



# The Village Voice

Vol. 9, No. 4

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

July 13, 1999

## INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Indian Springs Village Town Hall  
Tuesday, July 20, 1999 7:00 p.m.

### Agenda

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

Indian Springs Village Telephone  
Directory Number is 982-1755

Indian Springs Village Website:  
[www.manfissa.com/ISV.HTML](http://www.manfissa.com/ISV.HTML)

### 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.

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*The Village Voice* is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the August 1999 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Aug. 3. 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:

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

Oak Mountain High School is nearing completion. A very important aspect of school life is athletics. The following article is supplied to us from Carl Brunson, President, OMHS Athletic Boosters.

### OMHS SPORTS COMPLEX: A COMMUNITY PROJECT

The purpose of this article is to clear up many of the misconceptions, rumors, and confusion about the Heardmont Park project and in particular, the Oak Mountain School Sports Complex. **Here are the facts:**

Through the true sacrifice of much time and effort by the members of the Summit Foundation of Shelby County, over \$1 million has been raised to date toward the total park project. About \$150,000 to date has been pledged toward the OMHS Sports Complex; however, the cost of our stadium alone will be over \$1.5 million.

The OMHS Booster Club has arranged financing through a local bank for \$900,000 to complete the first phase of construction, so that we will be able to play our first home football game on August 27th.

With the loan, and those funds currently available from the Summit Foundation, we can only build the seating, lights, pressbox, and field. That **does not** include restrooms, a concession stand, dressing rooms for the players, or landscaping, etc.

We are now asking the people of Oak Mountain community to help raise the \$300,000 to \$500,000 needed to finish our home stadium. **There are two ways for the community to get involved:**

**First, make a donation to the Summit Foundation and designate it to the OMHS Sports Complex.** It would only take 500 people giving an average of \$1,000 to complete our dream.

**Second, join the OMHS Sports Foundation, better known as the "Eagle Club."** For the annual fee of only \$350 you will receive a host of benefits, including two season passes to all OMHS athletic events for the coming year, and special reserved seating and parking for all home football games. This project is something we can all take pride in, but only if we help build it. We are asking anyone who loves this community, currently has or will ever have kids who will play in this park to give sacrificially to this project. We owe it to ourselves. We owe it to our kids.

We don't live in Vestavia or Mountain Brook, and thank goodness we don't pay their property taxes. But, if we want this park, we've got to help pay for it. This high school and this park are two things desperately needed to bring us a "sense of community." Please choose to be a partner in this project. Please call Carl Brunson@991-8845 (night); Randy Fuller@980-5860 (day); or Deb Taylor@980-8889 (day).

--Carl Brunson, President  
OMHS Athletic Boosters

# The 1999 Amendment-- What Does It mean to NSFD?

By Lindsey J. Allison, Shelby County Commissioner, District 7

Since 1986, legislative acts have been introduced by various cities to amend the Shelby County special legislation allowing for the formation and management for fire and emergency districts. Further, the Shelby County legislative delegation throughout the 1990's was lobbied to modify the act, principally for a buy-out provision for annexed property by adjoining municipalities. In 1997, the legislative delegation announced that in the 1999 legislative session the Shelby County special act for fire and emergency districts would be modified to reflect various requests. A public hearing was held allowing numerous suggestions and complaints to be aired. Fortunately, the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District (NSFD) Board of Trustees took a very active role in negotiating the modifications to the act. The outcome is an amendment signed by the governor on May 25, 1999. The modifications include not only a very detailed buy-out provision but also redrafts the district's election process and allows for a district to annex property.

The highlights of a 22 page amended act are as follows:

## A. Buy-out Provisions for Annexed Property by a Municipality with a Fire Department:

1. Property annexed prior to May 25, 1999 requires a buy-out provision of either six (6) times the preceding year's dues by September 22, 1999, or payment over eight (8) years of the preceding year's dues unless the property is sold during the payment period; then the entire balance is due at time of sale.

2. Property annexed after May 25, 1999 requires a buy-out sum of six (6) times the preceding year's dues prior to the annexation.

The district maintains all collection remedies until the buy-out provisions are satisfied. These collection remedies include a statutory lien enforceable by foreclosure pursuant to the municipal code. Of particular importance to the district, as the date of the amended act, the statutory obligation to provide fire and emergency services to properties or entities who have previously been annexed by a municipality cease. The district is relieved of any legal liability either as of the date of this act or in the future, the date of annexation. Further, property owners removed from the district will not be allowed to vote or participate in the management of the district.

## B. Elections:

In the future, elections will be managed by the Board of

Trustees. The Probate Judge will be required to certify results and approve various election processes, but the primary responsibility for conducting an election will be on the Board of Trustees. This should save the district substantial monies.

## C. Annexations and Mergers:

The district can now annex (enlarge) and merge with another district in a comparable procedure as municipalities. Naturally, any such annexation or merger requires notice to either district members or affected property owners.

## D. Other Additions:

The lengthy amendment also addresses the ability of the Board of Trustees to increase service charges without a vote of the residences. The Board may increase the service charge by five percent (5%) of the preceding year's dues. The act further requires publication of an annual audit conducted by an independent certified public accountant. The district's fire chief, pursuant the act, now has duties of an associate state fire marshal.

Hopefully this summary of the amendment is helpful to Indian Springs residents. Copies of the act are available at the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

## Comments from the Chief

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The quality of service which residents have come to associate with NSFD will not be affected, Fire Chief Michael O'Connor has said. His office has received some calls from district residents who have been annexed into municipalities to comment that they really don't want NSFD services discontinued. In some cases it's a matter of one of the three North Shelby fire stations being closer to them than the municipality's; in other situations citizens have used NSFD previously and have been well satisfied with services. "It is a positive thing to get such feedback," he said. Some calls have been received from homeowners in NSFD/municipalities angry about being required to pay the buyout.

The impact of the amendment will be the loss of approximately \$393,000 per year in revenue to the district, a large percentage of the annual budget and about the same as the district's current debt of over \$400,000. Salaries and operating costs are the main expenses, then debt service; then monies are spent for upgrading and improving services and for new equipment. The NSFD Board of Trustees is searching for means to compensate for the future loss of revenue. The President of the Board is Jim Wyatt; other local members are Charles Waldrop and Martha Geyer.

# Celebration Is Satisfying

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

After a week of daily rain, the Village's annual Fourth of July celebration got underway under a clear blue sky on a hot and humid Saturday, July 3rd.

After a fresh coat of paint, window replacements, and other repairs, the town hall sparkled. After weeks of fertilizing, reseeding, and mowing, the grounds were lush and green. After fans rented for the occasion were turned on full blast, it was tolerably cool in the shade.

This was the setting for the main social event in Indian Springs Village which had begun at 2:00 a.m. for barbecue chefs Paul Stephens, Bart Trammell, Jim Boyett and Buzz Kelly. They went to breakfast. An hour later they were at the pavilion's pits, in all turning 85 slabs of ribs and 126 half chickens. Barbecued Boston butts (enough for 80 people) were ready for chopped barbecue.

By 7:00 a.m. Nelda Kelly and the decorating committee were blowing up balloons and gathering them in clusters to adorn the area around the flagpole and all the way to the pavilion where they also served as table decorations. Nelda's daughter, Ruth Kennedy, and her friend, Katherine Otto, helped. Katherine's son Christopher kept Nelda straight on balloon clusters, making sure there was a red, white, and blue one in each bunch. Buzz Kelly's sister, Marie Wilson (now of Alabaster), who lived with the Kellys for over a year when Buzz's mother was ill, were helpers, along with another of Buzz's sisters (he has five), Ora Mull and son, Edwin, of Atlanta.

Del Levesque, new to the Village, volunteered to serve on the decorating committee at the June council meeting after learning of the July 4th festivities. She also contributed to the array of desserts.

Participants in the parade lined up at 10:00 a. m. at the Winn-Dixie parking lot under the direction of Dorothy Carlisle. The 30-minute parade through the Village was led by Sheriff James Jones, wife Debbie, and son, Buck, with a familiar lime-green fire truck from the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District sounding its horn and bringing up the rear. Those with special vehicles were Joseph C. Lewellyn (1927 Model-T Ford), Van and Representative Mary Sue McClurkin (1966 Mustang), E. L. Neumann (1957 T-Bird), Jim Wilson (1932 Ford Touring Car), Jack and Bootsie Barry (1976 Cadillac convertible), Paul and Trudy Skokel (1995 "Bad Boy" Harley Davidson), Dale and Erik Brakhage (1969 Ford Mach 1 Mustang), and Kevin Miller (1982 Ford van) accompanied by members of his Scout troop who had a good time and enjoyed throwing candy at the on-lookers.

Others participating in the parade were Commissioner and Mrs. Don Armstrong, Barry Scooter and son, Jackson, Lou and Tommye Workman (1990 Jaguar XJS), Malcolm Farr, Steve and Peggy Ellison with riders Tiffany Hill, and Lindsey and Madeleine Ward.

Others registered were Senator Bill Armistead, James Lynch (registered for both a 1995 Chevy Truck and a 1970 Cutlass Supreme SX), Harry and Bee Little (white truck) with riders Jack and Davis Little, also Sharon Dennis and children John and Jessie; Todd and Carolyn Smith and Joyce Gates; Hub Harrington & son Michael and Michael Nordyke; Bobbie Aultman and Dorothy Carlisle in a 1998 4-runner pulling a decorated trailer with children Joey and Bena Aultman and Adam and Matthew Carlisle.

Bruce Benford, assisted by some of the Boy Scouts from Troop 254, directed cars to parking places, and promptly at 11:30 a. m. Mayor Gene Weingarten opened the ceremony with the pledge of allegiance led by five Boy Scouts and Scoutmaster Kevin Miller. The mayor introduced special guests: Sheriff James Jones, Shelby County Commissioners Don Armstrong and Lindsey Allison, Senator Bill Armistead, Representative Mary Sue McClurkin, and Probate Judge Patricia Fuhrmeister.

The ticket booth manned by Bob and Katie Konecny had been open for some time, and after the invocation by Ron Luster the serving began. Councilman Herb Robins, chairman of the food committee, listed the volunteers who served:

All of the barbecue chefs, Harry Little, Connie Trammell, Madeline Johnson, Delores Gilbert, Ron and Sandy Luster, Councilman Art Johnson and wife, Jackie, Allison Stigers, Jane Martin, Margie Robins, Norm and Barbara Bradley with Carlye, David and Tiffany, Benton and Jean Baker (he was wearing a red, white, and blue "umbrella" hat), Lindsey Allison, Pat Potter, Jamie Wood, and Van McClurkin. Barbecue, slaw, and baked beans were the main staples, plus hot dogs. A side dish was sliced cucumbers from Ed Goodwyn's garden.

Nora Boyett and Lola Stephens at the dessert tent served luscious home-baked goodies, including blackberry and blueberry cobblers. Known to have contributed from their kitchens are Nelda Kelly, Del Levesque, Leigh Fran Jones, Micky Farmer, Virginia Lusk, Betty Michaels, Ruth Goodwyn, Jackie Johnson, Madeline Johnson, Frances Dudley, Carolyn Bodie, Lola Stephens, Connie Trammell, April Benford, Nora Boyett, and Teri Wells.

Special thanks go to disc jockey Roy Halvorson for providing the musical background, to the Shelby County Sheriff's Department for traffic control, and to Pure Pack Ice of Pelham for the machine to keep the food cold.

# Town Council Highlights

June 15, 1999

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, June 15, 1999, at 7:00 p.m. in the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, and Stewart Dudley present.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved as written. Town Clerk Paul Stephens announced the revenue for the month were: beer taxes, \$882.43; motor vehicle licenses, \$236.78; aluminum can recycling, \$129.60; state licenses, \$5.93; Birmingham Racing Commission, \$641; and road funds, \$812.05. The balance in the general fund was \$122,220, and the balance in the road fund was \$84,819.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported that he has been in contact with the cable entity that serves our town regarding the possibility that the revenues that they are sending have not been accurate since the merger of Shelby and Marcus Cable companies. Since Charter Communications has bought out Marcus Cable, the matter needs to be resolved as quickly as possible.

Councilman Art Johnson expressed the need for volunteers for the ISV aluminum can recycling program. Several volunteers have been lost in the last few months due to various personal reasons, and not enough volunteers have come forward to replace those who have dropped out. The recycling effort pays for the publication of *The Village Voice*.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the repairs and maintenance of the town hall were going well and that most would be completed before the July Fourth celebration. Councilman Herb Robins reported that the field behind the pavilion, and the area around it as well, had been reseeded and fertilized. The flower beds had all been refurbished by volunteers.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt presented two petitions for annexation by contiguous property owners, Warren and Leigh Fran Jones, 80 Star Trek Drive, and John and Elaine Connell, 34 Star Trek Drive. The petitions were considered immediately following a unanimous vote to suspend the rules. Both petitions were adopted unanimously.

Gerald Templeton, Chairman of the ISV Zoning and Planning Commission, updated the council on the status of the wireless telecommunications, erosion and sedimentation, and pool ordinances that are now before his committee. The proposed ordinances are being considered by the board, and if recommended, will be presented to the council at a later date.

## ISV June Building Permits

The building permits approved in June by Marty Martin, Town Engineer, are as follows:

- 1005 Indian Trail Road - barn
- 190 Valley View Lane - attached garage
- 5205 Old Mill Cove - siding; screen deck
- 1530 Indian Crest Drive - garage
- 2651 Valleydale Road - marquee sign

## Town Hall Reservations

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Hall and Picnic Pavilion are a great asset to our community. These facilities are available for use by residents of ISV only, and, currently, at no cost. For the town to continue this policy, all users should treat the facilities and grounds with great care, making sure that no damage to the property occurs and that the area is left clean for the next group. To schedule a reservation, please call my voice mail (802-2753) and leave a detailed message. I will return your call as soon as possible. Due to potential conflicts, all users of the house or pavilion must make a reservation! A copy of the rules for use are posted at the Town Hall and are given to all who make a reservation.

## "No Burn" Policy

Although rainfall has been ample lately, during the months of May-September a prohibition is in effect regarding open burning. Construction practices must comply with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management's (ADEM) regulations. The burning of untreated wood, tree trimmings, brush or plant growth generated by clearing or maintenance of land, or from demolition or other practices, is prohibited. Also prohibited is open burning conducted for erection of any structure, construction of any transportation, utility, or communications line, maintenance of rights of way, development or modification of a recreational area or park, and plant husbandry practices. Specific questions may be directed to the ADEM office at 942-6168.

# ISV Recycling Is July 21

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, July 21. 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.

The June recycling volunteers were Russ and Pat Favorite, Margie and Herb Robins, Bob and Sharon Durbin, and Jackie and Art Johnson.

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

## Adopt-a-Mile/Litter Walk

An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, August 14, at the town hall at 8:30 a.m., followed by a litter walk. The litter walk will be on Indian Crest Drive near Caldwell Mill Road.

Every Villager has an important stake in the appearance of our roads, and our town is judged by the pride we all take in keeping all our roadsides clean from litter. Everyone willing to pick up roadside litter, please attend the organizational meeting at the town hall.

## Village Personals

By Ruth Goodwyn and Patricia Crapet

### Welcome New Villagers

Newcomers at 16 Indian Crest Drive are **James and Patricia Alexander** ("Patti") and daughter, **Lacey Garner**, who just turned 11 in June. The Alexanders moved here from a 50-acre farm in Blount County, and James is glad to be closer to his work. He is with the hardwood flooring division of Iسس & Sons, Pelham. From the farm the Alexanders brought two quarter horses, "Blaze" and "Dixie," along with other pets, two miniature shelties and one poodle.

**Robert and Del Levesque** have recently moved here from western New York, making their home at 115 Willow Ridge Lane. Bob is a group chief financial officer at Hillcrest Behavioral Health Services in Birmingham, which is a facility of Ramsay Youth Services, Inc. Del is an elementary school teacher and a published writer as well. Their son David, age 27, and daughter Jennifer, age 23, remain in New York. In addition the Levesques have two house cats named "Duke" and "Bobby." They are very happy with the move and feel blessed to be enjoying southern hospitality.

Both families have already been favored with gifts of corn and other vegetables from the bountiful garden of Jim and Nora Boyett.

### New House Going Up

The structure on Jasmine Hill Road and Highway 119 will be the new home of **Jon and Sandra Strength** and daughter **Amanda**. Jon is with Gonzalez, Webb, and Strength, an engineering firm.

### Best Wishes for Recovery

**Fred Lewis** of Choctaw Lane is recovering at home under Frances's care after a brief hospital stay. We wish him a speedy recovery.

### Congratulations

**Troy Farmer**, a Pelham High School senior, was elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Place 4 during the 62nd annual Boys State, held in June at the University of Montevallo. Additionally, Troy was a Boys State Citizenship Award winner. This award, given in recognition of outstanding involvement, participation, and leadership during Boys State, includes a full tuition scholarship to the University of Montevallo. Troy is the son of Bill and Mickey Farmer, Parkview Circle.

Sponsored by the American Legion, Alabama Boys State is a leadership program for young men who have completed their junior year of high school and are expected to be a campus leader during their senior year. It provides delegates with a working knowledge of how our government functions on the city, county, and state levels. Acceptance into Boys State is granted by invitation only; delegates are selected by their school faculty and community leaders.

### Thanks to Evelyn

*The Heritage of Shelby County, Alabama*, has been presented to the town by **Evelyn Harper** of Indian Forest in loving memory of her husband Earl, 1928-1999. The 425-page book covers the history of cities and communities (ISV is on page 23), homes, educational facilities, business and professional organizations—even ghost stories—sketches of individual families, including some of your neighbors, and much more.

The volume is of the limited first edition and will be kept by Ruth Goodwyn, town historian. Villagers who would like to borrow the book may check it out as they would a library book.

### Correction

Last month's announcement of the birth of Paul and Jana Hagan's fourth son incorrectly listed the newborn's name as Fiedler McDuff Hagan. The bundle of joy's name is actually **Fielder**, who later in life will surely be glad that *The Village Voice* was in error!