



The Village Voice

Vol. 6, No. 9 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- December 10, 1996

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, December 17, 1996 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

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

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, newcomer information 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 January, 1997 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, January 7th. 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

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

The need to stay informed about your neighborhood is a permanent obligation. How important this information relates to you as a homeowner was just confirmed during the recent deliberations by the Hoover City Council regarding a zoning request. A developer had plans to build a shopping center on Valleydale Road across the street from the Southlake Food World. The hub of the center would have been a huge discount department store with some 1,200 parking spaces plus other smaller stores. Imagine this on Valleydale Road, which cannot handle its current flow of traffic.

The location directly affects some of our Indian Springs Village residents, as their property adjoins the proposed development. Ed Beck of ISV took the lead in challenging the merits of the proposed rezoning effort. Since the property lies within Hoover's city limits, the many nearby residents had to marshal their resources and take their case before the Hoover City Council. Some of these folks are residents of Hoover, but many are not. However, the bad concept of the shopping center was a rallying point for a majority of the citizens in the immediate area.

After several meetings the original proposal has been greatly altered. There will still be commercial development on the property, but on a much smaller basis. Access to the stores/restaurants will be via a service road and not directly from Valleydale, with the amount of additional traffic not being even close to what was originally envisioned. Hopefully, the damage to our beautiful mountain will be minimal. Restrictions have been set forth requiring buffer zones with trees and other plantings, protection of the lake across the street during and after construction, and several other concessions which will be reported in local newspapers and on local television news.

It won't be perfect, but without people like Ed Beck and his neighbors having been alert to the happenings around them, a disaster could have unfolded. Unfortunately, there are occasions when the very persons who are entrusted with the responsibility of protecting our environment, property, valuable assets, and the quality of our surroundings, sometimes do not use their best judgement in making very important decisions. Stay informed and up to date. Keep in touch with your neighbors. We are in the midst of rapid change and must all take part in the decision-making process.

Your Indian Springs Town Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month. If you haven't seen our town hall this month would be a great time to visit. It's not often that our meeting room is filled with Villagers. We will be discussing firearms, usage of our town hall and picnic pavilion, flood insurance, Bishop Creek contamination, annexations and any other matters that are brought before the council. It's a good place to inform and to be informed. The mayor and folks on the council are your neighbors and equally concerned citizens.

The very best of the holiday season and a healthy, happy new year!

Change in Holiday Home Tour

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The home belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dennis (Sharon), 795 Valley View Road, will be included on the Holiday Tour of Homes in Indian Springs, December 14-15. The Dennis residence replaces that of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Folmar (Debra), 3094 Cahaba Valley Road, who withdrew from the tour because of illness of his parents, who are being cared for in their home.

Other homes to be toured are those of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry McWilliams (Sherry), 325 Indian Trail; Mr. and Mrs. Derrell Chamblee (Cheryl), 925 Valley View Road; and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Slaughter (Betty), 2723 Cahaba Valley Road. Debra Folmar sends her gratitude to the Dennises for their generosity in agreeing, on short notice, to open their home for the tour. Villagers sympathize with the Folmars while they care for sick members of the household.

North Shelby County Library, which will benefit from this tour sponsored by the Friends of the Library organization, is soon to be more accessible to Villagers. A large sign now marks the site of the new building to be erected on the former Finch property near Oak Mountain elementary and middle schools.

According to reports, ticket sales for the tour are brisk. In Indian Springs tickets may be purchased at Neil's Pharmacy, Carousel Tack Shoppe, and Indian Springs Hairstyles. The cost is \$12 per ticket in advance and \$15 at the shuttle location on each day of the tour, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Saturday and 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Sunday. The parking lot may be utilized and shuttle service will originate at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints on Highway 119. The church is also permitting use of the building's foyer, where Russian tea will be served during tour hours.

Evelyn Smykla and Maleah Barton, Co-Chairmen of the Holiday Tour of Homes, convey their thanks for the "wonderful spirit of the people of Indian Springs in their support of this project." The owners of the homes to be toured have been so gracious; many citizens have volunteered as hostesses, van drivers, ticket sellers, and in other capacities. They believe all is in readiness for what is hoped will be a very successful venture. The spirit of our citizens is also demonstrated by the many homes and lawns already decorated for the season, adding to the festivity of the forthcoming Holiday Tour and the beauty of the village.

Better Late Than Never

By Patricia Crape, Town Council Place # 2

Think back ... way back. Remember when you were a small child, the wonder of Christmas with enchanting thoughts of Santa bringing all your wishes and dreams down the chimney. Remember waking up, the cool, crisp morning still too dark for you to see fully what had been left for you under the tree, but light enough to see the magical outline of carefully placed presents. Remember how your feet just could not move fast enough for you to get to your parents' bedroom to show them your wonderful new toys.

If you can truly remember the feeling of amazement and wonder that you felt as a child, then the thoughts of children who will not experience this feeling will make you sad indeed. If you have never had the experience of an empty tree on Christmas morning, consider yourself lucky. I remember one Christmas when my mother wrapped empty boxes to go under our tree so our neighbors would not know that we could not afford to celebrate Christmas that year. I was old enough to know the reality of Christmas, but nonetheless, it was a feeling never to be forgotten. If you have not sent your donation to the The ISV Children's Fund please send it now. The old "better late than never" couldn't apply to anything more important than helping to put smiles on the faces of children in need at Christmas and throughout the year.

The fund is growing through the generosity of many Villagers, but I have to say that the list of givers is much shorter this year than in the previous two years. I realize how busy this time of year can be for all of us, and that we prioritize and put off many things that we have to do during the holidays, but, please don't think that you are too late to be a part of some child's special day.

A big "thank you" for generous donations goes to: **Herb and Margie Robins, Quentin and Jackie Johnson, Janet Byars, Kathy Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Inman, Jack and Rita Mendel, Gary and Linda Parker, Clyde and Fay Wood, Harold and Dorothy Tate, James and Barbara Wood, Crawford and Betty Jinks, Ed and Ruth Goodwyn, Michael and Carolyn Eike, Art and Jackie Johnson, Marcia Tripp, Alabama Pool Services, as well as Ilene Holmes' company, Holmes Clothier.**

Merry Christmas ... from the children.

Town Council Highlights

November 19, 1996

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 1996 in the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided over the meeting with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley present.

The minutes of the September and October meetings were adopted as corrected. Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported the revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$682.46; insurance rebate, \$463; and road fund, 697.51. The balance in the general fund was \$8,000 and the balance in the road fund was \$44,021.

Mayor Weingarten presented an ordinance to the council for the establishment of the order of procedures for all town council meetings, as required by the State of Alabama. The ordinance was adopted unanimously by the council.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt presented two petitions for annexation by contiguous property owners: Logan and Karen Cook, 527 Caldwell Mill Circle, and Steven and Georgia Medori, 605 Miller Circle. The council voted unanimously to waive the rules to allow for a vote on the petitions, which were adopted unanimously.

Mayor Weingarten announced that all council persons would continue their responsibilities and duties as previously designated per each one's expertise. Councilman Herb Robins will be in charge of Roads and Maintenance; Councilwoman Patricia Crapet, Communications and Community Relations; Councilman Gary Dennis, Public Services; Councilman Art Johnson, Parks, Recreation, and Environmental Services; and Councilman Stewart Dudley, Finance.

Mayor Weingarten made several appointments and announced several positions on committees: Town Clerk, Paul Stephens; Assistant Town Clerk, Jim Wyatt; Finance Committee will be the mayor, Councilman Stewart Dudley, and Town Clerk Paul Stephens.

Appointed to the Indian Springs Village Zoning and Planning Board are; Onnie Dickerson, Chairman; members Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Fred Lewis, Harry Little, Mike Rutherford, Michael Bruno, Mike Webb, Kevin Miller, Rita Mendel, and Chief Michael O'Connor of the North Shelby County Fire and Emergency Medical District as

ex-officio. The Zoning Board of Adjustments are: Russ Allison, Chairman, three years; Bruce Monical, two years; Ralph Bodie, two years; Gerald Templeton, one year; and Benton Baker, one year.

Mayor Weingarten presented a list of proposed rules for the use of the town hall and picnic pavilion. The council will discuss and perfect the list as necessary at the December meeting.

Mayor Weingarten and the council discussed the possibility of an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms within the town limits. This issue has been brought up several times since our town's incorporation, but has not been actively pursued due to the difficulty in implementation of such an ordinance. According to law, cities do not have the power to regulate firearms. That power is reserved for state and federal government entities. Mayor Weingarten and town attorney, Hub Harrington, will research this issue and discuss the matter with local law enforcement officials.

December Meeting Reminder

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

The December meeting of the Indian Springs Village Town Council will once again feature holiday treats and refreshments freshly made by the Village's expert cake, cookie, and pastry bakers. Please attend the meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. The meeting will be followed by a festive and warm holiday party, where you can get to visit with old friends and meet some new ones.

Also present for the meeting and party will be state Senator Bill Armistead, who has a little something special to present to two special Villagers.

**Reward
\$1,000**

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

A Letter to the Editor

Your readers need to know more about The Shelby County Historical Society, formed in 1974. There are so many new families in the county we do not feel know about our existence. Our first project culminated in 1974 with the old 1854 Courthouse in Columbiana being designated a historic landmark by the National Register of Historic Places. Our archives and museum are housed in this grand old structure.

Our hours are those of the "new" courthouse as our archives are a depository for some of the earliest probate records. An average of 1,000 historians and genealogists, both local and national, come here to research, and each year the numbers are increasing. Being one of the earliest counties formed in the state we have been a stop along the way for many families before they migrated further south and west.

Our functions depend on contributions. We receive some monies from the state and county. These do not cover routine expenses and leave nothing for having a computer or a much needed typewriter. Contributions from individuals, businesses or large corporations to our tax-exempt organization should be helpful to them at this time. It certainly would help us continue our functions.

Sincerely,
Tom O. Caldwell, M.D.
Secretary

Editor's Notes: Dr. Caldwell has announced the time of the next quarterly meeting of the Shelby County Historical Society as February 3, 1997. Due to the decease of their newly-elected president, Charles Butler, the Society must decide on a new leader for the forthcoming year.

Other officers are Nancy Butler, wife of the deceased, 1st Vice-President; Nell Fulton, 2nd Vice-President; Madine Evans, 3rd Vice-President; Dr. Caldwell, Recording Secretary; Edna McGailliard, Corresponding Secretary; Earl Evans, Treasurer; and Dr. James Lee, Historian.

New members of the Board of Directors include Johnny L. Lowe, Ronald L. Simmons, Judge Patricia Fuhrmeister, Dr. H. Rondel Rumburg, Kim Price, David

Nolen, Felicia McLaughlin, Dr. Caldwell, Les Lewis, and Alex Dudchock, ex-officio.

Plans for the coming year include developing a brochure about the multiple tourist attractions in our county. The Shelby Iron Works at Shelby, the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum at Calera, Confederate Cemetery at Shelby Springs, the Confederate Forts at Wilsonville, the Smith-Harrison Museum at Columbiana, the old 1854 Courthouse, which is now the Archives and Museum building, and possibly other sites of historical interest will be included. These brochures will be placed in rest stops at the Alabama state lines. The Society has also discussed the possibility of planned bus tours to these sites in an attempt to increase tourism in our area.

Dr. Caldwell mentioned the average of 1,000 historians and genealogists who visit the Archives and Museum in Columbiana. Your editor can attest to its use. The day I delivered a bound volume of the first five years of *The Village Voice* to Mrs. Madine Evans, several researchers were busily investigating records in this very interesting treasure house of information

Anyone interested in joining the Shelby County Historical Society may call Mrs. Evans, 669-3912, for an application.

What's in a Name?

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor and Village Historian

"Indian Springs" may evoke a mental vision of Indians encamped beside the spring-fed lake on the grounds of Indian Springs School. This has been assumed by many to be the origin of our community's name. But that is not the case, according to Clyde Buzzard of Pelham, who is currently authoring a history of the school where has taught English and graphic arts. He pointed out that there are several springs on the school grounds.

Actually, the local writer said, the land where Indian Springs School is located was once known as Highland Springs. There was at one time in the vicinity an old school house called Highland Springs School. A land speculator, C. E. (Charlie) Leonard, changed the name to Indian Springs. Another realtor sold the land in 1930 for the Indian Springs School, which opened much later.

Village Personals

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

Because of space constraints the past couple of months, we are playing a little "catch-up" on our village personals.

In Sympathy

The village extends deepest sympathy to Mark and Lisa Bond of Mountain Park Circle upon the death of Mark's father, Bill Bond, age 62. Mr. Bond passed away on December 4, 1996. Services were held at Asbury Methodist Church on December 7. Mr. Bond is also survived by sons David and Joe, and daughter, Cindy, all of Birmingham.

Sincere sympathy is also extended to Roy and Patty Connell of Valley View Road upon the passing of Patty's father, Lloyd Williams, age 75. Mr. Williams, a native of Clanton, passed away on November 6. Survivors also include wife, Francis Williams, and daughters Gail Porter, Thorsby, and Jan Mims, Clanton.

Welcome Newcomers

A very warm welcome is extended to Stephen and Pat Zerkis, who are now making 5300 Mountain Park Drive their home. The Zerkises came to the village from Northbrook, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. Stephen is employed by Walker Drug Company, while Pat runs the show at home, enjoying the challenge of redecorating the house and sprucing up the yard. They have a son who has recently graduated from Purdue and is working for Motorola Corporation as a systems engineer, and a daughter who is a junior at Cornell College in Iowa. Both Stephen and Pat enjoy golf and walking. They love the beauty of the ISV area and hope soon to become involved in town activities.

Once they heard from their daughter, Becky Miller, an ISV resident, how great it is to live in Indian Springs Village, Hugh and Frances Williamson couldn't wait to experience village life themselves. The Williamsons came to ISV from the Roebuck area. Hugh is retired from Southern Company Services and Frances is retired from teaching at Briarwood. Most of their time away from home is spent doing volunteer work at their church. The Williamsons now call 1801 Skyline Drive home, the same street that daughter Becky's family lives on. Hugh says that both he and Frances are thrilled to be residents of Indian Springs Village.

Accolades

Anyone driving on the southern end of Indian Crest Drive where it runs into Arrowhead Lane owes a debt of gratitude to Paul Stephens for continuing to clean up this area. Formerly strewn with rotting timber and choked with weeds, the vacant lot was cleared by Paul, with the help of Pat Tamburello and Bart Trammel, exhibiting the spirit of voluntaryism so prevalent in the village.

Another volunteer to be commended is Kay Krininger of Mountain Park Circle. Kay is a new courier for *The Village Voice*. Kay, with the occasional help of husband Keith, deliver Mountain Park Drive, Mountain Park Circle, and Skyline Circle. Kay takes over for Lisa Bond, who did an excellent job this past year delivering the newsletter. Thank you all for your dedication to ISV.

New Baby Villager

David and Sondra Miller of Caldwell Mill Lane are the proud parents of Laurel Rae, born on November 11 at Brookwood Medical Center. Laurel made her appearance at 7 pounds and 4 ounces, and a length of 20 1/2 inches. Laurel is welcomed to the Miller family by her brother, Ryan David, age 4. Ryan is excited about his new sister, and enjoys holding her for mom, but wants Laurel to start talking right now! Laurel has grandparents who live in Chelsea and a grandmother who lives in Pittsburgh.

Craft Show a Big Hit

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

If you missed the first ISV Gifts, Arts, and Crafts Show, there is no one to blame but yourself! The weather was gorgeous, the atmosphere was festive, the refreshments were delicious, and the hospitality was gracious. The Town Hall was completely filled, jam packed, with beautiful, delightful, delicious, and unique items.

Many displaying their talents, and their wares, were Villagers who were participating in what hopes to become another annual event for ISV. In fact, plans are in the works for both a spring and holiday show. Our thanks go to all participants, including Villagers Betty Grady, Dennie Girardeau, Donna Grant, Kay Krininger, Debra McLauren, Mildred Wyatt, Julie and Rusty Schenk, Mary Montalbano, Bee Little, and Michael Crapet.

A very special thanks to Donna Grant, who organized the event with very short notice. Donna did an excellent job booking all vendors, organizing refreshments, meeting vendors to set up, putting out fliers, and arranging for the banner, just to name a few things. Thanks again, Donna, for all your help.

Next Recycling Is December 18

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

Mark your calendars! The last aluminum can collection before Christmas is Wednesday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. If you have had recycling in your basement since July, this is the last opportunity to tidy up before your Christmas guests start arriving for the holidays. For easy identification of your recycling by our volunteers, please place your bagged aluminum cans near your driveway, but on the other side of your driveway from your normal Waste-Away garbage pickup. Please use blue recycling, white or clear plastic bags with the tops tied with a knot. If you have to use dark colored bags, please tape a white piece of paper with "ISV" written in large letters on at least one of the bags.

I would like to give a warm welcome to newest members of our recycling team, Cappy Potter and the Weems family. Bill Weems, wife Patty, and daughter, Ashley, manned one of our four trucks in November. The Weems and Cappy Potter joined volunteers Tom Adkison, Sharon Durbin, Margie and Herb Robins, and Jackie and Art Johnson. Last month's collection was 304 pounds of aluminum. A superb effort, and thank you to all the recycling participants. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

I want to wish each person in Indian Springs Village a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your participation during 1996.

Next Litter Walk Is December 21

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

We would like to give a warm welcome to another newcomer and to the newest member of our Adopt-a-Mile team, Anita Pressley. Anita joined Jim Boyett and Art Johnson to quickly restore the beauty of Highway 119. Once again Darlene and Jerry Vines with their black Labrador were spotted cleaning up the eastern reaches of Indian Crest Drive.

If you would like to help maintain an "uncluttered," litter-free atmosphere, please join us at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Cahaba Valley Road on December 21, at 8:30 a.m. Call me at 988-3217 if you have any questions. If you cannot attend please take a few minutes and remove any litter that is on or near your property. With the Holiday Tour of Homes being in ISV this year, let's all make an extra effort to keep our community clean. Let the real beauty of ISV show this holiday season.

Did You Know That ...

Courtesy of Friends of the Buck Creek Watershed

You live in the Buck Creek Watershed. A watershed is an area that drains into a common body of water. Bishop (Cahaba Valley) Creek, Hogpen Creek, and Peavine Creek all drain into Buck Creek. The cities of Helena, Pelham, Alabaster, and Indian Springs Village all reside in this watershed, along with Oak Mountain State Park.

These creeks are seriously threatened by our carelessness. Pollution from runoff is the main threat to our local waters and we are responsible. As the rapid growth continues in North Shelby County, this problem will only grow worse.

There are some things that you can do to help keep this vital watershed clean. (1) Keep fertilizer off paved areas, including sidewalks and driveways, to help prevent rainwater from washing the nutrients into the street and storm drains. (2) Recycle used motor oil, anti-freeze, and batteries by taking them to a service station, discount store, or auto repair facility. (3) Have your septic system inspected and maintained regularly. (4) Spread mulch on bare ground or replant patches to prevent erosion and runoff.

All of these things and more impact our watershed. By working together and being environmentally conscious we can save this vital natural resource from further threats of contamination.

Cookbook Committee Meets

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

Individuals who are interested in the Indian Springs Village Recipe Book met at the town hall on Sunday, November 24, at 3:00 p.m. The organizational committee, which is chaired by Bee Little, has been formed and members are Donna Grant, Margie Robins, Peggy Pitts, Janis Lyman, Tricia Crapet, and Linda Nadler.

Several decisions were made during the meeting including the design and style of the cover, size of print (large, for those of us who need, but don't have, glasses!), and classifications of recipes. Committee members agreed that if the cookbook is to be a success, everyone needs to send in at least one of his or her favorite recipes. Please send your favorite recipes to Bee Little, 867 Valley View Road, ISV.