

The Village Voice



Volume 15, Number 1

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

April 12, 2005

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 19, 2005, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

I. Mayor/Council/Committee Reports

II. Ordinances and Resolutions

III. Citizen's 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: tricia@indianspringsvillage.org

Website: 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 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: Alison Stigers, Editor, 5110 Split Rail Trail, Birmingham, Alabama, 35244 (981-1750), Fax: 980-0408, or e-mail: villagevoice@indianspringsvillage.org.

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the May edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, May 3, 2005. All materials submitted for publication may be edited, including **letters to the editor, which must be signed and give writer's address and phone number.** 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

Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing

Message from the Mayor

by Steve Zerkis

Junked Motor Vehicles

Hear the term “junked motor vehicle” and the picture of an old car sitting in a yard with its hood open and a pine tree growing where the engine was comes to mind. But that's an extreme, or is it?

Unfortunately some of those vehicles are parked in our town. According to our junked car ordinance, if a motor vehicle is inoperative, or does not have a current vehicle license tag, it is considered to be a “junked motor vehicle” and cannot be parked on private or public property within the city limits for longer than 72 hours. It can be kept in a garage, barn or shed, but not left in the open. Covering it with a tarp or parking it under a canopy or behind a fence isn't good enough. There are some exceptions and they are covered in the ordinance.

So, what's a “motor vehicle”? It is any vehicle that is self-propelled and designed to travel along the ground. That covers a lot of different kinds of vehicles, from cars, trucks, buses and RV's to loaders, tractors and backhoes.

Most “junked motor vehicles” parked outside are an eyesore and a health and safety risk, and provide a home for vermin.

If you have a “junked motor vehicle” or vehicles on your property, we ask that they be removed promptly, or at least store them inside of a garage or barn. That act will improve the appearance of your property, the neighborhood and the town. If those vehicles are not stored in compliance with the law, the town council may serve written notice, and then take action to remove the vehicles with the cost of removal assessed to the owner of the vehicle or property. Those vehicles will then go through a disposition process.

The town would certainly hate to have to take this kind of action, and we do ask for your cooperation. If you need further information, please feel free to call. For more details, a copy of the ordinance is available from the town clerk, or from the town's website at: www.indianspringsvillage.org.

Indian Springs Village Annual Easter Egg Hunt

What more could you ask for?
A beautiful day, lots of prizes
and lots of happy kids! Story on page 5.



Town Council Meeting

February 15, 2005

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, February 15, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Council Members Herb Robins, Brian Stauss, Jack Mendel and Mayor Steve Zerkis.

The minutes of January 18, 2005 were presented and unanimously adopted as revised on a motion by Stauss; seconded by Robins. The minutes of February 01, 2005 were presented and unanimously adopted as revised on a motion by Robins, seconded by Stauss. The financial report for January, 2005 was presented to the Council.

A Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting will be held on February 16, 2005 at 7:30 PM to review a special exception request for a day care home.

The Council approved Ordinance #2005-01 (Ordinance governing The Rules and Procedures of the Town Council) and Ordinance #2005-002 (Officially designate that the places on the city governing body of Indian Springs Village, excluding the position of Mayor shall each be numbered). The Council also approved a resolution, authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to dispose of surplus unneeded personal property.

There was discussion on how to invest the Town's excess funds. A recommendation will be presented at our next meeting by Stephens and Mendel.

Zerkis will write an article for the March Village Voice regarding the Town's Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance, and a copy of this ordinance will be posted on our website.

Mendel recommended the Town have a Highway 119 clean-up day in April to coincide with Earth Day.

Tyler McLeod, Troop 538, Ashbury Methodist Church, who is working on his Citizenship in the Community Badge, was present at the meeting.

There being no further business, Robins made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Town Council Meeting

March 01, 2005

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, March 01, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Steve Zerkis and Council Members Herb Robins, Brian Stauss, Brenda Guercio and Stewart Dudley.

The minutes of February 15, 2005 were presented and unanimously adopted on a motion by Stauss; seconded by Robins. No financial report was given.

A Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting will be held on March 10, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

There was discussion on how to invest the Town's excess funds. Zerkis and Stephens will meet with various institutions and will present a recommendation at our next meeting.

Guercio has requested the help of volunteers to assist her with the Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, March 26. Volunteers are needed for setup of this event Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and during the event in the afternoon 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Stauss presented proposals regarding the smoke/heat detection system at the town. The Council unanimously approved the proposal presented by Fox Alarm without the cell phone feature. The holder of the insurance policy on the Town Hall will be contacted to determine a possible reduced premium from installation of this system.

Trammell reported that 10 businesses have yet to pay their 2005 business license fees. These will be charged delinquency fees as allowed by the business license ordinance.

Trammell reported that the deteriorated wooden well cover had been replaced with a concrete cover and that the old fashion well pump and well house had been painted.

Wyatt reported the need for repairs to the drainage culvert on Auburn Road. Two or three quotes will be taken to correct this water problem.

Stauss suggested an Adopt-A-Mile joint clean-up day on April 16 along Highway 119 through Indian Springs. The participants would be the City (mile 1), The Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (mile 2) and the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of the Valley Church (mile 3).

Zerkis will write an article for the Village Voice outlining recent accomplishments made by area students.

Will Eckhoff, Troop 5, Christ Church, who is working on his Citizenship in the Community and Communication Badge, was present at the meeting.

There being no further business, Guercio made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Our City Engineer

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

For the last few months the town has been enjoying the services of a very good engineer, Frazier Christy of Paragon Engineering. He works for ISV as a contractor. As such Mr. Christy gets his direction from the mayor and the chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission on specific town projects. He is paid by the town for town work.

If you have any engineering questions concerning your home or business, Mr. Christy may be able to assist but on a fee basis depending on the arrangements you make with him. The town does not pay him for any personal engineering services for residences or businesses.

A Toast to Great Books

Wine and Cheese Party Held at North Shelby Public Library

By Natasha Hanna, North Shelby Library Staff

Director Carol Farr worked with community members and local businesses to sponsor a creative and entertaining party featuring wine and cheese, and, of course, books. On March 5th about 50 guests gathered at the North Shelby Public Library for an after hours fund-raising party whose cost of admission was simply a donation of a book.

The theme of wine and cheese was a perfect fit for the naturally striking environment of the library. The Shelby County Master Gardener's Association provided the elegant decorations that greeted the guests as they walked into the foyer, and bouquets of orchids highlighted each table. Sage ribbons with ivy garlands hung from the sconces in the main atrium, flanking the buffet tables filled with platters of cheese and fruit. Vineyard Brands donated the wine and The Fresh Market of Inverness provided the cheese and fruit.

The books, which were pre-selected by the professional library staff and arranged on tables around the buffets, featured Caldecott award winners, music, art, biographies and history titles. Donors had the option of including, inside their gifts, a special bookplate in their honor or in honor of a loved one. Other guests opted to make a monetary donation towards the purchase of one or more of the titles to be chosen by the library.

Guests enjoyed the atypical theme for the library fund-raiser. Several commented on the beauty of the setting as well as the novelty of the idea and some thought the party should be repeated annually. Director Carol Farr was very pleased with the outcome of the event and she is already at work planning other dynamic programs for the library which can be previewed on the website at <http://www.northshelbylibrary.org/>



Connie and Ann Haydock, and Ruth Goodwyn attend the North Shelby Library fundraiser



On March 8, 2005, 80 strong arrived to experience the inaugural Family Night at the North Shelby Library. To kick off this new series of programs, which will occur at the library now on a periodic basis, the Irish Step Dancers of the Birmingham School of Celtic Arts performed. Ranging in age from 8 to 16, the dancing troupe entertained with traditional reels and gigs in honor of Irish-American heritage month. Patrons learned the history of Irish dance and its significance within Celtic culture from Mary Dougherty, the school's director.



For information on future Family Night events, visit www.northshelbylibrary.org or call the Youth Department, 439-5504.

County Burn Dates

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Just a reminder to everyone that the burning of any brush, leaves and other wood and plant materials is prohibited starting on May 1, 2005. That prohibition runs until October 1, 2005. There may be restrictions against burning at any time - check your neighborhood regulations or covenants.

If you do need to burn, please be mindful of your neighbors. Many people are sensitive to smoke. Please keep any fire as small as possible to minimize smoke and soot. You also should watch the fire closely and keep water close by. Please contact the North Shelby Fire District if you have any questions.

April Happenings at North Shelby Library

by Rachel Hodges, Children's/Teen Librarian

APRIL HAPPENINGS

Visit our website www.northshelbylibrary.org for more details or call 439-5504 or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org!

~Special Programming for April~

***Tuesday April 5, 6:00-7:30—FAMILY NIGHT!!!**~April marks the 93rd anniversary of the sinking of the *RMS Titanic*. Please join us in remembering the history of its fateful first, and last, voyage. We will show the *National Geographic* film "Secrets of the Titanic." Film length 70 minutes. **Refreshments served.**

***Thursday April 7, 6:00—Lecture: Alabama Civil War Photography**~Brought to you by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, this slide-illustrated presentation will discuss the major types of portrait and documentary photographs taken in Alabama during and after the Civil War. *Please feel free to bring your own Civil War era photographs to share.* **For grades 9 and up.**

***Young People's Poetry Month**~Bring in a poem you wrote with the theme "**I Like _____ in the Springtime**" (filling in the blank with any word or idea of your choice). Entries are due Monday, April 25, and a poetry reading will be held Tuesday, April 26, from 5-6. All ages are welcome to submit poetry. Refreshments will be served at the reading and there will also be a drawing for gift certificates from *Barnes and Noble* for all those who read.

For all ages:

***Tuesday, April 12 at 1:00—Brown Bag Lunch for National Library Week with Dr. Larry DeLucas.** Among his many other accomplishments, Dr. DeLucas was a crew member of Space Shuttle Columbia for STS-50/United States Microgravity Laboratory-1 (USML-1) Spacelab mission in 1992. Bring your lunch, and drinks will be provided.

***Thursday, April 21 at 4:00—Earth Day Celebration.** We'll be celebrating a few days early, so come to the library, meet the animals of Ruffner Mountain and plant a tree!

***Tuesday, April 26 at 5:00—Poetry Reading.** For those young poets who want to read their work, we will listen, have refreshments and a drawing for *Barnes and Noble* gift certificates!

***Saturday, April 30 at 12:00—Family Movie Afternoon.** Come watch "*The Incredibles*" and eat popcorn! Rated PG for action violence.

Teen Zone:

***Monday, April 18 @ 6:30—Teen Advisory Group Meeting!** Joining TAG will give you a say in what books the library orders, what programs we offer, and you get to eat **PIZZA** while doing it! It's your library, so tell us what you want!

Must be in grades 7-12 to attend. Call the youth department at 439-5504, visit the *Teen* page on the North Shelby Library website, or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org if you're interested.

~Regular Programming~

Mondays, April 4th, 11th, and 18th
Toddler Tales @ 10:30 & 11:30 am

For ages 18-36 months. Registration required. You can call the library at 439-5504 to sign-up or put your name down for the coming weeks after the program.

Wednesdays, April 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th
Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) @ 10:30 am
Thursdays, April 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th
P. J. Storytime @ 7 pm

The North Shelby Library has Federal and State tax forms available.

Zoning Board of Adjustments News

by Brian Stauss, Chair

The ZBA met on March 10th to continue a hearing on a request by Janna Price. Mrs. Price was requesting a special use variance that would allow her to operate a home day care at her residence. After some discussion about parking and traffic, the Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the variance. Contact Brian Stauss, ZBA Chair, brian@indianspringsvillage.org, 987-9997 if there are any questions.

A Big Thank You

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

The town is very grateful to Bailey & Owens General Contractors, Inc., on Valleydale Road, for their donation of labor and material to replace the deteriorated well cover and remount the old fashion hand pump. Mr. Ronald Owens, one of our Villagers, assigned a crew to the job and now the newly painted pump and its concrete base can be admired by visitors to the town hall. Mr. Owens' work crew also noticed the need to repair the door to the well house and fixed that as well. We are fortunate to have civic minded businesses such as Bailey & Owens in our town and thank them for their assistance.

Senior Center Programing

The Heardmont Senior Center is offering a two-day AARP Driver Safely Program on May 4 and 5 from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. This 8 hour classroom refresher course is especially designed for drivers 50 and over and will cost \$10.00. It may entitle you to a discount with your insurance company. Please call your agent for further information. To register for the course, call Juanell Corbin at 991-5742 or Gail Hahn at 678-8592

Annual Easter Egg Hunt an Egg-Ceptional Success!

By Brenda Bell-Guercio, Council Member

A beautiful day! Happy children hunting Easter eggs and winning prizes! Proud and happy parents taking pictures of happy children hunting Easter eggs and winning prizes! And, Indian Springs residents coming together again with their families for yet another Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

A large group of children successfully found most of the 2000 eggs that had been hidden earlier Saturday morning. Winners were announced for each age group for "The Most Eggs Found," and these lucky young girls or boys received a special prize. Many eggs contained a ticket to redeem cash prizes which our Mayor gladly dispersed. Then every participant passed through our "Goody Assembly Line" to gather toys, trinkets, candy, and gum.



Brenda Bell-Guercio making sure all is ready for the Easter Bunny's arrival.

My THANKS to all the volunteers and contributors for the Egg Hunt, including Mayor Steve and First Lady Pat Zerkis, Jack and Rita Mendel, Herb and Margie Robins, Alison Stigers, Shirley Church, Bart Trammell, Jake Guercio, C.J. Guercio, Bo Bell, Lana

some members even stayed to help work the Hunt. Our own Dr. Lisa Wilson kindly donated a big bag of eggs filled with goodies and cash!

We are always looking for ways to improve or enhance our Annual Easter Egg Hunt, so if you have suggestions, please e-mail us.

Thank you all for helping and coming out to participate to make this such a Special Event! I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did!



Mayor Steve Zerkis supervised the fun.



Garden Club News

by Gladys Price, Indian Springs Village Garden Club

The garden club had to postpone the March meeting because of the weather. We met Saturday, April 2 at the home of Ginny and Ed Lusks to see their beautiful wildflower garden.

Thursday, April 28 we will visit Nelda and Buzz Kelly's home to see their "Spring Bloom".

Tip of the Month:

Prune spring flowering shrubs after they bloom. To promote full growth, cut a third of the stalks all the way to the ground.

Scout Cookies to Iraq

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

For the second year, the girls of Girl Scout Troop 30 have shipped hundreds of boxes of Girl Scout Cookies to our military serving in Iraq. Last year it was about 700 boxes. This year it was almost one thousand boxes. Many of these cookies were purchased for shipment by neighbors and friends of the girls who are their customers. The Scouts also raised money from businesses for the shipping costs. The cookies were packaged and then shipped by US Mail to a number of military in Iraq who, in turn, opened the cases and distributed the boxes to individual soldiers, marines and airmen. There are only six girls in the Troop and all of them go to either Oak Mountain Middle School or Our Lady of the Valley School here in Indian Springs Village. Our own Erin Stauss, daughter of Brian and Cathy Stauss, is one of the Scouts. Their leader is Sheri Holbert. I had the opportunity to visit with several girls of this Troop and thank them for their personal effort



Jillian Roche, Erin Stauss and Samantha Holbert



the meaningful effort they have shown in truly supporting our troops.

They have gotten dozens of emails from men and women in Iraq thanking the Troop for this wonderful effort. They brought them a real "taste" of home, Alabama style. We can all be proud of these young ladies for

In Memorium

Concetta Tomburello Carruba, age 67, formerly of Birmingham, passed away at her home in Destin, FL, on March 11, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Sam Carruba of Destin, FL; her parents, Jake and Josephine Tomburello of Birmingham, AL; her brother, Vincent J. Tomburello of San Diego, CA; and nephew, Vincent Jake Tomburello of San Diego, CA. Survivors include her son, Anthony Paul Tamburello of Birmingham, AL; granddaughter, Laura Beth Tamburello of Birmingham, AL; sister, Cruce T. Cicio (Frank) of Indian Springs, AL; sister-in-law, Annie Mae Tomburello of Birmingham, AL; nieces, JoAnn Cicio Richardson (Danny) of Alabaster, AL, Gina Rose Cicio James (Paul) of Indian Springs, AL; nephews, Frank J. Cicio Jr. (Wendy) of Calera, AL, and Jake M. Cicio (Terry) of Brookings, Oregon; and numerous cousins and friends. Pallbearers were Anthony P. Tamburello, Frank Cicio Jr., Paul D. James, Frank Tomburello, Danny Murphy and Frank A. Troncalli. A Funeral Mass was held at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on Monday, March 14, 2005, followed by a graveside service in Elmwood Cemetery. (Reprinted from *The Birmingham News*)



Congratulations

Congratulations to Our Lady of the Valley Science Olympiad Teams for placing 3rd and 5th in the state competition in Montgomery on March 12th. The teams won 4 gold medals, 3 silver medals and 8 bronze medals.

Free Landfill Days

by Bart Trammell, Administrative Assistant

It is time to get out the old lounge chair that your mother-in-law gave you and other unwanted household goods and take them to the Shelby County landfill.

Saturday, April 9, and Saturday, October 8 have been designated as "free" landfill days. The landfill is located on the north side of Highway 70 approximately four miles from Columbiana. The landfill operator may ask that you drive across the scales so they can keep track of how many take advantage of these free days.

Products that are detrimental to the environment, such as paint, solvents, petroleum products and similar items are not acceptable at the landfill.

North Shelby Library Book Club

submitted by Carol Farr, Director

Friday, April 15 10:15 A.M.

Book: Pompeii

Author: Robert Harris

Leader: Aggie Pollock, AAUW.