

The Village Voice

Vol. 5, No. 9 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- December 12, 1995

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, December 19, 1995 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

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

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, 1996 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, January 2nd. 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 the 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
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Patricia Crapet, Johnson - Rast & Hays for production

A VILLAGE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



at

THE NEW TOWN HALL

2635 Cahaba Valley Road

"A Work in Progress"

Sunday, December 17, 1995

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lots of food, fun, and festivity.

Most of all, come see the new renovations and future projects at your town hall.

Please bring an old-fashioned ornament to donate
for use on our town Christmas tree.

Donations Coming In for ISVCF

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The hearts of villagers are once again opening up and pouring out the donations that will be necessary to help make this Christmas a happy one for some local needy children. Counselors from the Oak Mountain schools have supplied ISV with the names of 15 children from six different families who would go without Christmas this year if it were not for the kind donations from our citizens.

At press time, villagers who have come to the aid of these children and their families with their generous donations thus far are: **Nick and Jennifer Bondi, Madeline Johnson, Gene and Carolyn Cashion, Herb and Margie Robins, Billy and Pam Longshore, Parker and Betty Wain, Clyde and Fay Wood, Buzz and Nelda Kelly, Gary and Linda Parker, Dr. Leonard McGovern, Kathy Lane, Norma J. Johnston, Dave and Joanne Engel, James and Barbara Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Inman, and Paul Skokel and his business, Alabama Pool Services.**

Many of these people gave to the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund last year, but there are also many new names on the list this year. We thank you for entering into the spirit of giving that is such a part of living in Indian Springs Village. More donations are needed if we are to provide for the wants and needs of this year's children. Last year after the holiday season was over, many villagers expressed that they meant to send in donations, but time just slipped away during the holiday rush. This year, don't get caught up in the rush before you reach into your heart and pull out a Christmas miracle for some needy child.

BellSouth Deadline Dec. 15

Don't forget the final day for changing or adding a listing in BellSouth's upcoming white pages telephone directory for Greater Shelby County is December 15. If you desire any changes in your present listing, they must be requested by that date or you will not be able to make the change for another year. Residential customers call 557-6500 and business customers call 557-6000. There is a service charge for adding or changing a listing, but not for corrections. Several villagers have already called to have their address reflect that they live in ISV.

Town Hall Ready for First Event

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Indian Springs Village Town Hall is now ready for its debut! After what seems like years, even though the amount of the work has only been in the last few weeks, the Town Hall is almost ready for use by the citizens of ISV.

There will be a Christmas Open House at our "new" year-old Town Hall on Sunday, December 17 (see page 1 for details). Refreshments, Christmas music, and neighborly fellowship will be in abundance. No one will want to miss this festive occasion, so please plan to attend.

In case you did not notice the agenda box on the previous page, our new meeting place for all town council meetings will be the Town Hall beginning with our next meeting Tuesday, December 19, 1995. The Mayor and council members are extremely excited about, and proud of, this new facility. We are all certain that the residents of ISV will be pleased with the renovations.

Christmas Tree Recycling

By Councilman Art Johnson

As you begin to take down the holiday decorations, please remember to recycle your Christmas tree. Beginning on December 26, and continuing through January 8, Bruno's and Alabama Power are providing an opportunity to turn trees that would otherwise take up an incredible amount of space at a landfill into something useful: mulch or fish beds!

In APC's Birmingham Division, trees may be taken to any of the four Bruno's locations (Hoover, Inverness, Cahoon Point and Eastwood), or the Food Max in Alabaster, where APC will provide on-site chipping.

Locally the recipients of the mulch will be the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham Zoo, Vestavia Hills Parks and Recreation, Birmingham Park and Recreation, Spain Park on Valleydale Road, and the Eastern Landfill. At the landfill, the mulch will be used for erosion control on newly planted areas and for composting.

In other parts of the state, the trees will be weighted and anchored to make them sink to the bottom of lakes and ponds there. Under proper conditions, the trees will provide habitats for fish, which help to increase the fish population.

We can all do our part to conserve landfill space, produce mulch to beautify local parks at no cost, and help the environment by recycling our Christmas trees!

Town Council Highlights

October 17, 1995

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Town of Indian Springs Village met on Tuesday, November 21, 1995, at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall of Indian Springs School. Mayor Hub Harrington presided, with council members Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, and Gary Dennis in attendance.

The minutes of the September and October meetings were adopted as written.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that revenue for the month was as follows: FEMA reimbursement, \$17,484; beer taxes, \$672; building permits, \$712; and road funds, \$1,554. The balance in the general fund was approximately \$18,600 and the balance in the road fund was \$33,613.

Mayor Harrington presented two petitions for annexation into ISV by contiguous property owners: lot 18, Indian Highlands Estates, owned by Robert Clark, and 7001 Indian Ridge Drive, owned by the Stidham family. The council voted unanimously to suspend the rules in order to consider the petitions, which were adopted unanimously.

Mayor Harrington presented two cable television franchise agreements to the council. The agreements, between ISV and Marcus Cable and Shelby Cable, are much like the agreements the town has with the utility companies that serve our community. The town will now collect the small percent of revenues from the franchise instead of the county's receiving the funds. The council voted unanimously to enter into the agreements with the cable companies.

Mayor Harrington presented the recommendation of the ISV Zoning and Planning Board to the council regarding the re-zoning application by Bailey and Owens for property on Valleydale Road between the Winn-Dixie Marketplace, the new Compass Bank branch and the Homestead Subdivision. The proposed change was from E-1 (estate lot) to B-2 (business). Proposed for the site is a mini-warehouse storage facility.

The board recommended the change be granted since the Homestead neighborhood had reached an agreement with Bailey and Owens on several issues, among them landscaping, fencing, and buffers. The council voted unanimously to grant the zoning change based on the recommendation of the board and the agreement among the parties involved.

The council voted unanimously to adopt the budget which was presented at the September meeting. The budget was published in the October and November issues of *The Village Voice*.

State representative Al Knight dropped in to answer any questions that townspeople had before the special session starts. Representative Knight confirmed that there was a good possibility that a proposed referendum on the Shelby County Board of Education's requested 10 mill school tax would be introduced in the session.

Board of Education to Hold Meeting on Proposed Tax

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

There will be a public meeting regarding the 10 mill tax increase proposed by the Shelby County Board of Education, and heavily endorsed by Superintendent Bill Sparks, on January 9, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. at Shelby County High School in Columbiana. The tax increase, as it is currently proposed, would include only those areas of the county not currently served by municipalities with their own school systems. The tax, which would raise an additional \$6.8 million for county schools, is necessary if North Shelby is to get a new Oak Mountain High School. All interested parties are urged to attend.

Newcomers

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

Indian Springs Village extends a warm welcome to Mike and Susan Webb, 213 Cahaba Oaks Drive. The Webbs have two daughters, Rebecca and Rachel, who attend the Oak Mountain schools. Mike is employed by his own firm, Gonzales and Webb Engineering, and Susan works for T.C.I. Cable. The Webb family comes to the village from the Mission Hills community in Alabaster.

Christmas Beautification Week

By Councilman Art Johnson

The Saturday following the next town council meeting falls on December 23, so instead of the normal litter walk, I am asking every household in the village to take a few minutes during the next week to remove any litter that is on your property. Let's spotlight our beautiful community during the Christmas season, and not have any unsightly litter spoil our town's natural beauty.

In November, Aleta Lowe, Jackie and Art Johnson stepped forward and volunteered to remove litter from Indian Crest Drive. It really made a difference.

ISV Recycling Is December 20

By Councilman Art Johnson

On Wednesday, November 29, volunteers Gene Weingarten, Herb Robins, Sharon Durbin, Jackie and Art Johnson rode the streets of ISV to collect aluminum cans from village recyclers. If you haven't started recycling, please consider making a New Year's resolution to do so. ISV's recycling program is a community project, and sincere thanks go to all our neighbors who have joined the crusade.

To recycle, please place your bagged aluminum cans near your driveway opposite the normal garbage pickup before 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20. Please use white or clear plastic bags with the tops tied with a knot. Watch for recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrance to Homestead subdivision on Wednesday.

Last Minute Christmas Gift

By Councilman Art Johnson

If you need a last minute Christmas gift, think Olympic Soccer. Birmingham is one of only four cities hosting Olympic Soccer during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. We have a unique opportunity to participate in what may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. For eight consecutive days, from Saturday, July 20, through Sunday, July 28, Birmingham will host soccer for both men and women.

The 1996 Olympic Games will bring the top 16 men's and eight women's teams in the world together to compete for gold, silver, and bronze medals. Birmingham can see up to 11 teams, including the U.S. men's and possibly women's teams.

Birmingham Olympic Soccer has a simplified one page order form. Call 205-933-1996 for ordering information or write: Birmingham Soccer Organizing Committee for 1996, P.O. Box 1996, Birmingham, Alabama, 35201-1996. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer, contact BSOC Volunteer Coordinator Norma Huguley at 933-1996.

It's Tree Planting Time

By Councilman Art Johnson

If you are considering planting some more trees this year, December and January are the optimal months for tree planting. Several general suggestions regarding proper tree care include:

(1) Buy only as big a tree as you can handle in order to ensure it is planted properly.

(2) Invest in good tree stock by buying from a reputable nursery or landscape business. (Some urban foresters are of the opinion that most of the trees available in the garden departments of discount stores are not usually very good stock.)

(3) Since most of a tree's roots lie in a large shallow area around the base, dig a much wider but shallower hole when planting a tree. The root ball can actually stay somewhat above ground as long as it is covered with a thin, loose layer of mulch.

(4) When selecting a tree, consider what you want for shade, flowers, or height. Plant the right tree in the right place for the desired effect. Avoid areas near power lines.

(5) Recommended varieties for our part of the state include the Indian Springs Village signature tree, the Shumard oak, scarlet oak, northern or southern red oak, white oak, beech, redbud or dogwood.

(6) Types of trees to avoid include silver maples (and most other varieties of maples). Bradford pears are nice, but require pruning and maintenance. Magnolias are also nice, but their leaves are a bit of a nuisance outside of a natural area.

In 1994 after the Palm Sunday tornado, ISV was given tree planting guides by Alabama Power which were distributed to the community through *The Village Voice*. These colorful brochures are full of information on a huge variety of trees. You may acquire one of these booklets at the new ISV Town Hall during our Open House on December 17, or our next town meeting, on December 19. These booklets are in short supply and are available on a first come - first served basis.

\$1,000 REWARD

To be paid to any individual providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of any 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.