road, the Brachages on Old Mill Court, and Madeline Johnson on Valley View Road.

It is important for villagers to recycle only aluminum. We can not accept steel cans, glass or plastic at this time. If any bags have any of this mixture with the aluminum cans, we will not be able to accept them.

To recycle, place your bagged aluminum cans near your driveway, opposite the normal Waste Management collection before 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday night, February 21st. Please use white, blue recycling, or clear plastic bags with the tops tied with a knot. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Indian Crest Drive, Highway 119, and at the entrances to Homestead.

February Litter Walk

By Councilman Art Johnson

The January Adopt-a-Mile was cancelled because of bad weather. Eighteen degree weather on January 20th literally put the freeze on the scheduled January litter walk. On the positive side were efforts by villagers like Kathy Monacelli, who was spotted on Indian Crest Drive carrying two bags of litter, and by Jim Boyett, who took advantage of the warm weather just a few days before the litter walk to remove unsightly litter on Highway 119 from mile marker 20 to Arrowhead Lane.

If you would like to help ISV maintain its natural, litter-free atmosphere you are invited to join us on Saturday, February 24, at 8:30 a.m. at the ISV Town Hall. All you need to bring is a pair of gloves. After the litter walk, coffee and donuts will be served at the Town Hall. If you have any questions, call me at 988-3217.

Expanded Recycling

By Councilman Art Johnson

Oak Mountain Elementary and Intermediate Schools are now drop-off points for some recyclables. This is in a cooperative effort with the Champion Corporation Paper Retriever Recycling Program. Items that can be recycled at these two sites are newspapers, corrugated cardboard, telephone books, paper grocery bags, computer paper, white office paper, colored office paper, and mixed paper, which includes magazines, junk mail, etc. In addition, glass may be recycled at the Oak Mountain Elementary School.

Recycling Good for Business

By Councilman Art Johnson

Ford Motor Company is recycling two million pounds a year of phone and computer housings and using them to form the grilles for F-series pickup trucks and Econoline vans. Ford collects plastic housings from computers, phones, and other equipment, then separates, grinds, and makes the plastic into new pellets, which are then used to manufacture the grilles. Each grille contains about 25 percent recycled material. In 1994 Ford said its annual usage of material containing post-consumer recycled materials was more than 26 million pounds. Ford expects a 25 percent increase in that figure for 1995.

ISV Paper Tubes

The striking green paper tubes furnished to us by the *Shelby County Reporter* are still available at Neil's Pharmacy and in your editor's garage. If you or a neighbor have a need for a paper tube, call 988-5417.

OOOPS!

The Village Voice wishes to correct a donation to the ISV Children's Fund. **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wells** were identified incorrectly as "Webb." We are sorry for the error and appreciate your generous donation.

Accolades

A great big "thank you" goes to Neil Damron, for his time and efforts in bush-hogging the "lower forty" at the Town Hall. Though Neil, who is the owner of Neil's Pharmacy, does not reside in the town, he is a great supporter of ISV. We appreciate his interest, enthusiasm, and friendship.

Town Council Highlights

January 23, 1996

By Councilwoman Patricia Crape

The Town of Indian Springs Village met at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Tuesday, January 23, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Hub Harrington presided, with council members Ron Luster, Patricia Crape, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley in attendance.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$618; building permits, \$1125; and road funds, \$756. The balance in the general fund was approximately \$1,600 and the road fund balance was \$35,372.

Mayor Hub Harrington reported having received a request from "Crimestoppers" of Greater Birmingham for a donation toward keeping the program active. "Crimestoppers" is asking each municipality for a 5 cent per resident contribution. The council voted unanimously to send \$100.

Councilman Ron Luster reported that new on the drawing board for Highway 119 is a turn lane at Double Oak Lane, the street just past Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church. Heavy traffic for the OLV Catholic School and Bruno Montessori School has necessitated that the State of Alabama Highway Department put in the turn lane.

The council voted unanimously to retain the services of environmental attorney Bart Slawson. For a fee of no more than \$1,000, Slawson will initiate measures against the trailer park on Cahaba Valley Road for polluting Bishop Creek.

ISV Resident Is Local Playwright

Janice Creel Clark has written a historical drama about Birmingham that will be produced this month. The play, "Furnaces," depicts the iron and steel industry and medical nursing in the 1950's. This was the emerging of our local health care industry. The play is being presented by the Academy of Fine Arts, Inc., in celebration of Birmingham's 125th Anniversary and the Academy's 10th Anniversary. Performances are Saturday, February 17, 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, February 18, 2:30 p.m. at the Alabama Theatre. Tickets are available through TicketLink, 715-6000.

Janice works at the Birmingham Post-Herald in the metro news department and writes a weekly features column. She has lived in ISV for three years with her husband, Robert, a homebuilder, and their four children: Jana, Megan, Dean, and Rob. They attend Indian Springs First Baptist Church and are active in the Indian Highlands Estates Homeowners Association. Jana often participated in the ISV Recycling collection until leaving for college last year.

Help Wanted Plea Answered!

By Councilwoman Patricia Crape

The Village Voice is pleased to announce that four volunteers have stepped forward to act as couriers for the delivery our community's newsletter on Miller Circle, Old Mill Trace, and in the Cahaba Oaks Subdivision.

Donna Chiarella, 249 Cahaba Oaks Drive, will deliver the Cahaba Oaks subdivision. Sharon Byrd, 216 Cahaba Oaks Drive, will stand in for Donna if she is ever unavailable. Elizabeth Swain, 419 Miller Circle, and Cora Brachage, 5109 Old Mill Court, will deliver their respective streets.

A special thanks to Ashley Pate, 216 Miller Circle, for delivering her street last month. Also, Kevin Colburn, courier for Highway 119, delivered his route just before boarding a plane for a cruise to the Bahamas. Now, that's dedication!

Newcomers

By Councilwoman Patricia Crape

Indian Springs Village extends a warm welcome to Brian and Cathy Stauss, 240 Cahaba Oaks Drive. The Stausses, who come to Indian Springs Village from Lexington, Kentucky, have two daughters: Emily, age 7, and Erin, age 5. Both girls attend Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School. Brian is employed by Vulcan Chemicals.

ISV welcomes Vincent and Donna Chiarella, 249 Cahaba Oaks Drive. The Chiarellas moved to ISV from the Tannehill area. Vincent is employed by Stegall Metal Industries while Donna, who is a cousin of Town Clerk Paul Stephens, works for Alabama Power Company. Donna has jumped right into the swing of things in ISV by volunteering her services as a courier for *The Village Voice*. The Chiarellas have one son, Austin, age 5, who attends kindergarten at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church.

In Sympathy

Sincerest sympathy is extended to Theresa Sprain and family in the loss of her father, Joseph S. Bruno, who passed away on January 21, at the age of 83. The founder of Bruno's, Incorporated. Mr. Bruno was the recipient of many awards, including the Horatio Alger Award, and was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame and the Gallery of Distinguished Citizens. He was awarded the Knights of Malta by the Catholic Church, the highest honor bestowed upon lay persons.

A great humanitarian and philanthropist, "Mr. Joe" gave of his heart and his wealth for the betterment of many organizations and worthwhile charities. He touched the lives of many and will be sorely missed.