

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.

# Dates to Remember

## March 2014

Carrying charges due: March 1

Recycled papers picked up: March 5

Daylight saving time begins: March 9

Carrying charges delinquent: March 10

Board meeting: March 18  
Open session at 6 p.m.

Carrying charges sent to the attorney: March 20

## April 2014

Carrying charges due: April 1

Recycled papers picked up: April 2

Carrying charges delinquent: April 10

Board meeting: April 15  
Open session at 6 p.m.

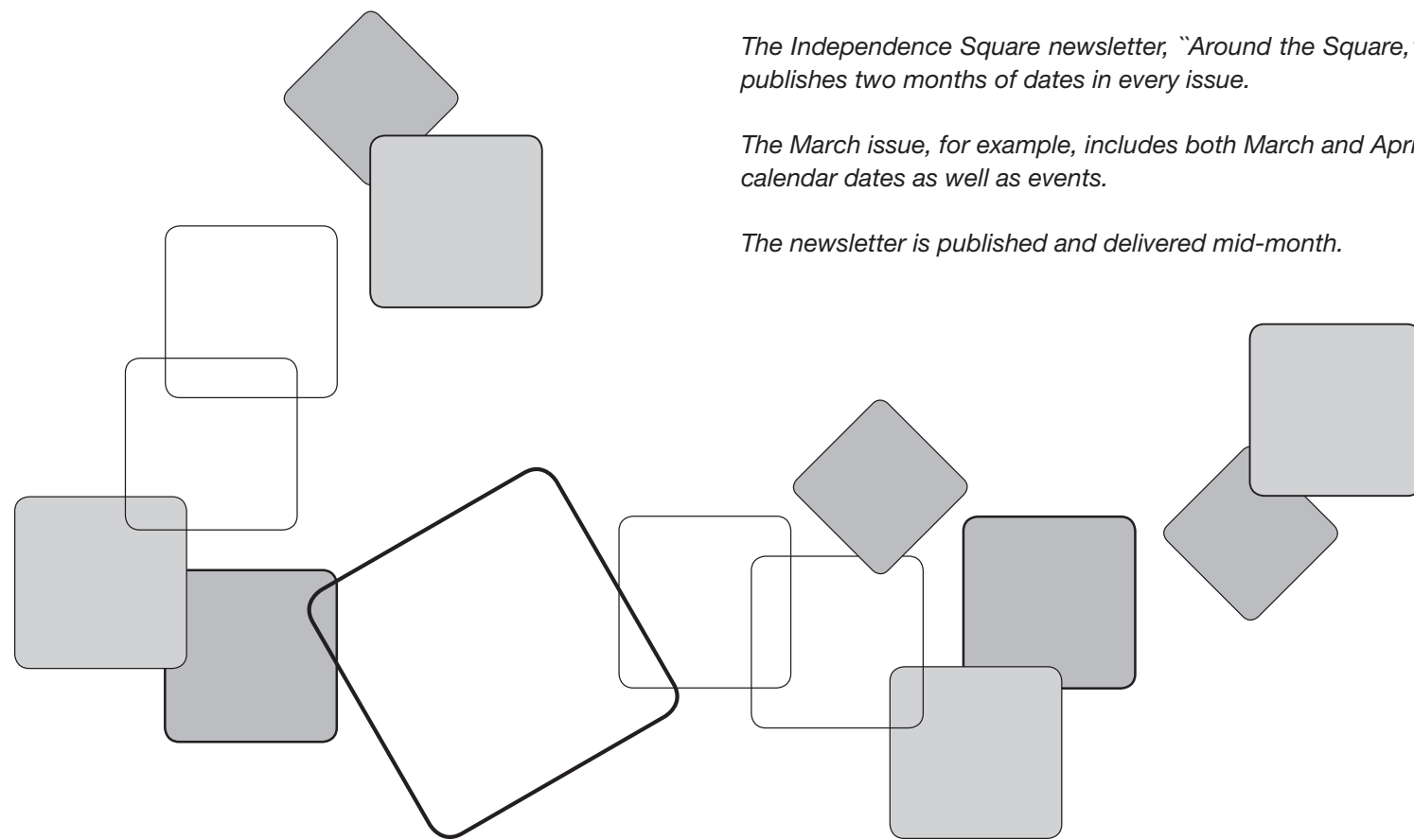
Carrying charges sent to the attorney: April 21

### Please note:

*The Independence Square newsletter, "Around the Square," publishes two months of dates in every issue.*

*The March issue, for example, includes both March and April calendar dates as well as events.*

*The newsletter is published and delivered mid-month.*



MARCH

Around  
the SQUARE

2014

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sheryl Frank  
*president*

Ed Korte  
*vice president*

Ray Gamble  
*secretary-treasurer*

Mike Gamble

Marilyn Porter

### HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Independence Square  
Townhouses office  
816.252.0444

Police (Non-emergency)  
816.325.7300

Police (Emergency)  
911

Signal 88 Security  
816.868.4115

Animal Shelter  
816.621.7722

Animal Control Dispatcher  
816.325.7205

Report Power Outage  
816.325.7550

Regional Animal Shelter  
21001 E. Highway 78  
Independence  
816.621.7722

Hours:  
Noon to 8 p.m. Tues. – Fri.  
11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat. – Sun.

Citizens Information Center  
816.325.7000

## NEWSLETTER MINUTES

February 18, 2014  
Board Meeting

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

Also attending were Alexis Martin, on-site manager; Martha Ramcke, assistant manager; Mike Leach, maintenance superintendent; Melva Linville, property manager with Linville Management Services, Inc.; and Dudley Leonard, cooperative attorney.

The next board meeting is March 18.

Minutes of the February 18 meeting were approved.

### Open Session

Three members signed in: Bea Parks, Jessie Phillips and Joy Layton.

Sheryl welcomed them and called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Mike gave the maintenance report. Royal Lawn Service has submitted a proposal for 2014 which the board will be reviewing.

There have been two move-ins and one move-out since the last meeting. Called in have been 105 work orders and 95 of these have been completed.

Replaced were two kitchen floors, one refrigerator, one range, one garbage disposal, one bath floor and one water heater.

Alexis presented the office updates. Three units are for sale and all are paying carrying charges.

There have been 18 statements of charges due, two attorney referrals, 20 defaults and five vehicle violations. Two move-ins are



*Anya Stone was named a finalist for the Youth of the Year for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City.*

scheduled, one transfer move-in scheduled and two applications are pending.

Ida Rae Conner was announced as the Good Neighbor for February. She was nominated by Abigail Perez. The nomination form Abigail submitted was read aloud and Ida Rae's desire to give the \$25 award gift card for use by the maintenance staff was shared with the members. Mike Leach accepted the gift card on behalf of the maintenance staff.

Sheryl announced that Marilyn Porter has accepted an invitation to fill the vacancy on the board.

Bea Parks won the door prize drawing.

The open session ended at 6:20 p.m.

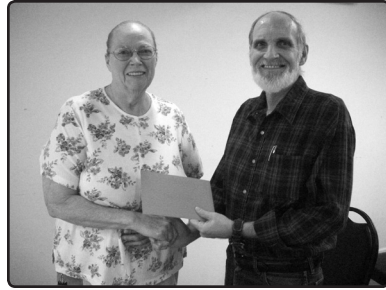
## Annual household hazardous waste disposal slated for April 5

If you need to dispose of paint, pesticides or disinfectants, you can do so free on April 5.

The City of Independence is sponsoring its annual Household Hazardous Waste collection from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 5. The drop-off will be at the large parking lot bordered by Osage, Liberty, Walnut and Kansas streets, one block south of the Independence Square business district.

The drop-off service is free to residents with proof of residency -- a driver's license or a city utility bill.

Chemical-based household products like oven and toilet bowl cleaners and other unwanted, old or unusable household products labeled as flammable, toxic, corrosive or reactive are considered hazardous waste. If such



Ray Gamble, secretary-treasurer of the board of directors, awards the door prize drawing to Bea Park.



Mike Leach, maintenance superintendent, accepts the \$25 Good Neighbor gift card from Ray Gamble. The card was donated to the maintenance staff by Ida Rae Conner, who was the February Good Neighbor of the Month.

products are handled, stored or disposed of improperly, they can be serious health or safety threats.

Products accepted at the drop-off include batteries, paint and aerosol cans, varnish, stripper, thinner, turpentine, fluorescent light bulbs, herbicides, pesticides, sprays, rat poison, weed killers, all automotive fluids, outdated medicines and mercury thermometers.

To find out about a specific product, contact Water Pollution Control at 816.325.7711.

To transport to the site, make sure all lids are on tight. Take the hazardous waste to the drop-off in the original containers, if possible. If containers are leaking, wrap in plastic and pack in larger containers with absorbent material, such as cat litter.

The Independence Police Department will provide a certified ordnance officer to collect and dispose of old or unwanted ammunition, explosives, firearms and fireworks.

The drop-off site will not accept electronics, appliances, trash, yard waste, medical waste, tires, asbestos, radioactive waste, pressurized gas cylinders or commercial waste.

## Tax Preparation

I am available to do income taxes for cooperative members. I have 20 years of tax preparation experience, am a member of Independence Square and can make arrangements to pick up your tax information from you.

Depending on what your tax needs are, the cost may be as low as \$29.

Please call me at 816.805.4588 for more information.

~Bobbie Wensell

## Anya Stone Earns Accolades

Anya Stone, an Independence Square teenager, was selected a Youth of the Year finalist for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Kansas City.

She is one of five finalists from the Leslie location in Independence.

The Youth of the Year program is a leadership development

program that celebrates the remarkable lives of members of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City.

Five finalists who have distinguished themselves by rising above challenges are selected from their unit location. The selection is based on moral character, community involvement, academic achievements and obstacles they have overcome.

## Board to recognize Cora Little

Cora Little is the Good Neighbor of the Month for March

She was nominated by Debra Malone who described Cora as "always helping others by mowing and raking yards all summer long."

Debra said Cora helps two mothers in the cooperative who work full time by doing the yardwork and making the townhouses look tidy and neat.

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 Cora at 6 p.m. during the open session of the March 18 board meeting. As a recipient of the Good Neighbor of the Month award, she will receive a \$25 gift card.

## 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

*Continued on next page.*