

The Village Voice

Vol. 9, No. 7

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

October 12, 1999

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING Indian Springs Village Town Hall Picnic Pavilion

Tuesday, Oct. 19, 1999 7:00 p.m.

Picnic from 6-7:00; meeting at 7:00

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.mantissa.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.

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 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 Nov. 1999 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Nov. 2. All materials submitted for publication will be edited. *The Village Voice* welcomes signed letters to the editor; they will be published if space permits. 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

HAPPY NINTH BIRTHDAY INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE



Founders' Day Celebration
Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Free

***Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks
and Home-Made Desserts***

***Come celebrate the founding of your town
with friends, family, and neighbors!***

**Food served from 6:00 p.m.
Town Council meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.**

****Bring a dessert to share****

Town Council Highlights

September 21, 1999

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, September 21, 1999, at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided. No business could be conducted in the absence of a quorum, Herb Robins and Art Johnson being the only two of five councilpersons present.

In opening remarks, the mayor reminded everyone of the Founders' Day celebration in October prior to the council meeting. (See page 1.) Volunteers are needed for the celebration, Herb Robins reported. Serving begins at 6:00 p.m.

Town Clerk Paul Stephens reported revenues of the month as follows: beer taxes, \$838, motor vehicle licenses, \$622, permits, \$713, aluminum can recycling, \$102.60, road fund receipts, \$836. The balance in the general fund was reported at \$120,750 and the road fund balance, \$87,424.

Councilman Art Johnson reported that the pickup of aluminum cans last month amounted to 342 lbs. He also reported that Cheryl Rast and her husband were moving out of Indian Springs Village and that volunteers would be needed as replacements.

Councilman Herb Robins reported that bark problems had been noted on three or four trees on the town hall grounds. The Pothole Crew has already mulched the trees for winter. He had prepared for a meeting a rough draft of a proposal concerning road responsibility to be reviewed by the mayor and Russ Allison, town attorney, and then by the council. In commenting on the new traffic light at the intersection of Caldwell Mill Road and Indian Crest Drive, he said that a "Stop Here on Red," or similar sign needed to be erected for drivers in the long-standing habit of going further into the intersection to see if traffic was clear in both directions. He commented that the heavy traffic around the four Oak Mountain schools seems to be moving smoothly.

A discussion initiated by citizens followed concerning the confusion and misunderstanding caused by the Birmingham and Pelham zip codes used in Indian Springs Village, ISV having no post office of its own and hence no zip code. It was pointed out that Villagers individually should enlighten all government entities dealt with on a personal basis as to their actual place of residence, Indian Springs Village, regardless of zip code, to ensure that tax monies come back to the Village, not to Pelham or Birmingham.

Jim Wyatt, Assistant Town Clerk, said that the issue of creating walking/biking trails throughout the U.S.A. was still

alive and being pushed by Vice-President Al Gore and the environmentalists. The trail proposed for this area would stretch from Highways 280 to 31, hitting Indian Springs Village and taking away property belonging to residents.

As President of the Board of Trustees of the North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District (NSFD), Jim Wyatt reminded those present that the state legislature had passed an amendment (signed May 25, 1999 by the governor) specifying buyouts of NSFD service charges by Hoover and Birmingham residents living in NSFD and a municipal fire district and paying annual service charges to both districts. This action cut our NSFD boundaries by one-third, Wyatt said. He warned that after the buyout of six annual payments had been collected from these residents the NSFD would be seeking needed revenue and likely would be forced to raise fire district service charges.

Since no quorum was present the council could not act on a recommendation for an ordinance on wireless telecommunication facilities and towers prepared by Gerald Templeton, chairman, and the Zoning and Planning Commission. In reference to the flood insurance status for townspeople affected by flooding in ISV, he said that the National Flood Insurance Program recognizes the Village as an entity, as ISV is now listed on their web site.

ISV Recycling Is October 20

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place #4

Aluminum can recycling is Wednesday evening, October 20. Please put your recycling out before 7:00 p.m., opposite your normal trash pickup, and to help our volunteers please use light-colored or clear plastic bags and tie the top of each with a knot. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

September was the last month Cheryl and Amy Rast will be helping the recycling team. The Rasts are moving out of Indian Springs Village, and they will be missed. The Rasts were always very active in town events, recycling, and litter walks, and were active in the Boy Scouts. We welcomed two new members of the recycling team, Nancy Johnson and Pat Potter. Thank you for volunteering. Our volunteers are indispensable, and they provide you with the luxury of curb side pickup.

Your recycling volunteers in September were Amy and Cheryl Rast, Nancy Johnson and Pat Potter, Paul Scokel and son, Margie and Herb Robins, and Art Johnson.

For more information on recycling, please call 988-3217. Proceeds from recycling help support *The Village Voice*.

A Message From the Mayor

By Gene Weingarten, Mayor

On October 19 our monthly city council meeting will be preceded by the annual Founders' Day celebration. The details are announced in this issue of *The Village Voice*. Nine years have elapsed since our community became an incorporated town. Some of those years, those with snow storms and tornadoes, were very tumultuous. But our little town we call ISV, or the Village, survived and prospered. Our financial position has grown each year, and we are proud of our zero tax status!

There is not enough room in this column to enumerate all the accomplishments which have taken place in our short life span. Annual events like the Easter Egg Hunt, Fourth of July BBQ, Founders' Day, Christmas celebration, etc., have become institutions. The walking track, BBQ pavilion, refurbished town hall, landscaping of grounds--these are accomplishments of which we can be proud.

Visitors using the town hall and pavilion have increased each year. These facilities have hosted family reunions, wedding receptions, meetings, temporary Sheriff's sub station; you name it and ISV has provided a home. All this would be impossible without the constant attention of a loyal group of volunteers. We have no paid employes! Thank you, volunteers.

Just to mention a few additions: two new weather alert sirens and another on the way, our flag pole, and planters cared for by the Cahaba Valley Garden Club, and chairs and tables along the walking track.

Monumental to our neighborhood: The new North Shelby Library, the new Oak Mountain High School (to complement the elementary, intermediate, and middle schools) and Heardmont Farm (with the OMHS stadium, walking tracks, Senior Citizens' center, Sheriff's permanent station, baseball and soccer fields, tennis courts, and more). And, the beautiful Indian Springs School Town Hall, their performing arts center. And there is more. You need to take a Sunday afternoon ride and personally review this great and marvelous area in which we live. We look forward to another outstanding nine years--and more.

Building Permit Requests

By Marty Martin, Town Engineer

The following requests were approved: Harley, 480 Bent Tree Acres, pool; RiteAid, new pharmacy; Callahan, 400 Indian Trail, house addition.

A request for site grading at the Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy is pending.

Library Has Various Activities

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Have you visited the new North Shelby Library? Architecturally it is a magnificent structure with a variety of activities for patrons. Director Nancy Sims Donahoo, Board of Trustees president Ann Tharpe, and others involved are to be commended for the erection of this beautiful building. I am reminded of a line from a book read in childhood, *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, which goes like this: "Pink keeps just as nice as brown, and it's much prettier." Young Rebecca pointed this out to her mother while choosing material for a new dress. A building is a building, but if you can have an imaginative one for approximately the same money as a nondescript one, why not?

Every Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. in the bright, comfortable children's section Mr. Mac conducts the morning story time with songs and stories. Your children will be introduced to classic favorites as well as new books while they make new friends.

Now you can have a one-on-one introduction to the Internet by calling Rachel Matre at 439-5510 for a Wednesday morning appointment between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. After your 30-minute session you'll be able to sign on to the Internet and find sites that are of interest to you.

Library Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Help Needed for Family

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

A year ago an appeal for help was made in *The Village Voice* for an indigent Alabaster family which the daughter of Paul and Lola Stephens had befriended. Villagers not only donated a needed refrigerator, but also gave cash contributions which bought the family a new stove.

Circumstances have gone from bad to worse for this family. They are now homeless, as their house, reminiscent of one in a *Barney Google and Snuffy Smith* comic strip, has literally fallen to the ground. In addition, the father, who already had back injuries from an accident, recently suffered a heart attack. The mother has diabetes and frequently has comas. Two elementary-age children are involved, a boy and a girl, whom the parents love dearly and care for as well as they are able to. The family is now sharing the home of a relative, living with others in the cramped household.

The plot of ground on which the rickety home stood is owned by the father's mother. The ground has been cleared. Lola and her daughter, Terry, have racked their brains to think of a way this family could be helped and came up with the idea of a used trailer. Does anyone in the Village have means of obtaining a used trailer to donate to this homeless family? Or, if you have any ideas as to how to solve their problem, please call Lola Stephens at 988-4672.

Village Personals

By Ruth Goodwyn and Patricia Crapet

In Sympathy

Another death affecting the **Walter and Zebra Stockli family** of 1130 Alpine Way occurred in the aftermath of the August 17 massive earthquake in Yalova, Turkey. **Dr. Turkan H. Kilic**, mother of Mrs. Stockli, died as a result of injuries suffered during the quake on the same day the family was burying four of her grandchildren killed in the tragedy, nieces and nephews of Mrs. Stockli.

Mrs. Stockli's father, Dr. Nizamettin Kilic, was also killed in the earthquake. Her mother, Dr. Turkan Kilic, had been flown for treatment to Marietta, GA, where she and her husband lived, but her injuries were too severe for her survival.

The Doctors Kilic had lived and practiced in Birmingham for many years, but moved to Georgia four years ago where 10 of their grandchildren lived, children of Mrs. Stockli's three brothers, all physicians in Georgia. The four children who died in the earthquake were those of Dr. Babur N. (Bobby) and Jan Kemp Kilic. One of their five children was buried in the rubble of the quake but later found alive and survived. The children and their mother were visiting at their grandparents' summer home in Turkey.

Villagers extend sympathy to this family in suffering the loss of so many (6), in this tragedy.

Accolades

Many thanks to **Harry and Bee Little** for the contribution of three truck loads of mulch. Bart Trammell, Jim Boyett, and Paul Stephens have already distributed the mulch around trees and shrubs on the grounds of the town hall to prepare them for winter.

Literary Donations Needed

Meredith Rucker, Village resident and 8th grader at Oak Mountain Middle School, needs your help in a community service project. Meredith, a member of Girl Scout Troop 142, is asking residents to donate books in good condition to help stock the shelves of school libraries in Greene County, one of the poorest areas of Alabama. Their school district was recently taken over by the Alabama State Board of Education because of their continuous low-test scores. The illiteracy rates for this county are among the highest in the nation.

To help increase their library resources, the Girl Scouts are sponsoring an educational support drive. **The types of materials needed include new or used books (in good condition, please) for all reading levels, reading and math readiness resources, and educational videos or tapes. Teaching materials and classroom supplies are also welcome.**

If you or other family members have outgrown any of these type materials, Meredith, chauffeured by mom, Jennifer, or dad, Phil, will be glad to come and pick them up. Meredith will collect and sort these books through Sunday, November 21. If you can help, please call Jennifer Rucker at 987-1508. Not only will you help Meredith fulfill a community service project for scouts and her church, too, but also give underprivileged kids new resources that can help boost their learning opportunities.

Welcome New Villagers

Indian Springs Village welcomes **Diane and B. J. Humphries** to 215 Brookgreen Lane. Diane and B. J. have two children, **Olen**, age 4, and **Jessie**, age 2. They own Humphries Elevator.

Also new to the Village are **Steve and Laurie Shotnik**, 260 Brookgreen Lane. The Shotniks have two children, **Parker**, age 3, and **Grant**, age 2. Steve is employed by Jim Wilson Enterprises, while Laurie is the owner of Kaboodles, a store located in the Riverchase Galleria. The family comes to ISV from the Valleydale area.

A warm welcome goes to **Ken and GiGi Pitchford**, 200 Mountain Vista. The couple have two children, **Christopher**, age 5, and **Austin**, age 3. The family comes to ISV from Helena. Welcome to the Village!

"Wetlands" Cleanup Scheduled

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Villagers and members of the Oak Mountain Community are invited to bring shovels, picks, and other outdoor tools to Oak Mountain Elementary School on October 23, 9:00-11:00 a.m. The occasion is to clean up the Wetlands, an area directly behind the school which has become a classroom for many of the students on designated days of each month.

Kim Mabry from Wagon Trace, former science teacher now parent volunteer in charge of the Wetlands this year, said that getting up kudzu and privet, a small hedge-like bush, would be the object of the cleanup.

Located on Cahaba Valley Creek, the Wetlands is a federally-protected area of about two blocks, if you walk around it, with about 18 benches for third graders' conservation study, meeting two times a month for 45-minute classes. Activities so far have included building a compost pile and studying log decomposition, identifying native plants and planting wild flowers, and testing water quality two times a month, to name a few.

Lesson plans supplied by the Cahaba River Society will be followed next spring. Students will build a terrarium, plant azaleas, learn to read topographical maps, study soil erosion, and build bluebird houses. Led this year by Mrs. Mabry, the Wetlands project is a volunteer program. Grades K, 1 and 2 are involved five times a month in Wetlands activities. On other days these grades go to the "Four Corners Lab," a science laboratory so named because the four corners are dedicated to the study of the rainforest, ocean, mountains, and desert.

Historical Society Election

New officers and Board of Directors will be elected at the quarterly meeting of the Shelby County Historical Society Sunday, November 7. The 2:00 p. m. meeting will be held upstairs in the Shelby County Archives & Museum building, Columbiana.