



Vol. 7, No. 12 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- March 10, 1998

**INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Indian Springs Village Town Hall**

**Tuesday, March 17, 1998 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), or e-mail: rutg@juno.com. Questions about circulation should be addressed to Councilwoman Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (voice mail 802-2753). Managing Editor and chairperson of the cookbook project is Bee Little, 867 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (985-9988). Reporter for the Homestead neighborhood is Bonnie Murphy, 5164 Hollow Log Lane, Birmingham 35244 (991-2535).

*The Village Voice* is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the April 1998 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, April 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 Village Voice* is a vehicle to keep you informed as to the activities in our community. An overview of current events and the people involved is as follows:

Our dedicated park area behind the Town Hall has been measured and staked. Within the next few days, some 99 trees, mostly deciduous, will be planted. A nine-foot walking track will be located within the trees. The track will be built of #8910 crushed limestone. Villager Brian Stauss secured the materials at "the right price." Paul Stephens, Herb Robins, Bart Trammell, Jim Boyett, Gary Dennis, and Willie Grimes have been involved in the total project. Herb booked the trees and labor at "the right price, part two."

Gary Dennis has coordinated a project to build a Web Page on the Internet for our town. Town records such as council minutes, ordinances, zoning information, *The Village Voice*, and other pertinent facts will be instantly available at the keyboard of your computer.

Tricia Crapet has completed the first stage of our lighted flag pole. Still to come will be the planter which will surround the pole, along with some nice landscaping. A commemorative plaque is in hand and will be duly dedicated. Also, plans for our annual Easter Egg Hunt are in full swing.

Stewart Dudley, with assistance from Jim Wyatt, has moved our yearly business license fee billing to his company's computer. The collection of those fees has become a time-consuming and exacting project, as the commercial aspect of ISV continues to grow. Commercial expansion, properly monitored, is a healthy part of our town.

Art Johnson, along with his aluminum can and Adopt-A-Mile projects, has been hard at work on a vital area. Our town will purchase and install one, possibly two, severe weather warning systems. These will be state-of-the-art, with both siren and voice/instruction functions.

Keeping in mind that all of the folks mentioned above are volunteer workers, these projects constitute a very large and important workload. You can participate in any and all of the ISV activities. Come to the council meetings the third Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome.

## Looking Back:

### Indian Springs in the Late 1960's

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

Peaceful, tranquil, and beautiful are the adjectives Mary Alta Kurtts uses to describe Indian Springs in the more pristine state she and her husband, Raymond, found it to be in the 1960's, when he was building Spain Park Nursery on Valleydale Road. The only building between Valleydale and what is now Hoover was the J. R. Roberts Co.

"The air smelled fresh and clean and new--it just smelled like you were out in the woods, and of course you were," she continues in her description. Dogwood trees were in such abundance it looked as though a white cloud had settled at eye level throughout the valley in April. In the evening whippoorwills could be heard and at night the close-by hoots of owls. You could see clearly the constellations. The scene from what is now the Mountain View area was especially rewarding to star-gazers when there was no I-65 or bright lights from the Galleria and Highway 119 between I-65 and Highway 31. Deer, racoons, squirrels, and other animals were plentiful, but deer did not come into the few residents' yards to eat flowers and garden crops as there was plenty of room (and vegetation) for all. Indigo buntings and other birds rarely seen now were very common.

The Kurttses acquired land in 1970 and built their home at 1333 Indian Crest, doing much of the work themselves with the aid of friends and family members. A good friend, a draftsman, drew up the plans according to the Kurttses' design; a brother and brother-in-law were brick masons. The sheetrock work and roofing were contracted out, but otherwise very little work was done by commercial builders. Actually it took three-and-a-half to four years to complete this labor of love as work was done at night and on weekends. The Kurtts family moved in before the house was finished, sleeping on sleeping bags in the family room while painting and staining the interior was being done.

Neighbors were sparse, the closest ones being the Jack Van Pelts who live one-half mile further up Indian Crest Drive. The only store was Ida Bishop's Valley Grocery on 119. Private wells were the only source of water, but the Kurtts family had very good water from a 300-ft. well. The only trouble they ever had with the well was lightning's striking the pump two or three times. With the arrival of water from Pelham and fire protection via the North Shelby County Fire and Emergency Medical District, the area began to grow. By then the Kurttses' next-door neighbors, the Sanders, beginning to feel crowded, moved further south.

A nurse, Mary Alta was working at the Veterans Administration Hospital when she was selected by Dr. John Kirklin,

Chief of Surgery (who had been associated with Mayo Clinic) to organize and manage the Intensive Care Unit at the University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham. With this highly responsible job, Mary Alta was glad to be able to leave her cares at work and return to the peace and tranquility of Indian Springs, particularly when her mother was afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease. Her mother died in 1996. Now retired from University Hospital after 25 years, Mary Alta works part-time at the Kirklin Clinic. Raymond is doing part-time work as a contractor for Blake-Sherrod Construction Co.

The family is still represented at the University of Alabama at Birmingham by two daughters, Kathy and Kristi, who followed their mother's career and also became nurses. Living with Mary Alta and Raymond are three grandchildren, Melinda, now enrolled at UAB, Tiffany, 15, and Ian, 13, who attend Oak Mountain schools.

Over the years many physical changes have occurred in the area, but still "Indian Springs is such a pleasant place because you have folks you can call upon, yet enough privacy that you don't feel hemmed in or trapped," Mary Alta says. She has noted one constant: the caring residents have for the environment, enough to incorporate our town in the interest of preserving our valley. She has been so impressed with the fact that the newcomers moving in seem to have the same values as those who came earlier--all wanting to protect the specialness of our area.

## OMES Registration April 9-10; Class Rankings

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

Registration for kindergarten and new students for the 1998-99 school year will be held on April 9 from 12:00 - 7:00 p.m. and April 10 from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Oak Mountain Elementary School. All students should be registered or re-registered before the end of May. This is very important as the Shelby County Board of Education allots teacher units and plans classroom space based on the number of expected students.

On the Stanford Achievement Test, 1997, the 3rd grade at OMES ranked 41 out of 764 elementary schools in the state. The 3rd grade was the only class taking the test.

At Oak Mountain Middle School, the SAT rankings were 6th grade, 12 out of 591 schools; 7th grade, 12 out of 490 schools; and 8th grade, 6 out of 490.

At the intermediate level, rankings of classes were not available in comparison with those of other schools in Alabama. OMIS reports that the 4th grade scored 80 and the 5th grade 82; both scores are A's. These scores & rankings are indicative of a high level of achievement at our local schools.

# Town Council Highlights

## February 17, 1998

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place # 2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, February 17, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. The meeting was presided over by Mayor Gene Weingarten, with Councilpersons Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, Herb Robins, Gary Dennis, and Stewart Dudley in attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$733.80; building permits, \$410; donations to *The Village Voice*, \$100; and road fund, \$769.72. Yearly receipts for utility taxes were: Alabama Power Company, \$48,164.86; Alabama Gas, \$13,844.74; Pelham Water, \$5,490.81; Marcus Cable, \$1,582.68, and Shelby Cable, \$3,709.29. After yearly payments of \$15,000 on the mortgage note for the town hall, \$2,400 for monitoring of stormwater runoff into Bishop Creek, and \$2,000 for the town audit, the balance in the general fund account was \$89,298, with the road fund being \$69,751.68. There was also a reimbursement of \$2,500 for an overpayment from Shelby County to the town on a building permit. A new account was opened, as required by law, to deposit the \$5,182.94 which was received from the state of Alabama for our pro-rata share of the trust fund from operations of off-shore oil rigs. This money can only be used for capital improvements or roads and cannot be co-mingled with other town revenues.

Gerald Templeton, newly-appointed Chairman of the ISV Zoning and Planning Board, announced that the hearing on February 10 for applicants wishing to either rezone or subdivide their properties had resulted in unanimous recommendations by the board in favor of the applicants' requests. The approvals were based on preliminary plats submitted by the applicants. The parcels in question are 64 acres on Highway 14 owned by the Raughley family to be rezoned and subdivided into several large acreage parcels, and three acres, lot 15 of Indian Crest Estates, owned by Robert Grant, who wishes to subdivide into two parcels of approximately 1.5 acres each. A hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the ISV Town Hall to review final plats for final approvals. After review of the two parcels in question, the council voted to approve the preliminary plats.

Councilman Gary Dennis announced that the layout for our town's web site is progressing and should be available soon. When available, the site can be accessed through [www.4.mantissa.com](http://www.4.mantissa.com) on the World Wide Web. Items to be available on the web site will be copies of previous minutes, past issues of *The Village Voice*, ordinances, photos, and other information about the town.

Councilman Art Johnson announced that testing had begun to identify the best locations for the two new weather alert sirens to be installed in our town. Thus far, the two suggested locations are Caldwell Mill at Valleydale Road and by Heardmont Farms for close proximity to shopping areas and schools. Councilman Johnson is looking into the possibility that there may be some grant money available to help pay some of the expense, which could cost up to \$10,000 per siren.

Councilman Herb Robins announced that the town had ordered 99 trees and nine azaleas at a cost of \$2,886, including the labor for planting. This is a substantial savings to the town over any other bids received from local landscapers, which ranged from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for basically the same service. The walking track will cost \$2,000, also a substantial savings thanks to a donation of the crushed limestone from Vulcan Materials.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt presented a petition for annexation of contiguous property owners Gordon and Connie Scott of 230 New Hope Mountain Road. After a unanimous vote to suspend the rules, the petition was adopted unanimously by the council.

Mayor Weingarten announced the names of the newly-appointed ISV Zoning and Planning Board. Serving on the board are: Chairman, Gerald Templeton, Secretary, Onnie Dickerson, and members Harry Little, Jane Martin, Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Kevin Miller, Brian Stauss; the mayor's designee, Bart Trammell; and council representative, Stewart Dudley.

## ISS to Hold Annual Event

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Indian Springs School is already preparing for the annual Alumni Day and Pop-Out Fair on May 16. A nearly-new book sale will be held that day, and the Parents Association is seeking donations. Needed are nearly-new books for all interests and ages - no used textbooks or magazines, please. Books may be turned in to the library between 8:00 - 4:00. Instructions will be at the front desk for leaving books before or after these daytime hours, as well as tax deductible forms.

## Help Wanted-Egg Stuffers Needed

It's almost here! ISV is in need of volunteers to stuff plastic eggs with little toys for our town's children to find at ISV's Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The date of the hunt is Saturday, April 11, (see inserted flyer) but the stuffing needs to start early. Stuffing dates are Tuesday, March 24, Thursday, March 26, and Saturdays, March 28 and April 4. Meet at the ISV Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. each day. Any and all help is welcome, and **no experience is necessary**. This event relies totally on volunteer participation in preparation for ISV's favorite event for little ones. If any villager has an appropriate prize that they wish to donate, please call Bee Little (985-9988) or Tricia Crapet (802-2753).

## Sen. Armistead to Host Gathering

Senator Bill Armistead will host an "old-fashioned Sunday gathering" on Sunday, March 15, from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Pelham National Guard Armory on Yeager Parkway off Highway 31 in Pelham. Senator Armistead stated that the event is to "show appreciation to those who have supported" his tenure as state senator. There will be free BBQ chicken lunches and special entertainment during the day. Special guests will be U. S. Representative Spencer Bachus, U. S. Representative Bob Riley, Secretary of State Jim Bennett, State Auditor Pat Duncan, Agriculture Commissioner Jack Thompson and Hank Irwin, host of WDJC's "93 Live." For more information, please call 933-2056

***Fifth Annual  
Indian Springs Village  
EASTER EGG HUNT***

***Saturday, April 11, 1998***

***3:00 p.m..***

*(Rain date: Easter Sunday, April 12, 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.**

***2,000 Easter eggs to be hidden!***  
***Bring your own basket.***



**\$200 in Cash prizes**

**plus**



**hundreds of eggs stuffed with candy and surprises!**

**Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the festivities!**

# Recycling Is March 18

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

The next aluminum can recycling collection is Wednesday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. We are moving the start time up 30 minutes. Some of our busy volunteers had trouble completing their routes in time to meet other commitments. Please try and get your recycling out by 7:00 p.m. Also, please use white, blue recycling or clear plastic bags (plastic grocery bags are acceptable) and secure the top of each bag with a knot, and then place your recycling on the opposite side of the driveway from the Waste Management trash pickup.

In February our volunteers were Bill and Patti Weems along with their daughter Ashley, Margie and Herb Robins with lots of assistance from their red dachshund Lucy, Tom Adkison, Gary Dennis, and Art and Jackie Johnson.

Aluminum cans continue to be the most valuable recyclable. In 1996, the industry paid out approximately \$1.08 billion to recyclers for 1,969 billion pounds of used aluminum beverage cans. The U.S. aluminum beverage can recycling rate in 1996 increased to 63.5 percent, up 1.3 percent from the 1995 rate of 62.2 percent. Overall, the industry produced 99 billion cans in 1996, of which 62.8 billion were returned for recycling.

Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead. If you have any questions about recycling, please call Art Johnson at 988-3217.

## Village Personals

By Patricia Crapet and Bonnie Murphy

### New Arrival

Congratulations are in order to Robert and Lorene Cerfolio of 260 Cahaba Oaks Trail in the birth of their son, Matthew Cole, on November 18, 1997. Matthew was born at UAB Hospital weighing seven pounds, three ounces, with a length of 20 inches. Matthew has two older brothers, Robby, age five, and Alec, age three.

### Accolades

Congratulations to April Smith, daughter of Steve and Joyce Smith, who was selected as the Outstanding Female Choral Student from AVA District 3, consisting of all schools in Shelby, Jefferson, and Walker counties. Her solo selection, "Deh Vieni Non Tardar" from *The Marriage of Figaro*, by Mozart, was judged by an impartial panel of choral administrators and collegiate educators. Other areas of adjudication included a resume, an essay, letters of recommendation, and an interview.

April will represent District 3 at the State Competition for Outstanding Choral Student held in conjunction with the All-State Chorus in March. She is a voice student of Dr. P. Bradley Logan, Pelham High School Choral Director.

April is a junior at Pelham High School and resides in Homestead with her family at 5160 Hollow Log Lane. We congratulate her and wish her success in the upcoming competition.

## In Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to Cruce and Frank Cicio upon the passing of Cruce's mother, Josephine Lobue Tomburello, 87, on March 2, after a long illness. Mrs. Tomburello lived with her daughter Cruce and family at 114 Valley View Lane for many years. She was a member of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church and served as a volunteer with the Red Cross and University Hospital as an interpreter. She is also survived by another daughter, Concetta Carruba, of Fort Walton, Florida; a son, Vincent J. Tomburello of San Diego, California; as well as five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

## Heritage Book to Be Discussed

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

At the Shelby County Heritage Book Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, the types of topical subjects to prepare for publication in *The Heritage of Shelby County, Alabama*, will be discussed. All interested persons are invited to attend this meeting at the Mildred B. Harrison Library, Columbiana, or to submit suggestions to the Book Committee. Subsequent meetings will be held the first Thursday of each month at the same time and location.

The hardbound *Heritage* book for Shelby County (Volume 58) to be published this summer will be a unique collection of topical and family sketches which will serve as a research tool for historians and genealogists and will preserve the history of the county by records never before published. In the *Heritage* series each county in Alabama will have its own volume with index, and the 68th volume will have a compiled state index.

All residents, former residents, and those with roots in Shelby County have been invited to submit a family household history of 500 words and one photograph. The history of an ancestor here before 1890 can be submitted as a 1,000 word article with two pictures. The articles and pictures will be published free. The Book Committee has extended the deadline for family histories until April 30.

The first part of the book will be devoted to the history and development of Shelby County, but the bulk of the book will be by and about families, their heritage and contributions to Shelby County. The Book Committee has received numerous histories from persons who have roots in the county and now invites participation in developing plans for the topicals, which basically may be the history of businesses, schools, and churches, and important happenings or special events in the county. Maximum wordage for topical articles is 250.

Questions about entries and ordering one of these books can be answered by Ruby Payne, Family Chair (669-6075) or by John Walker, Committee Chair (822-0591), who can send you directions concerning the types of information to be included, with examples. Articles and pictures are to be mailed to the Shelby County Heritage Book Committee, P. O. Box 515, Columbiana, AL 35051. The deadline is May 31 for pre-ordering the 9" x 12" hardbound, limited-first-edition of *The Heritage of Shelby County, Alabama*.