



The Village Voice

Vol. 6, No. 5 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

August 13, 1996

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, August 20, 1996 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 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 September, 1996 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, September 3rd. 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
Tricia Crapet, Johnson - Rast & Hays for production

VILLAGER PROFILE

Julie's Journey Continues

By Dr. Ruth Goodwyn

When Julie Wyatt Schenk showed to her mother's agent the dolls she had created of woodland animals featured in her mother's needlepoint and crossstitch designs, the agent commented, prophetically, as it turned out, "There should be a story to go with all this."

Julie, a magna cum laude graduate of Samford University with a degree in English literature and desire to author children's books, began mulling over the possibilities. The result was *Julie Finds a Friend* (1992), the catalyst for four other books in rapid succession in the *Julie's Journey* series. Illustrating all of these is Julie's mother, Mildred Wyatt. Together they introduce the reader to an enchanted land filled with talking animals dressed in adorable clothing and living in real homes, lush blooming flowers, and friendly, loving people.

Four more books have now been published in the series, bringing the total to eight. An additional children's story entitled *Christmas Wishes* will be published possibly in 1996 and released initially in Canada. There it most likely will also be translated into French.

Coloring books, about 12 in all, which are spin-offs from the books already published and from *Christmas Wishes*, are now available. In time for Easter this mother/daughter team turned out figurines, plush animals, Easter candy, little girl clothing, and *Clover Hill Parade*, an Easter "sound book" which, when buttons are pushed in the directed places as you read, emits five different sounds. In addition, the Shoppers Drugmart Pharmaprix (Canada's equivalent to Wal-Mart) has marketed wrapping paper featuring *Julie's Journey* scenes. In all of these products as much attention has been paid to detail as is exemplified in a Mildred Wyatt painting. The "Little Play-a-Sound" book even comes with a savings certificate to order replacement batteries!

The fictional Julie, the protagonist in *Julie Finds a Friend*, is mentioned by the animal friends in subsequent stories. Many find similarities to the real Julie, and the storybook setting is not too far removed from the actual one. Julie and her husband Russell ("Rusty") live on Indian Trail with her parents, Mildred and Jim. In this rustic, rambling house Julie spent most of her life, and here lives also the pet rabbit, Periwinkle, featured in many of the stories, notably *Clover Hill Celebration*. Periwinkle and other animals are also prominent in some of Mildred's crossstitch and needlepoint patterns marketed by Camden Art, Candamar, California.

When asked how she managed her schedule of deadlines, Julie replied

that her most difficult time was after the Palm Sunday tornado of 1994, when several books were due. The Wyatts and Schenks, like everyone else in the village, were recovering from the shock, clearing fallen trees and cleaning up debris on their seven acres. (Jim Wyatt and other members of the "Pothole Crew" were helping neighbors as well.) Julie affirmed that writing is an arduous task. "I re-wrote Julie Finds a Friend a total of 17 times," she commented ruefully, noting that undergoing several re-writes is not unusual for an author.

As to how she and her mother co-ordinate their work, with characters and storyline blending together so perfectly, Julie summed it up succinctly: "I write, mother reads the script, and we sork it out together. She added, "I know how she paints; she knows my writing style, and she tailors her illustrations to the way I write." Living together in the same house facilitates the cooperative process. Julie's husband Rusty does all computer and other technical work to reproduce the paintings and text to conform to the book format chosen by their agent.

Julie and Rusty were the first couple to be married in the village after its incorporation, and both families are active in community affairs. Julie minored in art at Sanford and evidently inherited her mother's talent. Hers was the winning design in the ISV logo contest in 1991 which has been used on ISV tee-shirts and automobile tags. The original green/brown/blue/white logo now hangs in the meeting room of the Indian Springs Village Town Hall, and sections from the design adorn our street signs and entry signs to the village.

ISV Author
Julie Wyatt Schenk

and artist
Mildred Wyatt

**will be present to autograph their
Julie's Journey series of books at the
Indian Springs Village Town Hall
2635 Cahaba Valley Road
Sunday, August 25, 1996
from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

Refreshments will be served.

A Letter To The Citizens of Indian Springs Village

It has been my great honor to have served on the town council for Indian Springs Village since its original incorporation. During the past year, unforeseen circumstances required my attention on a project located out of the state. Consequently, I was unable to perform my duties as a council member in a way that I would have liked, and that I believe the citizenry has a right to expect. Fortunately, the out-of-state project that was consuming so much of my time and energy has now been completed. Assuming that I would be able to properly resume my duties as a member of your town council, I qualified to seek re-election. I have subsequently been called out of town on another project of unspecified duration.

Because Herb Robins has also qualified to run for election to Place No. 1 on our town council, and I am absolutely certain that our town will go forward under his leadership, I am hereby announcing my withdrawal as a candidate for the council position that I hold. Herb Robins has been a faithful, dedicated community volunteer ever since the Homestead area was annexed into our town. I regret that I will be unable to continue serving as a town council member, but my continued absence from the state makes it very difficult for me to attend to the needs of our town. Rest assured that I will continue to volunteer my services at every opportunity and that, just as I have in the past, I will endeavor to make Indian Springs the type of community that we want it to be and do everything possible to maintain the nature and character of the town and community that we so dearly love.

Thank you again for allowing me to have served you as an elected official, and I look forward to many more years of service as a citizen of Indian Springs Village.

Sincerely,
Ron Luster
Town Council, Place No. 1

Editor's Note: The above letter was received at press time. Due to this announced withdrawal, and the fact that there is now no opposition to any candidate running for election to the mayor and council races, there will be no municipal elections held on August 27th. The new mayor and council will take office in October, 1996.

Found!

A small brown teddy bear lost on Indian Crest Drive near the intersection of Caldwell Mill Road. This teddy has been washed and cared for by Jack and Davis Little and awaits a call from its missing owner. If this teddy is yours, please call 985-9988.

Town Council Highlights

July 16, 1996

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The Town of Indian Springs Village met at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Tuesday, July 16, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Hub Harrington presided, with council members Ron Luster, Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley in attendance.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$931; road funds, \$823; aluminum can recycling, \$239.65; July 4th food proceeds, \$1620; ISV t-shirts, \$210. The balance in the general fund was \$27,000 and the balance in the road fund was \$40,493.

Representatives from the Cahaba River Society and Friends of Buck Creek spoke on preservation of Bishop Creek and other Cahaba River tributaries. A state-wide coalition is now being formed of people who care about keeping the state's waterways protected. The group is currently trying to get cooperating cities and towns to take an active part in these efforts. The group suggested a "river protection ordinance" for our area, and would like for someone from ISV to be on its board of directors. For information on joining the Friends of Buck Creek call Allison Newell at 664-0438.

Jim Wyatt re-presented several petitions for annexation of contiguous properties to the council. After review of the petitions, Councilman Stewart Dudley suggested that a study of the quarter-quarters be done to check on other nearby properties for possible annexation. The annexation petitions were tabled until the August meeting.

Mayor Hub Harrington nominated Russ Allison, Ralph Bodie, and Paul Stephens as election officials for the upcoming municipal election which will be held on August 27, 1996. The council voted unanimously to appoint the three nominees to the positions. (See Editor's note, bottom of page 2.)

Councilman Ron Luster reported that a traffic signal has been requested for the intersection of Double Oak Lane and Highway 119 by the Montessori School and Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church. Councilman Luster said that the signalization should be operable by the end of the year. The council determined that any problems with traffic signals in the ISV corporate limits should be reported to Town Clerk Paul Stephens (988-4672) to insure that the proper contractor is called for any necessary maintenance.

Bart Trammell presented the latest set of drawings of the picnic pavilion and barbecue pit to the council. The council has requested cost estimates on the proposed project.

A Message From the Mayor

By Mayor Hub Harrington

During the past month I have had several meetings with residents who live along Valleydale Road. There is currently a proposed re-zoning for property adjacent to the Jameswood subdivision wherein the owner is requesting a change from the existing E-2 Single Family Residence classification. The proposed change would allow the development of Zero Lot Line "starter homes" and also include an O & I area. This re-zoning would establish a dangerous precedent for our community and greatly increase the area's population density. The hearing is presently scheduled for Monday, August 19, 1996 before the Shelby County Planning Commission at the Shelby County Administrative Building in the county commission chambers. Please help us defeat this proposed re-zoning and prevent this ill-conceived development. Attend the Planning Commission meeting if possible, or write to the commission at Post Office Box 1300, Columbiana, Alabama, 35051, to express your feelings concerning this proposed action.

In an effort to bring the speeding traffic on Indian Crest Drive under control, the Shelby County Sheriff's Department has increased the patrolling of this ISV artery. Though there is no posting of the speed limit on the Caldwell Mill end of Indian Crest Drive, please remember that this is a residential area--the speed limit is 25 miles per hour. Slow down now, otherwise, your next trip down Indian Crest may be an expensive one.

Notices have gone out to the individuals who are known to have been polluting Bishop Creek. The investigation is proceeding and I will keep you informed of the progress. If you know or learn of any activity that does harm to this important part of the Cahaba River basin, please do not hesitate to inform your town officials. We will do all that we can to ensure that Bishop Creek remains clean and safe.

In Sympathy

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

The village extends deepest sympathy to the family of Marc and Kelly Phillips of Hollow Log Lane on the death of Kelly's father, long-time Birmingham radio personality, Tommy Charles, age 66. Mr. Charles, or "T.C.", as he was best known, was an ever-present figure on the local radio scene from the 1950's through the present day. I personally remember how upset I was when, as a D.J. on WAQY radio in the 1960's, he called for the famous "ban the Beatles" campaign. An adolescent at the time, I swore that I would never again listen to him or his station. Of course, my "ban" of "T.C." lasted only a few days because he was such a great D.J. Through the years, all of Birmingham has continued to listen to their friend, "T.C." Radio will go on, but with a void left by the untimely death of Tommy Charles, who gave so much of himself to many of us each day.

Litter Walk and ISV Recycling

By Councilman Art Johnson

The July litter walk was cancelled primarily because Jackie and I were driving to Atlanta to celebrate the Olympic Games. Even though the litter walk was cancelled, a drive-by showed little unsightly litter visible along Highway 119.

Please join us for next litter walk on August 24, at 8:30 a.m. The ISV Adopt-a-Mile road crew meets at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Cahaba Valley Road. It only takes 30 to 45 minutes. 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.

Your response to the July recycling was outstanding. We had many new households join us this month throughout the town. The July collection weighed in at 239. A great job and thank you again for being so supportive of our recycling program. Our volunteers included Gene Weingarten, Margie and Herb Robins, Sharon Durbin, and Jackie and Art Johnson. Once again, ISV is beholden to Mike Rutherford for the use of his pickup truck.

Some of our top recyclers in the past few months included the Ottos on Mallard Circle, the Bakers of Windwood Circle, the Smiths Valley View Road, and a final pickup from Hardy and Deborah Gibson on Fox Fire Circle.

Every month or two some recyclers are still putting glass bottles and steel cans in with the aluminum cans. We would like to recycle other materials but we currently do not have the resources. Please, recycle only aluminum.

The next aluminum can collection is Wednesday, August 21, the night following the Indian Springs Village town council meetings. To recycle, please place your bagged aluminum cans on your driveway before 7:30 p.m. To help us identify your recycling, please use a white or clear plastic bag with the top tied with a knot and placed on the other side of your driveway from your normal Waste Management pickup.

Recycling volunteers are needed! If you would like to volunteer, please contact me at 988-3217. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive and the entrances to Homestead.

Welcome Newcomers

ISV extends a warm welcome to Marty and Elaine Ann Nunley, who have recently moved from Altadena to 465 Highgate Hill Road, formerly the home of Ricky and Susan Lewis. The Nunleys have one son, Bryan, age 5. Marty is the owner of Mighty Man Temporary Employment Service.

New Arrival

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

Jack Dennis Smith Barry III was born on Friday, July 12, 1996, at 2:32 p.m. Little Jack popped into the world at Brookwood Hospital, weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces. Proud parents are Jack ("Scooter") Jr., and Beverly Barry of Brookgreen Lane. Both mom and son are doing fine. The Barry clan is trying hard to grow enough drivers for all their antique cars. Grandparents Jack Sr., and Opal, also of Brookgreen Lane, though equally proud, say that it will be at least 16 years before Jack III will be driving the family Fords.

Gold and Silver Medals Awarded

By Councilwoman Patricia Crapet

Congratulations to Bobby Cornelius, 16, of Wildwood Lane on winning four silver medals in speed roller blading at the Alabama Sports Festival in Mobile. The annual event, held on June 22-23, 1996, has competitors from all over the state of Alabama competing in a full range of athletic events. Bobby, who is a junior at John Carroll High School, won three medals for outdoor and one for indoor speed roller blading. Sister Claire Owens, 7, won a gold medal for speed skating for her age group. Claire is a second grader at Oak Mountain Elementary School. Parents of the winners are Vann and Laneyl Owens.

Accolades

A big "thanks" goes to Pat Tamburello and Paul Stephens for the clean-up job on a vacant lot on Arrowhead Lane. The lot had not been cleaned up since the Palm Sunday tornado of 1994. Pat brought his tractor and bushhog to help speed the effort along.

We failed to mention that one of the chief chicken chefs for the July 4th picnic was Dave Engle, who lives on Spring Garden Street. We apologize for the error, and thank Dave for helping make our picnic a success.

Credit Union Membership

Alabama Telco Credit Union welcomes all residents of Indian Springs Village and their family members. ISV is now a community member of the Telco credit union.

Those interested in the services of the credit union can pick up information packets at one of Telco's four Birmingham offices located in Riverchase, Colonnade, Center Point, and Downtown, or call Minnie Lou Hill at 444-3713 or 985-2828.