



The Village Voice

Vol. 8, No. 5 -

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

- August 11, 1998

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

As of the time of writing this column, your town has employed an animal control specialist to solve our problem with the wild dogs. Mr. Allen Burroughs of Tuscaloosa has set in place a chain link wire cage to trap the dogs. The live trap will enable Mr. Burroughs to determine if these are the animals that were involved in the fatal attack on the Swatek's pet Labrador retriever. This trap will not injure the dogs. After identification, Mr. Burroughs will remove the dogs to Tuscaloosa for disposition. Dr. Max Davis is monitoring the trap, which has been placed on his property.

Councilman Herb Robins negotiated our agreement with Br. Burroughs. Prior to the agreement, Herb contacted many state, county, and local city agencies for assistance with the wild dog problem. There were some sympathetic ears, but no offers for help. Generally, the response was "We don't have any method to address the problem," or "We would rather not get involved." This situation emphasizes the necessity of our small hands-on town government and the involvement of our ISV citizenry.

Sometime ago, the proposal to add turn lanes at certain intersections on Highway 119 came before the ISV Town Council. The plans for these turn lanes are still in the formative stages. Budgetary restraints have delayed current road work to the new high school, Heardmont Farms, and the new North Shelby Library. We may see some action in 1999. Meanwhile, plans are firming up for multi-laning Highway 119 from Highway 280 to Broken Bow. The tentative completion date is 2003.

We have ordered our severe weather warning systems. Because of the huge demand for these systems, the factory is ten to 12 weeks behind in production. These systems, which are more sophisticated than sirens, will be placed in locations that do not now have adequate warning coverage. One will be on the new cellular tower to be erected at the Davis Plumbing Company on Highway 119; the other will be located at the corner of Valleydale and Caldwell Mill. These systems will be activated by the 911 operator in Columbiana using Shelby County specific weather conditions provided by the National Weather Forecasting office in Alabaster. One of these devices is being funded by the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District, under the direction of Chief Michael O'Connor. Wrendon Davis, of Davis Plumbing, is providing some funding for the device to be located on his property. We are still seeking additional funding from federal, state, and county agencies.

There is always a lot of activity in your town and if you really want to be an informed citizen, please participate in town meetings, functions, and activities. The Town Council meets every third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at our town hall. The air conditioning works well. Please come and join us.

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall

Tuesday, August 18, 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), or e-mail: tcrapet@realtysouth.com. 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 September 1998 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, September 1st. 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, RealtySouth for production

Next Recycling Is August 19

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday, August 19, and starts at 7:00 p.m. Please place your aluminum cans in white or clear plastic bags and secure the top of each bag with a knot. Then for easy identification by our volunteers, place them near your driveway (household trash on one side and recycling on the other side). If we missed your pickup, please call Art Johnson at 988-3217.

Last month, the recycling volunteers were Margie and Herb Robins, Patti, Bill and daughter Ashley Weems, Sharon Durbin, Jackie Johnson, Tom Adkison, and Art Johnson. July was possibly a record month; the large trailer we use was two-thirds to three-fourths full this time. Normally it is only about half-full.

Recycling not only protects the environment; it also helps pay the printing expenses for *The Village Voice*. Please recycle and buy recycled products. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and entrances to Homestead.

Volunteers Still Needed

The ISV Recycling program continues to grow, and volunteers are still needed. We also need standby volunteers who would fill in for regular volunteers on a one- or two-day notice. Contact Art Johnson, or any other town official, to volunteer for recycling or for any other town projects.

Aluminum Facts

Discovered in the 1820's, aluminum is the most abundant metal on earth. Today 25 percent of the aluminum used in the U.S. goes into packaging. Packaging is the second largest use of aluminum, behind transportation products, such as cars, planes, and trains. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning for almost four hours.

Senior Citizens/Walking Track

By Olivia Weingarten

The ISV Senior Citizens will not meet for lunch in August. Watch for an announcement concerning the next meeting (fourth Thursday of the month) at the town hall or adjacent pavilion when cooler weather arrives.

One-fourth of the ISV walking track behind the town hall is in the shade, a big help in the hot, humid weather. No need to worry about parking--there's plenty of room for your vehicle as you walk on a flat, level track. Four laps around the track equal one mile.

Shelby County Schools Calendar 1998-99

Superintendent: Evan K. Major, Jr.

Board of Education: Lee Doebler, Hub Harrington, "Trey" Ireland, Steve Martin, Donna Morris

Aug. 18 (Tuesday)	.....	New Teacher Orientation
Aug. 19 (Wednesday)	.....	New Teacher Orientation
Aug. 20 (Thursday)	.....	Teacher Work Day
Aug. 21 (Friday)	.....	Teacher Institute & Professional Development Day
Aug. 24 (Monday)	.....	Teacher Work Day
Aug. 25 (Tuesday)	.....	Schools Open (Full Day for Students)
Sept. 7 (Monday)	.....	Labor Day - Schools & Offices Closed
Oct. 22 (Thursday)	.....	Early Dismissal Day 1:00 p.m. System Professional Development
November 11 (Wed)	.....	Veterans' Day - Schools & Offices Closed
Nov. 25-27	.....	Thanksgiving Holidays - Schools & Offices Closed
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	.....	Christmas Holidays (Offices Open Selected Days)
Jan. 4 (Monday)	.....	School Reopens
Jan. 14 (Thursday)	.....	First Semester Ends
Jan. 15	.....	Teacher Work Day - No Students
Jan. 18 (Mon.)	.....	M. L. King Birthday - Schools & Offices Closed
Jan. 19	.....	Second Semester Begins
Feb. 23 (Tuesday)	.....	Early Dismissal Day 1:00 p.m. System Professional Development
Mar. 29-Apr. 2	.....	Spring Break - Schools & Offices Closed
Apr. 16 (Friday)	.....	Inclement Weather Day
Apr. 30 (Friday)	.....	Inclement Weather Day
May 28 (Friday)	.....	Schools Close at 3:00 p.m. Graduation
May 31 (Monday)	.....	Teacher Work Day - No Students

TESTING DATES

October 6-8, 1998	.....	High School Basic Skills Exit Exam
March 16-18, 1999	.....	High School Basic Skills Exit Exam
March 16-19, 1999	.....	Alabama Pre-Graduation Exam
April 12-16, 1999	.....	Stanford Achievement Test (includes Otis-Lennon School Ability Test)
May 3, 1999	.....	Alabama Direct Assessment of Writing - Grade 5 Alabama Direct Assessment of Writing - Grade 7

GRADING PERIODS

Six-Weeks periods end	Oct. 2, Nov. 13, Jan. 14, Feb. 26, Apr. 15, and May 28.
Report Cards will be sent home	Oct. 12, Nov. 23, Jan. 25, Mar. 8, Apr. 26, and June 7.
Nine-Weeks periods end	Oct. 23, Jan. 14, Mar. 19, and May 28.
Report cards will be sent home	Nov. 2, Jan. 25, Apr. 5, and May 28.

All bus routes will be running on the first day of school. Parents are urged to allow their children to ride the bus in order to alleviate as much traffic on Highway 119 and Caldwell Mill Road as possible.

Town Council Highlights

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on July 21, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided. The council members present were two, Herb Robins and Art Johnson, which did not constitute a quorum.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported revenues for the month were: \$398.78, county motor vehicles; Fourth of July picnic, netted \$1791 after all bills were paid; beer taxes, \$706.89; aluminum can collection, \$198. The balance in the regular fund is \$82,128; road fund balance is \$74,388, after taking in \$811.74. Mr. Stephens reported that 325 were served at the Fourth of July celebration and that no big bills were forthcoming in the near future.

Art Johnson reported that the recycling program in the Village had been very successful thus far in 1998. The Councilman reported on his attendance July 17 to a meeting of the Shelby County Community Roundtable, composed of elected officials from the county and all Shelby County cities and communities. The Roundtable gave top priority to goals of improved education, economic development, environment, and transportation.

Herb Robins reported that building the turn lanes from Highway 119 onto county and subdivision roads, some of them in ISV, had been put on the back burner because of ozone levels, and were probably a year and a half away. Also delayed are the signs pointing to Indian Springs Village from the I-65 exit and at the bottom of the ramp on Highway 119. Councilman Robins thanked the volunteers who assisted with the building of the walking track and those who helped make the Fourth of July celebration a success. He noted in particular barbecue chefs Paul Stephens, Jim Boyett, Bart Trammell, and Buzz Kelly, and Nora Boyett, Lola Stephens, and Connie Trammell, who did such a good job with desserts.

Dr. Max Davis reported on a problem with a pack of about five wild dogs that follow a trail across Bishop Creek at the base of Oak Mountain. He described the dogs thusly: two are very large and black and white; two are black, and there is a small spitz. The dogs do not bark, with the exception of the spitz, unless they are encircling a deer or other prey. He warned residents along the creek to be very careful and cautious with pets.

Bill Swatek described how the same pack had recently killed his son's dog, a golden Labrador retriever, by attacking the Lab and then holding him under water in the creek. The Oak Mountain State Park rangers know about the situation and try to deal humanely with animals that stray into the park.

Mayor Weingarten said that an appropriate state agency would be contacted, as professional help with this problem is needed. (See Mayor's Message, p. 1.)

It was announced that the weather alert sirens will be placed on the Davis Plumbing property on Highway 119 and near Winn-Dixie Marketplace at the intersection of Valleydale and Caldwell Mill roads. The sirens will be controlled in Shelby County.

James Wyatt, Assistant Town Clerk, will present annexation requests at the August council meeting.

Gerald Templeton, Chairman of the ISV Planning and Zoning Board, will present business at the next meeting pertaining to his committee's work. There will be no committee meeting in August.

Historical Society Meetings

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Mining operations in the Cahaba coal field was the topic for the August 9 meeting of the Shelby County Historical Society at the Museum & Archives Building, Columbiana. The Cahaba coal field encompassed much of northern and western Shelby County. The speaker was Jim Day, who teaches classes in history at Judson College and the University of Montevallo and whose dissertation topic is *Coal Mining Operations in Central Alabama* for his doctorate at Auburn University.

Another meeting scheduled for Sunday was that of the Friends of Four Mile. This group organized to document the history of Four Mile, located between Columbiana and Wilsonville on county road 61 off Highway 55, centering around the Four Mile Baptist Church, established in 1824. About 70 members are working together and plan to hold a homecoming at the church October 14, 2000. The group is a cultural organization, but incidentally, they worked with other groups to help get Beat 9 zoning.

Dr. Tom Caldwell, a member of the Heritage Book committee, reported that a work session was held on the Thursday after the July 31 deadline for family and topical entries to *The Heritage of Shelby County, Alabama*. A brief article describing the founding of Indian Springs Village and some facts relating to the town was submitted. The logo on the ISV tag was also submitted for publication.

The committee is sorting, collating, and reviewing on a schedule with the publishing company, hoping the book, Volume 58 of a series on Alabama counties, will be published by Christmas.

Vehicles Burglarized

Submitted by Bonnie Murphy

Homestead residents had several vehicles burglarized recently. The offenses occurred late Wednesday night, July 22, or early Thursday morning, July 23. The vehicles were both locked and unlocked and were parked both on the street and in driveways. The Shelby County Sheriff's Department is investigating. Anyone with information that might aid in the investigation is asked to contact Captain Chris Curry of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department at 669-4181. Similar incidents of the same nature have also occurred in the Inverness neighborhood.

To avoid such acts, please park vehicles in garages when possible, or park and lock in driveways, not streetside. Do not leave any items of value, no matter how small, visible on the dash or seats.

Village Personals

By Patricia Crapei and Bonnie Murphy

Welcome Newcomers

Villagers welcome **Tracy and Kay Click** of 5122 Split Rail Trail in Homestead. The Clicks come to ISV from Shreveport, Louisiana and have one son, **Casey**, age 10, and one daughter, **Courtney**, age 7. Tracy is with Fontaine Fifth Wheel, a company that makes tractor trailer hitches.

Many happy "returns" to **Cecil and Dianne Carder** who are now at home at 2628 Buckboard Road. The Carders previously lived in Homestead at 5137 Hollow Log Lane before being transferred out of town in 1986. Cecil is employed with Advanced Marketing Specialist.

Welcome to **Linda Bartlett** of 2652 Buckboard Road, and her two children, **Justin**, age 11, and **Kaitlin**, age 7. Linda, who is employed with BellSouth, and family are relocating to ISV from Hoover.

Homestead welcomes **Peter and Emily Stoffelen**, 5173 Wellstone Circle, who have moved here from North Augusta, South Carolina. Peter and Emily have two children, **Elizabeth**, age 5, and **Gregory**, 22 months. Peter transferred here with Regions Bank, while Emily teaches third grade at Inverness Elementary School.

A warm ISV welcome to **John and Denise Kostakis**, new residents of 21 Foxfire Circle. The Kostakis family comes to the Village from the Bluff Park area. They have two children, **Laurel**, age 10 and a 5th grader, and **Johnathon**, age 17, who is in the 11th grade. Both children attend Shades Mountain Christian School. John and Denise are the owners of Fife's Restaurant, 2321 4th Avenue, in downtown Birmingham. The Kostakis family enjoys spending time at their horse farm in Hayden, Alabama, and are looking forward to living in ISV.

Welcome **Steve and Theresa Thornton** of 925 Valley View Road. The Thorntons come to ISV from Riverchase and are owners of the Scandinavian Design Furniture Gallery. Steve and Theresa have four children; **Christine**, age 8, **Rachel**, age 6, **Michael**, age 5, and **Chistian**, age 2. The school-age children attend Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School. Family members are enjoying the friendly neighbors of Brookstone Estates, many of whom have stopped in to welcome them to the community.

Also new to the village are **Robert and Marianna Ellis** of 1919 Cahaba Valley Road. The Ellises come to the Village from the Caldwell Mill area. Robert is retired from BellSouth after 37 years of service and is now with RealtySouth.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

Leaving 21 Foxfire Circle are **Robert and Donna Grant**, along with children **Chad, Rob, and Victoria**. Robert, who is a homebuilder by trade, was of great assistance to the town during the renovation of the ISV town hall. Donna was instrumental in organizing the ISV Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair. The Grants will not be gone from the Village for long, however, as they plan to build another home on Star Trek Drive in the near future.

A sad goodbye to **Herb and Lib Smith**, who are leaving 1919 Cahaba Valley Road to live in Vestavia. Herb and Lib were great supporters of Indian Springs Village and worked hard for the incorporation of the town. Herb served on the Indian Springs Village Planning and Zoning Board for several years. You could always count on Herb and Lib to be of assistance at town functions and activities. They will be missed.

Also leaving the Village are **Derrell and Cheryl Chamblee**, 925 Valley View Road. The Chamblees were one of four hosts for the 1996 Holiday Tour of Homes in Indian Springs, allowing their beautiful home to be on display for the benefit of the annual North Shelby Library fundraiser. We wish them well in their new location.

In Sympathy

The Village offers sincere condolences to the family of **Edward M. Lovell** of Homestead. Mr. Lovell died Wednesday, July 29th at the age of 73 after a brief illness. Survivors include his wife, **Mary Ann Lovell**, a daughter, **Linda Brady** of Heatherwood, and a son, **Edward M. Lovell, Jr.**, of Atlanta. Mr. Lovell also leaves a legacy of four grandchildren. Mrs. Lovell and the rest of the family expressed their sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses shown them at the time of their loss.

Happy Anniversary

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to **Winston and Bobbie Boutwell**, 1444 Indian Crest Drive, who were married on Sunday, August 9, 1948. They celebrated the occasion with a trip to Mobile. "Chief" Boutwell, as he is still called, retired as fire chief of Prichard, Alabama, in 1978 to take the job of fire chief of the North Shelby County Fire and Emergency Medical District. He retired as chief of the NSFD in 1995. Congratulations, and we wish you may more happy anniversaries.

Accolades

A special thanks to villager **Bill Bezkor**, owner of **Homeworks, Inc.**, for contributing labor and materials to cap exposed beams on the ISV picnic pavilion with matching siding. Bill's company did the original work on the pavilion when it was constructed.