Message from the Mayor

by Steve Zerkis

State Ban on Burning

This is a reminder for all of us about the state-ordered ban on burning which went into effect May 1 and will last through September. This is an absolute ban-on-burning order that has been issued by the state of Alabama through ADEM, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. It applies to everyone: residential, commercial and construction. The reasons relate to controlling excessive air pollution in Shelby and several other counties in the state. There is also a fire hazard due to lack of rain this summer.

There are only three instances where burning may be permitted: Fire Department training, the clearing of large parcels of agricultural land, *over 100 acres, as approved by the Forestry Commission) and celebratory reasons, such as an approved 4th of July fireworks display. That’s it, period. The burning of piles of yard waste or construction debris and waste is strictly prohibited. Again, this is a state-ordered ban.

I think most of us are well aware of this burning ban but others may not be. If you are having any construction or remodeling done on your property, please remind your contractors that this burn ban DOES apply to them. They must comply. Having a building permit does not allow for the burning of construction waste during this ban period. This fact has been confirmed by both Chief Michael O’Connor of the North Shelby Fire Department, and Ray Hamilton, Manager of Development Services for Shelby County. Construction debris can be disposed of in a number of ways, including taking it to the Shelby County landfill, but it may not be burned.

Now here is the bad part. The fine for violation of this burn ban is $25,000. No, that’s not a typo. That is twenty-five thousand of your hard-earned dollars payable to the state of Alabama, so please be careful. Your cooperation will be most appreciated.
Town Council Meeting
May 16, 2006

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the Indian Springs Village Town Hall.

Town Clerk Shirley Church called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Steve Zerkis, Council Members Herb Robins, Brenda Bell-Guercio and Jack Mendel. Also present were Assistant Town Clerk Jim Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Bart Trammell, Planning & Zoning Chair Wayne Jones, ISV Engineer Frazier Christy and past editor of The Village Voice, Ruth Goodwyn.

The May 2, 2006 minutes were approved, as amended, on a motion by Robins, seconded by Guercio. The April 2006 financial report was accepted on a motion by Robins, seconded by Guercio.

Robins announced he will get Scott Holladay, of the Shelby County Highway Department, to check out the reported clogged culverts on Indian Forest Trail. Robins also announced Pete Shepherd will come by the town hall to give an estimate for eliminating the problem we are experiencing with fire ants.

Guercio reported she is working on upcoming July 4th event. She needs as many volunteers as possible to assist with this function.

There was discussion with several ISV residents regarding the flooding problems on Bishop Creek. Christy will be checking into several situations that may be in violation of ADEM regulations.

Guercio requested the council consider making a donation to the North Shelby Library for their summer reading program. Robins made a motion, seconded by Mendel, to suspend the rules to consider the request. Guercio make a motion, seconded by Mendel, that a $2,000.00 donation be made to this worthwhile program.

Meeting was adjourned by Zerkis.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Church, Town Clerk

Alabama Wildlife Center Needs You

submitted by Anne Miller, Director

Alabama’s native wildlife needs our help! Volunteers are urgently needed at the Alabama Wildlife Center to provide care for this year’s wildlife orphans so they can return to the wild. Call 663-7930 or log on to www.awrc.org for more information about the next training session at the Alabama Wildlife Center located in Oak Mountain State Park.
There are two state Alabama Department of Transportation projects planned for the improvement of Highway 119. The first is a resurfacing of the road from I-65 to State Highway 280, and a second is to three-lane portions of the highway through Indian Springs Village. A major portion of the repaving project within ISV seems to be complete. The crews started near I-65 and are now getting close to route 14 east of the Oak Mountain schools. Those portions of Highway 119 that will be part of the three-lane project have been left to be completed within that project.

The design of the three-lane project is complete and work will probably begin this fall as soon as some issues are taken care of by the state. We have asked ALDOT to make a presentation to the residents of ISV when the start date is established so that we can all see what they have designed. No date for the presentation has been set but we will let you know as soon as it is scheduled.

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**Building Permits**

*submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer*

Applicant: John Loper  
Owner: William T. Bradford  
Address: 764 Miller Circle  
Proposed use: Residence – Pool and landscaping

Applicant: Clearwater Pools  
Owner: Richard L. and Sherri B. Burgess  
Address: 2400 Indian Crest Drive  
Proposed use: Pool Addition

Applicant: Clinton Home Consulting, Inc.  
Owner: Kathy Carr  
Address: 4914 Windwood Circle  
Proposed use: Residential interior remodeling

Applicant: Rush and Denise Girardeau  
Owner: Same  
Address: 483 Indian Trail  
Proposed use: Residence Addition

Applicant: Robert Grant Construction  
Owner: Robert S. Grant Construction, Inc.  
Address: 80 Foxfire Circle  
Proposed use: Residence

Applicant: Mike Marquess  
Owner: Simon Mirelman  
Address: 140 Star Trek Drive  
Proposed use: 15’ x 30’ Above Ground Pool

Applicant: Mike Marquess  
Owner: Simon Mirelman  
Address: 140 Star Trek Drive  
Proposed use: Out building

Applicant: Citation Homes  
Owner: Same  
Address: Highgate Hill – Number not assigned  
Proposed use: Residence

Applicant: Clearwater Pools  
Owner: Dr. Phillip Hubbard  
Address: 236 Arrowhead Lane  
Proposed use: Pool Addition

Applicant: Brady Residential Construction  
Owner: David Brady  
Address: 2 McGuire Lane  
Proposed use: New residence

Applicant: Cross Heating and Air  
Owner: Mrs. Patricia Murphy  
Address: 1145 Spring Garden Street  
Proposed use: Residence – upgrade hot water

Applicant: Ron Stokes  
Owner: Ron Stokes  
Address: 1730 Indian Crest Drive  
Proposed use: Residential Addition with added Driveway

Applicant: Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Wallace  
Owner: Same  
Address: 859 Jasmine Hill Road  
Proposed use: Residence

Applicant: Larry McMeeking Homes  
Owner: Same  
Address: Indian Gate Circle - Number Unknown  
Proposed Use: Residence

Applicant: Madonia Building  
Owner: Michael S. Thornton  
Address: 925 Valley View Road  
Proposed use: Garage add to barn
Garden Club News
by Lynn Hendricks, President, Indian Springs Garden Club

The Garden Club will not have its monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday of July, as we will have worked two days earlier in the month.

Something to remember in early August: The Chilton County Area Horticultural Station will host its annual expo “Farm, Home & Wildlife” on August 5, 2006 from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.. There will be continuous demonstrations including such topics as: pruning fruit trees; sampling all types of fruits; maintaining a pond; skeet shooting; and even cooking and sampling tilapia. At 5:00 p.m. there will be hamburgers and hot dogs along with entertainment. All this is FREE:
Place: Chilton Area Horticultural Station
120 County Road 756, Clanton, Alabama 35045
Phone: (205) 646-3610
This really sounds like a fun afternoon and evening filled with lots of great information and good ‘ole food tasting the entire family can enjoy!.

New Clinic Opening
Shelby Baptist Medical Center will be opening a new Sports Medicine and Family Practice clinic later this summer on Highway 52, just off I-65 at exit 242. Two new physicians, Emily Bell Casey, MD and Jason Todd, MD will practice at the clinic. Pictured at left is Dr. Emily Bell Casey. She is a Shelby County native and is the daughter of Jake and Brenda Guercio. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and has completed a primary care sports medicine fellowship at the American Sports Medicine Institute.

Community
by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Do you know of any Indian Springs Village residents or family members currently serving in the military? Please call or email our Town Clerk, Shirley Church, at 205-991-6148, or Shirley@indianspringsvillage.org with their name, rank and the location to which they are assigned. This information will be listed in The Village Voice to recognize their service to our country. We will also be glad to mail them issues of The Village Voice so they can keep up with home-town news.

2006 Indian Springs Village
Fourth of July Celebration
by Brenda Bell-Guercio, Council Member

The morning of the Fourth dawned bright and hot and clear. Participants in the parade started pulling into the Winn Dixie parking lot about 9:30. Participants included:
1. Edna and Joe Lewellyn driving a 1930 Model A Ford.
2. John Strozier driving a 52 Model John Deere Tractor pulling a 1946 J.D.Haywagon full of kids throwing candy.
3. Robert and Daniel Stewart in a red Porsche.
4. Jack (Scooter) Barry, Allison, Sara, and Jackson in a Harley Davidson F-250 black truck and a hot-looking Black Prowler.
5. Jack Barry Sr., Andrew McGehee, Bob McConnell, Steve and Laurie Shotnik, Parker and Grant Shotnik, B.J. Humphries, Olen and Jessie Humphries, and Russ and Holly Helms, and Lauren in a 05 GMC champagne truck.
11. Jason and Aaron Lynch and Joey and Michelle McSwain along with their dogs Parker and Porter who were dressed in costume riding in a black Jeep.
12. Trudy and Steve Scokel on a Harley.
13. Christy Scokel and Brian King in a white Mustang convertible.
14. Dr. Tom and wife Pam Allison in a 1964 Daytona Blue Corvette coupe.
15. Claire Allison in an antique horse van.
18. Captain Ken Burchfield and Ruth and Rachel Burchfield driving Sheriff Curry’s Ford Expedition.
20. Additional support from the Shelby County Sheriff Department and North Shelby Fire Station was provided by David Black, Damon Bone, Jerry Daniels, Bobby Lee, and Brent Fox.
By the time the parade made its way to the Town Hall, a large number of residents had gathered for the celebration and BBQ. A Color Guard of Marine veterans from Howlin’ Mad Smith Detachment - Marine Corps, led by Jim Wyatt, raised the American flag as the Star Spangled Banner was played by disk jockey Ray Halvorsan. Mayor Zerkis then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Wyatt organized a reenactment of the flag-raising on Mount Surabachi during the battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. Brenda Guercio led the assembly in prayer.

Again this year the BBQ and homemade desserts were outstanding! Bart Trammell and his sons, Jeff and Paul, and son-in-law, Bruce Benford joined by Bob Joy and his grandson, Austin, cooked up some mouth-watering BBQ!

Herb and Margie Robins always have their serving teams in place and make sure the food lines move smoothly. Thanks to Bob Konecny and family for being in charge of the ticket table. Alison Stigers manned the drink table and Betty Michaels manned the dessert table helped by numerous others. Many thanks to all who brought desserts to share. First prize in the homemade desserts judged by our Shelby County Sheriff Department went to Amy DePriest for her Key Lime cake. Second place went to Erin Schopke for a Blueberry Lemon Crumb cake and third place to Nora Boyette for a German Chocolate cake.

The Garden Club, headed by Lynn Hendricks and Marge Dunn, provided the decorations and the fabulous table centerpieces. Thanks to Patricia Crapet for making sure the red, white and blue bunting was hung on the Town Hall. Thanks to Bart Trammell for making sure the grounds were manicured, and to Bart and Herb for all the prelim setup work. Thanks to Jake Guercio and Jack Mendel for being in charge of parking. Many thanks to our cleanup crews and volunteers, including Bruce and Phyllis Monical, Bart and Connie Trammell and family, Herb and Margie Robins, Rita and Jack Mendel, Alison Stigers, Jim and Mildred Wyatt, Norm and Barbara Bradley, and Ben and Linley Jones.

For all of those whose names were inadvertently left off the Thank You list, I apologize as we appreciate each and every one of our volunteers. You make this event possible!

(Sincere thanks to LaVerne Ramsey of Indian Crest Drive for providing the majority of the fabulous 4th of July photographs you see here. Additional photos by Steve Zerkis and Alison Stigers.)
Checking out North Shelby Library

By Natasha Hanna, Library Staff

Summer is usually a library’s busiest season, and this year is no exception. Both the Children’s and Adult’s departments at the library are featuring their most dynamic programming to date for their readers, and these offerings have been met with record-breaking enthusiasm. Add to that the typical summer traffic from patrons looking for “beach books” and other recreational and business needs and you have a design for circulation congestion.

Patrons at the North Shelby Library all agree: the brand new self-checkout stations could not have come at a better time. Two stations have been added, flanking the Circulation desk on both sides. North Shelby is the first library in Shelby County to provide self-checkout machines to the community. Patrons can use the machines by scanning their library cards, following instructional prompts and even print their own receipts…all in a matter of seconds. Patrons can also check their account status, overdue materials, fines and any holds they may have.

Many visitors are already familiar with the technology from utilizing self-checkout machines at the grocery store and Wal-Mart. But even those who shy away from technology will feel comfortable with the user-friendly terminals, which are always within short distance of a friendly employee willing to assist.

Forward thinking director, Carol Farr, has anticipated the library’s growth and the possible issues that could result from that increase for some time. Farr has spent time researching the trends and offerings of other libraries in the Birmingham metropolitan area in an effort to stay current. “We have always been aggressive in meeting the needs of the community,” states Ms. Farr. “The implementation of the self-check program will help us maintain our innovative status, use staff more efficiently, better manage the collection and provide a service requested by our patrons.” Indeed, Ms. Farr already has plans to provide another station upstairs, based on a frequent patron requests.

The goal is to create a patron-centered environment, in which the needs of the community are the primary motivation in all plans for development. Ms. Farr will be aided in this directive through the $5000 in discretionary funds she recently received from State Representative Mary Sue McClurkin and the $2000 grant Indian Springs Village donated for the library’s summer reading program.

Letter to the Editor

I was glad to see your article on creeks, ditches and water runoff easements. The article spoke of important issues on respect for your neighbors. It did miss one point however, contractors. We live on Miller Circle and have been through a year of pain.

First was the lack of respect to provide a dumpster on their site. Thankfully, the mayor was able to get them to take care of this. Putting it in the dumpster, however, is a different story. The garbage from the contractors has to be picked up daily by the residents due to it blowing or flowing into their yards. Today, I had an empty paint can, an open paint thinner can as well as their lunch in my front yard after the rain yesterday. Trash constantly washes off the site and into the drainage easement and into my yard, clogging the pipes as well as harmful materials getting into the water. This has been continuous for over a year. Those of us who do make a conscious effort to keep these drainage easements clean do not want the trash washing from less respectful contractors. Areas have been turned up in people’s yards only to be covered by some pine straw. Residents are now left with bowls in the dirt that hold water and become havens for mosquito breeding. Residents need to monitor their contractors and force them to be respectful to the community. The residents of Indian Springs are going to have to deal with a lot of construction on Indian Crest in the next year. We want respectful contractors. We do not want to pick up truck loads of garbage off the side of the road on our beautiful scenic drive home. This cleaning effort is done by your neighbors, not a paid service. Keep this in mind when selecting a contractor.

Dawn Thornton, Miller Circle
North Shelby Children’s/Teen Department July Happenings

by Tess Bouvier, North Shelby Library Children’s & Young Adult Librarian

The library will be closed July 4th.
Visit our website www.northshelbylibrary.org for more details or call 439-5504 or email nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org!

Summer Reading Programming:
* Thursday, July 6th: 2 and 3 p.m.- “Craft-Sandcastles” Come and create the castle of your dreams using colored sand and your imagination. All Ages. Registration Required.
* Monday, July 10th: 7-7:45 p.m.- “Midsummer Night’s Dream and Ice-Cream Fantasy”. Come and cool down this hot summer night and create the ice cream sundae of your dreams! All Ages.
* Thursday, July 13th: 2 and 3 p.m.- “Craft-Crowns” Come and design a gold crown and be King or Queen for a day! All Ages. Registration Required.
* Thursday, July 20th: 2 and 3 p.m. - “Craft-I Love Reading Bookmark” Come and make a bookmark to celebrate the end of Summer Reading! All Ages. Registration Required.
* Monday, July 24th: 2-3:30 p.m. “Movie Monday-Shrek!” All Ages.
* Tuesday, July 25th: 3-4 p.m. “The Jongleur of Notre Dame! The Hunchback is Here to perform some amazing juggling feats for you! All Ages.

Saturday, July 29th: 12-2 p.m. “Summer Reading End Party” Wow! You have read a lot of books! It’s time to celebrate all of your hard work with prizes, games, snacks, karaoke and reading certificates! Congratulations to you!!

Special Programming:
* July 11th, 18th and 25th: 10-1 p.m. “Beginners Quilt Class” You will learn the basics of quilting while making a small quilt or wall hanging. Kit may be purchased upon registration for $7.00. Includes all fabric, thread, pattern, needles and batting. Members of the Evening Star Quilt Guild will teach the class at the North Shelby Library. Ages 9-up. Payment required upon registration.
* Thursday, July 20th: 10:30 a.m. “Children’s Educational Theater Presents: A Magical Pond” 45 minutes comprised of singing, music, creative movement, storytelling and interactive audience participation.

Teen Zone
*Teen Summer Reading: Thanks to everyone who read, attended programs and came to the movies…..it was a lot of fun! Be sure to check out our website for upcoming cool events.
*Teen Book Club: Come once a month to discuss a book that YOU have picked with your friends! And eat free Pizza!! Call or email Tess—439-5504 or nsyouth@shelbycounty-al.org.

~Regular Programming~
Mondays, July 10, 17 and 24
Toddler Tales @ 9:30 10:30 & 11:30 a.m.
For ages 24-36 months. Registration required. You can call the library at 439-5504 to sign-up. You may begin registration at the last Toddler Tale program of the month for the following month of programs.

Wednesdays, July 5, 12, 19 and 26
Mr. Mac (Storyteller Extraordinaire!) @ 10:45 a.m.
All ages.
Thursdays, July 6, 13, 20 and 27
P. J. Story time @ 7 p.m.
All ages.

Upcoming Book Club Meeting
The next Book Club meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 20th at 10:30 a.m. at the North Shelby Library. The featured book will be “Dubliners” by James Joyce.

Classical Concerts in ISV
by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

The Alabama Symphony Orchestra presented several of their concerts at the Indian Springs School over the last two seasons. This year they announced that they will continue those concerts in 2006-2007 and will expand their schedule to also offer concerts at Oak Mountain High School and other locations within Shelby County. A schedule of their concerts will be published at a later date.
In Memoriam

Jeanette Hogg Owens, age 86, of Indian Springs, formerly of Ensley in Birmingham, passed away Monday evening, June 12, 2006. She was the daughter of John Frazier and Ethel Bumpus Hogg of the Overton Community. She was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Paul Tate Owens. Mrs. Owens is survived by: her daughter, Susan Owens Hilton (Buddy) of Ten Mile, TN; son, Ronald P. Owens (Kathie) of Indian Springs; granddaughters, Amanda Owens Dixon (Jeff) Hoover and Allison Tate Owens DeVine (Jason) of Owens Cross Roads; great grandsons, Patrick Jeffrey and Brandon Owens Dixon of Hoover; sister, Doris Johnson (Travis) of Kissimmee, FL and brother, Verne Hogg (Martha) of Lincoln, AL; brother-in-law, Hugh Cunningham (Helen) Cario, Ga. She was a member of Ensley and First Christian Churches and The Tuesday Girls. The family received friends Friday, June 16, 2006 at 10 a.m. at Southern Heritage Funeral Home in Pelham with graveside service following at 11 a.m. Pallbearers were Harold Estes, Howard Cunningham, Don Crossett, Richard Gardner, Larry Shorter, Larry Heil, John Fowler, Steve Bailey. (Reprinted from The Birmingham News)

Ida Mac Bishop, of Indian Springs, AL, at age 97, passed away on June 29, 2006 at her home on Bishop Lane. Ida was a long time resident of North Shelby Co. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. C.E. Bishop, pastor of the Elliottsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Alabaster, AL. She was also preceded in death by her sons, C.E. Bishop, Jr., Mitchell Stanley Bishop “Dude” and Hugh Allen Bishop “Spike.” Her surviving children are William Vernon (Juanita) Bishop, Sarah B. Street, David “Spud” (Margaret) Bishop, Daniel G. Bishop and many children and great grandchildren all touched her Life. Visitation was held at Southern Heritage Funeral Home in Pelham on Friday, June 30, 2006 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The funeral service was held on Saturday, July 1, in the chapel of Southern Heritage Funeral Home at 9:00 a.m. Interment followed in the Jefferson Memorial Gardens on Highway 150, in Hoover, AL. The family would like to thank all of you who prayed with us for this past year of our Mother’s life. (Reprinted from The Birmingham News)

Fern Expert Ginny Lusk
by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

Our own Ginny Lusk was featured in the June issue of Portico magazine. Ginny is a member of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens’ Fern Society and is considered an expert on these beautiful plants. The article, complete with photos, featured her work with the Fern Society and its work in Alabama and at the BBG. If you are interested in their work, you might want to come out to the Botanical Gardens and assist in maintaining their Fern Glade.

Thanks to the Garden Club
by Bart Trammell, Administrative Assistant

We offer our thanks to the Indian Springs Garden Club for trimming the forsythia (yellow bell) between the Town Hall and pavilion. In case you didn’t know, the water cut-off valve to the pavilion is located in the middle of this cluster of yellow bells. In early Spring, if you use the pavilion you will probably find that the water had been turned off over the winter to prevent freezing. Since the trimming, it is now possible to locate and reach this cut-off valve much more easily.

Sales Tax Holiday
by Steve Zerkis, Mayor

As many of us have heard, the state of Alabama has declared August 4, 5 and 6 to be free of any STATE sales or use tax for selected items including school supplies and texts, many common articles of clothing and computer equipment and software.

Shelby County has also declared a holiday for COUNTY sales and use tax for the same dates.

Last but not least, Indian Springs Village does not have to declare a sales tax holiday because we do not have a LOCAL MUNICIPAL sales tax. So on those days, for specific items bought in ISV, you will not have to pay any state, county or local sales tax. A number of other towns and counties have also declared those dates as tax free. So make your school-related purchases on August 4-6 and save. Check with your retailer since the list of items that fall into the tax free category is extensive. We encourage you to shop in ISV and support your local merchants. We hope you will take advantage of this tax holiday.