

The Village Voice



Volume 19, Number 10

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

January 7, 2010

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 2, 2010 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 February edition should be submitted by Friday, January 29, 2010. 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*

First of all, I want to thank everyone who has given their valuable time this year to make Indian Springs Village a wonderful place to call home. Keeping this town what it is takes the effort of a lot of volunteers. The members of the Town Council, our commissions and boards, and various town officials are all volunteers and are doing an outstanding job of keeping ISV in excellent shape. But the Town still would not be what it is without the help and work of many residents who decorate, serve food, maintain and just do so many tasks around this town. If you would like to help, there are lots of activities and events to which you can contribute your time. Oh yes, the next big event is our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please feel free to give a hand.

Our financial condition is still excellent. As you know, ISV has no property taxes, but we do run our government on various utility and business license fees. These fees are small, but they are sufficient to run our town simply because we don't have full-time paid employees or any debt. If we don't need it, we don't buy it. We actually have a surplus at the end of each fiscal year and we put the surplus in our own “rainy day” funds for future capital projects, emergency needs and for the future health of our community.

We had two fun events in ISV in December. Santa took a day off from his busy schedule to visit our Town Hall. The weather was terrible but Santa said he would show up from 1:00-4:00 p.m. and there he was to greet and talk with so many kids of all ages. Many, many thanks again to the Crapet family; Tricia, Michael and Joseph, for putting on this beautiful event. They have created this wonderful event for everyone to enjoy. It was their event; they and a number of elves did it all including the decorations, food, drinks and hot cider. Mike is the best there is. You could feel the children's happiness.

The last Town Council meeting for the year was also our annual Christmas and holiday party. The food, home-made pastries and eggnog that many people brought for the occasion were wonderful. It was a great time for everyone.

Very best wishes to everyone for a safe, successful and Happy New Year!

Town Council Meeting

November 17, 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. Stewart Dudley did not attend the meeting.

The November 3 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mendel made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mendel presented the October financial report. He noted that the pre-audit report has been distributed and he will ask for the Council to vote at the next meeting to present it to the auditor. Mendel motioned that the Council endorse the October financial report, seconded by Bell-Guercio. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Robins met with Randy Cole and other representatives of Shelby County Engineering regarding the Town Hall drainage project. Robins described the steps completed for the project. Jimmy Rhodes of Adkins Signs and Graphics repaired and repainted the damaged street sign at Oak Mountain Middle School and replaced the broken post with a 6"x6" post. He also replaced a damaged sign bracket on the street sign at Oak Mountain Elementary School.

Margie Robins received a list of 20 children from the Oak Mountain schools who are in need of assistance from the ISV Children's Fund. The first shopping trip will be tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. at the Pelham Wal-Mart. Another trip is scheduled for Sunday.

Stauss received a request from a resident to have reflective tape put down to mark the lanes where there is construction on Highway 119. At 7:30 p.m. Stauss left the meeting.

Mayor Zerkis discussed the appointments to the Educational Building Authority. At the last meeting, Bob Thomas was approved as Chairman for another term. Zerkis has prepared letters to reappoint other members. The principal of Indian Springs School contacted him to alert him to a potential issue related to a bond. Zerkis relayed the details of the issue and said they may in the future come before the Council to request that the covenants of the Board be revised to allow for private investor purchase.

Mayor Zerkis received letters from the three remaining Oak Mountain schools detailing their grant requests. Bell-Guercio motioned to waive the rules, seconded by Robins. The motion was accepted by a unanimous roll call vote. Bell-Guercio motioned to approve a \$4,000 grant for each of the Oak Mountain Middle, Intermediate and High schools, seconded by Mendel. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mayor Zerkis appointed David Henderson as Assistant City Engineer via formal letter.

There was a discussion about metal buildings on residential property not being addressed in the zoning ordinance. The Council agreed that a new or updated ordinance needs to be issued in the future to address this.

Rasco presented Ordinance 2010-001, to add additional license classifications to the business license ordinance. Mendel made a motion to accept the ordinance, seconded by Robins. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting

December 1, 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. Brian Stauss and Stewart Dudley did not attend the meeting.

Robins reported that the County has completed the Town Hall drainage project. The ISV Children's Fund provided Christmas for 20 Oak Mountain school children. Thanks to school counselors Hayden Bloomberg, Alexa Shivers and Laura Lynn Boone for providing the lists of children and to the ISV "elves" who participated in the shopping: Kelly Rasco, Barbara Bradley, Amy and Sarah Easton, Debbie and Shannon Markey, and Ashley, Michael and McKenna Kitchens. A big thanks to Margie Robins for her coordination of the project and shopping.

Robins spoke with Gary Ray of ALDOT regarding the request to restripe the center line on Highway 119. Ray will update him on the status tomorrow. Robins also inquired about the status of access to the Town Hall mailbox. Ray will check on that as well.

Mendel reported that the Council has received of copy of the FY09 books via email. Mendel moved that the Council has had the opportunity to review the financial records for FY09 and recommend they be forwarded to the auditor. Robins seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Bell-Guercio reminded everyone that there will be a Christmas party after the December 15 meeting.

Mayor Zerkis reported that he received an official letter from Charter regarding a price change. The letter was received and dated the same date. Our contract states that they are to give us 30 days notice of price changes. He will discuss with City Attorney Russ Allison.

Next year, 2010, will be the City's 20th birthday. Different ideas were discussed to celebrate the occasion.

Mayor Zerkis presented a formal letter of appointment for the Educational Building Authority. Bob Thomas is appointed chair and his term will expire November 9,

2015. Rita Mendel is also reappointed and her term will expire November 9, 2013.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Building Permits

submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer

Applicant: Mark Whitlock
Owner: Mark Whitlock
Address: 234 Cahaba Oaks Trail
Proposed Use: Room Addition

Applicant: Brett Bartlett
Owner: Ken and Heidi Beard
Address: 1019 Alpine Way
Proposed Use: New Swimming Pool

Applicant: Clay Bishop
Owner: Clay and Jill Bishop
Address: 180 Valley View Drive
Proposed Use: New Home Construction

Alabama Wildlife Needs

Volunteers

submitted by Janet Byars, Development Assistant

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 Sunday, January 10, 2010 from 1:00-4:00 pm. at the Alabama Wildlife Center located in Oak Mountain State Park.

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.

Business License Update

by Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

A new 2010 license has been issued to Shallow Concessions. As of December 30, the following businesses have renewed their license for 2010: A Winning Streak, ADT Security Services, Aerial Experts, Alpha Resources, Attic Antiques, AWRS, Bailey and Owens, Bormon Construction, BW Leasing, By Betty Ponder, Caldwell Shell, Cook's Pest Control, Diversified Executive Systems, Focus Four/Muzak, Dave's Lawn Care, EPS Settlements Group, Ervin Cable Construction, Gary's Barber Shop, Harry E. Caldwell, Jr. CPA, HOH Gymnastics, Indian Springs Properties, Learning By Design, Lisa G. Wilson, DMD, Lorkins Associates, M&M Steel Products Sales, Marty Byrom LLC, Noland Design, One Nineteen Realty, PakMail, Pipeline Systems, Scott Howell Homebuilding & Landscaping, Rite Aid, Riverbreeze Creative, S Enterprises, Sears Home Improvements, Standard Heating & Air, Tony & Deborah Dickerson and Valleydale Mini Storage. Florida Sign Erectors, Resting S Ranch and Shoemaker Pool Service have notified us that they will not be renewing their license. Citation Homes, James E. Roberts and FSQC AL, LLC have been turned over to the City Attorney for collection of their 2009 license fees.

Indian Springs Village Children's Fund Update

by Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

The Christmas season began with \$2,648.02 in the ISV Children's Fund account. We provided clothing and toys for 20 children in the Oak Mountain schools at a cost of \$2,428.52. Last year, we provided Christmas for only 13 children at an average cost of \$150 per child. Through the generosity of the residents of Indian Springs, we have received \$1,940 in donations as of December 30. We thank those donors and appreciate their contributions! Donations for the Children's Fund are accepted year round and are tax deductible. If you would like to donate to the fund, please make your check payable to ISV Children's Fund and mail to: ISV Children's Fund, 2635 Cahaba Valley Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124.

New Courier Found

by Alison Stigers, Editor

I'm happy to report that Mary Alta Kurttis of Indian Crest Drive has volunteered to take over the delivery route from Staci Torgerson. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the couriers who deliver *The Village Voice* every month to their neighbors. Their spirit of volunteerism is greatly appreciated.

Oak Mountain Middle School Raises \$26,000 for Toys for Tots



The National Junior Honor Society Officers from Oak Mountain Middle School coordinates the Toys for Tots Drive each year. Pictured are officers Amanda H., secretary; Cameron M., President; Kendall L., Community; Luke D., Treasurer; Payton C., Community Service; and Madeline E., Community Service. Pictured below, students help the Marines load toys following the Toys for Tots assembly at the school.

Oak Mountain Middle School students have once again exceeded their fund-raising goal for the annual Toys for Tots campaign, raising \$25,746 to buy gifts for deserving children in Central Alabama. The money was part of the school's annual Toys for Tots drive, which has raised more than \$250,000 since 1999. The school holds the national record for the largest school donation for Toys for Tots with \$42,000 raised in 2006.

According to Principal Larry Haynes, the school has set a goal of \$20,000 each year for the toy campaign. Each year, the goal has been surpassed.

The Oak Mountain Toys for Tots project is led by the National Jr. Honor Society. The United States Marine Corps, who sponsors Toys for Tots, attended the school's Christmas Assembly on December 18 to pick up the toys.

The Oak Mountain High School National Honor Society also concluded its first ever Toys for Tots fund-raiser recently, raising more than \$3,000. Shelby County High School also served as a drop-off collection site for the Columbiana area Toys for Tots drive.



Pictured above, Mateo M., scans games to check for sale prices at the Toys-R-Us in Hoover while members of the National Junior Honor Society spent over \$25,000 for toys.



SANTA at the Town Hall – 2009



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

The library will be closed January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Special Programming

Monday, January 25th – 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, January 16th – 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.: “Family Movie Day” – “Horton Hears a Who” One of Dr. Seuss’ most beloved stories comes to life in an animated adventure that proves “a person’s a person no matter how small.” All ages. Snacks served.

Thursday, January 21st – 4:00 p.m.: Craft - “Polar Bear & Penguin Friends.” Registration begins Monday, January 4th. All ages. Registration required. Call or email the Children’s Department at 439-5504 or NorthShelbyYouth@gmail.com for more information.

Tuesday, January 27th – 1:00 p.m.: “Homeschool Hangout: The Write Stuff.” Local author Claire Datnow will join us to discuss the writing process and her books. Ages 8-12. 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, January 4th, 11th and 25th – 10:30 & 11:30 a.m.: Stories, songs, fingerplays and crafts make up a lively 30 minute program designed especially for short attention spans. Registration will begin one week prior to each storytime. Ages 18-36 months. Registration required. Call the Children’s Department at 439-5504 to sign up.

Baby Tales Story Time

Tuesdays, January 12th and 26th – 10:30-11:00 a.m.: A 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 two weeks prior to program date. Call the Children’s Department at 439-5504 to sign up.

Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!)

Wednesdays, January 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at 10:45 a.m.:

Stories, puppets, and lots of music for every member of the family. All ages. No registration required.

P. J. Story Time

Thursdays, January 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th 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

Teen Book Club – Monday, January 11th @ 6:00 p.m.

We will be discussing what everyone read over the holidays. Be sure to join us and let us know what you loved and loathed. The Teen Book Club will meet in the Young Adult department located on the second floor. Snacks served. Call or email Katie or Lori at (205)439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Teen Writer’s Club/Teen Advisory Group – Monday, January 25th @ 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. Don't forget...you can also earn community service credit by joining our Teen Advisory Group! For more information, call Lori or Katie at (205)439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com.

Teen Book Pick of the Month - *Hush, Hush* by Becca Fitzpatrick. For Nora Grey, romance was not part of the plan. She's never been particularly attracted to the boys at her school, no matter how much her best friend, Vee, pushes them at her. Not until Patch came along. With his easy smile and eyes that seem to see inside her, Nora is drawn to him against her better judgment.

But after a series of terrifying encounters, Nora's not sure who to trust. Patch seems to be everywhere she is, and to know more about her than her closest friends. She can't decide whether she should fall into his arms or run and hide. And when she tries to seek some answers, she finds herself near a truth that is way more unsettling than anything Patch makes her feel. For Nora is right in the middle of an ancient battle between the immortal and those that have fallen – and, when it comes to choosing sides, the wrong choice will cost her life. (*From Product Description*)

The Month of January – 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

Carolyn Moats, age 63, of Indian Springs, AL passed away Sunday December 27, 2009. She was preceded in death by her father, Claude Reed, Jr. and mother, Audrey NeSmith Reed. She is survived by her husband, Michael L Moats of Indian Springs; sister, Pam Hyde (Ken) of Bessemer; brother, Larry Reed (Pam) of Argo; and numerous nieces and nephews. She enjoyed camping with friends, decorating her home and taking care of Marissa, her beloved poodle. She also enjoyed riding on the back of her husband's motorcycle. Funeral services for Mrs. Moats were held Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. from the chapel of Southern Heritage Funeral Home with burial following in Southern Heritage Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider memorial donations to the Zamora Shrine Children's Hospital Transportation fund at 3521 Ratliff Road, Birmingham, AL 35210. The family would like to thank the doctors and staff of Shelby Baptist Medical Center and her many faithful biking and camping friends. Southern Heritage Funeral Home and Cemetery directed the services. *(From The Birmingham News)*

Happenings

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

It's the season for the deer to move. Please be on the lookout for deer crossing road particularly at night, dusk and dawn. If you see one, remember others are probably right behind. They are not good for windshields.

New Years Resolutions....let's all work on doing more recycling of our waste. The more we can recycle, the better for our environment. Please call Waste Management to sign up for our ISV Recycling Program at 841-2740.

Got your boat parked out front? Please move it to the back of your yard. It looks better, it's more secure there and your neighbors will not be calling me to ask you to move it. Please help. For those of you who live on a corner, remember you have two front yards. Please keep them free of vehicles and boats.

*Happy
New Year!*

North Shelby Library January

Event by Lori Skinner, Adult Services Coordinator

Meet Irene Latham,
author of "*Leaving Gee's Bend*"

&

Mary Ann & China Pettway,
Quilters from Gee's Bend, Alabama

Sunday, January 10th – 2:00 p.m.

North Shelby Library, 5521 Cahaba Valley Road

Book Signing Will Follow

Free Admission

Join us to celebrate the release of "*Leaving Gee's Bend*", the debut novel of Birmingham's own Irene Latham. Ms. Latham will discuss how she was inspired to write Ludelphia's story, and the publishing process. Mary Ann and China Pettway, quilters from Gee's Bend, Alabama will display a handmade quilt and discuss the rich history of the Gee's Bend Quilter's Collective. Books will be available for purchase the day of the event at the library.

Call 205-439-5512 or visit www.northshelbylibrary.org for more information.

Alabama Wildlife Center's Wild About Chocolate

by Janet Byars, Development Assistant

**Alabama Wildlife Center's
Sixth Annual Wild About Chocolate**

Event: Wild About Chocolate

Venue: The Harbert Center, 2019 4th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203

Date: Saturday, February 13, 2010 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Entertainment: The Neo Jazz Collective, Open Air Photo Booth by Total Entertainment, Live and Silent Auctions, a Wine Pull and more! Sample chocolate desserts from about 20 of Birmingham's best restaurants, bakeries & caterers.

Honorary Chair: Melissa Riopka of ABC 33/40's "Good Morning Alabama"

Ticket Price: \$75 per person in advance; \$100 per person at the door

Cocktail Attire

Parking Information: Complimentary parking is located in the Birmingham Parking Authority Deck #3. The entrance is located directly across from the entrance to The Harbert Center on 4th Avenue North

For more information, call 205-663-7930 or visit www.awrc.org



January 2010

Heardmont Park Senior Center

5452 Cahaba Valley Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35242

Phone: 991-5742 Fax: 991-5657 Email: heardmontpark@hotmail.com

Hours: Monday—Friday 9a.m.—3p.m.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9:30—10:30 Tai Chi 9:30—12 Mah Jongg 10:30—12 Dominoes 11:30—3 Canasta 12 Lunch	10-11 Chair Aerobics & Yoga Stretch with Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch 1-3 Let's Friti	9-12 Bridge Club 11-11:45 Pilates 12 Lunch *1-2 Ballroom Dancing—Mambo	10-11 Exercise W/Donna 12 Lunch 1-3 Acrylic Art Class	9:30-10:30 Intermediate Line Dancing 10:30-11:30 Beg. Line Dancing 12 Lunch *7-9 Winter Dance
9:30—10:30 Tai Chi 9:30—12 Mah Jongg 10:30—12 Dominoes 11:30—3 Canasta 12 Lunch	10-11 Chair Aerobics & Yoga Stretch with Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch 1-3 Let's Friti	9-12 Bridge Club 11-11:45 Pilates 12 Lunch *1-2 Ballroom Dancing—Mambo	10-11 Exercise W/Donna 12 Lunch 1-3 Acrylic Art Class 9-1 AARP Driving Class	9:30-10:30 Intermediate Line Dancing 10:30-11:30 Beg. Line Dancing 12 Lunch 9-1 AARP Driving Class
Center Closed				
9:30—10:30 Tai Chi 9:30—12 Mah Jongg 10:30—12 Dominoes 11:30—3 Canasta 12 Lunch	10-11 Chair Aerobics & Yoga Stretch with Janice 11-12 Bible Study 12 Lunch 1-3 Let's Friti	9-12 Bridge Club 10 Computer Class—Calendars 11-11:45 Pilates 12 Lunch *1-2 Ballroom Dancing—Mambo	10-11 Exercise W/Donna 12 Lunch 1-3 Acrylic Art Class	9:30-10:30 Intermediate Line Dancing 10:30-11:30 Beginning Line Dancing 12 Lunch
Be sure to check out our new exercise classes on Tuesdays—now is the time to start your exercise program				
Winter Dance on Friday the 8th—Music by Wolfgang \$4 per person at the door - Refreshments provided by Town Village.				