

clean and organized.

Group related items together, such as high chairs, cribs and other large baby furniture.

But remember, you want buyers to walk around the entire sale. So, in another area of the sale, group baby clothes, bottles and toys together.

4. Get them to buy.

Put price stickers on everything. Buyers don't want to guess or ask you what you want. Nor do they want to consult an elaborate chart with color-coded pricing on it to try to figure out how much you want for a particular item.

Prices should be realistic, negotiable and attached to the item.

Be prepared to barter. It's often better to come down a bit than to lose the sale. Odds are not in your favor that another size 9 who needs a worn-only-once prom dress will come along again during your sale.

These tips can help make yard sales fun and successful for both sellers and buyers.

Cooperative courtesy makes spring safer

Spring is in the air and Independence Square members are everywhere.

Some drive Fords and some ride boards.

Some grab bikes and pedal away.

Others head outside to hang out or play.

As we all enjoy the warmer weather a few simple courtesies will make life better.

Motorists, please drive slow

and look out for little ones wherever you go.

Parents, please keep track of children and toys.

And show our youth how to be polite and poised.

Skateboarders, please take your ramps down when you are done.

Bicyclists, remember that sidewalks and streets belong to everyone.

Whether you're young or old, we can all agree,

Let's keep Independence Square as safe as can be.

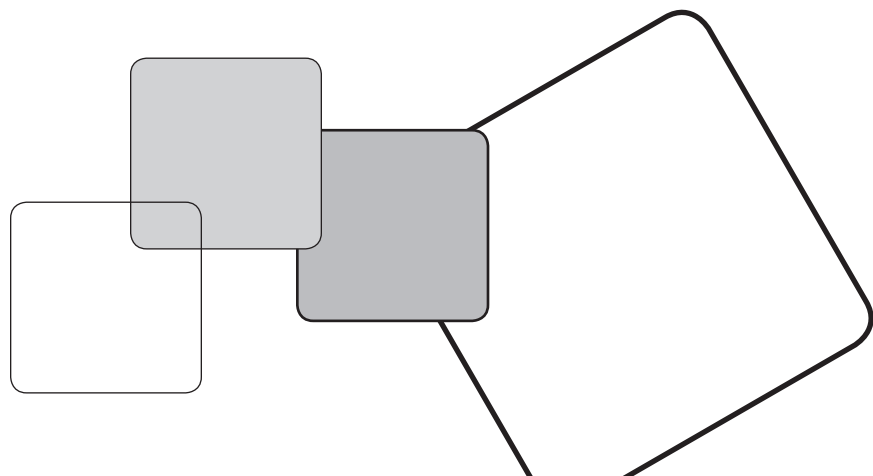
Dates to Remember

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

April 2013

- Carrying charges due: April 1
- Recycled papers picked up: April 3
- Carrying charges delinquent: April 10
- Board meeting: April 16
Open session: 6 p.m.
- Accounts sent to the attorney: April 22



MARCH



2013

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

DEBORAH STEPHENS IS GOOD NEIGHBOR FOR MARCH

Michelle Childers appreciates the kindness of her neighbor, Deborah Stephens.

"Deb is always willing to run errands for me and help whoever needs help because she cares," Michelle said.

That's why Michelle nominated Deborah as the Good Neighbor of the Month for March. Some of Deborah's acts of kindness include picking up medication or groceries for Michelle and other neighbors and helping individuals who were temporarily homeless.

The two members have grown to be good friends. Deborah and her family have lived in the cooperative more than 20 years and Michelle, 11 years.

"There's not a day that goes by that we don't talk," Deborah said. "I feel blessed to have Michelle as a neighbor."

Michelle says that Deborah is known for her artistic talents such as floral arranging, home design, painting and sewing.

The Good Neighbor award recognizes members who exemplify the special spirit of cooperation that makes our community a better place for all of us.

The board of directors will recognize Deborah at 6 p.m. during the open session of the March 19 board meeting. As a recipient of the Good Neighbor award, Deborah will receive a \$25 gift card.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 10

It's that time of year again. You'll lose an hour on Sunday, March 10. That's when Daylight Saving Time kicks in. So, set your clocks ahead one hour. For example, if you get up at 6 a.m. on Sunday, move the time up to 7 a.m. You get your hour back on November 3.

NEWSLETTER MINUTES

Board Meeting February 19, 2013

Marilyn Porter, president, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Other board members attending were Sheryl Frank, vice president; 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; and Betsy Kilker, administrative assistant with Linville Management Services, Inc.

The next board meeting is March 19.

Minutes of the January 15 board meeting were approved.

Open Session

Eight members signed in for the open session: Lorie Marler, Jean Hudgens, Bea Parks, Jessie Phillips, Cheryl Cooper, Phyllis Cannon, Christy Stoler and Kathleen Morton.

Marilyn welcomed them and opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.



Lorie Marler receives a \$25 gift card from Martha Ramcke, assistant on-site manager. Lorie was the winner of the door prize drawing at the February meeting.

Mike presented the maintenance superintendent's report. From January 15 to February 19, 103 work orders were called in and 92 completed. Replaced were two refrigerators, one garbage disposal, one kitchen floor, one bathroom floor and one water heater.

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

Alexis gave the office updates. There have been 31 statements of charges due, 19 defaults, two animal violations and six vehicle violations.

Twelve units are for sale. Two are not paying carrying charges.

The floor was opened to member comments.

Lorie Marler won the \$25 gift card in the door prize drawing.

The meeting ended at 6:25 p.m.

Closed Session

Dudley reviewed the attorney status report.

Alexis, Martha and Mike were allowed to leave at 7:20 p.m.

Executive Session

The board convened for an executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Grounds Rules Keep Property Looking Good

Our buildings and streets are looking great, thanks to the renovations.

Now it's time to concentrate on the grounds.

Independence Square rules and regulations are designed to improve the appearance of the property and the safety and quality of life of all of us who live here.

Please help keep our community clutter-free and attractive. Here are some of the rules members have agreed to follow when they signed their occupancy agreements.

Planting: Planting that could cause structural problems or mowing problems will not be approved.

Vines: Vines will not be allowed on the buildings.

Flower beds: Flower beds in front or back yards shall be planted next to the buildings. They shall not extend beyond the stoop approximately fifty-six (56) inches.

They will be sloped away from the building to allow for drainage. Raised flower beds are not allowed.

Any type of edging used must allow for drainage and may not

be taller than six (6) inches.

Yard ornaments: Yard ornaments are to be confined to the flower bed.

Fenced back yards: The member is responsible for fenced back yards. They are to be mowed and kept free of clutter.

Grass should not be more than six (6) inches tall.

If you receive notice from Maintenance to mow your yard, you will have forty-eight (48) hours to do so. If not done in this time period, Maintenance will mow your yard and a \$25 fee will be charged.

Bicycle, tricycles, Big Wheels and toys: When not in use, bicycles, tricycles, Big Wheels and such must be kept inside your unit or in the back yard next to the building.

Toys are to be stored inside the unit when not in use.

Clothes drying: Clotheslines may be installed in the basement. You may install a rotary clothes-drying post in back yards only. No other type of outdoor clothesline is authorized.

When not in use, the rotary post must be stored in the unit.

Decks and Patios: Approved installation/alteration permit is required before any work begins.

Decks: Must not be attached to the townhouse nor obstruct utility meters or wiring. They can be no larger than 12 feet by 12 feet square and are allowed only in the backyard.

Members must understand that if emergency repairs by utility companies and/or maintenance are required, the members are responsible for any costs incurred in removing and/or replacing the deck.

Patios: Are confined to backyards and must be sloped away from the townhouse to allow drainage. No poured concrete and/or asphalt patios will be allowed.

Brick, stone or patio blocks may be used because they are removable in case utility companies and/or maintenance need to make emergency repairs.

Pools/Slip-N-Slides: No swimming or wading pools shall be allowed except plastic wading pools no larger than eight (8) feet in diameter and no more than 12 inches in depth.

Slip-N-Slides are not allowed.

Water Usage: Water is provided for normal use. Summer water usage is limited to filling a wading pool not more than twelve (12) inches deep and watering grass, shrubs and flowers.

Wading pools can be set up only in a fenced backyard and cannot be left in place long enough to kill the grass.

Running a sprinkler for children to play in is prohibited. If water is allowed to run unattended or allowed to run into the street, the member will be charged \$10 for excessive usage.

Washing motor vehicles on cooperative property is prohibited.

Members welcome at all open sessions of board meetings

Open sessions of monthly board meetings begin at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.

The sessions involve the board of directors, the on-site manager, the maintenance superintendent, property manager, cooperative attorney and other corporation advisers.

The sessions are open to all members of Independence Square.

Minutes of open, closed and executive sessions are a record of what is done or decided during a board meeting. Minutes are not a record of what is said.

If you are interested in hearing the complete discussion of an open session, you are encouraged to attend the session.

Yard sale is slated for May

Independence Square's annual yard sale is coming up again in May.

The date for the sale has not yet been set. If you are interested in participating in the yard sale, please let Alexis or Martha know. We need to know if you want a Friday-only sale or a Friday-and-Saturday sale. Please tell us the dates you prefer, too.

Here are some tips to help boost your sales by making buyers feel welcome.

- 1. Get the word out.**
Advertise by word of mouth: tell friends and neighbors.
- 2. Get buyers out of their cars.**
Make merchandise visible from the street. Pennants, streamers, balloons and even clothes for sale fluttering in the breeze help catch a buyer's eye.
- 3. Get them to look at what you've got.**
Presentation is important. Displays need to appear neat,