

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 Phone numbers will not be published in the newsletter.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?

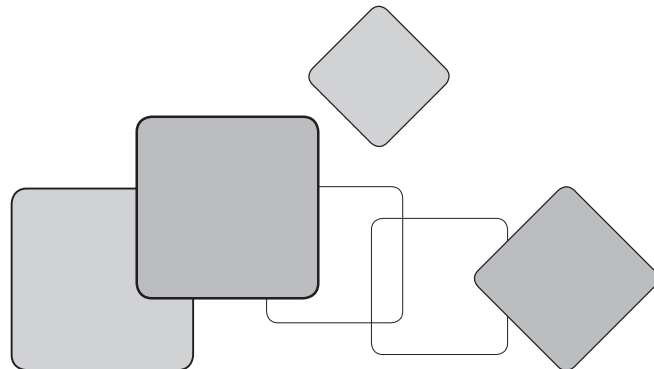
How long has he or she lived in Independence Square?

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



MAY

Around
the SQUARE

2 0 1 5

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Korte
president

Sheryl Frank
vice president

Mike Gamble
secretary-treasurer

William Bather

Debbie Malone

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

April 21, 2015
Board Meeting

Ed Korte, president, called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. Also present were Sheryl Frank, vice president; Mike Gamble, secretary-treasurer; Alexis Martin, on-site manager; Martha Ramcke, assistant on-site manager; Mike Leach, maintenance superintendent; Dudley Leonard, cooperative attorney; and Carmen Detherage, comptroller, and Betsy Kilker, administrative assistant, with Linville Management Services, Inc.

The next board meeting is May 19.

Minutes of the March 17 board meeting were approved.

Open Session

Twelve members signed in. Ed welcomed them and called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Mike gave the maintenance superintendent's report.

Annual inspections continue. Grounds are being seeded throughout the property. Water meter boxes outside buildings 14 and 15 are being cleaned out so readings can be taken.

Replacements from March 17 to April 21 were two refrigerators, one range, one garbage disposal, one kitchen faucet, one bath faucet, two kitchen floors, two bath floors and one bath sink.

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

Of 115 work orders called in, 102 have been completed.

Alexis gave the office report.

There have been 20 statements of charges due, one attorney referral, 18 letters of default and two vehicle violations.

Eleven units are for sale; of these, four are not paying carrying charges.

The Spring Yard Sale will be Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16. Rain dates are Friday, May 22, and Saturday, May 23.

Michael Mahan, who was unable to attend, was recognized as the Good Neighbor of the Month for April. Ed acknowledged Mahan's consistent efforts at keeping the property clean.

Aurora Subang and Katherine Rodriguez were recognized with referral bonuses of \$200 each. Both referred qualifying new members.

Ed opened the floor to member comments.

Cora Little won the door prize drawing, a \$25 QuikTrip card.

The open session ended at 6:25 p.m.

Dates to Remember

May 2015

Carrying charges due: May 1

Recycled papers picked up: May 6

Carrying charges delinquent: May 11

Board meeting: May 19
Open session at 6 p.m.

Carrying charges sent to attorney: May 21

Memorial Day observed: May 25
Office closed

June 2015

Carrying charges due: June 1

Recycled papers picked up: June 3

Carrying charges delinquent: June 10

Board meeting: June 16
Open session at 6 p.m.

Carrying charges sent to attorney: June 22

Please note:

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

The February issue, for example, includes both May and June calendar dates as well as events.

The newsletter is published and delivered mid-month.

New Grounds Rule Approved

At the March meeting, the board approved an addition to the House and Grounds rules.

The new rules requires members who want to install a patio or deck to have a fenced backyard.

Here are the other yard rules.

From the Rule Book

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 \$50 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.

Late fee policy in effect

The board voted to formalize the cooperative's policy on late fees at the March meeting.

Effective May 1, the official policy now states: "A late fee will be enforced on all carrying charges balances regardless of the amount."

The board also reviewed the Work Order Payment Arrangements policy and voted to raise the chargeable maximum amount to \$300 from \$200.

Referral rewards available for members

Members are reminded that a \$200 referral bonus will be paid when a member of the cooperative refers a qualifying new member.

The referral should be mentioned at the time of application.

The referring member will receive \$200 after the applicant moves in to Independence Square Townhouses, Inc.

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.

Yard Sale Slated for May 15 and 16

Look for bargains throughout the cooperative on Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16.

That's the date for the annual cooperative yard sale.

Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Rain dates are May 22 and 23.

