

The Village Voice



Volume 12, Number 7

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

October 8, 2002

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, October 15, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 5, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

*Indian Springs Village Town Hall
Picnic Pavilion*

Founders' Day Festivities at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda

I. Mayor/Council Committee Reports

II. Ordinances and Resolutions

III. Citizens' Forum

Indian Springs Village Telephone Directory

Number is 982-1755

For Town Hall Reservations please call

Patricia Crapet Voice Mail 802-2753,

or E-mail: 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 the 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: Dr. Ruth Goodwyn, Editor, 151 Choctaw Lane, Indian Springs, Alabama, 35124 phone number (988-0896), FAX number (988-0896), or e-mail Ruthgoodwyn@aol.com. Questions about circulation should be addressed to Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Rd., Indian Springs, AL 35124 (802-2753) or e-mail ISVillage@aol.com. Reporter for the Homestead neighborhood is Jana Hagan, 5121 Hollow Log Lane, Birmingham 35244 (980-9419) e-mail: byzx4nblsd@aol.com.

The Village Voice is published the second Tuesday of each month. Articles for publication in the November 2002 edition should be submitted by Tuesday noon, Nov. 5. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication, including signed letters to the editor, which will be published if space permits. All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles; any opinions expressed should not be attributed to the mayor or council.

Editor's Appreciation to:

ISV aluminum can recyclers for their support
Indian Springs Village couriers for hand delivery
Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing
Tricia Crapet, RealthSouth, for production

HAPPY 12th BIRTHDAY INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE!



TWELFTH ANNUAL FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, October 15, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.

FREE

***Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks,
and Home-Made Desserts***

**Come celebrate the founding of your town with
family, friends, and neighbors!**

Food will be served beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Town Council meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

***** Bring a dessert to share *****

Town Council Highlights

September 17, 2002

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council Place #2

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, September 17, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, and Art Johnson present. The minutes of the two previous meetings were approved as written.

In the absence of Town Clerk Paul Stephens, Mayor Weingarten gave the financial report: beer taxes, \$1,103; vehicle licenses, \$466; and road funds, \$1,140. The balance in the general fund was \$80,836 and the road fund balance stood at \$59,400.

Committee reports were as follows: Councilwoman Patricia Crapet reported that the next town function would be Founders' Day. Councilwoman Crapet also reminded Villagers in attendance that procedures for reserving the town hall had been outlined several times in *The Village Voice*, and that calls on weekends regarding reservations and keys would most likely not be returned until Monday morning, due to frequent out of town weekend trips. Councilman Art Johnson asked for recycling volunteers for the next pickup. The volume was expected to be heavy, having skipped a month due to Councilman Johnson's broken arm.

Councilman Herb Robins announced that the initial phase of the Cahaba Valley Road speed study had been completed. Approximately 200 cars had been clocked and 85 percent of them were traveling between 53 and 56 miles per hour. The study was done in order to determine if the speed limit on Cahaba Valley Road could be lowered from 50 to 45 miles per hour within our town limits. The information has been sent to the Alabama Department of Transportation for analysis.

Councilwoman Crapet requested that the Shelby County Sheriff's Department be contacted and asked to enact a "no left turn" policy during school hours on Caldwell Mill Road at the Sunny Foods Store. During this peak traffic time, traffic gets backed up and lanes blocked by cars coming from Cahaba Valley Road onto Caldwell Mill Road and trying to immediately turn left into the Sunny Food parking lot.

ISV Zoning and Planning Board Chairman Jerry Templeton was on hand to verify that all notices had been completed on the rezoning application for property located at 2626 Valleydale Road. A public hearing would be conducted at the October 1, 2002 council meeting.

Councilman Herb Robins made a motion that present Town Clerk Paul Stephens be given first right of refusal to be the town bookkeeper, having turned in his resignation as town clerk as of October 1. Paul has been keeping the town's books for 12 years, and each year the audits have found the town's finances to be in perfect order.

During the town forum, Eleanor Bennett suggested having a "Volunteer Sign-Up" table at the Founders' Day event. This would

be an excellent place for those who want to volunteer their time to projects in ISV to sign up. Villager Thomas Allison mentioned that a lighting ordinance was needed due to intrusive lighting from commercial businesses along Cahaba Valley Road. Former first lady and town attorney, Kathryn Harrington, agreed to research the ordinance, as well as to check on ways to make Cahaba Valley Road a recognized "scenic" highway. Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt read the first ordinance passed by Indian Springs Village immediately after incorporation and installation of the first Town Council. (See page # 4.)

October 1, 2002

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, October 1, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall. Mayor Gene Weingarten presided, with council members Herb Robins, Patricia Crapet, Brian Stauss, and Art Johnson present.

Committee reports were as follows: Councilwoman Patricia Crapet announced that the town's 12th birthday celebration, Founders' Day, would be October 15, 2002 (see page 1). Councilman Herb Robins reported that in addition to the speed study, an accident study on Cahaba Valley Road would be submitted to help in determining if the speed limit should be lowered to 45 miles per hour. Councilman Robins also announced that the new ISV signs had been erected at the north and south exits of I-65. Appropriate "thank you's" had been sent to Mr. Horsley of the State of Alabama Highway Department and John Amari. Councilman Brian Stauss reported that the e-mail is now functioning on the ISV website and that a new calendar format with agenda information will be added soon.

The public hearing for rezoning of property located at 2626 Valleydale Road began with Donald Guthrie speaking for the rezoning and representing the purchaser of the property, Tom Jackson, who wants the E-1 residential classification changed to O & I, office and institutional. Guthrie and Jackson both represented that the property would remain in the same natural state, complete with lake in front of the existing house. The house would be used for office space for Jackson's anti-aging products business, which does not cater to walk-in customers and has minimal shipping and receiving.

The hearing was well attended by residents of the the Homestead neighborhood and the Havenwood Park subdivision, which borders the back of the property. All of the residential property owners were opposed to the rezoning. Though everyone in attendance was inclined to agree that Jackson's intentions were honorable, there was concern that at some point in the future, the present "house" structure would be torn down and replaced by a multi-story office building. This, residents contended, would decrease property values of homes in proximity and would also lead to a "domino effect" of more property being rezoned for commercial purposes. Kathryn Harrington, an attorney who was heavily involved in the incorporation and early development of ISV, called the rezoning of this property "spot zoning" and noted that this was illegal by statute of the State of Alabama. In addition, there is a problem with a "shared" driveway with the property owner next door, who had declined to make her driveway a part of the rezoning agreement as suggested by the ISV Zoning and Planning Board. A decision by the council was tabled until November 5, 2002.

More About Sept. 10 Hearing

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Nothing raises Villagers' hackles more than the mention of four-laning Cahaba Valley Road through Indian Springs Village—especially those whose homes dot both sides of the highway. Other hackle-raisers are suggestions for gun control, establishing walking and biking trails and bridle paths, and connecting roadways in the Village. A phrase that causes worry is "eminent domain."

These possibilities were discussed at the public hearing conducted by the Zoning and Planning Commission September 10 to give citizens the opportunity to state their views concerning the comprehensive plan presented by the KPS Group, a firm hired by the city. The meeting was held at the North Shelby Library, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The plan was said to be generalized, not tailored for Indian Springs Village—like something you could get from the Internet. It was claimed the plan would effect social engineering and was described as containing nebulous information, being contradictory, and over-reaching—containing many proposals Villagers don't want or need.

Many nodding heads signaled approval when Ginny Lusk pointed out that we have Oak Mountain State Park with its hiking and biking trails and other types of recreation adjoining the Village, and also Heardmont Park. Brenda Bell Guercio said we didn't need the new town hall proposed for the commercialized community center—we already have "a beautiful one" in the center of the town and have a "sense of community." We don't need to "provide educational opportunities" when we have three private and four public (Shelby County) schools within our borders, another said.

When Danny Bedgood, whose dogs recently sustained injury and death by gunshot wounds, said we needed firearms regulations and a police department, he was met with a chorus of no, no, no, and later it was pointed out that Villagers are under the protection of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, which does a good job. The meeting was held on the eve of the first anniversary of September 11, 2001, and one resident expressed appreciation to Chief Michael O'Connor and the North Shelby Fire and Emergency District for their protection. John Strozier summed it up by saying he was opposed to "the whole concept of making Indian Springs Village something we don't want it to be."

If it ain't broke, don't fix it, was the view expressed by Jim Wyatt and others who had described the Village as a "laid-back little city" and a "place of refuge."

Interspersed with comments concerning the KPS plan were other concerns. That the North Shelby Library and Oak Mountain Schools, all Shelby County, have Birmingham, AL postal addresses was a pet peeve of one resident. Del Levesque, vice-president of the Garden Club/Welcome Committee expressed frustration at the allowance of vendors at the 119-W Indian Springs Village sign on the edge of town, who

also leave a mess around the Garden Club's plantings. Pam Allison and one or two others who live along Bishop Creek mentioned flooding after heavy rains as being a big problem that needs to be addressed.

Some offered solutions to problems. Eleanor Bennett, whose property faces Cahaba Valley Road, or Alabama Highway 119, suggested Shelby County consider opening up County Road 11, south of the Village, which feeds into Highway 31. This would not help the traffic problem around 280, but might help in the other direction.

Many acknowledged, ruefully, that change was bound to happen, and agreed that having a plan would help the Village control the forces of change. The need for a tax base was stated by a few. We do need a master plan, but not necessarily everything in *this* plan seemed to be the consensus.

Ron Luster, at whose home citizens met in 1990 to plan for incorporation and who was one of the first councilmen, serving six years, called for an organized approach to formulating a plan by citizens based on input from Villagers. "We need to look at the geographical areas and find folks that don't mind working," he suggested, and have representatives from each area. This could be an advisory group. The Zoning and Planning Commission would have no problem with that, Jerry Templeton said.

Templeton, Chairman of the Zoning and Planning Commission, limited remarks to three minutes and rebuttal to two. He appointed Fire Chief O'Connor and Steve Zerkis to enforce the time limit, which was observed voluntarily for the most part, and all who wanted to speak had the opportunity. Many had written their comments and turned them in to the chairman. Two earlier meetings had been called by individuals to discuss the issues.

Darrell Meyer of KPS Group, who had given a very informative slide presentation at the onset of the meeting, took notes of what was said, and a stenographer was also present.

Meyer had emphasized that Cahaba Valley Road is a state thoroughfare over which Indian Springs Village has no authority. "Widening is coming (by the state). It is far better to take control of that widening and know what you want." The proposed Village Center is to be where a car dealership currently sits on Highway 119, and would be less commercial than what is there now. Two stoplights are also proposed at the site of the Village Center.

Templeton stated that this was the first in a series of hearings and that no action would be taken on the proposed plan until all had an opportunity to make suggestions about the plan. The final draft of the plan must be approved by the mayor and town council, after which it will be published and hearings held.

The Zoning and Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at the town hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Members of the commission, all volunteers, are Jerry Templeton, Chair, Harry Little, Jane Martin, Kevin Miller, Warren Jones, Bart Trammel, Foster Mathews, and Brian Stauss. An ex-officio member is Chief Michael O'Connor.

Editor's Note: Because much has been said recently about the original purpose of incorporating Indian Springs Village and because we will celebrate our 12th Annual Founders' Day on October 15, it seems fitting to reprint the following resolution concerning the general purpose and goals of our town.

**THE TOWN OF
INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE
RESOLUTION #91-02-26-01
General Purpose and Goals**

WHEREAS, the petition for the incorporation of Indian Springs Village was signed by approximately 500 residents of the Indian Springs community, and;

WHEREAS, said petition was filed with the office of the Shelby County Judge of Probate on September 18, 1990, and;

WHEREAS, a special election was set and held on October 16, 1990, to vote on the referendum for the incorporation of the Town of Indian Springs Village, and;

WHEREAS, said referendum passed by an overwhelming majority of the vote, and;

WHEREAS, the Judge of Probate certified the Town of Indian Springs Village on November 14, 1990, and;

WHEREAS, the stated purpose for incorporation was to preserve and protect the integrity of the community.

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that it is hereby declared that the stated purpose for founding the Town of Indian Springs Village and the goals of the town are as set forth herein:

To preserve, protect and enhance the quality of life that the citizens of Indian Springs Village enjoy, now and for generations to come;

To preserve, protect and enhance the peaceful and uncluttered atmosphere of our town, for now and for generations to come;

To preserve, protect and enhance the beauty and serenity, and tranquility which is the very essence of Indian Springs Village, for now and for generations to come;

To protect the integrity of our community from random commercialization, piecemeal annexation, and inconsistent spot zoning; and,

To preserve and protect the right of self determination for the Town of Indian Springs Village and for all of its citizens.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that the objectives stated herein shall be achieved with a minimum amount of government involvement at minimal expense, and relying primarily upon the voluntary efforts and support of community residents.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that all present and future officials of the Town of Indian Springs Village, whether elected or appointed, pledge to achieve and maintain the goals and objectives as stated therein.

Passed and approved 26th day of February, 1991.

Signed: Paul Stephens, Clerk

NOTICE OF RE-ZONING APPLICATION

The town of Indian Springs Village has been asked to approve a re-zoning application to re-zone the property at 2626 Valleydale Road from E-1 single family to O-I preferred commercial. Applicant is Tom Jackson and the property owner is Nadine Knighten. The property is located adjacent to and on the west side of the LakeView Estates Assisted Living facility on the north side of Valleydale Road.

A previous hearing was held on that property by the Planning and Zoning Commission on August 13, 2002. Their vote was 4 to 3 in favor of the re-zoning request. The chairman reported their recommendation to the town council at the August 20, 2002 council meeting. Under the Code of Alabama, the town council will hold a public hearing to consider the request at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall on Tuesday, November 5, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

ISV Children's Fund 2002

By Patricia Crapet, Town Council, Place # 2

Though the frost is not quite on the pumpkin in Indian Springs Village, it is time to start the donation drive for the ISV Children's Fund. Before we know it, not only will the frost have fallen, but Santa Claus will be on his way. And though he is pretty thorough, each year he calls on the citizens of the Village for a little bit of help for some special children in our area.

As most of you already know, the ISV Children's Fund accepts donations from citizens and, by coordinating with the Oak Mountain schools' counselors, volunteers buy and distribute toys, clothing, food, and other things to needy children who attend our Oak Mountain schools. Every cent collected goes towards making the Christmas holidays happy for these girls and boys, and their parents, as well as assisting those who cannot afford supplies, field trips, and other fees associated with attending school. The Oak Mountain counselors forward the needs of families to ISV, and in turn, citizen volunteers fill the bill.

This is the ninth year for the ISV Children's Fund, which was started in 1994 by our first mayor, Hub Harrington. Since that time, many citizens have donated time and money towards the fund, which annually provides for the needs of an average of 14 children and their families. Please send your donations, made payable to the ISV Children's Fund, to: Patricia Crapet, 370 Valley View Road, Indian Springs, Alabama, 35124. If you would like to volunteer to assist with shopping or wrapping, please call Margie Robins at 980-9217.

A big thank you goes to Alan and Karen Thompson who are the first to send in their donation. As for the rest of the Village, thank you, in advance, from the children.

Comments From the Commissioner

By Lindsey Allison, Shelby County Commission

During the recent debates about the city's future, a lot of questions have been asked and several answers dealt with county government. Hopefully, the following are sufficient answers to expressed concerns:

About Vendors on 119: Vegetables, pine straw, firewood and fill dirt—just a few of the many items which can be purchased with a quick turn onto the median of Highway 119. Is this lawful? Probably not. The first issue is whether the vendor is in unincorporated Shelby County or the city limits of either Indian Springs, Pelham or Hoover? If the vendor is in the city limits of any of the above cities, usually there is an ordinance that prohibits such practices. If the vendor is located in an incorporated area, zoning would determine whether the operation is appropriate.

For example, on the south side of Highway 119, from I-65 for 3/4 mile east, a vendor would be on an unincorporated area. This area is zoned A-1, which prohibits any retail or commercial vendors from establishing a business in this area. Such vendors will receive a letter from Shelby County Planning Department notifying them of the violation. If a vendor continues to operate in the area after receiving this letter, the planning department will consider a civil lawsuit to cease such operation. Historically this has not been done due to a warning usually solving the problem.

Such vendors also violate other provisions in either the state, county, or city codes. Violations of a Business/Privilege license can occur regardless if located in the county or city. There is usually a State Health Department violation if any food or produce is sold. The State of Alabama Highway Department has limitations on the use of their right-of-way. In summary, depending on where and what is being sold, there is probably a civil violation subject to penalties for vendors operating on Highway 119. Once you determine the jurisdictions where the vendors choose to locate, please call the appropriate officials to pursue any complaints.

About County Road 11: Also of concern is the possibility of alleviating some of the traffic on Highway 119 by diverting such traffic to another connecting road. One of those possibilities is Highway 11, south of Indian Springs. The following letter received from the County Engineer explains the situation.

Honorable Lindsey Allison
Shelby County Commission....

As you requested, I have done some research into the status of County Road 11 improvements. I thought I would give you a brief synopsis of the proposed improvements and how we are progressing.

As you recall, Shelby County commissioned a corridor study on County Road 11. This report was conducted by Sain Associates and a final report was issued in March, 1977. The report detailed long range improvements that were anticipated to be needed along the corridor. The final report proposed numerous projects in several phases. They included both safety projects and projects designed to increase capacity. Many of the projects were going to require extensive right-of-way to be acquired. The entire cost of the improvements to County Road 11, based on the complete build-out in the Sain study is \$45 million (in 1997 dollars).

County Road 11 does not directly connect US 280 and it does not have an interchange with I-65. It was not designed or built to be a major commerce route, as state highways are, and thus it was not seen as necessary to directly connect to these main arteries. Presently the connection between I-65 and County Road 11 is County Road 52, which was not conceived as a major route and which only has two lanes. The study addressed each of these connections with major arterials.

Presently, County Road 52 from I-65 to County Road 11 is under design. This design will widen County Road 52 from two lanes to five lanes and signalize and provide turn lanes at the County Road 11 intersection. This project is approximately 1.7 miles in length and is estimated to cost \$4 million.

Simultaneously, a project at the intersection of County Road 11 and County Road 36 is under design. This project will improve the alignment of this intersection, as well as upgrading the CSX railroad crossing and providing turn lanes at Chelsea High School. This project is estimated to cost approximately \$1.5 million.

With a price tag for all of the projects now of approximately \$50 million, the local match (Shelby County's portion) is \$10 million. Obviously it will take many fiscal years to complete improvements on County Road 11. It is difficult to program all of our limited dollars on County Road 11 when we have so many other pressing congestion problems. The widening of Valleydale Road, which is presently under construction, will approach \$3 million. The portion of Valleydale Road from Caldwell Mill Road to Inverness is estimated to cost approximately \$20 million. County Road 52 from US 31 to the Jefferson County line at Genry's Gap could cost \$50 million. Caldwell Mill Road from Heatherwood to Camp Horner Road (a joint venture with Jefferson County) may cost \$6 million. Clearly, our list of projects greatly outstrips our ability to pay.

The County Road 11 Corridor is certainly an important area. We will continue to advance projects along County Road 11 as funds allow....

Kenneth R. Cole, P.E.
County Engineer

A Message From the Mayor

By Gene Weingarten

We have a secret treasure in Indian Springs Village. Actually, it's not a secret at all! Known in all fifty states and throughout the world, Indian Springs School is among the foremost private schools in America. With a new Director and new Director of Development, the school seeks to maintain and exceed its reputation. Welcome to Mel MacKay and Gisele Crowe.



Mel MacKay



Gisele Crowe

New Faces at Indian Springs School

The leadership team of Indian Springs School features two new administrators this year. Mel MacKay has joined the school as its fourth Director; Gisele D. Crowe as the new Director of Development.

Mel MacKay comes to Indian Springs from Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he served as Associate Headmaster and taught advanced placement English. A career teacher and administrator, he earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and a master's degree from the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill. A native Bostonian, MacKay had worked in independent education in Asheville, Atlanta, and Cincinnati before moving to Colorado. He and his wife, Laura, and their children, Gordon, Scout, and Tim, live on the campus of Indian Springs.

In August Gisele Crowe joined Indian Springs School as the senior administrator in charge of raising money for the school from alumni, parents, corporations, foundations, and other friends of ISS. Crowe came to Indian Springs from the University of Alabama's School of Medicine, where she served as Director of Development responsible for raising funds for the university and for the renovation and expansion of Volker Hall, UAB's basic sciences building.

Prior to the School of Medicine, Crowe was Director of Annual Giving for UAB, serving in that role since October 1997. There she was responsible for the 12 schools of UAB's annual fund programs. In addition, Crowe raised money for the Patient Assistance Fund at University Hospital, UAB's National Alumni Society, the athletics program, and other scholarship, endowment, and memorial funds.

Crowe got her start in fund raising as a consultant based in Atlanta, GA. She moved to Birmingham in 1995 to work for Samford University as Assistant Director of Annual Giving. She lives in Bluff Park with her husband, Steve, who is Circulation Director for *Southern Living* magazine, and their daughter, Darcy. She is a graduate of UAB.

Much of Indian Springs School's 350-acre campus lies within the boundaries of Indian Springs Village. Founded in 1952, the school is one of the top small day and boarding schools in the United States. This year more than 25% of its senior class are National Merit semifinalists, commended scholars, or achievement scholars.

Letter to the Editor

Subject: Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Indian Springs Village

I will start by thanking the members of the Zoning and Planning Commission for the time and energy that you have all volunteered so graciously for Indian Springs Village. I also compliment Jerry Templeton, Chairman of the Zoning and Planning Commission, for his able management of the public hearing September 10th.

I am in favor of a "master plan" for our community. It is just plain good stewardship. I think a plan represents an opportunity to preserve the desirable elements of our community proactively rather than hoping things won't change. It was made very clear to me that the elements of this "draft" comprehensive plan prepared by KPS are open for debate. The plan is a starting point that creatively represents ideas that will hopefully enhance the appearance, safety and function of our community.

It is up to the members of this community to guide the process with specific constructive additions and deletions that will mold it into a document that reflects our collective vision. Only through comprehensive debate and clear communication will we have the opportunity to maintain and create a community that can survive the pressures of sure development and increased population. With the appropriate attitude, everyone has a chance to share in a common vision for the future. A vision that will hopefully be passed on to our grandchildren, not just preserved for a few more fleeting years.

Sincerely,

Peter Baran, 367 Signal Trail, Indian Springs Village

Snakes in the Wake of Isidore

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Steve Zerkis of Mountain Park Drive has reported the sighting of two-to-three foot long rattlesnakes in his neighborhood and on Indian Crest Drive this past week. Children should be warned to be extra cautious. Rains brought in by tropical storm Isidore have fostered breeding places for mosquitoes; in some areas snakes are also a problem. Construction along Valleydale Rd. may be a contributing factor to the increase in snake sightings in our area.

Barbecue for Beth Chapman

on Tuesday, October 29, ISV Town Hall

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Congressman Spencer Bachus, state and local elected officials and mayors from neighboring municipalities will be hosting a barbecue to benefit Beth Chapman, Hoover, who is the Republican nominee for state auditor in the November 5 election.

The event will be held at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall from 6:00 to 7:30 p. m. on Tuesday, October 29. There is no charge for attendance. Donations will be accepted. Anyone who cannot attend but would like to make a donation may send the check to Committee to Elect Beth Chapman, 725 Haycort Lane, Birmingham, AL 35244.

The following, all of whom have endorsed Beth Chapman for state auditor, will host the event:

Sen. Jabo Waggoner, Sen-Elect Hank Irwin, Rep. Mike Hill, Rep. Mary Sue McClurkin of Indian Springs, Rep. Jim Carns, Rep-Elect Cam Ward.

Judge Patricia Fuhrmeister, District Attorney Robby Owens, Sheriff James Jones, Sheriff-Elect Chris Curry, County Commissioners Lindsey Allison and Don Armstrong, who represent districts containing Indian Springs Village, Larry Dillard, Don Acker, Billy Thompson, Jimmy Bice, Ted Crocket, and Joel Bearden will be in attendance.

Our own Mayor Gene Weingarten will be present, as will Mayor Bobby Hayes of Pelham, Mayor George Roy, Mayor Sonny Penhale, and Mayor Gloria Tate.

Aluminum Recycling - October 16

By Art Johnson, Town Council Place No. 4

On a Wednesday evening in September, the ISV recycling volunteers were Margie and Herb Robins, Trudy and Paul Scokel, Russ Favorite and Bryan Bidy, Art Johnson and Bo Holmes. Brian Stauss helped haul the trailer to the town hall. Once again the Villager recycling response was outstanding. Recycling programs, such as ISV's, help reduce the amount of waste going to landfills (2 billion pounds nationwide up from 53 million pounds in 1972), and also help save energy and natural resources.

Recycling not only protects the environment, it also helps pay for the printing of the *Village Voice*. Please start the recycling habit; place your bagged aluminum cans near your driveway opposite the normal Waste Management collection before 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday night October 16. Please use white, blue recycling, or clear plastic bags with the tops securely tied with a knot. Also please do not add glass or steel cans to your aluminum.

Watch for ISV recycling reminders along Highway 119, Indian Crest Drive, and entrances to Homestead.

ISV Web Page Update

By Brian Stauss, Town Council Place No. 3

Good news! The e-mail function on our city website, www.indianspringsvillage.org is fixed and operational. You can now e-mail all town council and other city officials at their personal city e-mail accounts by clicking on the e-mail link below each person's name. If you can't receive a response within a day or two, please contact me directly. My apologies to anyone who sent an e-mail over the last year that went unanswered. Those were logged and I followed up on the ones that might still be relevant.

We are also planning to create a separate web page for the ISV Comprehensive Plan. There has been, and continues to be, a lot of information to share about this effort. A brief summary will remain on the home page, but everything else will be on the new page. This should be up and available later this month. The stenographer's report from the Sept. 10 Zoning and Planning hearing at North Shelby Library will be posted when it becomes available.

If you have any questions or suggestions about our web page, I can be contacted at 987-9997 (home) or brian@indianspringsvillage.org.

Building Permits Approved

By Marty Martin, Town Engineer

Applications for building permits approved in September are listed by address, applicant, and request:

- Lot 23 Indian Highlands Est., DWC, new house
- Lot 7 Mountain Cove, Dobbs Realty, new house.

Landfill Free Day Is Oct. 19

The Shelby County Commission has designated Saturday, October 19 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. as "free day" to assist county residents with their fall property cleanups.

Residents are asked to cover and secure their loads of yard and household debris so trash will not fall on the roadways; also to be patient and respect others if a wait of about 20 or 30 minutes is required before you can unload. Usually more than 800 vehicles come to the landfill on "free days," which is for Shelby County residents only.

Steve Zerkis to Serve Library

Steve Zerkis of Indian Springs and Mary Sue Ludwig of Greystone began four-year terms as trustees of the North Shelby Library on October 1. Both had completed terms of trustees who had resigned and were unopposed when the library advertised two positions on the board would be open.

The library's board of trustees is comprised of five unpaid volunteers who are elected by district residents, if elections are called for. The trustees serve staggered four-year terms.

Garden and Gourmet Club?

By Marge Dunn, President

In September Garden Club members and spouses enjoyed a potluck dinner at the home of Sandy and Ron Luster. The fellowship and delicious food was enjoyed by the 30 in attendance. The delicious food led us to the discussion: Should we become a garden and gourmet club? There were many discussions about our gardening challenges, but best of all, our spouses got a good insight into the fun we share.

We are appreciative of our member, Frances Dudley, who does a great job of updating and maintaining the flowers at the Indian Springs Village entrance sign on Highway 119-W near I-65. The summer begonias flourished with Frances's watering and now the chrysanthemums are very attractive.

At our next meeting we will have a speaker from the Birmingham Museum of Art's Education Council, who will give a slide presentation of an array of flower arrangements from the 2002 Art in Bloom show. This program will show us the highlights of the flower arrangements designed to interpret and complement various works of art throughout the museum.

Our meeting will be Thursday, October 24, 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. Come and grow with us! If you have questions, please call Marge at 987-4765 or Del Levesque at 987-5029.

Botanical Gardens Fall Fiesta

By Ruth Goodwyn, Editor

Several events of interest to gardeners will take place at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens' Fall Fiesta on Sunday, October 20, to be held rain or shine.

Those who have never toured the gardens can meet at the fountain at 1:00 p.m. for a free tour conducted by Linda Emerson. Special guest and plant expert, David Shaddox from Hanna's Garden Shop, will be available to give advice and help visitors select the right plants for their gardens. A book sale will be held by the Birmingham Botanical Gardens Library.

Dr. Jim Jacobi, Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, will conduct free soil tests, which may be the first clue as to what plants to choose for your type soil, and Jacobi will also diagnose plant problems. Come with your soil samples and questions, as fall is the best time for soil testing, according to experts. Varieties of perennials, daylilies, hostas, native wild flowers, and herbs will be for sale.

There will be a new booth called Fall Lettuces and Veggies featuring a lettuce called Freckles, which is green with red spots, and a kale called Redbor, purplish-red with curly leaves.

SCHS Will Hear Author

The quarterly meeting of the Shelby County Historical Society will be held Sunday, November 3, at 2:00 p.m. upstairs in the Shelby County Museum & Archives, Columbiana. The guest speaker will be Eugene M. Wilson, author of *Alabama Folk Houses* and *A Guide to Rural Houses of Alabama* and a retiree from the University of South Alabama.

Villager Robert E. (Bob) Bell Succumbs to Heart Attack

By Ruth Goodwyn

Villagers sympathize with the family and relatives of Robert E. (Bob) Bell, 677 Indian Crest Drive, who died suddenly of a heart attack on Saturday, September 28. Mr. Bell was in the backyard of the Paul and Lola Stephens home on Indian Crest when he was stricken. Measures taken by the paramedics from North Shelby Fire and Emergency Medical District were to no avail. He was 64 years old.

Survivors are his wife, Diane S. Bell, daughter of Paul and Lola Stephens, a son, Robert E. Bell, Jr., of Mississippi; two daughters, Lori Stovall and her husband Keith of Alabaster and Heather H. Bell, attending college in North Carolina.

Other survivors are grandchildren, Jennifer Bell, Matt Bell, and Emily Stovall; a brother, James Bell and his wife of Florida; a host of nieces and nephews.

After his recent retirement Bob and Diane returned to this area, where both have lived all their lives except for a 10-year stint in Charlotte, NC. They had moved into their newly-built home only five weeks ago.

Visitation at the Southern Heritage Chapel was Monday evening, Sept. 30. The Rev. Ken Clements of Montgomery, former pastor of the Indian Springs Baptist Church, of which Bob was a member, conducted the funeral service on Tuesday, October 1 at 11:00 a.m. Burial was in the Southern Heritage Cemetery.

A Letter of Thanks

Dear ISV friends,

We really don't know how to adequately thank you all for everything you have done for us over the past month since our home in Heatherwood burned. We were provided for in so many ways—a temporary home, meals, counsel on dealing with our insurance, carpool for my kids each morning—even a bed while we stayed with Olivia and Gene. (Unfortunately, they were storing one of their extra beds at our home while their new carpet was installed!) We are certain that we don't even know all the kindnesses extended on our behalf during this time.

Because of the kind concern and care for us by our community and neighbors, we have been able to survive and regroup. We will begin demolition and reconstruction of our house soon, and hope to be back there by the end of the school year. Thank you again for all you have done.

Gratefully,

Dan, Sarah, Gil and Grant Weingarten