

The Village Voice



Volume 19, Number 6

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

September 5, 2009

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 6, 2009 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; Tel: 253-1605, Fax: 949-6279, or e-mail: alison@indianspringsvillage.org.

The Village Voice is published the first week of each month. Articles for the October edition should be submitted by Friday, September 25, 2009. 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*

As I write this on Friday, August 28th, I've just gotten some good news about the lane-widening project for highway 119. I spoke with several people today including the ALDOT director's office, an engineer for the new bonding company and the state engineer, and they all tell me that every agreement and contract has been signed and approved and the new contractor will start work on Monday, September 1, 2009. The name of the contractor is Carcel & G Construction, LLC of Cullman. By the time you read this we will all know if they have actually started work and we can monitor their progress.

My next question was when will they get it completed? Now, it gets a little fuzzy. No one will make any promises and I don't blame them. Please keep in mind that construction work like this can be seriously affected by a number of factors such as rain and temperature, equipment and material availability and so on. The contract with the contractor contains financial incentives for getting the work done sooner rather than later. The sooner it's completed, the more money the contractor makes on this project. There is some thought that it might be done by Christmas, but there is no commitment at all.

The restart of road work will bring on its own set of problems for all of us who use highway 119. Lanes will be blocked, drives will be torn up and shoulders will be widened all along the construction area. Some additional storm water management and drainage work will be done along the state right-of-way. The town will lose some of the drive and grass area in front of the Town Hall that is in the right-of-way. There will be construction noise and lights at night as crews work. Please allow extra time to get to and from your destination. Consider alternate routes through town if possible. When it's completed, we should have a highway through our town that will be much safer and easier to use. Not seeing those orange barrels along the roadway will be a pleasure.

**Our annual Founder's Day celebration will be held on the third
Tuesday of October, the 20th. Please mark your calendars.
We will be serving some great barbeque for supper.**

REMINDER: Free Landfill Day – Saturday, October 10, 2009
Shelby County Landfill www.shelbycountyalabama.com
4154 Highway 70, Columbiana, AL 35051 205-669-3871
Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

July 21, 2009

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Mayor called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present except Herb Robins and Brenda Bell-Guercio. Stewart Dudley arrived at 7:20.

The Mayor read the meeting agenda. At that time, there was no quorum and the minutes approval was postponed until the next meeting.

Mendel presented the June Financial Report. We have completed three-quarters of the fiscal year, and both revenue and expense budgets are on track. The Money Market checking account of approximately \$500K is earning 0.8%. This rate could be doubled by transferring funds to a one-year CD. Mendel would like the Council to consider this option. The FY2008 audit is complete. Mendel, Rasco and Hollie Johnson will meet with the auditor on July 28. Tentatively, the audit will be presented at the August 4 meeting. There was a discussion about the Highway Finance Report.

Zerkis mentioned there is a potential subdivision request on Valley View Lane. The owner would like to divide one lot into two.

Mayor Zerkis will attend the 2010 Census Committee meeting next Monday. He attended a Community Conservation Plan meeting this afternoon. They are looking at areas in the community to promote conservation development.

Dudley arrived and the July 7 minutes were reviewed. Mendel made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Stauss. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mayor Zerkis stated there was an article in *The Birmingham News* about the highway 119 project, but it did not contain any additional information.

Zerkis presented a resolution from Homeland Security on NIMS. Mendel made a motion to accept, seconded by Stauss. The resolution was accepted unanimously.

Mayor Zerkis gave a report on the MS4 Audit. Currently, ISV pays the County an annual fee for storm water management services along with other Shelby County cities. A contingent led by Butch Ellis went to Atlanta to discuss county and municipal compliance issues with the EPA.

The Mayor opened the floor for comments from residents. Bart Trammell, who had previously asked to be on tonight's agenda, deferred until Robins returns.

Ben Jones, Life Scout, of Troup 254 was attending the meeting to earn his Communications Badge.

A resident asked about the Cahaba Valley Road property purchase status. Zerkis responded that the contract was cancelled at the last meeting because problems discovered

during the "due diligence" have not yet been resolved. No final decision has been made to pursue the property purchase or not. A discussion followed.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting

August 4, 2009

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Mayor called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present except Brian Stauss who arrived at 7:15.

The Mayor read the meeting agenda. The Council reviewed the July 21 minutes. Mendel made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Robins. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mendel gave an update on the July 28 audit meeting and reported that the audit presentation is scheduled for August 18. He then presented the June Financial Report and made a motion to endorse the report, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Robins gave an update on the Highway 119 project. Carcel and G have the contract for the storm water management and erosion control. Gary Ray of ALDOT said the bonding company has not yet selected a new prime contractor.

A resident reported that there is no street sign at the intersection of New Hope Mountain Road and Miller Circle. He also suggested that the sign at New Hope Mountain Road and Paleo Drive be moved closer. Stauss reported that the street sign at Cahaba Oak Trail and Cahaba Oaks Lane needs to be cleaned or replaced. Robins will follow up on both. He suggested that the Cahaba Oaks subdivision have the sign repainted at the neighborhood's expense. Robins also reported that the sprinkler system has been repaired. He will check with Jennifer Bondi of ISVGC to ensure it meets the needs of the Garden Club. Rogers will prepare a schematic of the system.

Mendel reported he received his wheeled recycling cart today from WMI. The first weekly pickup is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, August 5.

Mayor Zerkis gave an update on the detention pond issues in Indian Gate. The City Engineer's office contacted the developer, John Powell. Powell said he will maintain the grass and will complete the fence when his finances improve.

A trailer was recently dumped on Mike Stephen's commercial lot adjacent to Shelby Mart. Stephens has filed a police report. He is required to wait a certain number of days and then it will be removed. Mayor Zerkis also gave an update on the residential rental house that was being

used for a private school. The renter has agreed to abide by the zoning and will hold school elsewhere.

Resident Bart Trammell alleged that Mayor Zerkis had made erroneous statements related to supernumerary appointments and wanted to present facts to the Council publicly. A discussion followed. Dudley commented that the City Attorney, Russ Allison, has already given an opinion that the supernumerary appointments are valid and the City is standing by that opinion. Trammell requested copies of several documents..

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Business License Update

submitted by Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

New 2009 business licenses have been issued to Mountain Heating and Cooling, Gallups Electrical, LLC, Shelby Jefferson Construction Company, Bill Burrus Home Improvements, Inc. and Learning By Design Daycare. An updated license has been issued to Lisa G. Wilson, D.M.D. for the addition of massage therapy services. Two businesses, Dean Tyler Burns Architecture and Citation Homes, Inc., are delinquent.

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Bill Burrus
Owner: Bill Burrus
Address: 2659 Valleydale Road
Proposed Use: Store Remodel – Sprint Mobile Store

Applicant: Jeremy Knezek
Owner: Jeremy Knezek
Address: 1707 Indian Crest Drive
Proposed Use: House Remodel

ISV Recycling *by Steve Zerkis, Mayor*

Our first recycling pick-up was Wednesday, August 5. Waste Management Inc. dropped off their unique yellow-topped wheeled recycling carts. Pick-up will be every week on Wednesday. The monthly cost is only \$5.06 and that is a bargain. I know many residents have signed up because we can see their carts out by the sides of their driveways. It is easy to sign up. Just call Waste Management Inc. at 841-2740, or visit their website at *WM.com*.

Pat Zerkis with the Waste Management recycling cart.

How Are We Doing with the Town's Budget?

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

I've included in this issue the financial reports for the first ten months of our town's fiscal year which starts on October 1 of each year. These reports show our revenues and expenses by month through July. I am pleased to report that we are on target for both revenues and expenses for the year. We don't anticipate any significant or unusual expenses for the remaining two months of the year. We anticipate having a surplus in the range of \$100,000. Imagine that, no deficit. For a town that has no property taxes or sales taxes, we like to think that your Town Council is acting as a good steward of the people's money.

The Town Council has begun work on the fiscal year 2010 budget. We are not planning for any increase in revenues and we are looking to control expenditures to the same level as the current fiscal year. We hope to have the new budget finalized by the end of September. Please keep in mind that most of our revenues come from utility fees received from the power, gas, cable and water companies serving ISV. We have no debt.

Our external auditors, DeLoach, Barber & Caspers, reported that our books for fiscal year 2008 "present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Indian Springs Village, Alabama, as of September 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America." In other words, they gave us a clean bill of health.

Credit must go to Council Member Jack Mendel and others for keeping us in excellent financial condition.



Indian Springs Village
Monthly & Year-To-Date
Revenues

GENERAL FUND

Revenue Source	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Fiscal YTD	Budget
1 Charter Cable	-	2,833	-	-	2,793	-	-	2,853	-	-	-	-	8,480	7,600
2 Alabama Power	-	-	-	107,089	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107,089	107,000
3 Alabama Gas	-	-	-	-	35,045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,045	33,000
4 Pelham Water	-	-	-	8,981	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,981	9,500
5 Birmingham Water	-	-	-	3,651	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,651	3,700
6 Alcoholic Beverage Tax	2,588	-	2,092	1,248	-	1,758	1,068	1,608	1,192	1,284	-	-	12,838	13,000
7 Business Licenses	534	254	3,090	5,931	9,448	747	102	614	130	106	-	-	20,956	20,000
8 Building Permits	460	2,251	310	465	154	75	740	33	558	1,650	-	-	6,695	7,000
9 July 4th Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,680	-	-	1,680	2,000
10 Misc Revenue Not Budgeted	49	47	41	13	-	-	-	466	31	21	-	-	667	100
11 Interest Income (ChkingAcct)	52	40	36	365	489	547	474	405	349	321	-	-	3,077	4,500
12 Zoning Application Fees	386	465	-	-	410	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,361	500
13 Cell Tower Inspection Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200
14 DOT Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 Misc Taxes(Oil & Gas Drilling, etc.)	101	73	57	51	19	33	12	8	7	6	-	-	366	950
44 Interest Income (CD's)	-	-	9,825	540	-	6,500	-	-	6,500	-	-	-	23,365	33000
Total - All Items	4,169	5,963	15,450	128,333	48,358	9,759	2,396	5,986	8,767	5,067	-	-	234,249	243,050

ROAD FUNDS

Revenue Source	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Fiscal YTD	Budget
50 7¢ Gasoline & 2¢ Insp	626	499	614	530	618	582	553	580	619	616	-	-	5,836	7,000
51 5¢ & 4¢ Gasoline	447	350	455	411	403	421	399	411	443	443	-	-	4,184	5,000
52 Motor Veh Lic Tag Tax	948	1,611	595	338	583	692	721	631	591	775	-	-	7,485	8,200
53 Road Funds CD Interest	-	-	1,146	-	-	1,146	-	-	1,146	-	-	-	3,437	4,400
54 Road Funds Chking Acct Interest	16	15	17	16	15	18	18	17	20	12	-	-	165	300
Total - All Items	2,037	2,475	2,827	1,294	1,620	2,859	1,690	1,639	2,818	1,846	-	-	21,105	24,900

CAP IMPRV FUND

Revenue Source	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Fiscal YTD	Budget
60 Cap Inprv Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,375	-	-	-	-	-	29,375	17,000
61 Cap Impr Rev Chking Acct Interest	14	12	13	12	11	12	12	31	34	28	-	-	179	200
	14	12	13	12	11	12	29,387	31	34	28	-	-	29,554	17,200

Indian Springs Village
Monthly & Year-To-Date
Expenses

Expense Category	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Fiscal YTD	Budget
CASH														
101 Web-Site	540	-	-	-	-	227	-	-	-	-	-	-	767	2,000
102 Engineering Fees	1,868	-	2,050	3,064	1,663	1,475	6,840	-	1,117	10,113	-	-	28,189	15,000
103 ADEM	1,642	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,642	1,000
104 Civic Events	736	-	33	-	43	1,726	146	(5)	-	6,061	-	-	8,741	8,000
105 Insurance	-	-	-	426	-	-	-	3,290	-	-	-	-	3,716	4,300
106 Office Supplies	157	91	460	160	261	210	9	11	157	6	-	-	1,520	1,300
107 Bldg & Grounds Maintenance	764	645	976	427	679	1,336	1,151	657	1,330	1,547	-	-	9,512	9,000
108 Legal Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-	519	-	-	-	-	-	-	519	6,000
109 Recording Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250
110 Utilities & Security System	284	259	331	417	418	359	1,243	287	356	1,900	-	-	5,853	6,700
111 Administrative Expenses	122	57	481	76	119	287	69	380	59	41	-	-	1,691	3,000
112 Audit Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,300
113 Miscellaneous	198	3	3	308	3	3	3	141	3	388	-	-	1,054	1,000
114 Village Voice	-	1,045	533	43	57	40	1,334	694	66	1,663	-	-	5,475	7,500
115 Dues (AL League of Municip)	1,302	-	-	-	-	-	25	175	-	-	-	-	1,502	1,600
116 Admin Svcs Allowances	900	600	1,200	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	-	-	9,000	10,800
117 Oak Mtn Schools Grants	-	-	-	16,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,000	16,000
118 Garden Club	-	-	-	223	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	223	1,500
119 Deputy Sheriff Contract	3,017	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	3,256	-	-	32,325	37,600
150 Road Maintenance	-	4,745	200	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,045	6,000
151 Road Utilities	20	22	21	23	20	20	20	22	21	20	-	-	209	-
Total - All Items	11,550	10,723	9,544	25,324	7,517	10,358	14,997	9,808	7,264	25,896	-	-	132,982	142,850

NON-CASH

160 Depreciation of Fixed Assets	-	-	4,250	-	-	4,250	-	-	4,250	-	-	-	12,750	17,000
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City of Indian Springs New Customer Guide – Waste Management Recycling Information

Dear City of Indian Springs Resident:

Waste Management is pleased to service your household recycling needs with a fully automated collection system. This means that each one-man collection truck will have a mechanical “arm” which extends from the truck, picks up and dumps the cart and returns it to its original location as placed at the roadway.

Common questions and answers:

Q: What is the Scheduled Day of Service?

A: Waste Management will provide collection services to all residents in the city of Indian Springs on Wednesday of each week. Please have your carts to the curb by 6:00a.m. for collection.

Q: How Will I Be Billed for Collection Service?

A: The charges for your recycling service will be billed with your normal quarterly billing for the solid waste collection. Your next billing will reflect a pro-rated amount for the quarterly recycling service. The monthly charge for the service is \$5.06 or \$15.18 a quarter.

Q: What Do I Do On My Collection Day?

A: Before 6:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day, roll your cart to the roadside. Position the cart within three (3) feet of the edge of the road or closer without obstructing traffic. The front of the cart must be pointed facing the road. PLEASE do not block your mailbox or place the cart closer than five (5) feet from parked vehicles, trees, mailboxes or other fixed objects. Please bag all materials prior to placing them in the cart for collection.

Q: What About Holidays?

A: Waste Management will observe the following holidays, New Years Day, Memorial day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If your collection falls on or after a scheduled holiday your collection day will be one day later in the week.

Q: Who is Responsible For The Cart?

A: The cart is the property of Waste Management; however, you may use it as your own and should care for it as your own. The user is responsible for keeping the cart clean. It is easily cleaned with a garden hose to keep odors down. For cleanliness purposes, it is recommended that all waste streams be placed in a plastic bag before placing them into the cart.

Q: What If the container is Lost or Stolen?

A: If the cart is lost, stolen or damaged beyond repair from customer abuse, you will be required to reimburse Waste

Management for a replacement cart. Cost of the cart is \$65.00 each. It is recommended that you record the serial number from the cart to be reported in the event of theft.

Q: What Can I Put Into The Recycling Cart?

A: Items that can be recycled on this program are as follows: Newspaper, magazines, junk mail, cardboard, plastic food and beverage containers, aluminum or bi-metal food and beverage containers. For your convenience, there is also a guide of acceptable materials on the lid of the container.

Q: What Is Not Acceptable to Be Placed In The Cart?

A: Items such as glass, automotive fluids, chemicals of any nature, paint, and fluorescent light bulbs. No household or yard waste materials are to be placed in your recycling container.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this service to you and the city of Indian Springs. Should you have any questions regarding your household recycling collection, please do not hesitate to contact our service center at (205) 841-2740. Waste Management of Alabama Central, 700 Clow Rd., Birmingham, AL 35217.

Miracle 4 Will Bass Fishing Tournament

by Misty Luthcke, Villager

Join us for our first annual bass fishing tournament! All proceeds to benefit The Will Luthcke Foundation, our foundation is dedicated to researching for a treatment or cure for Sanfilippo Syndrome. Sanfilippo Syndrome is a rare, fatal, degenerative disorder. Our son Will was diagnosed in 2007; his life expectancy is 10-20 years, he is now 6. Please help us in the fight for his life and thousands of other suffering the devastating effects of this rare disease. Registration forms available to print out and mail in at www.miracle4will.com, Marks Outdoors, Paradise Point or call 238-1151 or e-mail mluthcke@netzero.com and I will mail one to you!

Location – Paradise Point Marina, Lay Lake

Date – September 12, 2009

Time – Safe light to 2:30

Cost – \$100.00 per boat up to 2 fisher people

Payouts – 1st Place: \$1,500.00

2nd Place: \$750.00

3rd Place: \$500.00

Big Fish Prize: \$250.00

No weight draw prize: \$100.00

There will also be a lot of great draw prizes, lures, oil changes, food gift cards, rods, reels and many more.

Will is going to join us at the weigh in, so please stop by and tell him hello!

A huge thank you from the Luthcke family to the Mayor and City Council for the Proclamation making June Will Luthcke month.

Indian Springs School News

*submitted by Melanie Kieve,
Assistant Director of Development*



Indian Springs School Student Luo Achieves Perfection on SAT

Michelle Luo, a rising senior at Indian Springs School (ISS), has reached perfection in one of education's highest litmus tests – the SAT.

Luo, daughter of Dr. Ming Luo and Dr. Jun Tsao of Vestavia Hills, earned a perfect 2400 on the SAT. Only 294 students out of more than 1.5 million made a perfect score on the test last year, according to the College Board, the not-for-profit association that administers the test.

Even more impressive, Luo achieved perfection in each of the test's sections — math, writing and critical reading — in one sitting, meaning that she did not add perfect section scores from several sittings to achieve the overall perfect score.

Luo is also an AP Scholar and one of nation's top 10 scorers on the National French Exam, and served during 2008-2009 as Indian Springs' Commissioner of Education, where she helped bolster the school's tutoring efforts and served as a student liaison on the ISS Academic Committee.

Active in community service, Luo is Indian Springs' 2009-2010 Commissioner of Citizenship, responsible for organizing school-wide service projects, and president of the Schools for Schools Club, an organization dedicated to helping students in Uganda. She has also coordinated school fundraisers for the Council for Exceptional Children's Alabama chapter; served as assistant director for the Washington Day Camp, a day camp at ISS for students from Birmingham's Booker T. Washington School; and volunteered with The Exceptional Foundation and Habitat for Humanity.

This spring, she also received the school's inaugural Springs Service Award, given to the student in each class who exemplifies the ISS spirit of service, and she will be recognized this fall in Portico magazine as one of "20 People Who Will Change the World."

A piano player since age 5, she has placed or won numerous piano competitions and festivals and is a member of ISS Music Ensemble. She has been taking ballet at Birmingham Ballet since age 6, and is now a part of its Senior Company where she played Gretel in its recent production of "Hansel and Gretel" at the BJCC.

"We are extremely proud of Michelle's achievement on the SAT," says ISS Director Gareth Vaughan. "Her ability to reach this height in academics while being fully engaged in community service and extracurricular activities speaks volumes about her talent, work ethic and generous spirit. She represents well our students' commitment to excellence in the classroom and beyond."

Luo is undecided about her college and career plans but looks forward to making her college choice later in the school year, she says.

Indian Springs Graduate Connor Earns the Congressional Award Bronze Medal

George Ryan Connor, a recent graduate of Indian Springs School, has been awarded The Congressional Award Bronze Medal. U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus presented the medal to Connor during a recent ceremony at Bachus' Birmingham office.

Connor received the award for his outstanding contributions to the community and undertaking the values of initiative, service and achievement.

The son of Robert and Jan Connor of Shoal Creek, Connor is beginning studies at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee this fall.

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans. Participants earn Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Medals, and each level involves setting goals in four program areas – volunteer public service, personal development, physical fitness and expedition/exploration. Non-partisan, voluntary and non-competitive, the program is open to all 14- to 23-year-olds.



(l-r) U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus, George Ryan Connor, parents Jan and Robert Connor, and ISS Dean of Student Life Jan Fortson.

“Constructed Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment”

by Ruth Goodwyn, Publicity, Indian Springs Garden Club

“Constructed wetlands. . .”—What does that have to do with a garden club? Well, for one thing, fences are often put around them to keep people from picking the flowers. They are a low cost method for treating wastewater and conserving nature, and gardeners are always interested in environmental measures to make our earth better.

Members of the Indian Springs Garden Club found this topic to be very interesting as presented as a slide show at the August meeting by James R. Lowery, retired from University of Alabama at Birmingham. All garden club meetings are open to the public, and members expressed dismay that other Villagers did not attend this great program.

Lowery’s interest in wetlands grew out of a school project launched by his son. Throughout the years he has researched extensively, traveled to constructed wetlands, and added to the project.

Compared with natural wetlands—bogs, marshes, etc., filled with water-supported vegetation—constructed wetlands remain constant in size and accommodate greater volumes of sediment, purifying the water that runs through them. They tend to be simple, inexpensive, and environmentally friendly, and feature such vegetation as cattails, canna lilies, duckweed, bulrushes, reeds, and water hyacinths, the vegetation chosen sometimes for the purpose of the constructed wetland. Components always include soil and drainage materials, such as gravel; plants that grow above and below water; and micro-organisms. They provide food and habitat for wildlife and create a pleasant landscape.

Constructed wetlands may be used to treat water from many different sources: as an alternative to field lines for septic tanks, sewage from individual homes and businesses, and sometimes from small communities; stormwater; runoff from highways; agricultural wastewater (including livestock as from hog farms); industrial waste, such as heavy metals from coal mine drainage and washwater from coal-fired power plants. Lowery had kept up with the progress of some constructed wetlands, having many before-and-after slides taken throughout the United States.

He and his wife, Peggy, remained for refreshments, which included red velvet cake. Afterwards a business meeting was conducted by President Lynn Hendricks. Members heard Patsy Strozier’s description of the 2010 yearbook and the tentative schedule for next year’s monthly programs.

Indian Springs Village’s Commissioner Lindsey Allison will be the speaker at the next meeting of the Indian Springs Garden Club on Thursday, September 24, 6:30 p.m. at the ISV Town Hall. Villagers are invited to attend.

Village News

Collyn Loper, daughter of Linda and Brian Loper of 224 Cahaba Oaks Trail, received a degree of Bachelor of Chemical Engineering with specialization in Environmental Engineering, Cum Laude, from Auburn University on August 10, 2009 and has taken a position with the Flight Test Branch of Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Collyn will begin courses in January at the University of Alabama in Huntsville toward a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering with emphasis in Missile Design.

Is there a Villager who is planning to take trash to the landfill on the free day on Saturday, October 10 that would be willing to take something for me?

There is a big piece of plywood and a board with nails that fell off a truck (I saw it) that needs to be disposed of. It’s too big for the garbage bin; in fact, I can’t even pick it up! It is still lying beside my driveway where it fell. If someone would take it when they go I would surely appreciate it. Thank you.

Eleanor Bennett

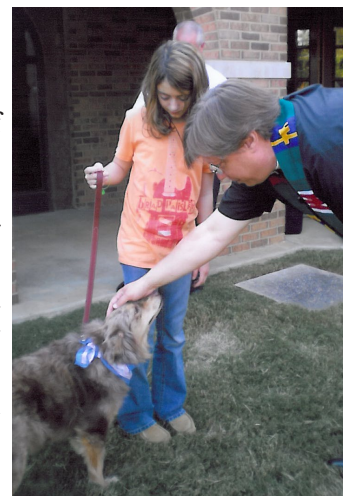
2620 Cahaba Valley Road, across from ISV Town Hall.

Garage Sale, Fall Festival and Blessing of the Animals

submitted by Betsy C. Whitfield

The Episcopal Church of Saint Francis, located at 3545 Cahaba Valley Road in Indian Springs, will hold its annual event on October 3, 2009, beginning

at 1:00 p.m, with the Blessing from 4:00 on. We celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, Francis of Assisi, and show love and appreciation for our pets and animal friends. The community is invited to bring their pets – be they dogs, cats, reptiles, fish, birds, hamsters, horses, all critters are welcome!



September Happenings *by Cecelia Dean, North Shelby Library Youth Services Department*

Special Programming

Monday, September 14th, 21st and 28th – 3:15-4:15 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 the Children’s Department at 439-5504 or NorthShelbyYouth@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday, September 12th – 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.: “Family Movie Day – *The Gnome-Mobile*”. Come to the Redwood Forest with Jasper, a two-foot-high gnome. Watch as he and his new friends try to find a suitable bride to satisfy his 900-year-old grandfather, Knobby. All ages. Snacks served.

Wednesday, September 16th – 1:00-1:45 p.m.: “Homeschool Hangout: Do the Dewey”. Come find out what the Dewey Decimal System is and how it can work for you. Play games, have snacks and get smart! Ages 8-12. Registration required. Call or email the Children’s Department at 439-5504 or NorthShelbyYouth@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday, September 19th – “Talk Like a Pirate Day: Avast me hearties!” Stop by the Children’s Department anytime today to celebrate “Talk Like a Pirate Day” and go home with some special “booty!”

Tuesday, September 29th – 4:00 p.m.: Craft – “Scarecrow Bucket”. This adorable craft can be used in a variety of ways. Use it to hold candy, pencils or just as a decoration. The choice is yours! Registration begins Tuesday, September 15th. All ages. Registration required. Call or email the Children’s Department at 439-5504 or NorthShelbyYouth@gmail.com for more information.

Story-Time Programming

Toddler Tales

Mondays, September 14th, 21st and 28th – 10:30 & 11:30 a.m. Registration begins Monday, August 31st. Ages 19-36 months. Registration required. Call the Children’s Department at 439-5504 to sign up.

Baby Tales Story Time

Tuesdays, September 8th and 22nd – 10:30-11:00 a.m. A new story time designed especially for babies and their caregivers. Stories and music provide interaction for the babies and time for caregivers to talk and share with each other. No siblings please. Ages: Birth to 18 months.

Registration required. Registration begins Tuesday, August 25th. Call the Children’s Department at 439-5504 to sign up.

Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!)

Wednesdays, September 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th at 10:45 a.m. All ages. No registration required.

P. J. Story Time

Thursdays, September 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th at 7:00 p.m. Come in your PJs, have milk and cookies and hear some wonderful bedtime tales. All ages. No registration required.

Teen Scene @ NSL

Teen Writer’s Club/Teen Advisory Group – Monday, September 28th @ 6:00 p.m. This club is for aspiring writers and people who want to improve their writing. Bring what you are working on to share with fellow members and offer suggestions for other works. Pizza and drinks served. Call or email Katie or Lori at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Teen Book Pick of the Month – *The Summer I Turned Pretty* by Jenny Han

Belly measures her life in summers. Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August. Winters are simply a time to count the weeks until the next summer, a place away from the beach house, away from Susannah and, most importantly, away from Jeremiah and Conrad. They are the boys that Belly has known since her very first summer – they have been her brother figures, her crushes and everything in between. But one summer, one wonderful and terrible summer, the more everything changes, the more it all ends up just the way it should have been all along. (From book jacket).

The Month of June – 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!

Breast Cancer Fundraiser

by Susan Shoemaker, Financial Coordinator for Dr. Lisa G. Wilson's office

Dr. Lisa G. Wilson's dental office would like to announce that this will be our fifth year to accept monetary donations in honor of October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We will be collecting from September 1 thru October 8th, with all money going to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. You can stop by our office located at 5470 Caldwell Mill Road Monday- Thursday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., call us at 995-8084, or visit our website www.dr.lisawilson.com. Please help us make this our biggest year yet.

Courier Found

Thanks to Villager Chris Bunio for volunteering to take on the McGuire Lane/Road and Cherokee Trail route.

There is another open route, which includes Valleydale Court and Merryvale Lane off of Valleydale Road, if anyone would like to volunteer to deliver to those homes. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Alison Stigers at 253-1605 or 949-6258 or at alison@indianspringsvillage.org.

TOPS Weight Loss Support Group Meetings

"Take Off Pounds Sensibly"

Meeting each Tuesday, two groups offer morning (10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon) or evening (5:30-7:00 p.m.) times at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church on Highway 119 in Indian Springs Village. For the morning group, call 995-2166 or 408-9340; for the evening group, call 563-9840 or 408-1517.

Alabama Wildlife Needs

Volunteers

submitted by Lee McDonald, Outreach Coordinator

Alabama's wildlife needs your help! Volunteers are urgently needed at the Alabama Wildlife Center to provide care for this year's orphaned and injured wildlife. Call 663-7930 or log on to www.awrc.org for more information about the next training session on Saturday, September 19th at the Alabama Wildlife Center located in Oak Mountain State Park.

North Shelby Library Adult Programming *by Lori Skinner, Adult Services Coordinator*

HOME BUYER SEMINAR – Separate Fact from Fiction
Thursday, September 10, 2009 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room

It is not too late to take advantage of the \$8,000 first time home buyer tax credit. On December 1, 2009 this incentive will expire. Learn the secrets of home ownership from a team of professionals. This informative seminar will provide facts you need to know about the loan qualification and buying process from the start of your home search to closing. We will discuss and guide you through the changing Birmingham real estate market; whether you should rent or buy; foreclosures and short sales; how to qualify for a loan; who is eligible for the \$8,000 first time homebuyer tax credit; 100% rural development loans; new appraisal guidelines; and more.

This program is presented by Christina Rickey, Associate Broker of RealtySouth – Inverness, in conjunction with Beau Bevis, Broker of RealtySouth – Inverness and Mark Achuff, Mortgage Banker, Renasant Bank. Please contact Lori Skinner at the North Shelby Library, (205) 439-5511 or skinner.lori@yahoo.com if you have questions and to reserve your place.

Green Book Fair

North Shelby Library

September 15th: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Looking for new & exciting ways to "Go Green"
Here's Your Chance:

How You Can Help:

- * Recycle your gently used children's books by giving them to the CLG. These books will be donated to Greene County and inner-city schools.
- * Shop for new books from Books-A-Million at a deeply discounted price. Fifty percent of sales will go to Oak Mountain Schools, North Shelby Library, and CLG in the form of new books.

What's In It For You:

- * New books at a low price
- * Refreshments
- * Free samples from participating retailers
- * Awesome door prizes

Participating Retailers Include: Belks, Books-A-Million, CLG, Bank Corp South, Hyatt Place, Diana's Hair Salon, Zoegetics (Green Cleaning Products), Juice Alive, Myer's Plants and Pottery, Tutoring Club, McAlister's Deli, and Gotcha Covered

SEPTEMBER 2009 - National Senior Center Month

HEARDMONT PARK SENIOR CENTER

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
Center Manager- Theresa Green

Email- heardmontpark@hotmail.com

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><i>\$2 per person suggested lunch donation</i></p> <p><i>Please reserve your meals in advance</i></p>	<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 12:30 Travel Club Mtg *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise Class w/Donna 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch 12:30 Ice Cream Social *1-3 Acrylic Painting w/Edna</p>	<p>9:15-10:15 Beg. Line Dancing w/Chris 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 11:15-12 Pilates w/Ellen 12:00 Lunch</p>
<p>Center Closed for Labor Day</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 11 AngelCare Blood Pressure Clinic 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise Class w/Donna 11 Diabetes Supply – free monitors 10-4 Games & Fellowship 12:00 Quarterly Carry In Luncheon</p>	<p>9:15-10:15 Beg. Line Dancing w/Chris 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 11:15-12 Pilates w/Ellen 12:00 Lunch</p>
<p>9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah Jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-3 Canasta</p> <p>*7-8:30 Heardmont Squares</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing 10-30-2 Arlington Antebellum Tour w/ lunch at Whistle Stop Cafe</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch 1:30 Computer Class – How To Print Labels *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise Class w/Donna 10-4 Games & Fellowship 11 Reverse Mortgages by McGowin & King 12:00 Lunch *1-3 Acrylic Painting w/Edna</p>	<p>9:15-10:15 Beg. Line Dancing w/Chris 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 11:15-12 Pilates w/Ellen 12:00 Lunch</p>
<p>9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 10-12 Mah Jongg 12:00 Lunch 12:30-3 Canasta</p> <p>*7-8:30 Heardmont Squares</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing 10-30-2 Arlington Antebellum Tour w/ lunch at Whistle Stop Cafe</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise Class w/Donna 11 – Let's Wii w/ Alabaster Senior Center 10-4 Games & Fellowship</p>	<p>9:15-10:15 Beg. Line Dancing w/Chris 10:15-11:15 Int. Line Dancing w/Chris 11:15-12 Pilates w/Ellen 12:00 Lunch</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>* Items indicate a nominal fee is charged</p>
<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing 10-2 Historical Driving Tour of Montevallo w/lunch at Fox & Pheasant Bed & Breakfast</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>10-11 Exercise w/Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12:00 Lunch 1-2 Line Dancing 10-30-2 Arlington Antebellum Tour w/ lunch at Whistle Stop Cafe</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>	<p>9-12 Bridge Club 12:00 Lunch *1-2-Ballroom Lessons (Fox Trot) w/ Curt & Wendy</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>Be sure to reserve your seat for our day trips – Chattanooga River Cruise coming in November – call now to reserve your spot</p>	<p>Be sure to reserve your seat for our day trips – Chattanooga River Cruise coming in November – call now to reserve your spot</p>	<p>Be sure to reserve your seat for our day trips – Chattanooga River Cruise coming in November – call now to reserve your spot</p>	<p>Be sure to reserve your seat for our day trips – Chattanooga River Cruise coming in November – call now to reserve your spot</p>	<p>Be sure to reserve your seat for our day trips – Chattanooga River Cruise coming in November – call now to reserve your spot</p>