

The Village Voice

Vol. 9, No. 3 Indian Springs Village, Alabama June 8, 1999

NINTH ANNUAL INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE

FOURTH of JULY CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 3, 1999

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 15, 1999, 7:00 p.m.

Indian Springs Village Town Hall Agenda

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

Editor's Notes

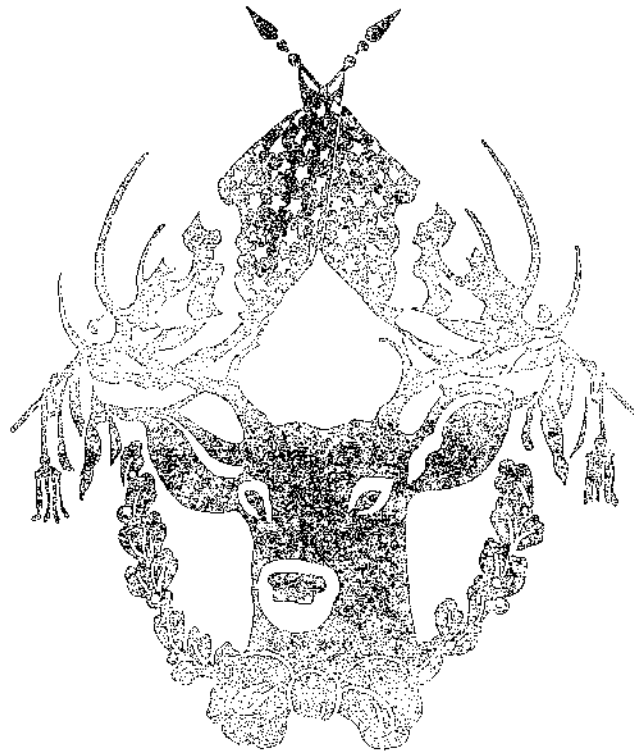
The Village Voice is the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990. The mission of this newsletter is to foster a spirit of community and co-operation. It is the vehicle for reporting the monthly deliberations of the mayor and the council in town council meetings; additionally 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; e-mail: icrapet@realysouth.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 July 1999 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, July 6th. 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



*Display the Flag in Front of Your Home
Decorated Vehicles Parade Through the Village at 10:30 a.m.*

Picnic Location: Indian Springs Village Picnic Pavilion
2635 Cahaba Valley Road

Independence Day Ceremony: 11:30 a.m.

Barbecue Lunch: Served from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m.

Music: Provided by disc jockey Ray Halvorson, who will be playing a mixture of patriotic and popular music.

Food Concessions: Barbecue plates \$6 for adults, \$3 for children age 8 and under. Plates will include chopped barbecue pork, barbecued ribs or chicken, slaw, baked beans, buns, drinks, and homemade desserts. Combination plates are available for \$6 with chicken and your choice of ONE of the pork selections. Children may enjoy a hot dog, chips, and drink for \$1.50, including a patriotic toy.

Preparation for the Celebration

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

Decoration Committee: This year the co-chairpersons of the decoration committee is Buzz and Nelda Kelly. Please call 733-1258 to volunteer your energy, ideas, time, and materials for this very important committee. The decorating will begin the morning of the 3rd, starting at 7:00 a.m. There is always a lot of work to be done, including blowing up balloons with helium, dressing tables with festive patriotic decorations and colors, and putting up the red, white, and blue bunting on the pavilion and house. Any and all help is needed and will be greatly appreciated!

Food and Serving Committee: The duties of serving the masses have fallen on the ever-broadening shoulders of Councilman Herb Robins (980-9217) and wife, Margie, as well as Councilman Art Johnson (988-3217). These eager co-chairs need your assistance. Please call them to volunteer one hour of your time for one of the serving lines or ticket sales. The two shifts will be from 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. This is THE committee to serve on if you want to be able to see old friends and neighbors and meet new ones!

Barbecue Committee: Barbecue chefs are now, and have always been, Town Clerk Paul Stephens (988-4672) and Bart Trammell (988-0094). Please call either one to volunteer for this committee. The secret is always in the sauce, and these guys have more secrets than a dog has fleas! So far, in the eight previous years of this festive event, no one has been able to coax the secret recipe out of these members of the Pothole Crew. Maybe this year some lucky volunteer will be the one to steal the show. But, not if you don't volunteer to help! Good luck, and may the force be with you!

Desserts: The most favorite committee of most attendees of this yearly event is always chaired by famous cake and cookie baker, Nora Boyett. If Bo knows football, then Nora knows baking! As in each previous year, all of the delicious desserts at the picnic will be home-baked by Villagers and brought to share with friends and neighbors. Cookies, cakes, brownies, cobblers, and many other tasty offerings will be supplied in record amounts. Please call Nora at 988-0466 to volunteer your culinary skills.

Drive Through the Village: Parade Chairperson is Dorothy Carlisle (987-7261) Participants are asked to assemble their decorated vehicles on the east side of the Winn-Dixie Marketplace parking lot on Valleydale Road

at 10:00 a.m. Sheriff James Jones, wife Debbie, and son, Buck, will lead the parade. The firefighters of the North Shelby County Fire and Emergency Medical District will bring up the rear with sirens blaring! The parade is an ISV tradition. If you have never participated, please don't miss out this year.

Parade Route: The parade will begin at the Winn-Dixie parking lot and head south down Caldwell Mill Road, passing Willowbrook and the Oak Mountain Intermediate and High Schools, turning right onto Highway 119, then right onto Valley View Road, left of Indian Crest Drive. The vehicles will circle Wildwood Lane and Highgate Hill, return to Indian Crest, hitting Arrowhead Lane, to Highway 119, where it turns right. Next left will be Mountain Vista, left on Brookgreen Lane, left on Indian Trail, right onto Highway 119 for the last leg to the town hall grounds. Watch the fun from your own front yard, street corner, or come on down to the town hall and wait for the big arrival.

Parking Committee: Six volunteers are needed to assist in the parking at the town hall. Please call Bart Trammell (988-0094) to volunteer. Parking will be on-site in designated areas only. **Do not park on side streets.** This is disturbing to neighbors, and since there is plenty of room at the town hall it is not necessary to park elsewhere.

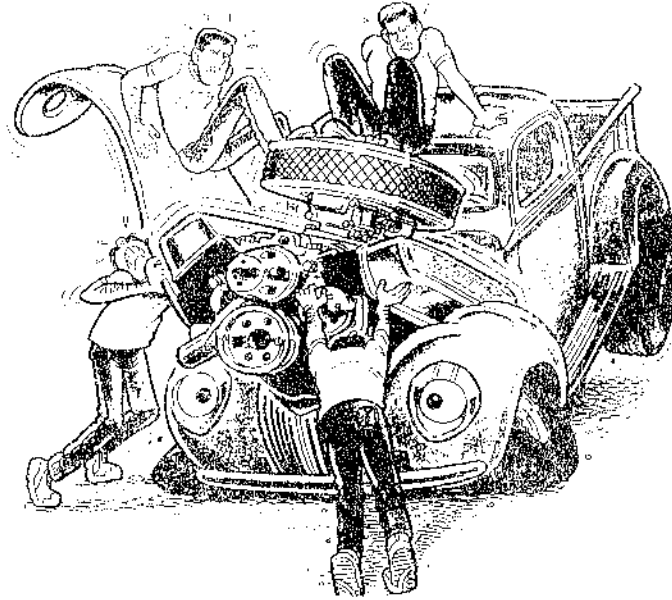
Location: The celebration will be held on the grounds of the Indian Springs Village Town Hall at the picnic pavilion, 2635 Cahaba Valley Road. Visitors and guests should conduct themselves appropriately. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on municipal property.

PLEASE NOTE: THE DATE OF THE CELEBRATION IS SATURDAY, JULY 3RD, DUE TO THE ACTUAL HOLIDAY'S BEING ON SUNDAY THIS YEAR!

Post Event Clean-Up: As with all things ISV, clean-up is a volunteer activity. After all the food is gone and the socializing is over, there is plenty of work left to be done. Trash must be bagged and decorations removed, so please hang around to help with these chores. It's no different than washing the dishes at your house after a meal. Somebody has to do it! Besides, it's a great way to burn off those unwanted calories from the dessert table!

This is ISV's largest event. Without volunteers, this and all other events would not be possible. Please pick a committee that interests you and call to offer your much-needed services. Thank you, and see you there!

"GET 'CHA MOTOR RUNNIN'!"



**The Ninth Annual
Indian Springs Village
Fourth of July Parade Extravaganza
*Saturday, July 3rd, 1999***

"Head on down the highway"
to the Winn-Dixie Marketplace on Valleydale Road.

**Decorate your antique, classic, chopper, junker, jalopy, or clunker
with some patriotic charm and meet us for our
annual drive through the Village.**

ANY VEHICLE THAT RUNS QUALIFIES FOR THE FUN!

**Free Registration: 10:00 a.m.
Parade: Begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.**

Be the envy of your neighbors as they cheer when you cruise by
in your festively decorated vehicle on your way to the best eatin' in town.

**Put on your best red, white, and blue patriotic face
and cruise through the Village to celebrate Independence Day!**

Town Council Highlights

May 18, 1999

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, May 18, 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, and Art Johnson present.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens was absent and Mayor Gene Weingarten announced the revenues for the month were: beer taxes, \$735; motor vehicle licenses, \$308; and road funds, \$776. The balance in the general fund was \$123,504.55, and the balance in the road fund was \$83,852.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet announced the need for volunteers for the Fourth of July picnic. This year's event will be held on Saturday, July 3, due to the holiday's being on a Sunday. Councilwoman Crapet addressed that there will be general maintenance and repairs on the town hall over the next few weeks. She also reported that our town hall would be the host site for the May meeting of Shelby County mayors.

Councilman Herb Robins reported that the field behind the pavilion would be reseeded and fertilized within the next week. The council authorized replacement of three trees that have died at a cost of approximately \$375. The trees are by the walking track. Councilman Robins also showed a drawing of the brick that ISV purchased in the Buy-a-Brick program for the new Oak Mountain High School. The brick will be etched with the ISV logo, similar to the design on our logo tags.

Villager Profile

Councilman Gary Dennis, Place #3

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

When I think of Gary and Sharon Dennis, I remember how willingly they opened their home for the North Shelby Library "Friends" Holiday Tour of Homes '96. Two weeks before the big event the owners of one of the four homes scheduled to be shown had to withdraw. Getting anyone in early December to fill in for them seemed an unsurmountable task, but out of the goodness of their hearts Sharon and Gary agreed. Little needed to be done to the Dennises' almost-new home on Valley View Road, but they hired designers for finishing touches and to decorate for Christmas prior to the tour to benefit the building campaign for the new North Shelby Library. The tour was very successful.

I also recall the huge balloon with the names of candidates for mayor and five council persons placed in Luster's Field prior to our first election after incorporation in October 1990. Hub Harrington, Ron Luster, Patricia Crapet, Gary Dennis, Dr. Peter Peacock, and Stewart Dudley were the names on the balloon, rented from an Atlanta firm by Gary. Unfortunately the balloon deflated when the chute was cut from the air pump by unknown persons; undaunted, Gary communicated with Atlanta and arranged for a replacement.

In the summer of 1993 after Pelham had acquired Oak Mountain State Park (by legislative enactment in the middle of the night), Gary joined with an environmental group to prevent Pelham from building

a 300-foot radio communications tower near Peavine Falls atop Oak Mountain. Mayor Hub Harrington and Graeme and Anne Wilson were others among that group devoted to preserving the Park's natural attractions and beautiful skyline.

Gary and his first wife, Rhonda (Powell) Dennis were married in 1969. Though Rhonda was already suffering a terminal illness, they were among the steadfast supporters of incorporation to preserve the beauty of our valley and to prevent unwanted commercialization. They were in attendance at most of the meetings of like-minded citizens at Ron and Sandy Luster's home on Indian Trail to plan for a new town. Rhonda urged Gary to seek election as a councilman. These anecdotes illustrate the love Gary has for this area and his community involvement since moving here in 1981.

Gary is a veteran of the Vietnamese Conflict, having volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1969. After boot camp he was sent to non-commissioned officers' school at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. With the Corps of Engineers he did reconnaissance and intelligence work in Vietnam for one year. Gary holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Montevallo (where he met Rhonda). He then entered the University of Alabama at Birmingham's master's program in computer science.

Early jobs for Gary and Rhonda were in banks; later he joined IBM. In 1981 Gary and two others formed Mantissa Corporation; in 1985 he bought out the two partners. For a while, it was Gary in engineering maintenance and Rhonda taking care of administrative duties. In 1989, Gary's sister Diane was hired for documentation. Diane's background was in newspaper work. Today she is the support representative of the company, which creates, produces, and markets world wide computer software—products which help companies manage huge data centers. In 1981 the company was listed in *Inc.* magazine's list of fast-growing companies. Today, total employment in the United States is 24; in the United Kingdom, two; and Mantissa is preparing to open an office in Denmark. The company recently moved its headquarters from Homewood to Val leydale Road.

Two years after Rhonda's death, Gary married Sharon Ball, the chief financial officer of Mantissa. Sharon had been a very close friend to Rhonda and became an ISV enthusiast. A certified public accountant, Sharon is from Georgia, the daughter of a Baptist minister, and a graduate of Samford University. The Dennis family increased to six when Sharon joined the family with her son, John, now age 9.

The children are Brandon, age 26, studying cultural anthropology at UAB; Ashley, age 24, who hopes to become a veterinarian's assistant and is now caring for animals at Caldwell Mill Animal Clinic; and Kadic, age 19, at Auburn University and, incidentally, engaged to be married. Recent additions to the family are Jessie, age 2, and Jonah, 5 months. Sharon has taken a leave of absence from her position with the company to take care of the younger ones. Now adults, the three older children no longer live at home, but "someone is always passing through," and keeping track of six children is a tremendous job.

As councilman, Gary's principal duty is coordinating public services. After months of work, he has developed a web site for Indian Springs Village, which will include minutes of council meetings and copies of *The Village Voice* since 1991, planning & zoning ordinances, addresses and phone numbers of officials. The address, which may be accessed June 10, is www.mantissa.com/ISV.HTML

ISV Recycling Is June 16

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

The next collection date for aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, June 16. Please put your recycling out before 7:00 p.m. 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.

On May 19 our ISV recycling volunteers were Tom Atkison, Amy and Cheryl Rast, Margie and Herb Robins, Sharon Durbin, and Jackie and Art Johnson.

If you have not started recycling, please join the growing number of ISV residents who do. The primary reason for our recycling success is the efforts of all the town's recyclers. This community effort helps fund the community newsletter, *The Village Voice*. Thank you for all your accomplishments.

Village Personals

By Patricia Crapet, Bonnie Murphy, and Ruth Goodwyn

Accolades

You may have noticed that spring has sprung at the town hall. The blossoms that you see did not just materialize by themselves, though. The Indian Springs Garden Club has generously donated the beautiful spring flowers and shrubs that now adorn our flagpole area and the front of the town hall. Our thanks to **Frances Dudley**, **Bart Trammell**, and **Paul Stephens** for their contributions of time in planting and arranging this area.

The town hall is also having a bit of a facelift as well. Our thanks to **Roger Graves**, owner of **Graves Tile**, for his donation of time and expertise in laying the slate fireplace hearth in the parlor. Roger refused all of our attempts to pay for his services. If we had known he was going to be so gracious, we may have had more work done!

Announcement: New Benches

The walking track at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall grounds now has concrete benches in two shady areas around the track. The benches are a nice addition to the track area for those of you who may be in need of a little rest in between laps! This will be especially helpful for Villagers who may be recovering from illness or surgery and need to build up their stamina slowly.

Welcome to the Village

Jimmy and Karen Crane, now of 35 Star Trek Drive, know the virtues of life in ISV. Having moved from Homestead last October after living there for 10 years, they have been apartment dwellers for the past seven months while their new home was being built. Jimmy, a pharmacist, and Karen, a homemaker who rules the roost, have three children: **Taylor** and **Hannah**, who attend Oak Mountain Schools, and **Mary Claire**, who will attend at a later date. We welcome the Cranes back to the Village and wish them well in their new location.

Brand new to the Village are **Jack and Kathy Dickinson**, now of 1900 Indian Crest Drive. Jack and Kathy, along with their trusty 12-year-old dog, Chief, come to the Village from Memphis, Tennessee, and have been living in Weatherly while their new home was being completed. Jack is employed by General Motors. Though GM keeps the couple "rolling," the Dickinsons have already fallen in love with ISV and hope to stay here permanently. Welcome to the Village!

New Arrival

Congratulations to **Paul and Jana Hagan** of 5121 Hollow Log Lane in Homestead on the birth of their fourth son, **Fiedler MacDuff Hagan**, born on April 22 at Brookwood Hospital. Fiedler weighed nine pounds and is doing fine. Fiedler has three brothers; **Lane**, age 11, **Stuart**, age 6, and **Cameron**, age 2.

Congratulations

The Village congratulates **Sam Kehi**, son of **Ron and Dorothy** of the Homestead neighborhood, for having won Best in Show at the Birmingham Juried Art Show. Sam's sculpture was titled "Ascension." He graduated at the end of May from Birmingham Southern.

Announcement: "NO BURN" Policy

Shelby County has once again issued a "NO BURN" rule for the months of May, June, July, August, and September. There will be no outdoor burning allowed during these months due to the lack of good air quality. Jefferson County is also included in the "NO BURN" area.

A Blue Ribbon Winner

The prestigious Blue Ribbon award was won by Our Lady of the Valley Parochial School for 1998-1999, the first school in the Diocese of Birmingham to be named a Blue Ribbon school. Only one other school in the greater Birmingham area, Mountain Brook's Brookwood Forest Elementary, was so recognized.