



# The Village Voice

Vol. 8, No. 11

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

February 9, 1999

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

You will find an insert in next month's issue of *The Village Voice* listing all our town officials, with their current addresses. These officials have demanding jobs, for which they are well qualified. Their voluntary work must be done within the framework of their regular job, family, church, and the myriad other details of daily life. They have sought office in order to serve their neighbors and communities, frequently at great sacrifice. They are eager to hear from you.

All the officers of Indian Springs Village serve without compensation. This volunteer spirit has been maintained through the best and difficult of times. The percentage of Villagers performing tasks for the town has been relatively small. We need more of our citizens to participate. The following paragraphs list a group of folks who have been active for most of the life of our town--a great many even before the town existed.

**Council member Art Johnson:** Art's area of responsibility includes public health and environment. Art was the organizer for years of our monthly litter walks. He assembles the pick-up crew each month for collection of aluminum cans for recycling.

**Council member Patricia Crapet:** Tricia is public relations and communications director. Production and circulation of our newsletter, *The Village Voice*, the Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July and Founders' Day celebrations are all under her direction, as well as booking of events at the town hall. Tricia is one of three council members who have served in public office since the beginning of the incorporation of our town.

**Council member Stewart Dudley:** Stewart is finance director and business license director. He also directs the yearly billing for business fees and is an original council member presently serving a third term of office.

**Council member Herb Robins:** Herb is director of roads and overall town maintenance. He is the most recent addition to our town council and has become an immediate contributor.

**Council member Gary Dennis:** Gary, also one of our original council members, works in public service and preparation of town records for our web site.

**Town Clerk Paul Stephens:** Paul is our resident accountant, presiding over the ISV financial transactions. He is also a constant worker at keeping the ISV Town Hall grounds up to perfection. (He receives a lot of help from Bart Trammel and Jim Boyett.)

**Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt:** Jim is responsible for petitions of annexation. He is also active in special projects.

**ISV Town Engineer Marty Martin:** Marty took over this job late in 1998. He is a professional municipal engineer, with responsibility for issuing building permits, zoning applications, maintenance of our computerized lot locations and zoning areas, and communications with Shelby County building permit department/road department.

**Zoning Committee Chairman Gerald Templeton:** This job for Gerry, along with his diligent committee persons, is a monumental undertaking. Our town is experiencing growing pains never envisioned eight years ago. Gerry and his committee have spent countless hours working their way through a huge amount of paper work and monthly public meetings.

**City Attorney and Chairman of Zoning Board of Adjustment Russ Allison:** Russ reviews legal documents, prepares opinions for ISV, and presides over the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

**Village Voice Editor Ruth Goodwyn:** Ruth is the eyes and ears of our town. She is also our official **Historian**. Our monthly newsletter receives accolades from around the country. It is mailed each month to most county officials, several local newspapers, one university, two public libraries and to the Shelby County Museum & Archives.

### INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 1999, 7:00 p.m.

Indian Springs Village Town  
Hall

#### Agenda

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

Indian Springs Village Telephone  
Directory Number is 982-1755

#### 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; e-mail: tcrapet@realtysouth.com; (voice mail 802-2753). Managing Editor is Bee Little, 867 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124 (985-9988). Reporter for 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 Mar. 1999 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Mar. 2. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication, including signed letters to the editor, which will be published if space permits. All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles; 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, RealtySouth, for production

## Activities at Indian Springs School

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Villagers will have the opportunity in February to hear the Indian Springs School Instrumental Ensembles (Feb. 17, 6:00 p.m.) and the Indian Springs Choir performing with the Alabama Youth Symphony at the Indian Springs School Town Hall Concert Hall. During the winter holiday this month the choir will be on tour, performing at schools and churches in Alabama.

On Feb. 28 the school is holding an admissions open house, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the library. After hearing about the school from students and teachers, guests will be invited to stay for the choir performance of Bach with the Alabama Youth Symphony Orchestra, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Call Jennifer Berry in the admissions office for more information. The senior elective class in play production will present one-act plays in the theater on Feb. 20 and 26. There is an admissions charge for the two separate performances, both beginning at 8:00 p.m. Students have selected their scripts, directed the actors, and built the sets. They are eager to share their work with you.

On Tuesday, March 2, the Alabama School of Fine Arts Chamber Players will perform at 9:30 a.m. in the Concert Hall.

## Oak Mountain Schools Reminders

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

### Buy-a-Brick Deadline

March 1 is the deadline for purchasing personally engraved bricks which will line the path leading to the common areas of Oak Mountain High School. Individual bricks for the walkway cost \$50. each; interior bricks, \$100., and they make great gifts for your child, family member, friend, or teacher. Corporate and Community bricks are available for \$350. and \$500. For an order form call the OMHS office at 980-5860 or FAX your order request form to 980-8543.

### Pre-Registration Meetings

The Oak Mountain High School staff will explain procedures of pre-registration, selecting courses for the 1999-2000 year, and answer questions at the pre-registration meeting of those planning to attend OMHS this fall and their parents. Present grade 9 met Feb. 9; present grade 10 will meet at the Oak Mountain Intermediate School cafeteria Feb. 11. Present grade 11 will meet Feb. 15 at Oak Mountain Middle School cafeteria. All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

### Parent College '99

A keynote speaker, exhibits, small group sessions on discipline, year-round schooling, over- and under-achieving children, and other popular topics will all be a part of Parent College '99 at Oak Mountain Elementary School. The event opens at 12:00 noon on Sunday, Feb. 21, and is open to parents of Oak Mountain students of all ages.

## Library Preview Is February 28

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Structural steel is now in place for both stories of the new North Shelby Library, and more is happening every day. What will the new library look like inside and out when it opens in August? Villagers will have the opportunity to find out on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Library Director Nancy Donahoo will give an overview of the layout and design of the new building in the conference room of the existing library, 7030 Meadowlark Drive, behind Wal-Mart on 280 S. The furniture will go to bid on Feb. 9th, and interior design boards have been prepared to give a preview of what you can expect to see at the Grand Opening.

The library will be one of the beneficiaries of the 8th annual Inverness Rotary Gala held Saturday evening, Feb. 6 at the Richard M. Scrushy HealthSouth Conference Center. Monies will be shared with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and the Oak Mountain High School.

## Zoning and Planning News

By Gerald Templeton, Chairman ISV Zoning and Planning

The Indian Springs Village Zoning and Planning Commission has previously published and will hold one or more public hearings on a revised set of subdivision regulations for the town. There is a four page synopsis of these regulations contained as an insert in this issue of *The Village Voice*. After the public hearing(s), the planning commission will then make a recommendation on approval to the Mayor and Town Council for adoption of an appropriate ordinance on the regulations.

**The revised Subdivision regulations do not either enforce or alter any restrictive covenants which may apply to various parcels of land in the town.** Rather, restrictive covenants are private property rights or restrictions which pass with the land through the deeds of conveyance or otherwise.

The Commission is also reviewing at this time, for possible action, wireless telecommunication tower regulations, swimming pool regulations, light and noise regulations, tree regulations, erosion and sedimentary control regulations, and flood control regulations. Notice of public hearings will be given as the commission reviews each of the respective regulations.

It is going to be a busy year. The commission welcomes all public input and comments. The regularly scheduled meetings of the ISV Zoning and Planning Commission occurs the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall, 2635 Cahaba Valley Road.

# Town Council Highlights

## January 19, 1999

*By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2*

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, January 19, 1999, at 7:00 p.m. in the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided over the meeting, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, and Art Johnson present. The minutes of the December meeting were adopted as modified.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens announced the revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$694; aluminum can recycling, \$192; building permits, \$82.50; Alabama Beverage Control, \$256.78; and road funds, \$804.23. The balance in the general fund was \$75,531.78, after an expense of \$5,273 for the stone work around the flagpole and walkways to the house. (\$1,000 of this money came from a grant secured for the town by Senator Bill Armistead for the project.) The road fund balance was \$79,420.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the next event for Villagers will be the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This is the favorite event of children and parents and will be held on the Saturday before Easter, April 3rd. Details will be available in the March newsletter.

Mayor Weingarten presented the council with a proposed budget for the present fiscal year. The budget, which was discussed at the December meeting, passed unanimously, with the exception of the stipulation of putting surplus revenues in the road fund, where the money becomes irretrievable. The town is looking into diverting surplus monies into an interest bearing checking account dedicated to emergency funding of things like disaster clean-up relief. The money could also be accessed for road funding if needed.

Gerry Templeton, Chairman of Indian Springs Village Zoning and Planning, reported that new subdivision regulations were ready to be submitted. The regulations will be considered at the next ISV Zoning and Planning meeting on February 9, 1999, after which the town council will act on the issue. Gerry also suggested that the town adopt the Southern Building Code, which is the standard in the construction industry for both residential and commercial building. The town would receive a copy of the code, which is several large volumes, at a low cost.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt reported that his neighborhood, which backs up to Oak Mountain State Park, has been deluged by hunters who come in and use land in the area for hunting deer, both with guns and bow and arrows. These hunters, who have often been given permission to hunt on the land of certain individuals, are sometimes using illegal methods of hunting, such as "spotlighting," which causes the deer to

freeze in fear, making them an easy target to hit. Of course, some of the fatally injured deer do not die on the spot and are left to wander onto other property owners' land and die, sometimes days later. The deer carcass then becomes quite a problem for the homeowner, as it is not easy to dispose of such a large animal. There is also the possibility of danger to domesticated animal and human life.

If this is a problem in your neighborhood, please call the gaming officials in charge. Game wardens for our area are Chris Lewis 669-3355 and Willie Norris 664-3419. Hopefully, these individuals can be caught in the act and word will spread that ISV's citizens will not tolerate this type of activity.

Tom Allison, a Cahaba Valley Road resident of the Village, brought a proposal to the council regarding lighting regulations. The purpose of an ordinance of this nature would be to limit the amount of lighting pollution through restricting signage on businesses located in mostly residential areas. ISV's Chairman of Zoning and Planning, Gerald Templeton, took the information under advisement, and will discuss the matter with the Zoning and Planning Commission.

## Dog Delights and Difficulties

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

All animal lovers delight in telling the exploits of their pets, or animal companions, to be politically correct, whether it be Fido's tricks or Garfield's latest pout. We love our animals and protect them--including the deer who wander into flower beds and eat our pansies.

However, abuse by dogs has been brought to our attention. We recently had the terrible death inflicted on a resident's Labrador retriever--this by wild dogs believed to live in Oak Mountain State Park, and the town's subsequent efforts to prevent such an occurrence. Now it is heartrending stories of stray dogs in the Village killing deer. One solid white and one white and light brown dog have been reported chasing, attacking, and killing fawns. Of late there have been complaints of stray dogs strewing garbage.

We all respect the right of neighbors to have pets, but in some neighborhoods dogs have scattered more garbage than has been left behind by Waste Management, causing much irritation on the part of property owners who have to clean up dog messes, strewn garbage and otherwise. Worse, some children at play are frightened, as they should be, of strange dogs running through their yards and forced to go inside.

Indian Springs has no leash laws. After all, we think of ourselves as living "in the country" and close to nature. We hope we can depend on each owner to keep a rein, so to speak, on his or her canine companion(s).

## Village Personals

By Patricia Crapet and Ruth Goodwyn

### In Tribute

Indian Springs Village lost a true friend in the death of Carroll Ann "Cappy" Potter, 51, who passed away Thursday, January 28. He had been diagnosed as having cancer over a year ago. Cappy and his wife, Pat, have been associated with many volunteer activities in the Village, including the collection of aluminum cans to be recycled, Fourth of July celebrations, and the ISV Children's Fund, often helping in the selection, wrapping, and delivery of Christmas presents to the Oak Mountain Schools for the needy children named by guidance counselors.

Our condolences to his wife, Patricia Schappert Potter, and his mother, Ruth Ann Potter, of 151 Foxfire Circle, with assurances that he will be sorely missed. Graveside services were held Feb. 1 at George Washington Memorial Park in Paramus, NJ, his hometown.

Cappy was a graduate of George Washington University, Washington, D.C. and received a master's degree in business from Samford University. He was a long-term employee of BellSouth. Memorials may be made to the Shelby County Humane Society, 110 McDow Drive, Columbiana, AL 35051.

### Where Are the Children?

Shaun McWilliams, son of Jerry and Sherry McWilliams of Indian Trail, will be graduating this spring from Tulane Medical School on June 5. He will begin his otolaryngology (ear, nose, & throat) surgery residence at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Medical Center in July. Shaun and his wife, Laynee (from Mountain Brook) are both pleased to be closer to home.

### Thank you

A special thanks goes to Wrendon Davis and Davis Plumbing for fixing some plumbing problems at our town hall, not once, but twice. Each time, there was no charge for the work, which was done quickly and competently. Thanks again for your civic dedication to ISV!

### New Arrival

Congratulations to Councilman Gary Dennis and wife, Sharon, on the birth of their son, Jonah Carson Dennis. Jonah arrived in this world on Monday, January 18th, weighing in at a whopping 8 pounds and 14 ounces. Born at St. Vincent's Hospital, Jonah now makes his home in the Village at 795 Valley View Road. He is welcomed to the family by brothers and sisters Brandon, Ashley, Kadie, John and Jessie, who are all eager to have their turn at babysitting this newest addition to the Dennis clan. Mom and Dad give Jonah two "thumbs up" for being a good, laid-back, and happy baby. Welcome to ISV, Jonah!

## ISV Recycling - February 17

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. To help our volunteers easily identify your recycling, please use white, blue recycling, or clear plastic bags with each top tied with a knot. Place it on the other side of your driveway from your trash. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

Last month, we welcomed two new recycling volunteers. The first is Russ Favorite, and the second is Cheryl Rast's daughter Amy. They joined veterans Cheryl Rast, Sharon Durbin, Margie and Herb Robins, Jackie and Art Johnson and quickly helped collect the villagers recycled aluminum cans. Thank You to my good neighbors Tom Adkison and Bob Durbin for always helping out when needed. Tom brought the recycling trailer from the recycling center; Bob used of his truck.

In December your volunteers were Bill and Patti Weems and daughter Ashley, Margie and Herb Robins, Jackie and Art Johnson. A "Special" thank you goes to Town Clerk Paul Stephens who bailed us out of trouble and brought the recycling trailer from the recycling center and returned it. In November and December we collected 640 pounds of cans. December was the last month that Bill, Patti, and Ashley collected cans, and we still need volunteers to step up and take their place.

If you have not started recycling, please join the growing number of ISV residents that are recycling. An aluminum can recycled today will be back on the grocery shelf in about 90 days, saving up to 95 per cent of the energy to produce it from raw materials. The same can, if thrown away, will remain in our county landfill. The ISV recycling program is a volunteer community project, with proceeds going to help defer the costs of printing *The Village Voice*. Our sincerest thanks for your generous support we have received during the past years.

## 1998 Record Year for ISV Recycling

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

1998 was a record year for ISV Recycling. We averaged 356 pound per month, and had a yearly total of 4,270 pounds. This is a astounding growth rate of 20% over 1997. All of the recycling participants and volunteers have done great! Thank you for your continued support of this program.

Recycling night is always the Wednesday night following our third Tuesday Town Council meetings. Look for the reminder signs which are posted on Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and at the entrances to Homestead.