

The Village Voice



Volume 21, Number 12

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

March 2, 2012

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 3, 2012 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 contact
Patricia Crapet. 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 April edition should be submitted by Friday, March 30, 2012. 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*

Now that spring is here, is summer far behind? I can't recall when I've seen spring come so early. This is very good weather to get out and work on our yards and gardens. Might as well do it now since its going to be way too hot this summer. I say this, but we still have March ahead of us and we probably will have some freezing weather and even tornadoes, but I'd rather be optimistic. If you have the opportunity, please take a few minutes to clean up the shoulders of your street and your neighborhood. It's spring cleaning time for our town.

Our town's major spring event is coming up. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 7 and will kick off promptly at 3:00 p.m. The Easter Bunny says she will be there to help us celebrate our egg hunt. So bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins and have a fun afternoon. Brenda Bell-Guercio has worked hard, as usual, to get a lot of wonderful prizes and she could use your help as volunteers on that day. A few minutes of your time would be most helpful.

The flooring project in the Town Hall is complete. New carpeting in the council chamber and new hardwood floors in the parlor and small meeting room are now installed and completed. If you use the Town Hall for any purpose, we ask that you do not move the furniture. Please do not drag furniture around on the new hardwood floors and leave scrapes and scratches.

How are the town's finances? We are four months into our fiscal year and we are on budget for revenues and expenses. At this point, we don't forecast any unusual revenues or expenses. With the incessant chatter on the radio and TV of significant federal, state and municipal debt, I can assure you that does not apply to Indian Springs Village. We have no debt and we have no property taxes and we are doing just fine in managing our town, thank you. We are accumulating a “rainy day” fund which is safely invested and secured. We believe government can be well managed without being a burden on the citizens.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and effort to make our town a comfortable, safe and well-served community. We have several dozen residents who contribute their time and serve without compensation on our several commissions, the City Council and several service groups. We are trying to maintain Indian Springs Village as the town described in our Comprehensive Plan that maintains a quiet and uncrowded environment within these green hills and valleys.



Town Council Meeting

January 17, 2012

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Mayor Zerkis called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present except Stewart Dudley. The Mayor reviewed the agenda.

The January 3 meeting minutes were reviewed. Bell-Guercio motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Stauss. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mendel requested to hold the December financial report until the next meeting. Mendel reported that the credit unions he contacted about a CD are not part of the SAFE program. The best CD rate he received was from BBVA Compass. He presented another investment option available through Multi-Bank Securities. After a discussion, Bell-Guercio motioned to invest \$600,000 in a 15 month CD at 1.25% at Compass. Stauss seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Robins received an estimate of \$1,000 to \$1,500 from Marlin Bennetech of Outdoor Lighting Perspectives for lighting at the two city signs located on Highway 119. Alabama Power will have to install a meter and 110 volt outlet at each location.

Mendel stated that the resident who reported the overgrown privet hedge thanked the City for the recent removal. Zerkis also reported that the potholes on Valley View had been filled.

Mayor Zerkis received a call from a Jasmine Hill Road resident who reported that their neighbor had converted an outbuilding to a guest house and people are living in it. This is a violation of the zoning ordinance. Frazier Christy will investigate.

Mayor Zerkis opened the floor for comment. A resident stated that issues with storm water runoff from Cahaba Valley Creek continue. He asked that the Council consider requesting assistance from the federal government to clean out and dredge the creek. Zerkis will contact ADEM.

A resident reported a recent burglary at one of his properties and suggested everyone be cautious. Bell-Guercio suggested we contact the Sheriff and have our part-time deputy patrol.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

Town Council Meeting

February 7, 2012

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

to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All council members were present except Stewart Dudley and Brian Stauss. The Mayor reviewed the agenda.

The January 17 meeting minutes were reviewed. Bell-Guercio motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Robins. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Mendel presented the December financial report and moved that the report be endorsed by the Council. Bell-Guercio seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Wayne Jones reported for the PAZ. They have two pending applications. One application is for the Slaughter's subdivision and one for a McGuire Road subdivision. The committee plans to meet with Frazier Christy, City Engineer, regarding flood control issues.

Robins is planning to do a survey of the roads in ISV to determine which ones need re-paving. After his review he will submit a request letter to Shelby County Engineer, Scott Holladay.

Robins gave an update on the estimates for lighting the city welcome signs on Highway 119. Alabama Power gave an estimate of \$2,500 to \$3,000 for each sign. A discussion followed.

Bell-Guercio gave an update on the Easter Egg Hunt preparation. She has left a message for the lady who provides the Easter Bunny. She has ordered and picked up the plastic eggs. She plans to reduce the number of favors to 225 since there has been so much left over in years past. Bell-Guercio gave further details on the prizes and candy she is planning to order. The hunt is scheduled for April 7.

Mayor Zerkis reported the floor company is coming back to touch up the newly installed hardwood floors. The exterior lights have been swapped out except for the post light at a cost of approximately \$200.

The American Red Cross is ready to move into their new facility on Caldwell Trace. This will be their headquarters as well as a blood collection and distribution center. They will have 78 employees.

Alabama Clearwater Conservation did a presentation to the Garden Club on rain barrels and storm water control. Mayor Zerkis would like to have them do a presentation for interested residents.

Mendel commented that a presentation on storm shelters would be beneficial.

Mayor Zerkis is looking for new chairs for the conference room table and chairs for the small meeting room. He would also like to have some of the existing furniture re-upholstered.

Mayor Zerkis adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Rasco, City Clerk

North Shelby Library March Happenings

by Cecelia Dean, North Shelby Library Youth Services Department

**You can now register for our programs online. Visit our website at www.northshelbylibrary.org/children.html to view our calendar and make reservations.

Special Programming

Friday, March 2nd from 4:00-4:45 p.m.: Dr. Seuss Birthday Party. Come celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with cake, ice cream, stories and fun! All ages welcome. Registration required.

Saturday, March 3rd from 10:00-11:30 a.m.: Lego Club. The library will provide the Legos and snacks, the kids will provide the imagination and creativity. Families are welcome to drop in anytime between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. to build spectacular creations. Creations will then go on display in the Children's Department. Snacks served. All ages welcome. No registration is required.

Wednesday, March 14th at 1:00 p.m.: Homeschool Hangout: Marine Biology. Join us for a lively discussion and cool projects involving unusual ocean life. Ages 8-12. Registration required.

Thursday, March 22nd at 4:00 p.m.: B'Tween the Pages Book Club. Join us to discuss great books that have become movies and create book reviews. Snacks served. Ages 8-12. Registration required.

Spring Break Activities

Monday, March 19th at 2:00 p.m.: Giant Butterfly Craft. Join us to have fun creating your very own giant butterfly. All ages. Registration required.

Tuesday, March 20th at 2:00 p.m.: Movie: Treasure Buddies. Go with the Buddies and a few new friends to Egypt where they will be searching for Cleopatra's tomb. All ages. No registration required. Snacks served!

Wednesday, March 21st at 2:00 p.m.: Spring Bird Craft. Make a bright and cheery bird to get ready for Springtime! All ages. Registration required.

Story-Time Programming

Mondays, March 5th, 12th and 19th at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Tales. 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 19-36 months. Registration required.

Tuesdays, March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th from 9:30- 10:00 a.m.: Baby Tales Story Time. 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. Ages: Birth

to 18 months. Registration required. Registration will begin one week prior to program date.

Wednesday, March 7th at 10:45 a.m.: Family Storytime with Lisa Hicks. Mr. Mac won't be here today, but Lisa Hicks will be. Join us for a great storytime with a great storyteller.

Wednesdays, March 14th, 21st and 28th at 10:45 a.m.: Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) Stories, puppets and lots of music for every member of the family. All ages. No registration.

Thursdays, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th at 7:00 p.m.: P. J. Story Time. Come in your PJs, have milk and cookies and hear some wonderful bedtime tales. All ages. No registration required.

* For more information, or to register for any of our programs or storytimes, call or email the Children's Department at 205-439-5504 or northshelbyyouth@gmail.com or visit our website at www.northshelbylibrary.org/children.html.

Teen Happenings March 2012

Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 & 30 – 3:30-6:00 p.m.: Gaming. Come to the teen department each Friday afternoon for open gaming and mini-tournaments on the Wii. There will be all-day open gaming on the 23rd. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Thursday, March 8 @ 6:00 p.m.: Anime Night. Join us in the teen department for an evening of anime. The audience will pick what we watch. Treats will be served and costumes are welcome! Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Monday, March 12 @ 6:00 p.m.: Teen Advisory Council. Interested in helping the Teen Department be even better than it is now? The Teen Advisory Council is the place for you! The TAC meets the second Monday of each month to work on projects for the library. Bring your ideas and your appetite! Snacks served and community service hours earned. Call 205-439-5512 or email Kate or Daniel at nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org for more information or to sign up.

Spring Break Programming

Monday-Thursday, March 19-22 – 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.: Movie Marathon. Stop by the department to catch a movie and have some popcorn. We'll be showing movies related to a different theme each day: Monday – the best of the 80s, Tuesday – super heroes, Wednesday – anime, Thursday – dystopian (to get you ready for The Hunger Games premiere). Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information. (Continued on page 4)

Teen Book Club. Monday, March 19 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Teen Book Club will meet to discuss *The Defense of Thaddeus A. Ledbetter* by John Gosselink, one of the Shelby County Schools Battle of the Books Middle School Selections. "Designed like a case file, chock-full of notes, journal entries, letters, e-mails, illustrations and more, this is a hilarious middle-grade novel that argues why Thaddeus should be released from his in-school suspension and explains the unbelievable circumstances that led to his punishment." Grab the book and start reading and then stop by to let us know your opinion! Snacks served. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Craft. Thursday, March 22 @ 6:00 p.m. Get ready for the premiere of *The Hunger Games* by creating your own daisy chain bracelet. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com to register.

Gaming. Friday, March 23 – 10:30-5:30 p.m. Come to the teen department all day Friday of spring break for open gaming (board, card and two Wiis). Daniel will take on all challengers for Super Smash Bros. starting at 3:00 p.m. Call or email Kate or Daniel at 439-5512 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.com for more information.

Kubota G1900 Tractor For Sale

The City has a Kubota G1900 tractor for sale. 18hp 3-cylinder diesel engine. 465 hours. 54" mower deck. Asking price of \$3,800. Contact: Brian Stauss,



brian@indianspringsvillage.org, or 987-9997.

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• **Landfill "Free" Day** •
• **Saturday, April 14, 2012** •
• **(Also, Saturday, October 6th)** •
• **Shelby County Landfill** •
• **www.shelbycountyalabama.com** •
• **4154 Highway 70, Columbiana, AL 35051** •
• **205-669-1469** •
• **Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.** •
• **Sat 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.** •
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Business License Update

As of February 24, ISV has granted 2012 business licenses to the following new businesses: Bama Concrete, Ronnie Morton, Scott McGuire Excavating, Nature's Request and Steed Management LLC.

The following businesses have renewed their license for 2012: Alabama Power, Alagasco, Bill Burrus Home Improvements, Birmingham Legends/Happy Feet, Birmingham Water Works, Cook's Pest Control, Dollar Tree, Focus Four, Landscape Workshop, LiveFit, Pipeline Systems, Valleydale Mini Storage and Vann Owens Steel.

Digital Mason, Dreamscapes Landscape, Haute Kitsch and Signature Minerals remain delinquent for 2011.

Airwave Recording Studio, Alan Thompson, Bailey and Owens General Contractor, Inc., Barry and Paula Morehead, By Betty Ponder, Caldwell Shell, Dave's Lawn Care, Digital Mason, LLC, Diversified Services, LLC, Done Right Car Wash, Dreamscapes Landscape, Haute Kitsch, ITAC Solutions, Joanna's Treasured Finds, Signature Minerals, Spring Garden Arts and Learning, LLC, Star Construction Company, Tony H. and Deborah B. Dickerson and U.S. Nails are delinquent for 2012.

"No Burn" Dates for 2012

by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

A reminder to everyone that the burning of any brush, leaves and other yard and construction waste is prohibited by the State of Alabama starting on May 1, 2012. This prohibition runs through October 31, 2012. There may be restrictions against burning at any time in your neighborhood. ADEM regulations prohibit burning within 500 feet of an occupied dwelling at any time. Please check your property covenants and contact your neighborhood homeowner's associations.

If you need to burn before or after these dates, please be mindful of your neighbors. Smoke can irritate lungs and eyes and make breathing difficult for some individuals. Please keep any yard fire as small as possible to minimize smoke and soot. Try to burn on a day without wind to minimize drifting smoke. Please do not leave a fire unattended. Watch your fire closely and keep water near.



19th Annual I&V Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7, 2012 3:00 p.m.

Indian Springs Village Town Hall

If you would like to volunteer to set up in the morning, and/or help during the hunt, please call Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581.

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 & 4 p.m. to pick up a "Goody Bag"

Volunteers are still needed in the morning to set up and during the hunt. Please call Brenda Bell-Guercio at 987-2581 to volunteer.



Tipton Brothers Compete in 2012 Alabama Youth and Middle School State Wrestling Tournaments *by Sandy Tipton, Villager*

Indian Springs residents Sullivan and Camden Tipton competed in the Alabama Youth Wrestling State Tournament on February 4, 2012, held at Hoover High School.

Sullivan Tipton, fourth grader at Oak Mt. Intermediate School, became a four-time State Champion, winning a decisive 7-2 victory in the finals of the 70 lb. Intermediate Division. Sullivan completed another outstanding wrestling season with a 21-4 record. Camden Tipton, first-grader at Oak Mt. Elementary School, placed fourth in the 50 lb. Bantam Division, completing another successful season.

Redding Tipton, seventh-grader at Oak Mt. Middle School, competed in the Alabama Middle School State Tournament on February 24, 2012 at Grissom High School in Huntsville. Redding, a three-time state finalist, placed second in the 70 lb. weight class, ending his dominating season with a 41-7 record.

All three brothers are members of the Alabama Wrestling Club (AWC), which was named the Intermediate, Middle School and Overall State Team Tournament winner. AWC trains at Oak Mt. High School.



In Memoriam

Barbara Jean Holladay Wofford 72 of Indian Springs Village passed away December 27, 2011.

She was raised in Lowndes County Alabama and preceded in death by her parents, Fred W. Holladay Sr. and Winnie Bell Holladay and her brother Fred W. Holladay Jr. of Gordenville, AL. She attended Judson College and the University of Alabama where she was a member of Alpha Phi Sorority. She was an active member of Valleydale Baptist Church where she was a faithful volunteer. Her mission was the Valleydale Library where she worked for a number of years. She is survived by her children, Charles Wofford Jr. of Navarra, FL. and Steve and Alicia Wofford of Key Colony Beach, FL; brother, Ronnie (Mitzy) Holladay of Trickum, AL; sister in law Judy Holladay of Hoover; nephews Fred Holladay III (Tracy) and David (Morgan) Holladay of Birmingham, Lane (Heather) Holladay and Richard (Whitney) Holladay of Trickum; niece Sandy (Clark) Caldwell of Ashville, NC. Graveside services were held on Friday, December 30, 2011 at New Live Oak Cemetery in Selma, AL with Lawrence Brown-Service Funeral Home of Selma directing. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Valleydale Baptist Church or the Valleydale Church Library in Jean Wofford's name.

Chace William Swatek of Indian Springs, AL died Wed., February 15, 2012. Chace was a graduate of Briarwood Christian High School and Southern Methodist University. He received his Juris Doctorate from Pepperdine Law School. Known for his infectious smile and laugh, Chace was active in the community, volunteering his time as a pro bono attorney for those in need and local children's charities where he played Santa Claus at Christmas. Chace is survived by his parents, Bill & Lana Swatek; sister, Barret Swatek; brother, Dax Swatek; sister-in-law, Rachael Swatek; and niece, Amelia Mae. Chace will be most remembered for the love of his family, his two dogs Winston & Wilson, his love of God and his generous and giving spirit. He will be loved and missed by many, but comforted knowing he is in the arms of the Lord. A Memorial Service was held February 17, 2012 at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in the Chapel, followed by a private burial. Chace was gifted with a tender heart and a sweet spirit that brought joy to all who knew him. He cared so much about everyone's family and was a great inspiration to them. "Chace, we love you very much and we know we will be with you again soon." Mom and Dad. *(Reprinted from the Birmingham News.)*

William T. Ramsey, Jr., 78, a 43 year resident of Indian Springs Village, passed away at home on February 17, 2012, after a brief battle with an aggressive lung cancer. "Bill", the son of William Truman and Lucy King Ramsey, both deceased, was born in Meridian, MS, January 17, 1934, and grew up in Montgomery, Alabama. He graduated from Sidney Lanier HS 1952 and Auburn University 1957. His college years were interrupted by a short stint in the US Air Force where he achieved his goal of learning to fly jets. He returned to the Air National Guard where he flew reconnaissance jets on weekends with other "weekend warriors." Bill was known to fly low over the Auburn stadium and his aunt's farm in Gordo, AL. His work career was with IBM, Merrill Lynch and Prudential Securities. He had a life-long attachment to his coworkers in those firms and golfed and fished with many of them. He is survived by his wife, LaVerne Davis Ramsey; his sister, Joyce Byrne Lowell of Roswell, GA; nephew, Michael Byrne (Shelley) of Pottsville, PA; nieces, Laura Byrne Fraime (Steve) of Dallas, GA; and Melinda Byrne Barrie (John) of Norcross, GA; grand nephew Nathan Byrne and grand nieces, Hannah and Emma Byrne and Sammi Fraime. Bill was surrounded during his illness by the presence of countless loving friends who cherished him for his loyal, enduring friendship and his jolly celebrations of Friday nights. His last expressions were of gratitude for the generosity of his friends during his terminal period. His wife is grateful for their continuing support. A memorial service was held at the Southern Heritage Chapel on AL Hwy 119 on Friday, February 24. Bill's ashes will be placed in the pedestal of a family bench in the garden surrounding a small lake at Southern Heritage Cemetery. The family requests that memorials be directed to FOR Nicaraguan Health, 3120 Warrington Road, Birmingham AL 35223 or Makena Children's Foundation, 4138 Crossings Lane, Birmingham, AL 35242, or just a promise to be thoughtful of others every day. *(Reprinted from the Birmingham News)*

TOPS Weight Loss Support Group Meetings

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS Chapter 0566) meets every Tuesday morning at St. Frances Episcopal Church, 3545 Cahaba Valley Rd, Indian Springs Village, 35242. Weigh in at 10:30 a.m. Meeting at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Call 995-2166 for more information.



The Take Off Pounds Sensibly Weight Loss Support Group meets on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. at Indian Springs First Baptist Church, 3375 Cahaba Valley Road, Indian Springs Village. Call 620-0602 with questions. Please join us! Lose weight with friends!

Garden Club Members Are Captivated by Scenes of Alaska

by Ruth Goodwyn, Publicity Chair; Indian Springs Garden Club

Pictures taken by Mary H. Bowman on the tour of Alaska made in late August-early September last year with her mother, Mary S. Bowman, along with Garden Club member Lynn Hendricks and her friend, Dot, were enjoyed at the February 23 meeting at the Bowman home.

Beginning in Fairbanks, in the center of our 49th state, the gardeners, by double-decker bus, train and Jeep, focused on seeing the flora and fauna in their two-week visit. Daughter Mary manned the computer keyboard and began with the first picture of beautiful birch trees in a grove with the wild orangey-red fireweed covering the ground, typical of the beautiful, colorful scenery.

On their trip, they saw lots of rainbows, cypress and spruce trees, huge begonias and other familiar flowers, absolutely gorgeous due to the many daylight hours in the short growing season. They visited the tundra region where the ground is always frozen and spongy and covered with lichens. In Glacier Bay, they watched the whales and in Denali National Park saw grizzly bears, moose, caribou and Dall sheep and, at one point, they visited a display of the huge horns some of these animals (moose, caribou) carry around on their heads. They were amazed at their weights. Mary S. said she could pick up only one end of a set she tried.

Other activities were panning for gold, watching husky dogs being trained, seeing lots of salmon, watching black bears and, of course, reindeer and seeing the Trans-Alaska pipeline, built in 1977. From Fairbanks, where they took a train ride, there were many pictures of birch trees.

The group enjoyed refreshments provided by the Bowmans, who had brought home honey and jellies and jams made from berries native to Alaska. Biscuits were provided for guests to sample them, along with other delicious hors d'oeuvres.

After the program, Eleanor Bennett gave a brief devotional and President Liz Alosi held a short business meeting, mainly going over suggestions members had made for future programs. Members signed a get-well card for Christina, the daughter of garden club member Pat Zerkis and husband Mayor Steve Zerkis, who miraculously survived serious injury when her car was recently totaled by a truck while she was enroute to Wisconsin with ice and snow on the road. Mayor Zerkis reports that her recovery is coming along "quite well—it will just take time."

Alabama Wildlife Center

Upcoming Events

submitted by Janet Byars, Administrative Assistant, Alabama Wildlife Center

COST: Free admission after paid entrance to Oak Mountain State Park:

\$1 per child 6-11 & Seniors 62+; \$3 Adults
205-663-7930, Ext. 8; www.awrc.org.

For the status of the bald eagle admitted to AWC on February 17, go to our Facebook page. (There's a link at the bottom of our website home page.)

Get Wild! 3/3/12 & 4/7/12, Saturday, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. A free, monthly, family-oriented program promoting bird conservation and stewardship hosted by Alabama Wildlife Center Educators, usually the 1st Saturday each month.

Volunteer Orientation: 3/4/12, Sunday, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Introduction to AWC: recommended if you're interested in volunteering or are simply curious about AWC. At this free session, you'll learn about our mission and history, volunteer opportunities and ways to support AWC's work. You'll meet some of the AWC staff and volunteers, have an opportunity to get answers to your questions and enjoy a brief tour of our facility. Register online at www.awrc.org. If your schedule does not permit you to register in advance, you can simply arrive a few minutes early to complete your registration in person. Quiet children are invited to attend, but please note that the minimum age to volunteer is 18 (16 accompanied by a parent).

Audubon Teaches Nature: Bluebirds Among Us – The John Findlay Bluebird Trail 3/18/12, Sunday. Refreshments are offered at 1:30 p.m. at the Alabama Wildlife Center followed by the program at 2:00 p.m. Weather permitting, an informal nature walk follows the program so be sure to bring binoculars and field guides for a seasonal look at the birds and critters of Oak Mountain State Park.

Eastern bluebirds are lovely and beautiful. Their soft, rolling song is a sure sign of spring and they wear the color of the sky on their back. It's no wonder we find them so endearing! Patsy Scott coordinates the bluebird trail established in Oak Mountain State Park so long ago by John Findlay. Patsy will teach you everything you'll want to know about bluebirds. She'll even help you get started on your own trail!

Audubon's Spring Family Bird Walk: Raptors Up Close and Personal at the Alabama Wildlife Center. 3/25/12, Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Join Birmingham Audubon Society with your children to learn more about raptors of various shapes and sizes. The AWC will introduce you to four different birds of prey. Mississippi kites are here in the summer and then migrate to South America for the winter. American kestrels are also known as sparrow hawks and are the only small hawk with a rufous back or tail. Two larger raptors will join us this afternoon too, but you'll have to attend the program to learn about them! Be sure to bring your camera so you can take photos of the birds! After meeting these raptors, we will take a short hike on the Treetop Nature Trail to meet other raptors and birds that live in the park.

This is a program for children, their parents and their grandparents and space is limited. Call the Birmingham Audubon Education office by March 21, 2012 to register: 205-714-8228.

MARCH 2012
 Heardmont Park Senior Center
 5452 Cahaba Valley Road Birmingham, AL 35242

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| (205) 991-5742 Telephone (205) 991-5657 Fax heardmontparksc@gmail.com <i>Shelby Co Schools spring break Mar 19 -23 and Mon, Mar 26</i> | <i>AARP Tax preparations begin on Tuesdays and Thursdays Feb 7th thru April 12th.. Please call for an appointment.</i> |  *Register for a door prize given away on Tues, March 27 th at 12:15 | 1 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 11:15 <i>New Beacon Blood Pressure and Sugar Testing</i> 12- LUNCH | 2 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing |
| 5 9:30 – 10:30 Tai Chi 10:30-3 - Canasta | 6 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH | 7 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing w/Curt | 8 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH | 9 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing 7 pm Heardmont Dance |
| 12 9:30 – 10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta | 13 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH | 14 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing w/Curt | 15 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games <i>11 Harrison Regional Library</i> 12- LUNCH | 16 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing |
| 19 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta | 20 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH | 21 9-12 Bridge <i>10-11 Computer Class</i> 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing w/Curt | 22 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH | 23 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing |
| 26 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-3 - Canasta | 27 9:15 – 9:45 Wii Fun Time 10-11 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH <i>12:15 *Taming Diabetes with Healthsouth – DOOR PRIZE</i> | 28 9-12 Bridge 11:30- 3 Rummikub 12 LUNCH 1-2 Ballroom Dancing w/Curt | 29 10-11 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH | 30 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing |

Retirement, Social Security and You at North Shelby Library

submitted by Kate Etheredge, North Shelby Library Young Adult Librarian

Date: March 6, 2012 Time: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Hosted by: North Shelby Library, Merrill Lynch and Prudential Annuities

Location: North Shelby Library Meeting Room, 5521 Cahaba Valley Road, Birmingham

During these difficult economic times, it can be a daunting task to prepare for your financial future. Join us for an informative session about Social Security for people who are approaching retirement or who have already retired. Some of the topics to be covered: when to start collecting Social Security payments, drawbacks and benefits of starting at 62, taxes, provisional income and ways to save for retirement. Learn about the latest changes and how to make better informed decisions about your Social Security benefits. Light luncheon served and registration is required. For more information, or to register, please email nsref@shelbycounty-al.org or call 439-5540.

Villager Announces His Candidacy *by Tim Mitchell, Villager*

Hi, I'm Tim Mitchell. As a resident of Indian Springs Village myself, I wanted to let all my friends here know that I'm a candidate for Probate Judge of Shelby County. I am a conservative Republican and I own a business here in Shelby County. I don't like to make promises I can't keep, but I will let you know that I'll have an open door policy to meet with any resident and to serve you courteously and professionally. Thanks for your vote on March 13th, in the Republican Primary for Tim Mitchell.