

**Got a good neighbor?
Tell us who . . .**

Independence Square is full of unsung heroes.

They may be the neighbor who brings you a meal when you're sick or who gives you a ride to the grocery store when your car is in the shop or who takes care of your cat when you're away.

They may be the neighbor who volunteers to serve on committees or who organizes activities. You may have seen a neighbor picking up litter in your neighborhood.

Whatever the act of kindness, Independence Square is a better place to live because of these unsung heroes.

And now, we want you to help us recognize them with the Independence Square Good Neighbor honor.

Please tell us about your neighbor by filling in the form and turning it in to the office.

The kindness can be a one-time act or it can be something done on a regular basis.

The act of kindness can benefit just one person, a neighborhood or the entire cooperative.

One Good Neighbor will be recognized every month and will receive a \$25 gift card.

Nominees must be members in good standing.

All information will be verified.

The Good Neighbor recognition program will continue throughout the year. When you're touched by another's kindness, please nominate that person.

Good Neighbor Nomination

Your name: _____

Your address: _____

Your phone number: _____

I nominate _____
(Please give full name of neighbor your are nominating.)

Neighbor's address: _____

Neighbor's phone number: _____

Please understand that phone numbers are necessary so we can talk with both the nominator and the nominee to verify all information. Phone numbers will not be published in the newsletter.

Explain why you are nominating this person. What has

she or he done to be a good neighbor?

Tell us about your neighbor:

Why does or did your neighbor do this?

In what way does this act of kindness help you or others?

How long has he or she lived in Independence Square?

Optional:

Other members of the household?

Occupation?

Any other information you'd like share?

For Office Use Only

Is the nominee a member in good standing?

____ Yes ____ No

F E B R U A R Y



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marilyn Porter
president

Sheryl Frank
vice president

Ray Gamble
secretary-treasurer

Ed Korte

Mike Gamble

**HANDY
PHONE NUMBERS**

Independence Square
Townhouses office
816.252.0444

Central Jackson
County Patrol
9 p.m. to 4 a.m.
816.645.3001

Animal Shelter
816.325.7207

Animal Control Dispatcher
816.325.7205

Citizens Info Center
816.325.7000

Police (Non-emergency)
816.325.7300

Police (Emergency)
911

Report Power Outage
816.325.7550

**OUTDOOR CATS CAN BE
SPAYED, NEUTERED FREE**

Free-roaming cats in the ZIP code 64050 can be trapped, neutered, vaccinated and released at no charge to individuals who report the cats.

If you have seen stray cats in the neighborhood, call Kathy Drews at 816.824.6381.

Drews is a volunteer with the Great Plains SPCA. The humane society has a two-year grant to treat up to 2,400 feral cats in the 64050 ZIP code. So far, some 800 cats have been cared for.

Cats are spayed or neutered, vaccinated for rabies and distemper, treated for fleas, worms and ear mites and microchipped.

Drews will pick up the cat, take it to the clinic for these services and return it to its home or colony. This is all free.

"I do this as a service to save lives of free-roaming cats and to prevent more unwanted litters of kittens," Drews said.

Cats that are neutered also are less likely to howl, fight and annoy neighbors, she said.

The program is designed to improve the health of feral cat colonies and decrease the stray population over time.

Cats that are treated are identified by an eartip: "This is a badge of honor," Drews said. "It says someone cared about this cat."

Drews can trap cats humanely to transport them or she can pick outdoor cats up from their caretakers if the cat is in a pet carrier.

For more information on the Trap/Neuter/Release program, visit the humane society's Web site at www.GreatPlainsSPCA.org.

Please register pets, vehicles

Pet and vehicle permits are now due.

If you have not registered these with the office, please do so. The deadline is February 28.

Pet registration requires a copy of the certificate verifying vaccinations are current.

Failure to comply may place your Occupancy Agreement in jeopardy.

NEWSLETTER MINUTES

Board Meeting January 15, 2013

Sheryl Frank, vice president, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Other board members attending were Ray Gamble, secretary-treasurer; Ed Korte and Mike Gamble.

Also present were Alexis Martin, on-site manager; Martha Ramcke, assistant on-site manager; Mike Leach, maintenance superintendent; Dudley Leonard, cooperative attorney; Melva Linville, property manager; Suzanne Miles, human relations coordinator; and Betsy Kilker, administrative assistant, with Linville Management Services, Inc.

The next board meeting is February 19.

Minutes of the November 20 board meeting were approved.

Open Session

Four members signed in for the open session: Phyllis Cannon, Kathleen Morton, Bea Parks and Jessie Phillips. Marilyn Porter, president, joined the meeting.

Sheryl opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Mike presented the maintenance superintendent's report. From November 20 to January 15, 162 work orders were called in and 147 completed. Replaced were two garbage disposals, two bath floors, two water heaters, one refrigerator, one range, one kitchen faucet and one kitchen floor.

There have been two move-ins and one move-out since the last meeting.

The towing company has installed signs on the property. Cars may legally be towed.

Alexis gave the office updates. There have been 26 statements of charges due, 19 defaults, one animal violation and one vehicle violation.

Nine units are for sale. One is not paying carrying charges.

Catherine Delong was recognized for referring a new member and receiving a \$200 referral bonus.

The floor was opened to member comments.

Sheryl reported that 38 members attended the holiday potluck.

Bea Parks won the \$25 gift card in the door prize drawing.



Sheryl Frank, board vice president, presents a \$25 gift card to Bea Parks, winner of the door prize drawing at the January meeting.

The meeting ended at 6:20 p.m.

Closed Session

The board reviewed the procedure for members who fail to comply with the deadline for pet and vehicle permits.

From the vehicle registration form, the board deleted a reference to "parking more than 15 minutes in a turn-around area."

Parking and pet permit notices are sent to members the first of February and due by the end of the month, Feb. 28. Members will be advised in the notice that failure to meet the deadline may result in a letter from the attorney and/or a grievance hearing.

The board voted to send a second notice from the attorney giving delinquent members 10 business days to meet the permit requirements.

Dudley reviewed the attorney status report.

Melva distributed copies of the audit compiled by Darel D. Kyle. No deficiencies or errors were found.

The board ratified two telephone polls conducted by Martha in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Illegal cars will be towed

The cooperative is towing vehicles that are parked in violation of state statutes.

Signs on the property identify the towing company to call if your car is impounded.

The minimum charge to get your car back is \$150 and an additional \$30 a day for storage. Fees start from the time the car is towed to the lot.

Only the Independence Square on-site office or the cooperative's security patrol is authorized to have a car towed from the property.

American Water Resources letters misleading

Broken water service lines are not the financial responsibility of members of Independence Square Townhouses.

Members should disregard solicitations they may have received through the mail from a company called Home Service.

There is **no need** to pay a small monthly fee to buy coverage from this company.

Members will not be charged for repairs of water service lines.

Here's what to do during a lock-out

If you find yourself locked out of your unit, call the on-site office at 816-252-0444.

When the machine answers, dial "0" and an operator will come on the line and help you with a lock-out or maintenance emergency.

The cost for an after-hours or weekend lock-out is \$25. If the lock-out happens during office hours, the fee is \$10.

Dates to Remember

February 2013

Carrying charges due: February 1

Recycled papers picked up: February 6

Carrying charges delinquent: February 11

Presidents Day observed: February 18
Office closed

Board meeting: February 19
Open session: 6 p.m.

Accounts sent to the attorney: February 21

March 2013

Carrying charges due: March 1

Recycled papers picked up: March 6

Daylight saving time begins: March 10
Set clocks forward an hour.

Carrying charges delinquent: March 11

Board meeting: March 19
Open session: 6 p.m.

Accounts sent to the attorney: March 21