

Village of

INDIAN POINT

<http://indianpoint-mo.gov>

Smoke Signals

Email address
village@indianpoint-mo.gov

Volume 14, Issue 5

May, 2005

Calendar of Events— May, 2005

May 2—Noon
 Police & Safety

May 4—2:00 p.m.
 Board of Public Works

May 5—6:15/6:30/6:45 p.m.
 Public Hearings Planning
 and Zoning

May 5—7:00 p.m.
 Planning & Zoning

May 10—7:00 p.m.
 Trustees

Note: All meetings /events are held in the Treehouse Condo Club Room unless noted otherwise. As of publication, these are the only meetings scheduled.

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Indian Point Trails

By: Arno Wehr II

We are all hopeful that very soon our roads will be free of walkers and slow bikers. It's getting dangerous and as we grow in population it invites tragedy.

The Ozark Mountain Nature Trails Association is encouraging our Village to move ahead by giving grants for legal fees and construction.

The Village plan includes a trail along the main road from Cottage Grocery (and a branch to the dock café) up to the site for the new Village offices (3 miles). This trail will connect to branches east and west on roadsides and on private trails (8 miles). At the Village office trailhead, the system will go to 265 and into Stonebridge to connect the Branson Reeds Spring trail. We plan water connections to other trails including DD, Chateau, and the recently opened trail at the state park.

You can expect many benefits from being a community that is part of a good trail system. As residents, it is a healthy asset. Trails also increase area property values by 8% on average. Homes within 1/4 mile of trails become as valuable as waterfront property. These and other benefits are verified by state and national studies.

As for business, trails on Indian Point will increase the tax base by 10% minimum.

Maybe you'd like to participate in the Village trail effort? We will need Trail Rangers to report fallen branches and washouts. We will expect to see a parks and trails group evolve very soon. You may have a green thumb and want to help plant key areas.

Community Member Cards Available May 15th!

A new benefit has just been approved under which the Village will provide discount cards to all Indian Point property owners or those who lease residences for at least one year and those who lease boat slips for at least one year at any of our commercial marinas. With these cards, discounts can be obtained at participating businesses on Indian Point and in the surrounding area. The annual family cards are available at the Village office for \$1.00 each and only one per family will be issued. Cards will have to be renewed January 1st of each year.

Property owners/renters/boat slip renters are to bring proof of residency by presenting a paid property tax receipt (Stone County), rent receipt or electric bill.

Businesses interested in giving a discount should contact Kathy in the office.

The purpose of this program is to create a community identity and spirit, to provide a benefit to our community members and to help our businesses by increasing sales within the Village. This will also increase our sales tax revenue which will then be used to increase your Village services.

Lists of participating businesses and discounts will be published in future issues of the *Smoke Signals*.

Finally we need to focus beyond the dream and make it real. That may start with the Trustees, but will always end with your help.

Now go find a walking stick!

TRUSTEES APRIL MEETING

The Board of Trustees met on April 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Treehouse Condo Clubroom to review and/or take action on the following:

- Newly elected Trustees Jim Daily and Brett Stump were sworn in.
- J C Zalog was elected chair; Jim Daily, vice chair; Brett Stump, secretary/treasurer; Greg Fier, road commissioner.
- Minutes from the March meeting approved as corrected.
- March financials reviewed and filed for audit.
- First Reading Bill No 92, Ordinance 05-07, An Ordinance that adds to and amends Bill No 11, Ordinance 92-2, Planning & Zoning Commission; Bill No 80, Ordinance 04-03, Police & Safety Advisory Committee; and Bill No 89 Ordinance 05-04 Community Activities and Development Committee (CAAD) was approved.
- First reading Bill No 93, Ordinance 05-08, An Ordinance to approve the recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission to subdivide a minor subdivision final plat submitted by Terry Lansdale for Lots 22, 23, & 24, Block B, Table Rock Beach subdivision was approved.
- Police and Safety—Brett Stump reported that interviews for Police Chief were scheduled.
- Approved by motion line item transfer of \$1500.00 from Police Salary to Stipend, general fund.
- Approved by motion, Paul Hough appointed to the Stone County Volunteer Emergency Management.
- Planning and Zoning Commission—Greg Maycock reported on replat of minor subdivision for Terry Lansdale, changes to the Zoning Regulations for the Board of Adjustments and other issues, variance requests and sketch plat for Wolf Ridge Lodge condos.
- Approved by motion to hold a joint meeting with Corps of Engineers, Planning & Zoning Commission, Board of Trustees to work together on Shoreline Management.
- .Roads—Jim Daily reported that mowing will be done this week.
- Board of Public Works—Greg Maycock commented that the BPW is awaiting reply from DNR on the User Charge Ordinance.
- CAAD—Approved by motion, appointment of Barbara Coggin as member of the CAAD Committee for three year term.
- Recycling—Presentation by Elizabeth Aull, Ralston Purina Company for paper recycling. Betty Fier gave an update on aluminum recycling and noted that Barry Maycock has volunteered to transport the trailer to Branson with his vehicle.
- CAAD-Kent Turner reported on a grant for MoDOT for trails and a slip cover sign for the sign on Indian Point Road at the Community Building site and community cards for residents and businesses for discounts offered.
- Approved by motion to purchase a slip cover sign for the sign on Indian Point Road from the roads budget, line item signs pending the Board of Trustees approval of the content and design.
- Approved by motion to offer property owners/renters in the Village a community member card issued from the Village office at a cost of \$1 per card per household and proof of residency be presented by showing a paid property tax receipt, rent receipt, or electric bill for discounts offered in the Village and other areas.
- Approved by motion the Village Superintendent pursue writing a grant for trails from MoDOT, due by June 1, 2005.
- Approved by motion emergency meeting minutes held on March 28, 2005 for action taken at Hunter's Friend.
- Tabled further action on the Community Building until after the long range planning session and it was noted that the grant writer is still gathering information for the grant.
- Board of Adjustments and Planning & Zoning Commission vacancies tabled.
- Approved by motion to renew contract for the Enchanted Forest for one year with the Indian Point Chamber of Commerce.
- Approved by motion Tri-Party Collateral Management Agreement with Bank of America to invest through the Bank of New York.
- Second Reading of Bill No 92, Ordinance 05-07 was approved and adopted.
- Second Reading Bill No 93, Ordinance 05-08 was approved and adopted.
- Accounts payable were approved.
- Comments from Trustees regarding improving relationships with area businesses, minimal annual fee assessed to property owners which was referred to Legal Counsel
- Approved by motion to send a letter to other municipalities in Stone County that have a chamber of commerce inquiring if they received a monetary distribution from Stone County.
- Comment from the floor regarding screening Hunter's Friend resort.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Copies of the actual minutes of the meeting are in the Village office. If you would like a copy, the cost is \$1.00 per month and the proper forms are available in the office to receive a copy or download the minutes from the website at no charge!

PUBLIC HEARINGS THURSDAY, MAY 5TH

Planning & Zoning Commission will hold three public hearings on Thursday, May 5th, Treehouse Club Room:

6:15 PM—Rezoning Hearing for Deer Run Campground from C-1 to PDD C-1.

6:30 PM—Preliminary Plat application from Deer Run Campground

6:45 PM—Preliminary Plat application from Wolf Ridge Lodge.

Public Comments Invited

You'll Have to Decide

By: Arno Wehr

When our electric company presents itself, it starts with how it brought electricity to our hills. It is not ready to reveal the tens of thousands of people who designed the turbines, treated the electric poles from rot, baked the insulators, made the transformers, or provided the extremely low interest loans for rural projects. All we see is what we are shown.

The State Department of Natural Resources, after a two year study of every lake in the state, says Table Rock Lake is the cleanest. They also admit that poultry and farm run off is a problem. Actually that run off plus Springfield, Nixa, and Ozark poorly run sewer plants exceed 90% of the lake pollution. Again, thousands in research, engineering, and manufacturing are working to correct this. But like a smart general in battle, the local sewer company cartel is attacking the weakest point, namely local septic issues. First of all it is correct to stop archaic septic practices. This treatment is stupid in rock soil. Second, it is correct to upgrade and eliminate old polluting systems that are contaminating ground water.

Someone has to do this, so we have our state departments, health departments, and municipalities all trying to do a better job.

Now with a huge chunk of federal money, our area has a group that is leading the charge to eliminate poor sewage treatment in our county. Hooray for them! Our own Village has also spent over \$100,000 of its own revenues to also eliminate poor sewage treatment on Indian Point. Our Village also has assisted in new technology installations and will embark on a central system for the Jakes Creek Trail Area.

Our Village has not asked any other town in Stone County to finance us. Stone County, however wants its citizens to be taxed for the county sewage plan and has selected a private company to meet with local officials and in the broadest terms explain how a plan to use tax money will help the county. Since our Village uses sales tax to operate, it may be constricted to raise sales tax in the future because outside taxation will cause a limit to what the

from this new tax pool as a loan to be paid back. So, if we give some taxes we may get some back, at a price. That's the same rush you get with a slot machine.

You will be asked to vote on a nominal county sewer tax. It will extract around \$20,000 per year, forever, from our Village. The tax will go through the county to our electric co-op that has formed a "not for profit" company to design and build small flow sewage systems. Its all progressive stuff, but you have the necessary vote to decide if we are being saved by this tax or not.

Recycle Old Phone Books

By: Betty Fier

Plans are underway to recycle your old phone books. Brett Stump, Village Trustee, has been working with the Corp of Engineers to obtain a temporary site for this purpose. The Nestle Purina Pet Care Co, Springfield, will bring a bin to Indian Point where residents and businesses can take old phone books and other recyclable papers from **April 28 to May 26 only**. The site is located on Harbor Road to the left, just off Indian Point Road in the primitive camp site area. Please check with Betty Fier, 263-0436, Sandy Carsen, 338-1745 or with Kathy Isaacs at the Village office, 338-5599 for the schedule or to make an appointment.

If enough people volunteer to collect the phone books and paper products, the site will open to the public on Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturday AM's, 8 to 11 AM. It is extremely important that a volunteer be present when you bring your phone books and paper items as the bin will be locked when unattended. The Nestle Purina Pet Care Co make cat and dog litter from dry paper products only and can not use wet paper. **DO NOT** drop your items off unless a volunteer is present. As a courtesy to the Corp for allowing this privilege, we do not want to litter their property. By recycling these paper products we are saving landfill space and benefiting our environment. You will obtain a hand-out detailing exactly what paper items can be recycled when you bring in the phone books.

CAAD Committee

By: Kent Turner, Chair

Seven local walkers/hikers recently explored potential routes for more trails on both private and public right of way within the Village. We will be applying for a grant to help finance this project. At least two more businesses are clearing trails near the lake on Corp land. The goal is to have several miles of walk/bike trails for community members and guests to enjoy. If you are interested in having a trail on your property, please call the office.

The Village wants to be more involved in supporting the special events held on the Point each year, such as the shoreline and underwater lake clean-ups, the Parrot Head benefit, fishing tournaments, etc. If you're planning such an activity, contact the office and we'll help to promote and coordinate your event.

The committee continues to search for people willing to help in specialized areas. If you are retired, regardless of what you did for a living, you have a wealth of experience that could be used to benefit our community. Participation will enrich your life, benefit your community and be greatly appreciated!

Village of Indian Point
3 Treehouse Lane #11

Phone: 417-338-5599
Fax: 417-338-5279
E-Mail:

PRSR STD
ECR WSS
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Police & Safety Advisory Committee Report

By: Brett Stump, Chair

The Police and Safety Advisory Committee has been very busy this month interviewing applicants and making a selection for the position of Police Chief for our Village. A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees at a special meeting on Tuesday, April 19th and effective Friday, May 6th, our new Police Chief will begin.

Let's all welcome Scott Thirkell as he begins his position. Scott presently serves as a police officer with the Branson Police Department. Scott, his wife and two children moved from Salina, Kansas two years ago where he served as deputy for the Sheriff's office in Saline

County. Scott received his Masters Degree in Criminal Justice at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas and is looking forward to serving the Village and we look forward to seeing our police vehicle back on the roads again.

The Police and Safety Advisory Committee presently has a vacancy on the committee. If you have knowledge of law enforcement and are willing to attend meetings on a monthly basis, please call Kathy at the Village office for more information. The Police and Safety Advisory Committee meets the first Monday of each month at noon.

Holiday Closing

The Village of Indian Point municipal office will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.



ADDITIONAL RECYCLING ALUMINUM COLLECTION SITES

Crow's Nest Resort
Golden Arrow Resort
Lakeview Campground
Harbor Marina

Residents recycle at:

The Cottage
Deer Run
White Wing Resort
Treehouse Condominiums