

# The Village Voice



Volume 12, Number 10

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

January 14, 2003

## INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 21, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 4, 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

For Town Hall Reservations please call  
Patricia Crapet Voice Mail 802-2753 or  
E-mail: ISVillage@aol.com

Website: [www.indianspringsvillage.org](http://www.indianspringsvillage.org)

### 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 and news items to: Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Editor, 151 Choctaw Lane, Indian Springs, Alabama, 35124 phone number (988-0896), or e-mail [Ruthgoodwyn@aol.com](mailto:Ruthgoodwyn@aol.com). Questions about circulation should be addressed to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Rd., Indian Springs, AL 35124 (802-2753) or e-mail [ISVillage@aol.com](mailto:ISVillage@aol.com). Reporter for the Homestead neighborhood is Jana Hagan, 5121 Hollow Log Lane, Birmingham 35244 (980-9419) or e-mail: [byzx4nblsd@aol.com](mailto:byzx4nblsd@aol.com).

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the February 2003 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Feb 4. 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 expressed 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

The following message is provided by Shelby County Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Evan Major. The spiraling number of students in our county has become a monumental challenge for the school board and must be addressed by Indian Springs Villagers, along with all Shelby Countians.

On behalf of the Shelby County Board of Education, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! As we enter 2003, the Board of Education is hard at work planning for the future of our students. The most important of these plans is a Five Year Capital Improvement Plan, with various construction projects at schools located in all eight high school zones. The estimated cost of the comprehensive plan is between \$135-150 million.

Shelby County is one of the fastest growing school systems in the state, experiencing a 34% increase in student enrollment from May 1992 to October 2002. This plan includes the construction of 250 new classrooms, which is designed to minimize and/or eliminate the need for portable classrooms over the next five years as the inevitable growth continues at a projected rate of 700 to 800 students per year.

Because there is currently no funding available for the five-year plan, the Board of Education will more than likely ask the citizens of Shelby County to pass an eight to 10-mil property tax increase. The Shelby County School System has made significant gains in reducing the number of portable classrooms thanks to an 8-mil tax that was passed in 1997. There were 18,656 students enrolled in Shelby County Schools when that tax was passed, compared to the current enrollment of 21,838. The funding from the 1997 tax referendum has allowed Shelby County to construct and open five new schools, including Oak Mountain High School and Valley Intermediate School. The funding also allowed us to add over 100 new classrooms, bringing the total number of portable classrooms from 150 to 10.

However, the number of portable classrooms is expected to steadily increase and eventually reach 250 within five years if the system doesn't build permanent classrooms to house the students projected to be enrolled in the system. The new plan calls for a combination of new schools and classroom additions to address the growth problems. Proposed new schools in the plan include replacement schools for Calera High School, Chelsea Elementary School, Valley Elementary School, and Thompson Intermediate School. The plan also includes a new elementary school site for Calera, and adding two new middle schools to serve Helena and Pelham.

In addition to the new schools, the plan also calls for the conversion of the current Chelsea Elementary for middle school use and extensive classroom additions at nearly every school in the system. The plan will also address other needs such as creating additional parking, exterior and interior renovations, and the expansion of cafeterias and gymnasiums at several schools.

(continued on page 2)

**Town of Indian Springs Village  
Projected Revenues for Fiscal Year 2003  
GENERAL FUND**

Investment Portfolio:	
With Union State Bank:	
1 - 12 month C.D. (3%) (March)	100,000
1 - 12 month C.C. (3%) (March)	100,000
1 - 12 month C.D. (3%) (April)	100,000
Charter Communications	15,000
Alabama Power Co.	66,000
Alabama Gas Co.	20,000
Pelham Water	8,000
Aluminum cans	500
Alcohol taxes	12,000
Permits	7,000
4th of July	1,500
Misc. taxes	2,500
Zoning fees	1,000
Off-shore oil revenue fund	7,000
Interest income	9,000
Business licenses	1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151,000</b>
<b>ROAD FUND</b>	<b>13,000</b>

**Projected Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2003  
GENERAL FUND**

Web site	1,000
Engineering fees	7,000
ADEM	2,000
4th July/Founders'Day/Easter	6,000
Insurance	4,000
Office supplies	1,500
Maintenance & improvements	9,000
Professional fees	2,000
Recording fees	300
Utilities	4,000
Mileage	700
Accounting expense (audit)	2,500
Miscellaneous	2,000
Village Voice	6,000
Dues	1,000
Car allowance (City Clerk)	5,200
Car allowance (Chief Financial Officer)	5,200
Contingency fee	10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,400</b>
<b>ROAD FUND</b>	
<b>TOTAL (Maintenance)</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Current balance in regular account:</b>	<b>85,062</b>
<b>Current balance in road account</b>	<b>60,599</b>
<b>Current balance in Children's Fund</b>	<b>2,600</b>

## *A Message From the Mayor (cont.)*

**Shelby County Schools Improvement Plan  
Evan Major, Superintendent**

All of these plans are being proposed in order to create the very best learning environments for our students. I am very proud of the academic achievements of our Shelby County students, who continue to score above the state and national averages on the Stanford Achievement (SAT), ACT, and Alabama Graduation Exam. This year we are extremely proud to have 12 students who have been named National Merit Semi-Finalists, including nine from Oak Mountain High School. We are also being recognized for our efforts to implement technology in the classroom, including the creative use of hand-held computers and distance learning equipment.

Thank you for your support of the Shelby County School System. I know that we can count on your continued support to ensure that our students are given the very best opportunities for academic success.

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### A Note of Appreciation

**We all owe appreciation to Jane Martin for her many years of devoted service on the ISV Planning & Zoning Commission, and to Nelda Kelley for agreeing to serve on this important body.**

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## Update on Comprehensive Plan

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

Councilman Brian Stauss, a member of the Zoning and Planning Commission chaired by Jerry Templeton, reports that all committees formed to review and revise portions of the KPS Comprehensive Plan are filled with one exception: Implementation and Financing. The teams are at work to meet the February 11 goal to have written recommendations finished and turned in to the Zoning and Planning Commission. Villagers may check our website, [www.indianspringsvillage.org](http://www.indianspringsvillage.org) for updates.

## Wildlife Volunteers Needed

*By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor*

The Alabama Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at Oak Mountain State Park needs your skills and hard work to help with animal care, educational tours, emergency telephone response, carpentry, or office work. The next training session for new volunteers is set for Sunday, January 19, 2003, from 1:30 p. m. until 5:00 p. m. at the Wildlife Center. To receive your volunteer information packet, please call 663-7930.

## Village Recycling - Jan. 22

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place # 4

Aluminum recycling is Wednesday evening, January 22. Please take your recycling to the curbside before 7:00 p.m. To help our volunteers identify your recycling, please use light-colored or clear plastic bags and place your recycling on the other side of the driveway from your Waste Management garbage pickup. Please tie your recycling bag with a knot. If the bags are not tied, our volunteers have to take extra time to tie them. Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and the entrances to Homestead.

In December your recycling team members were Margie and Herb Robins, Trudy and Paul Scokel, Russ and Pat Favorite, Bo Holmes and Art Johnson. Brian Stauss brought the recycling trailer to the town hall.

If you are not recycling, please join the growing number of ISV residents who recycle. Recycling just one aluminum can will save up to 95 percent of the energy needed to produce it from raw materials. Your participation is the primary reason for ISV's recycling success. Thank You for recycling in 2002. Proceeds from recycling help to fund this newsletter, *The Village Voice*.

## Building Permits Requested

By Marty Martin, Town Engineer

Permit requests for December are listed by address, applicant, request, action taken:

AL Highway 119, Ritch Brown, open air market, denied  
2387 Willowbrook Circle, Norton Building Co., house addition, approved.

## A Letter of Appreciation

*Editor's note: The November issue of The Village Voice carried an article by Councilman Brian Stauss, "Computer Looking for New Home." The five-year-old computer was free for the asking. This letter is from the recipient.*

The Mayor and Council Members  
Town of Indian Springs Village

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I would like to express my appreciation for the thoughtfulness and endeavors to "recycle" the computer and equipment which you made available. I appreciate the opportunity to receive it to insure further usage.

I know you all will enjoy very much the new system at Town Hall, and the older one will certainly be put to good use. Thank you so much.

I wish all of you the best and most joyous holiday season.  
Respectfully,  
Margaret Mickle

## A List of "Firsts" and Historical Events for Indian Springs Village

Compiled by Bart Trammell from Village Voice archives

- October 16, 1990 Town of Indian Springs established by vote of citizens
- December 8, 1990 First wedding in town--Julie Wyatt and Russell Schenk
- January 1991 Election of first mayor and town council
- February 12, 1991 Installation of first mayor and town council (Indian Springs School library)
- February 26, 1991 First town council meeting (held at Indian Springs School Town Hall)
- April 2, 1991 Publication of first *Village Voice*
- April 4, 1991 First newborn--Micah Alan Keith
- July 4, 1991 First Fourth of July celebration (Indian Springs School grounds)
- October 17, 1992 First Founders' Day celebration (Indian Springs School grounds)
- April 21, 1994 First Easter Egg Hunt (Luster Field)
- December 1994 ISV Children's Fund established
- February 1995 Town hall property purchased
- December 19, 1995 First council meeting at present town hall
- October 15, 1996 First Founders' Day celebration at pavilion
- December 7, 1996 First ISV Arts & Craft show
- July 4, 1997 First Fourth of July celebration at pavilion
- April 3, 1999 First Easter Egg Hunt at present property
- April 20, 1999 Flag Pole dedication
- February 2000 Town hall mortgage paid in full
- February 24, 2000 ISV Garden Club/Welcome Committee established
- June 2001 ISV website established
- July 2002 Town council begins meeting twice monthly

## Re-Zoning Notice

By Jerry Templeton, Chairman, Zoning & Planning Commission

The Town of Indian Springs Village has been asked to approve a Re-Zoning application and approve a Special Exception use application to rezone the property with Parcel I.D. 58-10-05-22-02-42.062 from E-1 single family to B-1 Commercial for the construction of a Convenience Store and Six-Pump Texaco Gasoline Station. Applicant is Danny Bowers and the property owner is Larry Maddox. The property is located on the North side of Cahaba Valley Road at the intersection of Caldwell Mill Road (on the Northeastern side). It is generally across the street from the North Shelby Fire Station. The hearing will be January 14, 2003 and possible hearing before the Town Council on or after January 21, 2003. The Board of Zoning Adjustment will hear the Special Exception Use on or after January 14, 2003.

# Town Council Highlights

## December 17, 2002

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, December 17, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Art Johnson, and Brian Stauss present.

The minutes of the December 3, 2002 meeting were adopted as corrected by Town Clerk Shirley Church.

Town Clerk Shirley Church reported the following revenues: building permits, \$2,677.50; vehicle licenses, \$411.53; home mortgage registration, \$6.00; and real estate license fees, \$127.21. The balance in the general fund was \$86,392. Road fund balance stood at \$61,580 and the Indian Springs Children's Fund balance was \$2,729.00.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund had received donations from many Villagers which included not just money, but items such as jackets, toys, and hair care products. Councilwoman Crapet stated that the money donated so far would most likely cover the holiday needs of the children, but that more was needed in order to provide school items for the rest of the year.

Councilman Art Johnson reported that the Indian Springs Village Aluminum Can Recycling Program, which collects each Wednesday following the council's third Tuesday meeting, was in need of volunteers. The process takes about an hour and would be a good source of community service for high school students.

Councilman Brian Stauss reported that all issues of *The Village Voice* had been scanned and uploaded to the ISV website. Thanks to a new format that has been recently implemented, the amount of space that each issue uses has been reduced, thus allowing for more items to be available on the website. The internet address for ISV's website is [www.indianspringsvillage.org](http://www.indianspringsvillage.org).

Councilman Herb Robins announced that the turn lane project for Cahaba Valley Road is back on track after having been held up by the Alabama Department of Transportation (DOT) for several months. The Alabama DOT had been making a determination as to whether the plan would

need right-of-way acquisition in order to be implemented.

The DOT made the determination that the plan was proper and adequate and would give the level of safety needed as well as move the volume of traffic adequately. Councilman Robins also stated that the addition of the turn lanes should help hold off any four or five-laning ideas for a while. A public hearing on the turn lane project will be held, but has yet to be scheduled.

Councilman Herb Robins also reported that shopping had just been completed for 21 children from eight families. The Indian Springs Village Children's Fund representatives went shopping at the Super Wal-Mart on Highway 280, where they were welcomed and given a discount by the managers.

This year, the parents of the children will be wrapping the gifts. This had been suggested as a way for the parents to see what was being given and to be able to play a part in the process. Shoppers this year were Margie Robins, Bonnie, Allen, and Mandy Murphy, Allison Stigers, and Pam Bradley. The Murphys are former ISV residents, but enjoyed working with the project so much in past years that they called to volunteer again this year.

Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt presented a petition for annexation into ISV from Steve and Cindy Hanna of 4914 Windwood Circle. The council unanimously voted to suspend the rules in order to allow for the petition to be voted on. The petition for annexation was also approved unanimously.

Mayor Gene Weingarten distributed a copy of the proposed ISV budget for 2003. After review by the council, the budget was unanimously approved.

Jerry Templeton, Chairman of the ISV Zoning and Planning Commission, asked for volunteers to be on the six committees that have been established for reviewing the town's proposed comprehensive plan. The six groups will begin meeting in January and hopefully be ready to give their recommendations to the Commission by May.

Another topic of discussion was the rash of signs that have been put on power and telephone poles in our area. Utility companies do not allow signs to be displayed in this manner. County and utility workers, as well as some Villagers, are in the process of removing them.

**Note from Mayor Weingarten: We have had comments regarding our town walking track. Do you think we should ASPHALT the track? Please attend town council meetings (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) and voice your opinion.**

# Town Council Highlights

## January 7, 2003

*By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place # 2*

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on January 7, 2003, 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 Brian Stauss present.

Town Clerk Shirley Church presented the minutes of the December 17, 2002 meeting to the council. The minutes were adopted as corrected. No financial report was given.

Councilwoman Patricia Crapet announced the need for more donations for the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund. Due to the number of children and families served by the ISVCF this year, the fund had been virtually depleted. Since the fund functions year-round, the need for money is ever present. Councilwoman Crapet pointed out that not only has the fund provided school supplies and field trips for children, it has also bought eyeglasses and provided electrical help for a family with no heat. Also noted was the fact that these children go to school and are friends with children who live in ISV.

Councilman Herb Robins reiterated these statements, and added that after the shopping was completed, the Village was contacted by Oak Mountain school counselors to see if we could accommodate another family whose sponsor had not come through. As always, the ISVCF was ready to go, and another shopping trip was planned.

Councilman Robins reported that the turn lane project for Cahaba Valley Road is still on track and that the State Department of Transportation has determined that no right-of-way acquisitions need to be made within the Indian Springs Village town limits. Councilman Robins also stated that signalization will be placed at Double Oak Lane and Cahaba Valley Road. This is the road that serves the Montessori and Our Lady of the Valley schools.

Councilman Robins also stated that the speed study on Cahaba Valley Road had been completed, but a decision on lowering the speed limit to 45 miles per hour had not been determined. Gary Ray, State of Alabama Highway Department Engineer, says that the number of

rear-end collisions will be substantially lowered by the addition of the turn lanes alone, thus making the need to reduce the speed limit less necessary.

Councilman Brian Stauss, who also sits on the ISV Zoning and Planning Commission, announced that the latest information as well as drawings for the proposed gas station/convenience store at the corner of Cahaba Valley Road and Caldwell Mill Road, are now on the website. The application to change the present zoning of E1 residential to B1 business was scheduled to be on the agenda for the ISV Zoning and Planning meeting on January 14, 2003.

Assistant Clerk Jim Wyatt announced that he had been contacted by a few Villagers regarding their property tax notices not reflecting that they are in Indian Springs Village. A few of the inquiries had already resulted in corrections being made at the county level.

Boy Scouts John Hines, Troop 367 Riverchase Methodist Church, and Phillip Hines, Troop 5 Christ Church United Methodist, attended the meeting as part of their scouting requirements. As always, scout and school groups are welcome to attend council meetings.

## Check Your Tax Notices

*By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place # 2*

It has been brought to the attention of town officials that some Indian Springs Village residents are not being recognized as living in ISV on their Shelby County tax notices. A few have been listed in Pelham, some just in the county. The residents' taxes have not been incorrect, only their jurisdictions.

Please check your tax notices to make sure you are listed as being in Indian Springs Village. Since Indian Springs Village has no ad valorem (property) tax, this will assure that you will continue to be among those who have the lowest tax base in Shelby County.

By being recognized as citizens of Indian Springs Village, you also help ISV maintain the "no tax" structure that we now enjoy by making our pro-rata share of revenues higher.

If your tax notice incorrectly shows you NOT to be in ISV, please notify Assistant Town Clerk, Jim Wyatt (988-0327), or CFO Paul Stephens (988-4672).

## Heardmont Happenings

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The Mary Ellen Estes Senior Center at Heardmont Pak was the scene of a Saturday afternoon wedding right after New Year's Day. Orbie Mays, 82, and Shirley Johnson, 67, are the third couple in recent months to marry after meeting at the center, though the only pair to have had the ceremony at the Heardmont site.

Rita Seales said activities were now back to normal after the nuptials, the focus of much interest among their patrons.

## Garden Club Greenery Sale

By Mary Bowman (daughter of Mary Bowman)

On a blustery December 14th morning the Indian Springs Garden Club held its second annual greenery sale. Villagers who donated greenery cuttings from their yards included Jim and Nora Boyett, Shirley Ward, Liz Burkhardt, and most all of our own garden club members.

All the tasks of the sale, from bow making to cranberry stringing, from wreath making to greenery cutting, from sign making to advertising--all were done by garden club members. The proceeds of the sale will be used to help fund the continued growth of our "Living Quilt" gardens at the town hall and entrance sign.

The decorations at the ISV Town Hall added to the holiday season, and the ISV entrance sign on 119 West was especially festive, thanks to member Frances Dudley.

On the morning of the sale we also enjoyed having with us Steve Martin and Carol Bebelaar, co-authors of the newly-released book, *The Shelby County Scene*, who donated money to our garden club for every book sold.

Later, after all the cold outside labors, members went to the home of Ruth Goodwyn to warm up and enjoy lunch prepared especially for us.

## Town Hall Reservations

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place # 2

Reservations for use of the ISV Town Hall for dates in 2003 are now being taken. All Villagers who have had "standing" reservations in the past year must contact me to make their reservations for 2003. This includes all scouting, bunko, clubs, sports, or any other group that uses the facility regularly. If you are among the few who have already done this, just ignore the plea.

Anyone wishing to reserve the facility, please call my voice mail at 802-2753 or send an e-mail message to: [ISVillage@aol.com](mailto:ISVillage@aol.com). E-mail is usually the most efficient way, since I can usually send a confirmation out immediately. Thanks, and Happy New Year!

## Garden Club Prepares for 2003

By Marge Dunn/Del Levesque

Warm and heartfelt greetings for a healthy and green New Year from all of us to you and yours! We are entering into our fourth year as a garden club and have grown not only in membership, but we have learned so much from each other along the way. Our greatest growth has been in the fellowship we share. Currently we are planning for the coming year programs that promise to be a source of enjoyment and inspiration to all members.

We appreciate the support we receive from Villagers in our beautification endeavors. All of us are proud of the town hall grounds as seasonal plantings and maintenance give witness to what happens when hands and hearts join together.

Come grow with us! Our next meeting is on January 23 at the town hall at 6:00 for soup & sandwiches followed by a business meeting. Call Marge (987-4765) or Del (987-5029) with questions about membership. Hope to see some new faces in this New Year!

## ISV Children's Fund a Success

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place #2

Another year has come and gone! Can we all believe it is already 2003? The mayor and council sincerely hope that your holiday season was full of joy and happiness.

As for the 23 children who were provided for by the Indian Springs Village Children's Fund (ISVCF), there is no question that they had a wonderful Christmas. This year's list saw the largest number of families and children who were cared for during the holidays. The fund provided food, clothing, toys, and many other needs for these children, who otherwise would have had very little.

Our thanks to all who donated to the ISVCF, including Michael and Donna Bruno, Judge Patti Smith, Bernie and Carla Beasley, Alabama Pool Services and owners Paul and Trudy Skokol, Bart and Connie Trammell, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Wells, Billy and Peggy Gaines, Jake and Brenda Bell Guercio, Brian and Kathy Stauss, Gary and Linda Parker's Alabama Power Lunch Bunch, and Bob and Judith Konecny. These and others, some who have asked to remain anonymous, have put happiness in the hearts and brightness in the eyes of families who are in less fortunate, and sometimes dire, circumstances.

The ISVCF is a year-round fund that provides for the needs of children who attend the Oak Mountain schools. The fund is very low at this time, so if you have not made a donation, please send it to: Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, Alabama 35124.

## Village Personals

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

### Welcome New Neighbors

After living in Brookstone Estates for 35 years, **Marshall and Deloris Gilbert** of 67 Valley View Lane moved to Perkins Landing subdivision on Lay Lake. They sold their house to **Betty Boezinger**, who moved from Santa Rosa, California, in early December to be near her daughter, **Kathy Moates** of 80 Brook Green Lane, and her family.

Actually, Kathy Moates and husband **Mike** and three children are newcomers to the Village. They moved here in August from Houston. Her mother, Mrs. Boezinger, visited them in September. She liked Indian Springs so well she decided to move here, too, though she had declined to move to Houston to be near her family.

From Birmingham, Mike Moates grew up in Altadena and met Kathy after she moved here in 1985 from California to obtain a master's degree in dietetic training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. They were married in 1989 and now have three daughters, **Emma, 9, Betsy, 7, and Holley, 5**, who all attend Oak Mountain Classical School affiliated with the Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church.

A hearty welcome back! to **Barbara Marks** and her daughter, **Angela**, who are now at 440 Valley View Lane. Barbara lived on Mountain Park Drive five years ago before moving to Lake Logan Martin. She wanted to get back to Indian Springs, which she described as "paradise" and has the goal of having a nice garden this spring.

**Dr. Robert G. and Susan Beaty** now make their home at 710 New Hope Mountain Rd., with their two daughters, **Jamie and Abby**, almost 8 and almost 3, respectively. The children are enrolled in the Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy. A graduate of Samford University, Susan is a registered nurse, currently an at-home mom, and Richard is with Pulmonary Associates of the Southeast. He is from Louisville, AL, south of Montgomery, and has been in this area since entering medical school.

**Randy Robbins** moved to 115 Cherokee Trail in October to keep his two boys, Mitchell and Tanner, in the Oak Mountain school system. The boys are in the 5th and 3rd grades. A homebuilding and remodeling contractor, Randy is from Hueytown, originally. He says he enjoys "living in the country" and watching his neighbors' horses.

### Ashley Weems Wins Award

Sophomore Ashley Weems, age 15, has been selected as Oak Mountain High School's Hugh O'Brian Youth leadership representative. She will attend a weekend leadership seminar at the state level this spring and be eligible to attend the World Leadership Congress.

Ashley's selection by faculty members was based on her winning essay on the advantages and disadvantages of holding leadership roles. One essay is selected from each participating school. Ashley is the daughter of Bill and Patty Weems of 540 Indian Trail.

Ashley's primary school activities this year include the French Club, Interact Club, and membership on the Math Team. She carries a full load of all honors classes and consistently is on the A/B honor roll. She also keeps up her training schedule for horseback riding, as she has been competing on the national level for two or three years. Congratulations to Ashley, and we wish her well as she continues in her leadership role.

### Thompson Performs for Benefit

C. Alan Thompson of 398 Indian Crest Dr. performed with his band, Jude's Appeal, for a benefit concert at the Church at Brook Hills on December 1. The concert raised money to be used by the Church for families in need.

Jude's Appeal, which plays both original and cover (other people's) contemporary Christian music, is available to play at events at no charge. Jude's Appeal played at the Fourth of July celebration in Columbiana, for example. Music is an advocacy, or ministry, for Thompson, who really enjoys playing the guitar, and on occasion, he sings. The band has five other members from Chelsea, Hueytown, and other towns, and practices each week at the Thompson residence. See their website at [www.judesappeal.com](http://www.judesappeal.com) for more information.

Thompson's occupation is running his company in Tarrant, Mail Sort-Birmingham, and helping wife Karen, a certified teacher, in home-schooling their children. Both parents are Samford University graduates. The children are Micah, 10, Hope, 8, Becca, 5, and Savanna, age 1.

### Names in the News

**Barret Swatek**, daughter of **Lana and Bill Swatek** of Indian Springs Village, was featured in *The Birmingham News* "Scribblers" section recently for having a party hosted in her honor at the Cahaba Valley Road home of Dr. Robert and Betty Slaughter. Barret, who grew up in Birmingham and now resides in Santa Monica, California, plays Cheryl on the television series "7th Heaven." Barret returns to her role for the third season this month.

## Trustees Name New Director

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Alain Gallet, President of the Board of Trustees of the North Shelby Library, has announced the hiring of a new director to begin work February 7 at the library. He described the new administrator as highly motivated, with five years' experience in public library administration, and as having management, public relations, budget planning, and collection development skills.

Of the field of candidates for the job vacated by Michael Jones November 30, four were selected to be interviewed, narrowed to two for second interviews, and Darryl Heritage was the board's ultimate choice. Trustee Steve Zerkis of Indian Springs headed the search for a new director.

Heritage is leaving the directorship of the Eufaula Carnegie Library to come to North Shelby. "I know in my heart I can benefit this library," he has said. He is described as a "people person" and a very hard worker by colleagues, and as one successful in developing library programs involving the community. Of special interest to North Shelby with its tight budget is his experience in grant writing.

Heritage has come up from the ranks from special education teacher's aide and substitute teacher to librarian and then library director. His background includes earlier work in industry. He holds a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, graduating *summa cum laude*; earlier he had earned an associate degree in science in mass communication at Jefferson State Community College, where he received the Outstanding Journalism Student Award and was graduated *magna cum laude*. He worked as librarian while earning his master of science in library service at the University of Alabama, with emphasis on public library administration.

The new director and his wife have a five-year-old son.

## Help on Income Tax Preparation

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) offers a program, Tax Counseling for the Elderly (called TAX-AIDE), wherein trained volunteers will prepare income tax returns for those needing assistance. The program is open to anyone with low to moderate income with special emphasis for those 60 years and older. There is no charge for this service.

The free program is offered at the North Shelby Library on Monday and Wednesday beginning February 3, from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Please call the library at 439-5555 for an appointment. Bring to the program your 2001 tax return and 2002 tax information.



State Representative Mary Sue McClurkin, Rep.-Indian Springs presents a check for \$3,068 to Alain Gallet for the North Shelby Library representing discretionary funds allotted to legislators. The presentation was made at a December meeting of the North Shelby Library Board of Trustees, of which Gallet is president. Others are the outgoing director and Trustees Steve Zerkis, Mary Sue Ludwig, and Kay Kelly.

## Firefighters Run to Benefit Kid One Transport: The Bravest vs. the Blue

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Eight North Shelby firefighters are taking part in the Mercedes Marathon race on February 9 to benefit charity. Five of the firefighters are running on a relay team that will cover the 26.2 miles distance in a series of 5 different legs.

Leg 1 - (6.2 miles) - Monty Bryant

Leg 2 - (3.1 miles) - Bill Terpo

Leg 3 - (6.2 miles) - Randy Sipe

Leg 4 - (3.1 miles) - Buddy Tyler, Team Captain

Leg 5 - (7.6 miles) - Glen Jacobson

Jacobson and Sipe are returning relay team members from last year's 6th place team. Another three firefighters, Chief Michael O'Connor, Bart Wilkerson, and Rusty Johnson, will attempt the entire 26.2 miles by themselves.

All these firefighters are taking part in a competition within the Mercedes Marathon called "The Bravest vs. the Blue," a competition between area fire and police departments benefiting Kid One Transportation System. This is a service that gets children to the doctor before a severe problem develops. In fiscal year 2002 over 15,000 trips to the doctor were performed by Kid One personnel, but this was only three percent of the need, according to an initial survey. The registration fee of \$200 per runner (instead of \$50 for the general marathon) is donated to Kid One Transport.

The director of Kid One, Russell Jackson, was a firefighter for the city of Hoover, whose work there identified the need for such a transportation service. He or Holly Lollar can be contacted at Kid One Transport, 978-1000.