



The Village Voice

Vol. 7, No. 8 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- November 11, 1997

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

As we proceed through the golden-leaves month of November, a most important day awaits us. A holiday yes, but is Thanksgiving Day just a holiday? As Americans, the reasons for which we should remember to be thankful are too numerous to be listed in this article. One of the most significant pieces ever to be written reflecting profound thanks was composed by American poet Emma Lazarus. It is inscribed on a bronze plaque placed on an interior wall of the Statue of Liberty. This poem, entitled "The New Colossus," is reproduced for your reflection.

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Comments From the Council

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

With the fast-approaching Christmas season comes the time for one of ISV's most worthwhile projects, the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund (ISVCF), to kick in again. Villagers' donations to the ISVCF provide gifts and food to needy families who have children in our Oak Mountain schools. Yes, believe it or not, there are several local families who lack the resources to provide some of the barest of necessities for themselves and their children, much less to be able to provide the items that bring smiles to all children on Christmas morning. The thought of having any child not experience this annual visit from Santa should be more than any of us can stand.

I have contacted Mary Veal, counselor at Oak Mountain Elementary, who is sending ISV a list of approximately 14 children from needy families for whom our Village is taking responsibility this year. I know in the days ahead, my mailbox will be full of your checks made payable to the ISV Children's Fund so that the dreams of these children will be fulfilled. Mail your check to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL, 35124.

And a thank you, in advance, from the children.

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Tuesday, November 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), 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 Dec. 1997 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, December 9. 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:

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Fire Safety Stressed by NSFD

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

National Fire Prevention Week, October 6-10--the whole month of October--was an exceptionally busy time for all 26 personnel of the North Shelby County Fire and Emergency Medical District in emphasizing fire hazards and preventative measures to teachers, school children, senior citizens and others in the fire district.

The "Smoke House," a trailer that easily can be transported from site to site but requires fire department personnel to make going inside it meaningful and educational, was the focus during the first full week of October at Oak Mountain Intermediate School (OMIS). This facility put the children, who went through it in groups of 10, in "fire house conditions," Fire Chief Michael O'Connor explained.

Once inside the Smoke House, students are greeted with cold smoke distributed by a generator. A heating element heats an outer door, which is used to demonstrate the whats and what-nots to do in case of fire. In an actual fire, what should you do when you press to open a door and find the door is hot? What avenues of escape do you pursue? Three fire fighters are there in full gear to familiarize students with what well-equipped fire fighters looks like and to help overcome their fears of what may to them look like creatures from outer space or monsters from Halloween. The fire fighters also coach them in identifying the 14 fire hazards present in the Smoke House.

The Smoke House trailer is owned by the Shelby County Board of Education and can be scheduled in conjunction with a local fire department by calling 669-5600.

Almost the entire month of October NSFD personnel went to public and private schools and day care centers to conduct Smoke House tours, show videos on fire safety, and ensure that proper procedures were observed during fire and tornado drills.

With the winter season here and holidays approaching, Chief O'Connor supplied these fire-prevention measures for citizens to follow:

-Have your heating system checked and serviced to make sure it's working properly. Fire District personnel will check it for you, but it's up to each homeowner to have it serviced.

-Have your chimneys cleaned on a regular basis to prevent creosote buildup inside.

-Change batteries in your fire detection systems twice a year--each time you change clocks for Daylight Savings and to go back to regular time.

-Keep your Christmas tree, live or cut, watered. Dry trees can literally explode in flames.

-Keep flammables such as candles (which always should be handled carefully) away from the tree, and keep the tree away from the fireplace.

-Do not put wrapping paper, ribbons and bows, or cardboard boxes in the fireplace to burn. The Fire Chief explained that the coloring in these products puts out poisonous gases that not only cause headaches but also may cause chimney fires.

-When cleaning out a fireplace, don't put the ashes in a combustible container such as a paper or plastic bag. Put in a closed metal container, preferably one used only for fireplace ashes. Ashes and coals may stay hot for 72 hours. To be on the safe side, store the closed metal container of ashes outside in a safe place (not on the wooden deck) and dump it out one week later.

A large percentage of structural fires in NSFD are caused by failure to observe one or more of the above measures, Chief O'Connor said. Following these rules will help you to enjoy a safe winter season.

Heardmont to Be Discussed

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

At a November 17 meeting of the Shelby County Planning Commission preliminary development plans will be discussed concerning Heardmont Farms on Cahaba Valley Road. The planning board meeting will begin at 7:00 p. m. in the County Administrative Building, Columbiana, and is open to the public.

Heardmont Farms comprises 73 acres. It is a joint acquisition of the Shelby County Commission and the Shelby County Board of Education for a multi-use park. It is proposed to include the future Oak Mountain High School football stadium and athletic fields for soccer and baseball, as well as walking trails and picnic areas, all of which will need to be built through private funding.

Call for Motorcyclists

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Indian Springs residents who are motorcycle enthusiasts are invited to meet together by Sam L. Brown of 180 Deer Mountain Circle. Sam would like to become acquainted with neighbors who share his enthusiasm for this hobby and perhaps would like to participate in organized rides. Interested persons should call Sam at 985-2845, his daytime phone number, and give a preference as to time, date, and place for the first meeting.

Town Council Highlights

October 21, 1997

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2

The Seventh Annual Indian Springs Village Founders' Day Celebration began at 5:30 p.m. with the usual delightful fare of hamburgers and hot dogs cooked and served by our own Pothole Crew. Paul Stephens, Jim Boyett, and Bart Trammell spent days preparing for the annual event, which showcased some of the town's best cooks who came to the picnic pavilion laden with delicious desserts they had prepared to share with friends, neighbors, and relatives.

The Town Council meeting began promptly at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Gene Weingarten presiding and council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley present.

The council unanimously agreed to accept a petition by Daniel Kremer for annexation of contiguous property at the corner of Star Trek and Old Post Road.

Historical Society Elects Officers

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Ken Penhale of Helena is the new president of the Shelby County Historical Society, having been elected at the fall meeting, November 2, at the Archives and Museum Building, Columbiana.

Other new officers are David Nolen, 1st vice president; Nell Fulton, 2nd vice president; Madine Evans, 3rd vice president; Dr. Tom O. Caldwell, recording secretary; Edna McGalliard, corresponding secretary; Earl Evans, treasurer; and Dr. James Lee, historian.

Members of the Board of Directors are Nancy Butler, Dr. Tom O. Caldwell, Johnny L. Lowe, Kim Price, Judge Patricia Fuhmeister, David Nolen, Ronald L. Simmons, the Rev. Dr. H. Rondel Rumburg, and Sara Erwin.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to Rep. Mike Hill and Sen. Bill Armistead for their interest and support of the society. The mission of the society is to promulgate the history of Shelby County and to insure the preservation of our heritage for posterity. The society's *Quarterly* offers each member an opportunity to have published items of local, historical, and genealogical interest.

Grand Prize for Home Tour

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The grand prize for the drawing in connection with the Holiday Tour of Homes '97 to benefit the North Shelby County Library will be two round-trip tickets donated by Southwest Airlines to any destination in the U.S.A where Southwest flies.

When you buy your ticket at Neil's Pharmacy or the NSC Library, fill out the back with your name, address, and phone number. Deposit the filled-out ticket in the designated place at the last of the four Brook Highland homes toured on December 6 or 7. If for some reason you purchase a home tour ticket and find you cannot participate, either mail or hand carry it to the NSC Library, 7030 Meadowlark Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242. The library is located behind Wal-Mart near Lloyd's Restaurant, Highway 280 S. The drawing will be held two weeks after the home tour to assure that every ticket buyer has an equal chance at winning.

Tickets are \$12.00 in advance and \$15.00 the day the tour begins, Saturday, Dec. 6. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday and 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7. The tour has been extended one hour each day, as holiday decorations show more prominently after dark. The last van will leave at 5:00 both days.

The homes in Brook Highland and their owners are the following: Bill and Connie Mills, 3192 Bradford Place; James and Mary Nell Terry, 6024 Brookhill Circle; Clint and Sandee Janecek, 6088 Brookhill Circle; and Tony and Robin Snable, 6096 Brookhill Circle.

Vans carrying participants in the home tour will leave from the Meadow Brook branch of the National Bank of Commerce (NBC). The bank will also be the site of the Friday night preview party for those serving as hostesses at the four homes. Meleah Barton chairs the home tour committee for the third year. Anyone wishing to participate as a hostess, van driver, or in any other capacity, may call her at 991-7933 and leave a message.

Watch for a presentation on the home tour on *Good Day Alabama* (FOX 6) on Monday, December 1, and pictures and articles in local newspapers.

All proceeds from the home tour, sponsored by the Friends of the NSC Library, will be donated to the library, currently conducting a fund-raising campaign to build a 22,750 sq. ft. facility on a new site fronting Highway 119, less than a half-mile south of Oak Mountain Middle and Elementary schools.

Village Personals

Compiled by Ruth Goodwyn and Patricia Crape

Where Are the Children?

Stephen Bennett, 19, son of Eleanor Bennett, 2620 Cahaba Valley Road, is now a freshman at Georgia Institute of Technology. A May 1997 graduate of Briarwood Christian High School, he is attending college on a National Merit Scholarship that he earned in high school. He is studying computer engineering.

In Sympathy

Villagers extend heartfelt sympathy to our Mayor, Gene Weingarten, upon the death of his father, Sam Weingarten, of Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Weingarten, 93, died on Sunday, November 9, after having been confined to a nursing home during a lengthy illness. Mr. Weingarten was a retail merchant, having owned a men's clothing store before retirement. Other survivors include a daughter, Carol, and son, Melvin. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gene and his wife, Olivia, as they journey to Atlanta for the funeral, held Tuesday, November 11.

Playground Equipment Ordered

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

After football season a date will be set for the installation of the new playground equipment on order, along with ground cover, at Oak Mountain Elementary School. A flyer will be sent to OMES parents in November giving the date. Randy Cole, Shelby County Highway Engineer, is heading the installation crew. Please call him at 995-9344 or call the school office, 980-3630, to volunteer to work that day.

Indian Springs Village and 32 other businesses and individuals made donations to this project, requiring \$30,000 - \$35,000 to upgrade and equip the school's playground, including state-of-the-art equipment for accessibility by handicapped children.

Team Shares Championship

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Congratulations to the Oak Mountain Middle School football team for earning a share of the Metro South seventh grade championship. OMMS, Berry, and Simmons middle schools each had a 7-1 record this season; OMMS lost only to Mountain Brook. Coach Frank Parker led the team to the Metro league in the team's 5th year of existence.

Four Receive Eagle Award

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Four Boy Scouts from Shelby District Troop 71 were awarded the Eagle rank at a Court of Honor held October 6 at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church. The Eagle rank, the highest rank awarded in scouting, is obtained by only three percent of all boys entering the Boy Scout program.

The four Eagle award recipients are the following: Anthony Cesario (Chelsea High School), son of Tim and Dianne Cesario; Jeffrey Giroux (John Carroll High School), son of Raymond and Elaine Giroux; Gregory Otto (John Carroll), son of David and Patricia Otto; and Jeffrey Pino (John Carroll), son of Jim and Elizabeth Pino. All are residents of the North Shelby area and members of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, the sponsoring organization of Troop 71. Their Scoutmaster is Mickey Wade of Indian Springs Village.

The path to this prestigious honor is a long and difficult one, requiring an extraordinary amount of dedication, determination, and discipline. The achievement of the Eagle rank not only demonstrates these young men's commitment to scouting, but also exhibits their concern for their community and nation. To complete their Eagle requirements, each young man had to plan and carry out a significant service project (approximately 100 hours of combined service of all participants) of benefit to their community. Villagers congratulate them on their advancement to Eagle rank, an important milestone in their lives.

Armistead, Hill Are Honored

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Sen. Bill Armistead, Columbiana, recognized as a leader in proposing legislation to better protect children from abuse, has been named as one of Alabama's Outstanding Children's Advocates for 1997 by the Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. His untiring efforts to give issues of children's justice, education, and welfare top priority and to assure that they receive consideration at the highest levels of government were noted. Senator Armistead represents District 14, Shelby, Chilton, and Bibb counties.

Rep. Mike Hill, Columbiana, who represents district 41, Shelby County, was recently given a plaque by the Shelby County and Alabama Education associations in recognition of his commitment to public education employees throughout the state.