



# The Village Voice

Vol. 9, No. 2 Indian Springs Village, Alabama May 11, 1999

## INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 18, 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: terapet@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 June 1999 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, June 1. 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

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

O.M.H.S. (or OMHS). We will be seeing those letters a great many times in the future. They represent our new Oak Mountain High School under construction on Caldwell Mill Rd. If your travels do not take you on Caldwell Mill, you need to make a special trip in order to view this magnificent building.

I spoke with Randy Fuller, our new principal, who has been working for some time at a construction trailer, on site. The quarters are cramped, shared by Randy, Athletic Director Tony Pugh, and a very dedicated group who are wading through a mountain of plans that have to be addressed daily. Opening a new high school, from scratch, is a monumental task.

Scheduled completion date is July 16th. School starts August 17th. There will be four grades, including 100 seniors, 177 juniors, 278 sophomores, and 347 freshmen. Starting with approximately 900 students, the school has the capacity for 1400.

With the very latest in educational ideas, the auditorium will seat 1000, the gym 2000, including a mezzanine, the cafeteria, 500. The library/media center will have cutting-edge technology, with 12 computer terminals. Other facilities: four science labs in a pod set up in a separate wing; spacious choral and band rooms; a fine arts program which will include drama, art, and much more.

The various booster clubs have been hard at work. The band booster organization is purchasing uniforms and equipment (with citizen-raised monies) and the band will be ready for the first football game on August 27. Similarly, many other booster clubs are raising money for uniforms and equipment. We will provide a complete recap of all these activities and the hard-working folks involved in a later column.

Between 650 and 750 parking spaces will be provided. Athletic fields for all sports, on site, are under construction. To help guide all this activity will be 56 teachers, two assistant principals, and two guidance counselors, plus assistants of various sorts and administrative personnel. This is a huge project, for which the citizens of Shelby County can be very proud.

The guidance counselors have asked Indian Springs Village for ideas in involving a number of kids in community projects and activities. Please bring your ideas to our regular town council meetings. We need to be involved with all our children. Security plans are quite elaborate. But, security can be a minor rather than a major activity if the kids are properly motivated and in the mainstream of high school affairs. Every parent and citizen must be involved and interested. Indian Springs Villagers, as always, will respond when called upon to participate.

## ***Villager Profile***

### **Councilman Herb Robins, Place # 1**

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

The most recent addition to the town council was sworn in in 1996 with Mayor Gene Weingarten after years of service to the Village. Herb Robins, president of the Homestead Homeowners' Association since 1992, had been instrumental in getting that subdivision into Indian Springs Village.

It wasn't all that difficult, he said. It was amazing how interested the Homesteaders were in coming into our town. Teams were organized to canvass the neighbors as to interest, get signatures on a petition, and arrange for an election—all taking about six-seven months from start to finish. The voter turnout was approximately 80 percent. When the returns were tabulated, the annexation had passed by 100 to 1. The one dissenting vote was cast in error by a resident who thought he was voting against annexing into Hoover (*The Village Voice*, 6/14/94). The Homestead community adds 88 homes and about 275 people to our ISV population.

Herb and his new bride, Margie, moved to Homestead in 1989, after briefly living near Eastwood Mall. A registered nurse, Margie worked for Baptist Medical Center Montclair for several years; she now works for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, located on nearby Riverchase Parkway East. Since 1994 she has been co-ordinator of the organ transplantation program, working with physicians, hospitals, and patients.

Herb's employment is based in Jasper with the State of Alabama Surface Mining Commission. His position entails drafting reclamation plans for abandoned mines and seeing that the plans are carried out. In Alabama he has worked in 19 different counties from Bibb County northward.

As Councilman, Place No. 1, Herb is in charge of road maintenance and overall town hall grounds improvements. A flagpole dedication ceremony was held April 20 in front of the town hall; the project of the flag pole and the rock work around it having been Herb's responsibility. For years Herb and Margie have been in charge of food preparation and serving at our annual Fourth of July celebration. The day begins at 7:00 a.m. for them and 18-20 volunteers. (The "Pothole Crew" is already hard at work cooking the meat.) Herb and Margie have also been listed for years among those who aid in the town's recycling project. They collect cans in Homestead on recycling night, a big night out for their three dachshunds who accompany them.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert (Bert) Robins, Sr., Herb was brought up in Homewood and was a senior at Shades Valley High School when his father passed away. Herb's mother, brother, and sister still live in Homewood. Herb lived in Chelsea nine years prior to marrying Margie, and loves Shelby County.

His bachelor of science degree in wildlife management is from Auburn University, where he first met Margie. They re-met 13 years later in the exercise room of the Shades Valley YMCA and now have been married 11 years. Their only "children" are five dogs—the three dachshunds which make the monthly recycling run, one springer spaniel, and a yellow Labrador retriever. As animal lovers can attest, dogs keep reminding their owners of the nature of unconditional love and to count their blessings. "We are wise enough to know we are well blessed," Herb concluded.

## **Next Landfill Free Day Is June 5**

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

The Bruno's Memorial Golf Classic has been held, and it is hoped that area residents participated in Alabama's statewide cleanup in April in preparation for the annual visitor-drawing event; Oak Mountain State Park's call for volunteers resulted in a sprucing up of the park. If you haven't yet gathered up your load of household trash to take to the county dump, you have another "free" day, June 5. Shelby Countians may take up to one ton of residential refuse to the landfill free of charge between 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on that Saturday.

Our apologies to any who may have wandered around in south Shelby trying to get to the landfill by following directions given in last month's *Village Voice*. The Thomas Gaskins of Willow Ridge Drive had such a misadventure the first "free" day April 24. They gracefully called to point out the error for the benefit of future trip planners. "Go seven miles on Highway 26; turn **left** when you deadend on to County Road 70" should have read "turn **right**." (Actually, "County Road 70" should have read "State Road 70".)

An employee of the landfill said to forget Highway 26--that's the long way. Verified directions: Go south on I-65. At the Alabaster-Saginaw exit (238) turn left onto Highway 31. Go about six miles towards Columbiana. When you see Kathleen's Restaurant on the right, get ready to turn left on State Road 70. (A Shell service station and Bud's Country Store are on the right at the intersection.) Go four miles on 70 until you see a small green LANDFILL sign which marks where you turn left to reach the landfill. The trip is 18 and a half miles from the Indian Springs School.

### **REWARD**

**\$1,000**

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

# Town Council Highlights

## April 20, 1999

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, April 20, 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, Gary Dennis, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley present.

Just prior to the meeting, Villagers gathered by the newly constructed ISV flagpole area for a dedication ceremony. Village resident and Shelby County Commissioner, Lindsey Allison, introduced Juvenile Court Judge Patricia Smith, also of ISV. "Judge Patti" donated the funds to purchase the flagpole and install it. A marker of dedication to her father, Colonel Andrew J. Mungenast, sits at the base of the flagpole. Colonel Mungenast, who served his country well in the United States Air Force for 31 years, has not seen the marker yet, but is due to visit ISV in the near future. Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt arranged for the Marine Corps League, of which he is an active member, to be in attendance to raise our new flag for the first time. The weatherproof flag will be flown 24 hours a day, and will be lighted at night.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens announced the revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$652.78; motor vehicle licenses, \$464.11; insurance license fees, \$78.75; aluminum can recycling, \$276; and road funds, \$711.68. Revenues from the Alabama Trust Fund were received in the amount of \$5,665.68. These funds are earmarked for capital improvements to town property. The balance in the general fund was \$127,105, and the balance in the road fund was \$82,911.

The council voted unanimously to pass a flood insurance ordinance which would allow residents in flood prone areas to purchase low cost flood insurance. The council also voted unanimously to adopt the Southern Building Code, which is already in use in Shelby County.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt presented a petition for annexation from the Bruno Montessori School of property on Highway 119 recently purchased by the school. The town council voted unanimously to suspend the rules to allow for the unanimous vote to adopt.

Councilman Gary Dennis announced that his company, Mantissa, will host the official Indian Springs Village website beginning in June. The website will have items of interest such as ordinances, *The Village Voice*, special events, town data, and photographs.

## ISS Alumni Day, May 15

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Town Hall, the site of many performances this past year at Indian Springs School, will be officially dedicated on Alumni Day, May 15. The \$5.2 million performing arts complex occupies 31,500 sq. ft. of space in the center of the campus.

A concert of alumni performers--musicians, singers, actors, comics--will be the featured event of the day, followed by a performance

of the Alumni Choir. A collection of alumni art will also be exhibited in the gallery of the Town Hall, and reunions will be held for former students who graduated in class years ending in 4 and 9, going back to 1959.

On June 3 the Homecoming Concert will be held in the concert hall, and May 27, 28, 29 are dates of the spring musical production, for which there is an admission charge. For more information, please call 988-3350.

## Easter Egg Hunt Pleases All

By Bee Little, Managing Editor

The 6th Annual Indian Springs Village Easter Egg Hunt was officially a big success. Preparations had begun weeks ahead with ordering of prizes and then the stuffing of 2,000 Easter eggs with prizes and candy. Our egg stuffers, Nora and Jim Boyett, Dorothy Carlisle, Frances Williamson, Rose Lipscomb, and Charles and Teri Wells, did an unbelievable job. Finishing the eggs were home stuffers Patty Smith, Ruth and Mariah Snow, John Ball with Jack and Davis Little. Many other Villagers called to volunteer to help stuff eggs in their homes, and we sincerely appreciate the offers of help.

The day of the hunt the weather was warm and the sky a beautiful blue. Tricia Crapet, with the assistance of Jim and Nora Boyett, had the official age areas staked off the first thing. Bee, Jack and Davis Little headed to our Village Winn-Dixie to pick up six Easter baskets and then to Pets America to pick up the official Easter bunny for our grand prize. Many thanks to Pets America for continuing to donate a precious live bunny each year and to Mr. Norman Kennessey at Winn-Dixie for his annual prize donations.

Meeting at the town hall at 12:00 noon were Tricia Crapet, Gene and Olivia Weingarten, Jim and Nora Boyett, Jim Wyatt, Margie and Herb Robins and Bee, Harry, Jack and Davis Little. Together over 2,000 eggs were hidden in record time and over 500 prizes set up to be distributed to our lucky hunters.

Mayor Weingarten officially welcomed over 100 children, along with parents, grandparents, and friends. Tricia Crapet made sure the rules were understood by all. Then the fun began. Children from ages 1-12 hurried about, gathering as many eggs as they could; the older kids anxiously looking for the most-sought-after money eggs.

Once again, a very big thanks to all the Villagers who made this Easter Egg Hunt a complete success. If you volunteered and helped with this year's hunt and your name is not included, please let us know. It is important that everyone involved is recognized for your efforts.

## ISV Recycling - May 19

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, May 19. Please put your recycling out before 7:00 p.m., and to help our volunteers please use light colored or clear plastic bags with the top of each tied with a knot. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

Last month we welcomed new recycling volunteer Pat Favorite. In April the recycling volunteers were Russ and Pat Favorite, Amy and Cheryl Rast, Margie and Herb Robins, Sharon Durbin, and Art Johnson. In April they collected 432 pounds of aluminum.

If you have not started recycling, please join the growing number of ISV residents who recycle. Recycling an aluminum can will save up to 95 per cent of the energy to produce it from raw materials.

## 1998 Aluminum Recycling Stats

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

1998 was the tenth consecutive year the aluminum can was recycled at a level over 60 percent, maintaining its distinction as the most recycled and the most valuable recycled packaging container. In 1998 the industry paid out approximately \$990 million to recyclers for their recycled aluminum beverage cans.

While 1998 was a record year for ISV recycling, (it grew by 20% percent), nationwide the recycling rate fell slightly because of lower prices for used aluminum beverage cans. The national statistics were released by the three organizations representing the aluminum can recycling industry: The Aluminum Association, the Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI), and the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI).

In 1998 the industry produced 102 billion cans and 64 billion aluminum cans were recycled, for a recycling rate of 62.8 percent--down from the 1997 rate of 66.5 percent.

## Village Personals

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

### In Gratitude,

**Evelyn Harper**, Indian Forest Drive, has ordered a copy of *The Heritage of Shelby County, Alabama*, to be presented to Indian Springs Village in memory of her husband, Earl, who passed away March 9. The photographs in the first publication of the Shelby County *Heritage* book were not of the desired quality. The book is now being re-published at the publisher's expense, and it is hoped the long-awaited volumes will be available soon. Our thanks to Evelyn for remembering Earl, a native Shelby Countian, in this way, and the volume will be treasured.

### In Sympathy

Our condolences to "**Buz**" (W. C.) and **Nelda Kelly** of Pawnee Drive in the passing on April 18 of his mother, Mamie Hubbard Kelly, age 94, a lifelong Birmingham resident.

Condolences also to **Harold and Joan Youngblood**, Indian Crest Drive, on the death of his mother, Theona Snow Youngblood of West Jefferson, on May 4.

## Congratulations

The granddaughter of Betty Angrisano and husband Neal of 1086 Spring Garden Street will graduate May 28 from Pelham High School. She is **Randi Bowen**, the daughter of Melody and Dale Derieux of 530 Caldwell Mill Circle. A cheerleader since the 8th grade, Randi appeared four times in national competition squads in February of each year and performed in the Pro Bowl, Hawaii, in 1997. She was recruited for a scholarship on the varsity cheerleading squad at Jacksonville State University.

## Garbage--a Favorite Topic?

By Lindsey Allison, Shelby County Commission

The Shelby County Commission is responsible for unincorporated residential garbage pick-up. Usually, every three years a contract is awarded to a third party for such services. In 1994 the commission entered into a contract with Waste Management to collect residential garbage pick-up. At the time Waste Management was the only responsive bidder and the pricing was very comparable to the past provider, BFI. The contract was renewed in the fall of 1997. As of this date, the company was very responsive to the county's request and few complaints were noted.

This past fall Waste Management was sold to a new entity. In November 1998 new collection procedures were begun which altered past services. The company began using a single operator per truck. Further, the company notified residents of their strict interpretation of the contract as far as what garbage would be picked up and how. By December the complaints became numerous. Between December 1998 and February 1999 several meetings were held with Waste Management regarding the complaints. Unfortunately, the complaints still continue. The County Director for Environmental Services has recorded all complaints and forwarded same to Waste Management. However, to date there is a question if this has been effective. In order for the county to pursue possible legal remedies, I'm asking that any complaints be sent to the following:

Mr. Robert Kelly  
510 Highway 70  
Columbiana, Alabama 35051  
669-3737  
or  
Lindsey Allison  
454 Valley View Road  
Indian Springs, Alabama 35124  
991-6367

If possible, a written complaint would be best. This allows the county to well document the complaints. The county is concerned with the status of this contract and if services are being properly provided. Please help us with the investigation. We need to know your thoughts.

## Nature Abounds

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

This time of year our Village is full of critters who make their homes among us. It has been reported by C. A. Thornton of Miller Circle that there are coyotes in our midst. This comes as no surprise to most old-time residents, but for you newcomers, please watch your small pets, as they might end up a tasty morsel for "Wiley" and the gang.