



Vol. 6, No. 12 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

March 11, 1997

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

The Ides of March. The middle of March has been very significant in the history of Indian Springs Village. It is wise to revisit some of the happenings of our weather in order to be prepared for what may come in the future.

On the eighth of March, 1993, the weather bureau predicted that we would have a "dusting" of snow by the end of the week. On each successive day anticipated amounts began to creep up on the "inches" ladder. Finally on the 11th, as much as four inches was predicted. But, during the day of the 12th, our meteorologists tossed a dart at their boards and said "It is going to be bad." When the next 24 hours had passed, some of us were measuring 11 inches of snow on our decks!

Needless to say, many of our ancient trees went down under the weight of snow. With them went the power lines (and poles) and electricity; no heat, no lights and such. Our roads were blocked. If you did not have an emergency supply of foodstuffs, adequate inventory of prescriptions, and an alternate method of heat it was panic time. Folks got out and helped each other. That's the way ISV is. Unfortunately, partially blocked roads and severely blocked driveways made it an impossible situation for the North Shelby fire trucks. The Smith's home was consumed by fire even as our firemen were struggling to reach the scene.

Memories of the snow episode were still fresh in everyone's mind when on Palm Sunday in March of 1994, the Ides of March struck again. It was late enough in the month to be past the cold weather, but just right for conditions that we see each year -- tornado weather.

On March 27th, we were watching the basketball tournament and the TV folks were constantly flashing "tornado watch" across the screen. It was just after 5:30 p.m. when the watch became a warning. The sirens began to sound. In an instant the tornado had passed through. This time, there were more trees down, many more, than had gone down in the snowstorm. Fortunately, no one was injured. Tragically, a week later, one of ISV's most valuable citizens, Hayden Graham, was fatally injured while repairing tornado damage in his yard. The monumental task of removing thousands of downed trees was insignificant compared to this great loss.

As we again come into the time when Mother Nature reminds us of her unlimited power, counsel with your family. Be aware of the comments of our several weather persons as they prepare us for the unexpected.

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, March 18, 1997 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

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

Editor's Notes

The Village Voice is the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990. The mission of this newsletter is to foster a spirit of community and co-operation. It is the vehicle for reporting the monthly deliberations of the mayor and the council in town council meetings; additionally it provides these officials and other villagers a means of communicating--it is a "voice." Expenses are covered by the efforts and donations of ISV volunteers. Deliveries are made at no charge by volunteer couriers.

Address letters to the editor to: Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Editor, 151 Choctaw Lane, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (988-0896), as well as information and/or suggestions for the "Where Are the Children?" and "Villager Profile" columns. Address information about weddings, births, deaths, new residents and other appropriate news items to Bee Little, Managing Editor, 867 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (985-9988). Questions about circulation should be addressed to Councilwoman Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (985-9205).

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the April, 1997 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, April 1st. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. *The Village Voice* welcomes signed letters to the editor; they will be published if space permits. Letters may be edited for length and other considerations; however, the meaning will be preserved. All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles, unless otherwise indicated. Any opinions the editor 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
Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing
Tricia Crapet, Johnson - Rast & Hays for production

Indian Springs School's History

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Indian Springs School, with its reputation for college preparatory excellence, is far removed from being the type of school envisioned by its founder, Harvey G. Woodward of Woodward Iron Company, established in the 1880's 12 miles SW of Birmingham. Indian Springs was to be the first in a series of schools established to train boys in the liberal as well as vocational and agricultural arts. Those enrolled could stay until age 25, if they so desired, and it was anticipated they would become as adept at working in animal husbandry as they were to be proficient in the great classics of world literature. To establish this boarding school for Birmingham boys, Mr. Woodward willed almost \$3 million dollars.

Seven years after designing the school, Mr. Woodward died in 1937. Evidently not sharing his vision for the establishment of schools, or any school, his widow contested the will. Litigation prevented the opening of the school until the fall of 1952, with 100 boys enrolled. Although not envisioned by its founder as a college preparatory school, it was that from the very beginning and soon became nationally recognized. The first headmaster, Dr. Louis Armstrong, a graduate of Oklahoma A & M, remained at the helm of the school until 1972. He had been a professor of education at George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, where he had earned his doctorate. One of his former students, Dr. Joseph Jackson, was the headmaster of Indian Springs 1972 - 1987.

The third and current headmaster, Douglas Jennings, outlined for your editor the above brief history of the school and enumerated several changes over the years. The original 800-acre school site stretched from Highway 119 to Valleydale Road. During excavation work for campus buildings, Indian arrowheads and other artifacts were discovered; there was a cabin situated on the land, previously a farm, and a family cemetery located across the lake has been preserved. Land on which Southern Heritage Funeral Home and Cemetery, Quail Run and Valley Station subdivisions are located was sold in the 1970's to create endowments for scholarships, held by about 1/3 of the 260 students currently enrolled. Girls were first admitted in 1975, with the first female graduating in 1976. In 1978 the 8th grade level was added, making Indian Springs School unique in that it is a grades 8 - 12 school.

Now a coeducational, independent day and boarding school on 350 acres, Indian Springs can boast, as it has been able to in the past, that 100% of its graduates attend four-year colleges or universities. The College Board SAT scores, Advanced Placement results and National Merit Scholarship Program awards of students admitted to Indian Springs are among the best in the nation.

While most students are from Alabama, seven other states and five foreign countries are represented on campus this year. The standard course load is five academic subjects -- English, history, math, foreign languages, and science -- plus physical education, music and art, with Advanced Placement courses offered in all disciplines. Classes are small, with a student-teacher ratio of nine to one. Indian Springs is home to a nationally-known concert choir which involves more than one-half the student body, a drama pro-

gram presenting 10 plays annually, and a debate team competing at Harvard University in February. More than 80% of the students participate on one or more competitive sports teams, including soccer. When Olympic Soccer became a reality in Birmingham in July 1996, an article was published in the *Birmingham News* featuring Indian Springs School and its soccer program in existence for over four decades.

In a current brochure giving an overview of the school, the roster of the 38 full- and part-time faculty indicates diversity and advanced study, with degrees listed from Harvard, Duke, Peabody, University of the South, University of Western Ontario, Oxford, University of Madrid, Spain, University College, Dublin, to local universities. Mr. Jennings, a New Jersey native, holds master's degrees from Montclair State College, New Jersey, and Columbia University. He is an advisor to the student government and teaches English and writing, having received a B.A. in English from Lafayette College, Easton, PA. Mr. Jennings, like most faculty members, lives on campus in a residence provided by the school and participates in many professional and community activities.

Community service is not required of students, but many volunteer in one capacity or another in recycling, environmental, and humane activities, such as Habitat for Humanity and tutoring in neighboring elementary schools. The newly-renovated stables and horseback riding facilities are used by the "Special Equestrians" group, a riding program that enables disabled children to develop muscles and self-esteem. Indian Springs students are free to help with this program, which is familiar to many Villagers, the Special Equestrians having participated in Fourth of July celebrations held on campus in the past years near the spring-fed lake.

The administration building, classroom wing, dining hall, library, dormitories, and gymnasium were the original buildings, and plans now call for renovation and additional construction. The dining hall will be refurbished this summer, and ground will be broken in April for a new fine arts center. At the February Village Town Council meeting Mr. Jennings explained that the center will be named the Town Hall, in keeping with the school's tradition of encouraging student participation in affairs and working closely with the faculty in planning the school's curriculum and governance. A mock-up of the new building revealed a concert hall, which will seat about 520 and a theater, among other facilities. When the building is opened in about one year, Villagers will be welcome to attend the student presentations. Notices of forthcoming events will be sent in advance to *The Village Voice*.

As a postscript, I first heard of Indian Springs School in 1968 while in a graduate educational research class at Florence State University. (Husband Edward and I had returned South after years spent in Ohio.) An aristocratic South Carolinian, Professor W. B. Woodward, proceeded one day to tell his students about the school south of Birmingham founded by one of his relatives. In 1972, after a sojourn in Knoxville, Ed and I returned to Birmingham and were seeking land on which to build. I remembered the story of Indian Springs School. It was a beautiful April morning when we drove down Cahaba Valley Road, fell in love with the place, and knew that it was "home."

Town Council Highlights

February 18, 1997

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 1997, in the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided over the meeting with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, and Art Johnson present.

The minutes of the January meeting were adopted as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported the regular revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$668; building permits, \$1,510; aluminum cans, \$132; copy charge for ordinance, \$20; and road fund, \$771. The town also received its yearly share of utility taxes which were: Marcus Cable, \$2,301; Pelham Water, \$5,220; Alabama Gas, \$13,576; and Alabama Power, \$45,631. After a mortgage payment on the Town Hall of \$15,000 and payment of the yearly auditing fees of \$2,650, the balance in the general fund was \$61,710. The balance in the road fund was \$46,575.

Mayor Gene Weingarten introduced two petitions for annexation by contiguous property owners. James and Pamela Miller, 635 Miller Circle, and John and Erika Lyman, 669 Miller Circle, were annexed by unanimous vote of the council.

Councilman Herb Robins reported that a bid to repair/resurface Deer Mountain Circle, Rockford Road, and Signal Trail had been given by the county. Additional bids are not yet in. Councilman Robins also reported that the county will be three-laning portions of Caldwell Mill Road this summer.

Mayor Gene Weingarten presented a proposed 1997 budget to the council. The Finance Committee's first draft estimated total revenues of \$93,000 and expenditures of approximately \$38,000 from the general fund and \$31,000 from the road fund. A surplus of \$46,000 in the general fund is projected for '97. The Finance Committee has suggested that \$30,000 of the surplus be diverted to a fund for helping build up the balance in the road fund account.

Doug Jennings, Headmaster of Indian Springs School, gave a presentation about the new Town Hall facility about to be built at the school (see article, page 2). Mr. Jennings brought architectural drawings of the proposed building and grounds, as well as a scale mock-up model of the facility.

ISV Emergency Crews

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

With the coming of tornado weather, it is time to enlist the help of volunteers for the ISV Emergency Crews. No experience is necessary. Volunteers will be responsible for helping their fellow citizens when emergency situations occur, such as those described in Mayor Weingarten's column (see page 1). Anyone with equipment such as chain saws, tractors, trucks, 4w drive vehicles, etc is urged to call and volunteer. Captains of the three crews are: Paul Stephens, (988-4672); Bart Trammell, (988-0014); and Jim Wyatt, (988-0327). Remember, we are a no-taxes, volunteer-driven town. Let's all help keep it that way!

A Letter to ISV Citizens

I am writing to ask your help in making our community aware of a volunteer opportunity in our county. I have served as the Juvenile Court Judge for Shelby County for 17 years and I become more convinced each year on the bench that federal and state funds will not provide all the services we need to work effectively with children and families. I remain convinced that our communities are one of our best sources in locating individuals who are committed to making a personal investment in the life of a child.

The Juvenile Court of Shelby County is searching for individuals who are willing to work with abused and neglected children as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A.) The C.A.S.A is a volunteer appointed by the Juvenile Court Judge to ensure that the best interests of a dependent child (usually abused or neglected) are considered in a court proceeding. A C.A.S.A. will receive approximately 35 hours of preservice training and will be interviewed and screened to ensure that the volunteer and child are properly matched. C.A.S.A. **investigates** the facts of a case, **recommends** a course of action to the judge, **explains** the Court's finding to the child, **facilitates** the resolution of presenting problems, and **monitors** compliance with Court orders and /or progress toward establishing goals. Volunteers are required to commit themselves to the program for one year. After the initial investigation, the average weekly commitment of a C.A.S.A. is approximately 3 to 4 hours.

C.A.S.A. training will be conducted in April, 1997, with most of the classes being held at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. For additional information please contact Tracy Marlowe, Executive Director, "Friends of the Court, Inc.", Shelby County C.A.S.A. Program, at 669-4305, by March 26, 1997.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,
Patricia Smith
District Court Judge

Easter Egg Hunt Changed

Due to Spring Break's beginning on Easter weekend, the ISV Easter Egg Hunt has been changed to the weekend before Easter. See enclosed flier for details. There will be two egg-stuffing days at the ISV Town Hall -- Tuesday and Thursday, March 18 and 20, at 10:00 a.m. We need all the help we can get, so please come, and bring a friend. We had a great time last year filling the plastic eggs with prizes and candy for the thundering herds of ISV children.

Unity Roundtable Meets

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

ISV was well represented at the quarterly meeting of the Unity Roundtable of Shelby County, held at the Inverness Country Club on Tuesday, March 4. Attending the meeting were Mayor Gene Weingarten, Councilpersons Art Johnson and Patricia Crapet, and Town Clerk Paul Stephens. The topic of discussion for the day was the upcoming census for the year 2000. Preparations for the census are underway with new federal guidelines to be followed. The census is very important to ISV since our pro-rata shares of revenues are based on population.

Next Recycling Is March 19

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

The next aluminum can recycling is Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. Please place your aluminum cans in white or clear plastic bags and secure the top of the bag with a knot. Then for easy identification by volunteers, place them on the other side of your driveway from Thursday morning's trash pick-up.

Last month the ISV recycling crews collected 280 pounds of aluminum cans. Our three trucks, with volunteers Patty and Bill Weems, Margie and Herb Robins, Tom Adkison, and Art Johnson, drove the streets of the town picking up the aluminum cans recycled by dedicated Villagers. Accolades to all the recycling participants, and thank you again for your continued support of ISV.

Recycling Tip: Recycle your plastic grocery bags; use them to bag aluminum cans when you don't have a sufficient quantity to justify a larger bag. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and entrances to Homestead.

Litter Walk Is March 22

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

A warm welcome to Peter and Dorothy Peacock. It was Councilman Peter Peacock who spearheaded and held the first adopt-a-mile/litter walk back in June of 1991. Peter still feels strongly that every Villager has an important stake in the appearance of Highway 119. It is our face to the world, and we are judged by the pride we take in keeping our roadsides clean and free of unwanted litter. The Peacocks had just returned from Minnesota where they had been "dog sledding." Joining the Peacocks were Jim Boyett and Art Johnson.

If you would like to help our town maintain "uncluttered" and litter-free roadsides you are invited to join us at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Cahaba Valley Road on March 22. The meeting time is 8:30 a.m. All you need to bring is a pair of gloves. If you cannot attend, please take a few minutes and remove any litter that is on your property. Call me at 988-3217 if you have any questions.

The Eighth Annual "Don't Drop It On Alabama Spring Cleanup" is April 19. Our April litter walk will help support the statewide cleanup campaign. Please mark your calendar.

Village Personals

Compiled by Ruth Goodwyn and Patricia Crapet

In Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Mike and Carolyn Rutherford, Caldwell Mill Lane, in the death of his mother, Nannie Anderson Rutherford, age 77. Mrs. Rutherford passed away on Tuesday, March 4, after a lengthy illness. She was a long-time resident of the Cahaba Valley area, and a member of New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church for over 60 years. Other survivors include daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Patrick Moon, Carrolton, Georgia, and four grandchildren. Mrs. Rutherford was buried close to her home on Cahaba Valley Road in Allan Cemetery.

Wedding Bells Ring

The son of ISV Mayor Gene Weingarten and wife Olivia was married Saturday afternoon, February 22, in Montgomery. Walter Evan Weingarten's bride is the former Susan Elizabeth Gamble, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Clark Gamble and the late Mary Inzer Walthall Gamble of Montgomery. Trinity Presbyterian Church was the setting for the ceremony with the reception following at the Montgomery Country Club. The bride was given in marriage by her father; the maid and matron of honor were her sisters. Gene Weingarten served as best man with Walter's brothers, Ron, Dan, and Mark, all serving as groomsmen. After their honeymoon the couple will reside in Birmingham.

Call Him Coach

Upon entering Neil's Pharmacy on Cahaba Valley Road, one immediately notices the picture of Rickwood Field, the pennants and other baseball memorabilia. Baseball has always been important to the Damron Family of Caldwell Mill Road, to Neil and Kathy and their sons Paul and Mark. If you have noticed Neil's afternoon absences lately with only Darren Long and Kurt "Cy" Cybulski minding the store, that's because Neil is out on the baseball field coaching the varsity team of 9th-12th graders at Indian Springs School. With Neil's help the school has resumed its baseball program, discontinued for some years.

Greg Van Horn, the school's athletic director, has scheduled some 20 games this season, including Calera, Vincent, Ramsay (at Rickwood Field), Altamont, and Shades Valley Christian. Some of the games will be played at the field on the campus of Indian Springs School.

New Library Board Named

At a February meeting of the Friends of the North Shelby County Library organization four Villagers were elected to the Board and will serve as officers or chair committees: Councilman Art Johnson, treasurer; his wife, Jackie, secretary; Bee Little, membership; and Ruth Goodwyn, publicity. Elected from other districts were Meadowbrook residents Larry Barton, president; Maleah Barton, his wife, to chair the 1997 home tour; Jim Kiker, Hickory Ridge, vice-president; Pam Holton, Brook Highland, to be in charge of book sales; and Rachel Polhill, Inverness, program and member-at-large. Hub Harrington, former ISV mayor, continues to serve on the library's Board of Trustees.

New Arrival

ISV will have one more head to count when the new census begins shortly. Regina Marie Bedgood, daughter of Danny and Lynda Bedgood, McGuire Lane, bounced into Brookwood Hospital on January 26. Regina weighed 8 pounds 1 ounce and was 21 inches long. Mother Lynda, a courier for *The Village Voice*, and daughter are doing great, while Dad and little brother, John Henry, are getting used to the idea of having another female in the house.

Thank You

A special thanks to Jim Loper for continuing to replace shrubs at the town hall which have succumbed to the elements. Jim, a landscape architect, helps out whenever possible with labor and equipment.

*Fourth Annual
Indian Springs Village
EASTER EGG HUNT*

**Saturday, March 22, 1997
3:00 p.m.**

(rain date: Sunday, March 23, at 3:00 p.m.)



Location: Luster's Field
(corner of Highway 119 and Indian Trail)



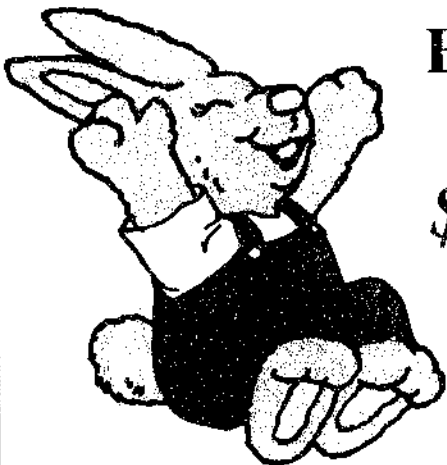
All children thru age 12 are invited to participate.

2000 Easter Eggs to be hidden!

Bring your own basket.

\$150 in Cash prizes

plus



**thousands of eggs stuffed with candy and surprises!
Bring your lawn chair and watch the bunny fur fly!**