

The Village Voice



Volume 17, Number 12

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

March 3, 2008

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 18, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 1, 2008, 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 **327-8791**

or E-Mail: ISVillage@aol.com

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 first week of each month. Articles for the April edition should be submitted by Friday, March 28, 2008. 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
Herb Robins for proofing

Message from the Mayor

by Steve Zerkis

I hope you will take the time to go to page nine of this issue and read about the lives of Tricia Fuhrmeister and Jim Boyett. Tricia Crapet has written two beautiful obituaries. Shelby County and Indian Springs Village lost two wonderful people in February. You had to meet them only once to know how special each could be. The way they lived their lives embodied the definition of service to their fellow residents and the community. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Gary Ray, Randy Cole and Scott Holladay, the State District Engineer, County Engineer and Senior Engineer, were invited to our February 19 council meeting and provided us with an overview of the turn lane project for Highway 119 within Indian Springs Village. The objective of this project is to improve safety and ingress/egress along Highway 119. We've all experienced how difficult it can be to get on to or off Highway 119 and do it safely.

The road contractor will start work in about 60 days and the project should be completed by the end of the year. With one or two exceptions, Highway 119 will have at least one lane open to traffic at all times. Those limited exceptions will have to do with the replacement of major storm water drainage pipes under the roadway. Night time work will be limited due to the noise, but some may occur, especially to meet contract deadlines. A number of points were discussed including access to driveways and streets by property owners and emergency vehicles.

The highway project will add six feet of asphalt and two feet of shoulder to each side of the road. The roadway will stay within the current right-of-way of eighty feet. If you live along 119, you will need to consider the impact of this construction on mail boxes, driveways, ditches, trees and shrubs and possibly, decorative lighting.

As part of the project, utility companies have already been working to move electric and telephone poles, water pipes, sewer pipes, cabling etc. They need to have their work done before the highway contractor can do theirs.

A significant amount of work will also be done at the intersection of Double Oak Lane and Highway 119 to improve traffic flow. This intersection handles the traffic of three churches, two schools and a number of residents. The State is not planning to install a traffic signal at this time.

Both Gary Ray and Randy Cole made it clear that they will be available to you to handle your project questions and problems. We will be publishing project progress and contact information as it becomes available.

This project has been years in the making and is finally about to happen. It will be a lot of work but, when completed, driving on Highway 119 should be a lot safer.

Town Council Meeting No. 1

January 15, 2008

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Mayor called the meeting to order. The City Clerk called the roll and noted the presence of Council Members Mayor Steve Zerkis, Herb Robins, Jack Mendel, Brenda Bell-Guercio and Brian Stauss. Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning and Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones also attended the meeting. Councilman Stewart Dudley did not attend the meeting.

Mendel discussed items contained in the December Financial Report, including CD accruals. He then presented the December Financial Report for review by the council. There was a motion to endorse the December Financial Report by Mendel, seconded by Robins. The report was endorsed unanimously.

The Council Members reviewed the meeting minutes of December 18. Bell-Guercio made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mendel. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Stauss reported for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. A meeting is planned for January 16. On the agenda are the Crego's request for a variance for the placement of a swimming pool on their lot and AT&T's request to place a structure on an easement on Indian Crest Drive.

Jones reported that there was no new business on the agenda for Planning and Zoning. He was recently contacted by a local architect requesting a variance and has referred him to Stauss.

Robins discussed a proposal from Jimmy Rhodes for new signage. Rhodes' proposal includes three new welcome/entryway signs at \$350 each and eight new, decorative street signs at \$180 each. Four street signs, two to a post, will be located at the intersection of Caldwell Mill and the south side of Valleydale Road. There will also be one at each of the four Oak Mountain schools. The proposal also includes decorative hangers, posts, the replacement of three metal road signs and the replacement of seven stop signs. 6"x6" posts will be used for the welcome signs. There was a motion to waive the rules by Robins, seconded by Mendel. The motion was accepted unanimously. Robins motioned to accept Rhodes' proposal for signage up to \$5,500, seconded by Mendel. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Robins also reported that a "thank you" note was received from Kristi Wade, Oak Mountain school counselor, for the Christmas gifts received from the city for nineteen children from seven families.

Mendel verified with the City Clerk that the 1099s are on track. He received an email from the mayor proposing investment of any excess General Fund cash in a bank CD at an interest rate of 5%. Mendel discussed the second revision of the financial procedures, including the investment policy. He plans to email the entire financial policy to the council for review, and he will motion to accept the revisions at the next meeting.

Mendel presented a projected cash flow report, based on the prior 3 years of revenue and expenses. The council agreed that \$70,000 should be available for a CD investment after February revenues are received. Mendel motioned that he be authorized to invest \$70,000 of general funds in a 6-month, 5% interest CD, if and when the funds are available. Bell-Guercio seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Stauss reported that he received a call from a neighbor regarding the invoice for a business license he had received. He is an insurance agent for an out-of-state corporation and wasn't sure if he needed a license. Mayor Zerkis commented that he had checked the company's website for information and a license is required.

Stauss had no update on the website project but he has left a message for the teacher in charge at Oak Mountain High School.

He also reported that the conference table construction is underway and he is currently sanding. Stauss presented finish samples to the council for review.

Mayor Zerkis reported that thirteen garbage cans were set on fire Christmas night. This happened last year also. One victim has installed a low light camera in his yard. There is a \$1,000 reward posted in *The Village Voice* for any information leading to an arrest.

The mayor has an upcoming meeting with Mr. Holler at Pelham Water to discuss the 3% charge assessed for Indian Springs residents.

Mayor Zerkis gave an update on the erosion on Town Hall property. Two engineers have reviewed the property. The drain at Hwy. 119 and at the footbridge are both dammed-up with debris. There is washing across the property and that of a neighboring resident. Representative Mary Sue McClurkin may have grant funds available for re-engineering the drainage. There was discussion about using capital funds if grant money was not available.

Trammell is working to obtain a correct listing of Indian Springs Village customers from the Birmingham Water Works Board.

Trammell presented the history and purpose of the Education Building Authority of Indian Springs Village. Zerkis motioned pursuant to Section 16-17-5, Code of Alabama, to appoint Wayne M. Jones to the Board of Directors of the Education Building Authority of Indian Springs Village. This appointment would be to fill the position vacated by Mrs. Anita J. Jones who has changed legal residence to another municipality. Zerkis further moved that Mr. Jones serve in the capacity of Secretary to the Board of Directors. For the record, and pursuant to the above mentioned section, Mr. Jones' term will extend until noon, the second Monday of November, 2011. The motion was seconded by Mendel and accepted unanimously by the council.

Zerkis reported that there are issues coming up on the Zoning Board of Adjustment agenda that may be a conflict of interest to two members of the board. Zerkis announced the appointment of Jane Martin as a supernumerary member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Since the Board is allowed

two supernumerary members, he requested that Chairman Stauss recommend someone to fill the second position.

Mayor Zerkis opened the floor for public comment. Scouts from Troop 538 were attending the meeting to earn their Citizenship in the Community merit badge. Attending the meeting were: Parker Cain – Tenderfoot, Reed Rodich – Tenderfoot, Carter Gustin – Tenderfoot, Chad Hartley – Tenderfoot, Colin Lambert – Tenderfoot, Josh Burgin – Tenderfoot, Roy French – Tenderfoot, Tyler Fitzgerald – Tenderfoot, Joseph Fisher – Life, Evan Sullivan – Life and Jordan Sullivan – Life.

The mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting No. 2

January 15, 2008

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 8:05 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The mayor called the meeting to order. The City Clerk called the roll and noted the presence of Council Members Mayor Steve Zerkis, Herb Robins, Jack Mendel, Brenda Bell-Guercio and Brian Stauss. Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning and Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones also attended the meeting. Councilman Stewart Dudley did not attend the meeting.

The mayor adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting

February 5, 2008

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Mayor called the meeting to order. The City Clerk called the roll and noted the presence of Council Members Mayor Steve Zerkis, Herb Robins and Brian Stauss. Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell and Planning and Zoning Chairman Wayne Jones also attended the meeting. Council members Jack Mendel, Brenda Bell-Guercio and Stewart Dudley did not attend the meeting. There was no quorum.

The council members present reviewed the meeting minutes of January 15. The minutes will be carried over to the next council meeting.

Stauss reported for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. A meeting was held on January 16. The application by AT&T/BellSouth to place new phone equipment on an easement on lot 10 of The View was approved. Also, a variance was granted to the Cregos of 8004 Woodfern Drive for the placement of a swimming pool.

Another meeting is planned for next week. Applications being considered are for a remodel on New Hope Mountain Road and a request from Our Lady of the Valley Church to construct a columbarium on the church's property.

Jane Martin was appointed supernumerary at the last ZBA meeting. Alan Keith has also agreed to be a supernumerary. Wayne Jones was temporarily appointed as well.

Robins reported that he had replaced the flagpole light bulb, but it is still not working. Trammell said he also replaced the bulb. Robins will have the sensor checked.

Robins received the renewal for the outdoor lighting annual contract.

He has contacted Gary Ray, State District Engineer, and Scott Holladay, Senior County Engineer regarding the presentation on the Highway 119 turn lane project. They are both available to speak at the next council meeting.

Robins thanked Stauss for the work he did building the new conference room table for the Town Hall.

Stauss heard from the Visual Arts teacher at Oak Mountain High School regarding the website. There are three projects completed. The teacher will upload them to a server for Stauss to review.

Rasco reported that she heard from Principal Joan Doyle regarding the Oak Mountain High School grant. Doyle mailed a letter in November that was evidently lost in the mail. A copy of that letter has been mailed to the Town Hall.

ISV residents, the Cregos, reported that a drainage ditch cover on their property had broken. Frazier Christy was contacted regarding the need to repair or replace the cover, however, it was determined that it was the responsibility of the property owners.

Mayor Zerkis reported that he spoke with a representative of New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church and they had been told by the County Engineer that they will have to put in curbs and repave a portion of Double Oak Lane. Frazier Christy has also visited and gave them suggestions on how to handle drainage.

The mayor gave an update on one of the rental houses on Valleydale Road. There are two trucks, multiple vehicles and junk on the property. A call has been placed to Gordon L. Smith, the owner.

Mayor Zerkis gave an update on Bishop Creek. The request for additional testing in different locations along the creek is in front of an Alabama Department of Environmental Management director. A series of monthly tests this summer showed no significant levels of coliform bacteria.

Rasco reported on business license receipts. The following amounts have been paid by utility companies: Alabama Power \$105,078.85; Alagasco \$32,620.30; Birmingham Water \$3,734.78; and Pelham Water \$10,820.59. Only one business, Baran Burns Group, is still in arrears for 2007. The following businesses have not yet paid the 2008 license fee: Baran Burns Group, Diva Doxies, G&H Underground, Indian Springs Properties, MHG Enterprises, Ray's Home Repairs and Reese Development Group.

The mayor presented a resolution for the Administrative Assistant and the City Clerk to meet with the Shelby County

Board of Registrars to obtain a voters list.

Mayor Zerkis received a request for a franchise agreement with AT&T to offer television services. Copies of the draft agreement will be distributed to council members and the city attorney. The mayor wants to work with the county and request public access to the service for the schools.

Trammell presented ISV historical documents to the mayor and council. Included in the documents were the Probate Judge's orders for incorporation, census and election of town officers. Unfortunately, most of the documents are only copies as the originals have not been located. The presentation also included a disk containing the original incorporation map and a September, 2005 ISV map. The deed to the Town Hall property was included along with a disk of the July 4, 2006 celebration compiled by LaVerne Ramsey. The mayor gave the documents to Rasco for placement in the safe deposit box.

Trammell reported that he met with Ken Holler of Pelham Water recently. There was discussion about the meeting and the 3% surcharge ISV residents pay. Holler will furnish an updated list of ISV customers for our records.

Jones reported that the Kangaroo station has been sold again and an attorney had contacted him about the transfer of the license to sell alcohol.

Mayor Zerkis reported that the Dollar Tree is now open. Rasco confirmed that Quiznos is scheduled to open in March.

The mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting –

by Brian Stauss, ZBA Chair

The Zoning Board of Adjustment met on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. There were two agenda items. Harold and Gayle Croft requested a variance on the side setback of their home at 677 New Hope Mountain Road. The Crofts are planning an addition to their home that will be located about one foot inside the right side setback. The location of the addition is already inside the setback as it was grandfathered in at the time of the ISV incorporation. The addition continues the right line of the home inside the setback. Mark Burnes, the architect on the project, discussed the addition. After questions by the Board, the variance was granted. The second agenda item, an application from Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, was delayed to a future meeting.

Contact Brian Stauss, ZBA Chair, if there are any questions. He can be reached at 987-9997 or brian@indianspringsvillage.org.

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Jim McFarland
Owner: Cooks Pest Control
Address: 5224 Caldwell Mill Road
Proposed Use: New HVAC - Replace Unit on Roof

Applicant: Jim McFarland
Owner: Francis and Wendy Griggs
Address: 2076 Cahaba Valley Road
Proposed Use: New Pool

Oak Mountain State Park Easter Egg Hunt

Emily D. Cohen, Park Naturalist

Oak Mountain State Park is having an Easter Egg Hunt on March 22, 2008. Activities begin at 10:00 a.m. and will conclude at 2:00 p.m. The Egg Hunt will be from 10:45 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Activities include face painting, a moonwalk, a hayride, and an appearance by the Easter Bunny.

Food and drinks will be for sale.

Admission is \$1 for children ages 6 - 11 and for seniors over 62, \$3 for adults and children under 6 are free.

Bring the family out and enjoy the fun.

Free Landfill Days

by Bart Trammell, Administrative Assistant

As the old saying goes, spring is just around the corner. Remember the boxes of old Christmas decorations, the broken ladder and those dry rotted tires in the back of the garage you were saving for that trailer you never got around to fabricating? Well, it won't be long until you can take those and other unwanted household goods to the Shelby County Landfill.

Saturday, April 26 and **Saturday, October 11** have been designated as "free" landfill days. The landfill is located on the north side of Highway 70, approximately four miles west of 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 harmful to our environment, such as paint, paint thinner, solvents, petroleum products and similar items are not acceptable at the landfill.



15TH
ANNUAL
INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE
EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2008
3:00 P.M.

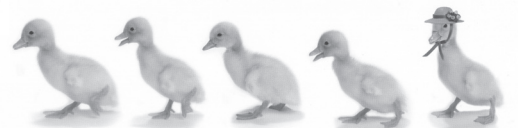
INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN HALL

*All children through the age of 12 are invited!
Bring your own baskets, and be ready to hunt for eggs,
trinkets, candy & Cash Prizes!*

*In case of rain, please stop by between 3 & 5
to pick up a "Goody Bag"*

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED

to help with the Easter Egg Hunt. Contact Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581.

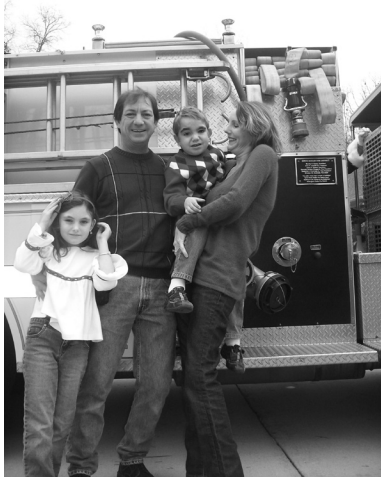


Heroes in our Neighborhood *by Misty Luthcke, Villager*

Our son Will had just been diagnosed with Sanfilippo, a rare, degenerative, fatal disorder. As you can well imagine, our family was distraught. I visited the North Shelby Fire Station to let them know about Will's future medical needs and to explain his condition to them. When I arrived, the firefighters were busy unpacking

groceries. I began to speak and handed out an information sheet about our family. To my surprise, they stopped their work, listened attentively and asked questions. I felt proud I had given my first talk about my child's condition. The information sheet I had given them included a web page I started for our son. The next day there was a guest book message on the website from Randy Sipe, one of the firefighters, letting us know how much they cared. This brought me to tears.

Then, in December, I received a phone call from Randy Sipe asking if they could bring the firetruck to visit my family! I replied, "Of course you can, how exciting!" The visit didn't go quite as expected – Will was a bit overwhelmed to see our surprise guest, Santa Claus. However, the point of this story is to thank a great group of people who serve us so well, for giving our family a smile for the day and for being heroes in our neighborhood. If you would like to know more about our son's condition please visit www.caring-bridge.org/visit/willluthcke and www.mppsociety.org.



Above right: Members of the North Shelby Fire Department, and Santa, at the Luthcke home. Above: Nicole, William, Will and Misty Luthcke.

MARCH 2008

HEARDMONT PARK SENIOR CENTER

Phone (205) 991-5742 Fax (205) 991-5657

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Center Manager- Jaclynn Traffanstedt Email- heardmontpark@hotmail.com

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 12:00 Lunch 12:30-4:00 Canasta	4 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10-11 Exercise w/Janice 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing w/Doris, Sue, & Bert	5 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30 –12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 1:30-2:15 Chair Yoga w/Janice*	6 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10:30-11:30 Exercise w/Ellen 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch 1-2:30 Bridge Lessons w/Doris	7 9:15-10:15 Beg. Line Dancing w/Chris 9:30-10:00 Walking Works 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch
10 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-4:00 Canasta	11 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10-11 Exercise w/Janice 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing w/Doris, Sue & Bert	12 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30 –12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 1:30-2:15 Chair Yoga w/Janice*	13 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10:30-11:30 Exercise w/Ellen 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Senior Club Qtrly Luncheon 1-2:30 Bridge Lessons w/Doris	14 9:15-10:15 Beg Line Dancing w/Chris 9:30-10:00 Walking Works 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch 7-9 Dance/Social w/Jerry Seals
17 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-4:00 Canasta	18 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10-11 Exercise w/Janice 12:00 Lunch 12:30 EASTER PARTY 1-2 Line Dancing w/Doris, Sue & Bert	19 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30 –12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 1:30-2:15 Chair Yoga w/Janice*	20 DAY TRIP- GADSDEN MUSEUM 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10:30-11:30 Exercise w/Ellen 12:00 Lunch 1-2:30 Bridge Lessons w/Doris	21 CENTER CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY
24 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-4:00 Canasta	25 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10-11 Exercise w/Janice 10:30-11:30 Bingo 11:00 BOOK CLUB 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing w/Doris, Sue & Bert	26 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30 –12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 1:30-2:15 Chair Yoga w/Janice*	27 9:30-1:30 AARP Tax Service** 10:30-11:30 Exercise w/Ellen 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch 12:30 MARCH BDAY PARTY 1-2:30 Bridge Lessons w/Doris	28 9:15-10:15 Beg Line Dancing w/Chris 9:30-10:00 Walking Works 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch 7-9 Dance/Social w/Ray Newman
31 9:00-9:30 Walking Works 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-4:00 Canasta	**You MUST have a pre-set appointment for the AARP tax service!!** Call 991-5742 to sign up ☺	**Walking Works** We will each walk the park track at our own pace for 30 minutes.	*Senior Yoga w/Janice MUST be PRE-PAID monthly. The cost is \$15 a month per person. Please see Jaclynn to sign up. This is a modified chair yoga for seniors. Please come check it out ☺	

Alabama Wildlife Center Asks for Volunteers

by Anne Miller, Director

You can help a wild animal! Volunteers are needed at the Alabama Wildlife Center to provide care for injured and orphaned wildlife. Call 663-7930 or log on to www.awrc.org for more information about the next training session on March 8 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Alabama Wildlife Center located in Oak Mountain State Park.

Audubon Teaches Nature presents “Alabama Wildflowers-Beauty Abounds at Oak Mountain State Park”

submitted by Janet Byars, Alabama Wildlife Center

Guest Speakers: Drs. Larry Davenport & Mike Howell
Date: Sunday, March, 2, 2008
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Alabama Wildlife Center at Oak Mountain State Park
Admission: \$3 to the park, but the event itself is free

Wildflowers add a colorful component to the landscape and Alabama is blessed with a wealth of species. Some are common and found in all parts of the state, while others are quite rare and confined to unique habitats. Drs. Davenport and Howell are authoring a book on Alabama wildflowers; come learn which species are found within Oak Mountain State Park and the central Alabama region.

The program will be held at the Alabama Wildlife Center, located in the heart of Oak Mountain State Park. Everyone is welcome to spend a Sunday afternoon in March enjoying cookies and hot apple cider at 1:30 p.m. while watching the dozens of birds that visit the Center’s bird feeders. Visitors will also meet Sandra Allinson, the Wildlife Center’s Education Bird Curator, who will present Coosa the Barred Owl or Natchez the Mississippi Kite, both seasoned members of the Alabama Wildlife Center’s Education Bird Program. After the program, weather permitting, Greg Harber will lead a nature walk in the Park.

Audubon Teaches Nature is co-sponsored by the Birmingham Audubon Society – www.birminghamaudubon.org, the Alabama Wildlife Center – www.awrc.org, Oak Mountain Interpretive Center – www.samford.edu/OMIC/ and the Friends of Oak Mountain – www.oakmountainfriends.org.

North Shelby Library Computer Classes

submitted by Michelyn Reid, North Shelby Reference Librarian

Free to the Public

All classes are from 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.
Registration is required. Space is limited.

Tuesday, March 4 - Internet for Beginners
Wednesday, March 5 - Advanced Searching
Tuesday, March 11 - Introduction to Word I
Wednesday, March 12 - Introduction to Word II
Tuesday, March 18 - Introduction to Word I
Wednesday, March 19 - Introduction to Word II
Tuesday, March 25 - Introduction to Excel I
Wednesday, March 26 - Introduction to Excel II

“Miss Julia” author, Ann B. Ross, to give book talk, signing

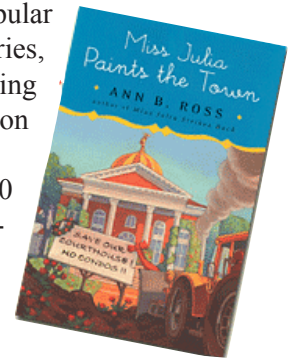
submitted by Amber Roper Long, North Shelby Library

Ann B. Ross, author of the popular “Miss Julia” southern fiction series, will be giving a talk and signing books at North Shelby Library on Saturday, April 5th.

Ross will begin the speak at 1:00 p.m. and will sign books afterward. Free tickets will be given out beginning the week of March 3 through the event on April 5. Seating is limited, so get your tickets early. Light refreshments will be served.

“Miss Julia” fans are looking forward to Ross’s newest book, “Miss Julia Paints the Town,” which will be released on March 27. This will be the ninth in the series that began almost a decade ago with “Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind.” The “Miss Julia” books are frequently featured on *The New York Times* Extended Bestseller List and are beloved by critics and readers alike.

Ross keeps a busy schedule to satisfy her fans so don’t miss this chance to hear her and get your favorite “Miss Julia” book signed. For more information on Ross, her tour schedule and all things “Miss Julia,” visit www.missjulia.com. To learn more about her appearance at North Shelby Library, please call Lori Skinner 439-5511. Copies of her newest release will be on sale at the Library.



March Happenings

by Allison Yeager, North Shelby Library Children's Librarian

The Library will be closed March 23rd in observance of the Easter holiday.

Special Programming

Saturday, March 1st – 10:30-11:30 a.m.: “Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!” Join the celebration of one of the world's most recognizable children's authors, Theodore Geisel. There will be stories, activities, birthday cake and a special appearance by a favorite Dr. Seuss character! All ages. No registration required. Call or email the Children's Department at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelby-county-al.org for more information.

Monday, March 3rd, 10th, 24th and 31st – 3:15-4:30 p.m.: “Sit, Stay, Read!” A non-profit organization through Hand-in-Paw dedicated to providing volunteer services to children. “Sit, Stay, Read!” brings children together with specially trained dogs to help them gain more confidence in their reading abilities in an individual setting at the North Shelby library that is supportive, relaxed and furry! All ages. Registration required. Call or email Katie at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

Tuesday, March 11th – 4:00 p.m.: “Craft: Welcome Spring Door Hanger!” Say goodbye to wintry weather with this cool door hanger! All ages. Registration required. Call or email the Children's Department at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

Saturday, March 15th – 1:00-2:30 p.m.: “The Land Before Time: Adventuring in the Mysterious Beyond.” Come along with your favorite prehistoric pals as they explore their amazing world filled with dino-riffic songs and important life lessons. This interactive movie is sure to entertain the whole family! All ages. Refreshments served.

Monday, March 17th – Thursday, March 20th – 2:00-3:00 p.m.: “Spring Break Young Writer's Workshop.” Are you staying in town this Spring Break? Join us for this four-day workshop for kids who love to write. We will be working on short stories or poems that will be featured in the Children's Department! Open to grades 2nd-5th. Registration required. Call or email the Children's Department at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

Saturday, March 22nd – 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: “North Shelby Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt.” Join us for a fun Easter egg hunt in the library! We will have a hunt for toddlers, 1-3 year olds, in the meeting room and one for children 4+ in the Children's Department. There will be prizes for all participants! Call or email the Children's Department at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information.

Tuesday, March 25th – 12:30-1:30 p.m.: “Homeschool Hangout: Critiquing Art.” Bring your lunch and enjoy an interactive lesson about the basic principles of art and how to identify them in works by famous artists. Participants will have a chance to recreate several of these principles and obtain a better understanding of the subject. Ages 8-12. Registration required. Call or email the Children's Department at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelby-county-al.org for more information.

Story-Time Programming

Toddler Tales

Monday, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th - 10:30 & 11:30 a.m.: You can call the library at 439-5504 to sign up. You may begin registration on the last Toddler Tale program day of the previous month. Ages 24-36 months. Registration required. Call the Children's Department at 439-5504 to sign-up.

Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!)

Wednesdays, March 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th at 10:45 a.m. All ages. No registration required.

P. J. Story time

Thursdays, March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at 7:00 p.m. All ages.

Teen Scene

Teen Advisory Group – Monday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m. Are you looking for community service hours for school? Do you like to read? Are you interested in helping North Shelby Library pick books? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then Teen Advisory is for you! Enjoy pizza and drinks while helping us make important decisions for the Teen Department. Call or email Katie for more information at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org. You can also check out our Myspace page at www.myspace.com/northshelbyteens for information on upcoming events!

Teen Writer's Club – Monday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m. Are you working on your first book? Love to write? Want to improve your writing skills? Teen Writer's Club meets once a month to discuss different topics related to writing including famous young authors, how to get published and how to get past writer's block. Bring examples of your work and share with other club members. Pizza and drinks provided! Call or email Katie for more information at 439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org

Teen Book Pick of the Month – “The Final Warning: A Maximum Ride Novel” by James Patterson. This is the newest book in the continuing saga of the Maximum Ride series!

The Month of March – Online Book Club. Want to find another teen book to read? Join our Online Book Club and receive portions of a teen book each week through your email! Sign up at www.northshelbylibrary.org to get started!

In Memoriam

The Town of Indian Springs Village offers heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Patricia Yeager Fuhrmeister, age 51, who lost her battle with leukemia on February 9, 2008. Tricia, a Pelham native and life long resident of Shelby County, was the first woman to be elected as Probate Judge of Shelby County, a position which she held from 1994 until her death. Prior to being elected to the office of Probate Judge, Tricia practiced law in Shelby County from 1980 to 1994 with the law firm of Allison, May, and Fuhrmeister. Tricia was a past president of the Shelby County Bar Association, and a member of the Alabama State Bar Association, the Shelby County Republican Executive Committee, a graduate of Leadership Shelby County and past chair of the Alabama Electronic Voting Committee. Tricia was on the Board of Directors of Leadership Shelby County, Summit Foundation, YMCA (Shelby County branch), Shelby County Historical Society, Safehouse, Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Legal Services of Metro Birmingham, Honorary Co-Chair of March of Dimes Walk America Campaign and the Red Cross Alabama-Auburn Blood Drive. Tricia was a frequent lecturer at seminars on continuing legal education.

Tricia graduated from Thompson High School in Alabaster, Auburn University and the University of Alabama School of Law. Born to a family steeped in a tradition of public service, Tricia was preceded in death by her father, Paul L. Yeager, the first Mayor of Pelham, and by her mother, Willie L. Yeager, former Postmaster of Pelham. Tricia is survived by her husband, Jim, and her two sons, Chris and Will. She is also survived by her brothers, Paul, Austin and David, as well as many aunts, cousins and other dear family members.

Tricia's life was celebrated during a service held at Asbury United Methodist Church on February 13, 2008, where she was remembered by those who knew her best as being a woman of great strength, courage, impeccable character and the highest of ethics. These qualities when combined with her innate compassion, kindness and grace caused her to be beloved by all who knew her. The service was followed by interment in the Yeager family plot in the Pelham City Cemetery. The family suggests that any gifts be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or Asbury United Methodist Church.



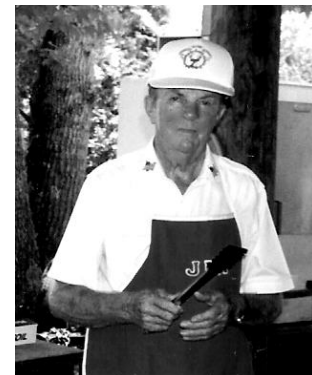
The Town of Indian Springs Village extends heartfelt sympathy to Nora Boyett in the loss of her husband, James H. (Jim) Boyett, age 85, who passed away on February 18, 2008 at home. He was a member Barnsville Freewill Baptist Church, he served in the U.S. Army Aircorp during WWII and he is retired from Millwright Local 1192.

Jim was an ardent supporter of the Town of Indian Springs Village and served his community enthusiastically until he became ill in 2006. The consummate vol-



unteer, Jim was a courier for *The Village Voice* and was one of the three original members of the town's "Pothole Crew". Jim was always ready to lend a helping hand for the town and it's citizens, whether it was filling potholes, fixing signs, making picnic tables or delivering the

newsletter. Jim loved attending and volunteering for town events, setting up, cooking and serving food at July 4th and Founder's Day events and even helping hide Easter eggs for the annual ISV Easter Egg Hunt. Jim was known far and wide for his gardening expertise, and always shared his garden's bounty of fresh corn, tomatoes, okra and peppers with friends and neighbors in the community.



A kind and gentle man, Jim was loved by all who were blessed to have known him and he will be missed greatly. One of twelve children, Jim is preceded in death by 5 brothers and 4 sisters. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Nora Overstreet Boyett; sister, Eva Ridings; brother, L.O. Boyett both of Hamilton, Alabama; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends. Visitation and graveside service with Military Honors was held on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at Southern Heritage. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the American Diabetes Association P.O. Box 11454 Alexandria, VA 22312 or their web site www.diabetes.org.

Nora wishes to thank all of the friends, neighbors and citizens of Indian Springs Village for their thoughts, prayers and expressions of kindness during Jim's illness, as well as during this very sad time since his passing.

Both obituaries written by Tricia Crapet.

Local Leader Helps People to People Student Ambassadors Prepare for International Adventures

by Sandee Yancey, Villager

This is one of the busiest times of the year for Sandee Yancey. Outstanding students from the Birmingham area are preparing to spread international goodwill and understanding as People to People Student Ambassadors.

Yancey, a teacher at Oak Mountain High School and resident of Indian Springs, along with fellow leader Gaile Randall, a teacher at Thompson Intermediate School, will be playing a vital role in this journey as they will be leading a 20 day People to People delegation to the British Isles.

The group will be meeting once a month at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall to prepare for their journey. During this time they will learn about the history, culture and government of the countries they will visit.

As an area director, Dr. Anne Bishop, also of Indian Springs, manages and trains several delegations, selecting and training the leaders and preparing hundreds of students and their families for their international journey. Dr. Bishop will also lead a delegation of alumni to the Galapagos Islands this summer.

While abroad, delegations will take part in a variety of activities, such as meeting with a member of Parliament, kissing the Blarney stone and rappelling off a castle wall! They will also have the opportunity to live with a family in London and experience the culture on a more personal basis.

Yancey has traveled with People to People delegations to Australia, China and Europe. She has taught in the Indian Springs area for over 13 years, 8 years at OMHS and 5 years at Bruno Montessori Academy.

“Both of my own children, Megan and Gage, were honored to travel with People to People. I feel that the experience has given them a broader view of the world and furthered their own understanding of global diversity. I am honored to be selected as a delegation leader. The most important goal of my teaching career has been to impact the lives of students in a positive way. The People to People Student Ambassador program has provided me with another opportunity to achieve that goal.”

Leaders travel closely with their delegation, participating in every activity and providing a vital link between the students, their families and the support of the program office.

Acceptance into the Student Ambassador program is an honor: students must be nominated by a teacher, submit letters of recommendation and go through extensive interviews with the leaders. By participating in the programs,

students can earn academic credit while getting to know the history, culture and people of the places they will visit.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower founded People to People in 1956 with the belief that ordinary citizens of different nations could make a difference where governments could not. In 2006, People to People celebrated its 50th year of safely bringing the best educational journeys to life. If you have any questions regarding the People to People mission or programs, log on to www.studentambassadors.org or contact Sandee Yancey at 205-902-7262.

Adult Programming

By Lori Skinner, North Shelby Library Adult Programming

We invite you to bring your lunch and join us for a program featuring either a speaker or a film about various topics of educational interest. We provide drinks and dessert and ask attendees to bring their lunch.

Tuesday, March 4th – 12:00 p.m.

“Wine for the Confused”

Film presentation, running time 90 minutes. Join John Cleese for an entertaining, informative and amusing tour through the California wine country. Meet experts that explain the differences in wine varieties, the fermentation process and how the growing location affects the outcome of the grapes.

Tuesday, March 11th – 12:00 p.m.

“Alabama War Dogs”

Join us for an exciting presentation by John O’Malley, president and executive director of the Alabama War Dogs Memorial Foundation. The presentation is dedicated to war dogs and their Alabama handlers. “Alabama War Dogs” is aimed at educating Alabamians about our military working dogs, especially those sent into harm’s way with American Armed Forces. For additional information about the Alabama War Dogs Memorial Foundation, visit www.awdm.org.

Tuesday, March 18th – 12:00 p.m.

“Is it real? Da Vinci’s Code”

Film presentation, running time 54 minutes. National Geographic takes you around the globe and behind the sensationalism to sort fact from fiction, as noted experts, hard-core skeptics and dedicated believers search for the reality behind one of the most phenomenal and controversial bestsellers ever published.