

Items that you can't take with you should be locked in the trunk.

If you can't take your valuables with you when you leave your car, at least lock them in the trunk where they are more difficult to find and steal.

Don't leave your vehicle unoccupied with the keys in it.

Don't do this even for a moment. Why make it that easy for a criminal to drive off with your car?

This is especially true at convenience stores or with children in the car.

If you have an anti-theft device for your vehicle . . . use it.

If you have a car alarm, set it. If you have a steering wheel "club," lock it in place correctly.

Make sure the license plates on your car are properly secured.

Make it difficult to remove your license plate by securing it tightly.

When your year sticker is in place, run a razor blade across it several times to make it more difficult to remove in one piece.

At night, park in well-lighted areas.

Not only will this deter thieves from stealing your car but you also will be safer when you return to your vehicle.

Report all incidents as quickly as possible.

If you don't report a crime, the police won't know there is a problem.

~ National Crime Prevention Council

From the Rule Book

Trash

Plastic bags are to be used for all trash deposited in the dumpsters.

Any trash found outside the dumpster will be cleaned up by maintenance and the member responsible for the trash will be charged \$15.

Hazardous materials shall not be placed in the dumpsters: tires, batteries, Freon, paint, paint thinner and oil. Members must arrange for and pay for legal disposal of such items.

Trash is picked up on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Cardboard containers and newspapers must be cut, bundled and tied flat.

Newspapers must be stacked and tied and can be recycled. Maintenance will pick papers up from members' front steps on the first Wednesday of every month.

Items too large to be placed in the dumpsters such as old furniture, wooden crates and mattresses require special handling and the site manager's office must be called for instructions and fees.

Trash dumpsters are the property of the trash service company. They are not for children to play in or around.

Please make sure you use trash bags for candy wrappers, bones, egg shells, fast-food containers and any food you are throwing away. These need to be placed inside the dumpster and the dumpster lid closed.

Food left lying around the dumpster attracts rodents, roaches and other pests and can be dangerous to pets.

Wagging good time awaits little dogs

Every dog has his day.

And at Independence Square Townhouses, they even have their own Doggie Play Day.

**6 to 7 p.m. • Tuesday, September 11
Independence Square Main Playground**

Doggie Play Day is for dogs weighing 20 pounds or less.

Dogs can frolic off leash under owner supervision. Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.

No aggressive dogs, please. All dogs must have current rabies vaccinations.

Dates to Remember

September

Carrying charges due: September 1

Labor Day observed: September 3
Office closed

Recycled papers picked up: September 5

Carrying charges delinquent: September 10

Doggie Play Day: September 11
6 to 7 p.m. for dogs of
20 pounds or less

Annual Membership Meeting: September 19

Board election at 7 p.m.

Accounts sent to attorney: September 20

October

Carrying charges due: October 1

Recycled papers picked up: October 3

Carrying charges delinquent: October 10

Board Meeting: October 16
Open session at 6 p.m.

Accounts sent to attorney: October 22

SEPTEMBER

Around
the SQUARE

2012

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



Sheryl Frank, board vice president, awards a \$25 gift card to Bea Parks, winner of the August door prize drawing.

Bea asked that her gift card be given to Michael Benz at the September annual meeting in appreciation of Michael's crime-stopping efforts in the cooperative.

ANNUAL MEETING SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 19

Members of Independence Square will vote to fill four positions on the board of directors at this year's annual meeting.

The meeting will be at the clubhouse. Sign-in begins at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday in September, the 19th.

Door prizes will be awarded: first place of \$50, second place of \$30 and third place of \$20. Michael Benz will be recognized during the meeting for stopping a thief.

Only members in good standing can vote. Any member with an unpaid balance of more than 30 days cannot vote. If you cannot attend, you may vote by proxy.

Members voting by proxy must appoint another member in good standing to vote on their behalf. No attending member may cast more than his or her vote plus one proxy vote.

OBSERVANT MEMBER THWARTS THIEF, ASSISTS POLICE

Michael Benz helped stop crime in our community in August.

Michael saw a man entering unlocked cars on the property. Michael followed him on foot and alerted neighbors to call the police.

Independence police apprehended and arrested the thief and thanked Michael for his assistance. They told him that the man was wanted for multiple felonies.

Services for hire

Housekeeping help

Can you use some help with housework? Are you disabled or the caregiver for a disabled person? Do you need a break?

Call Joy at 816.372.1974. I have 22 years of experience as a home health aide, with special training for Alzheimer's. I can provide companionship, light housework, personal care and specialized meals anytime, day or night. References available.

NEWSLETTER MINUTES

Board Meeting August 21, 2012

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

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

The next meeting is the annual meeting on Wednesday, September 19.

Minutes of the July 17 board meeting were approved.

Open Session

Seven members signed in for the open session at 6 p.m. They were Phyllis Cannon, Cheryl Cooper, Frank Scheuring, Bea Parks, Jessie Phillips, Jean Hudgens and Chelle Marler.

Sheryl welcomed them and called the open session to order.

Mike presented the maintenance report. From July 17 to August 21, 126 work orders were called in and 115 completed.

Replaced were two water heaters, one kitchen floor, one bath floor and one refrigerator.

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

The air conditioning unit cleaning has been completed and yard inspections are under way.

Alexis gave the office updates. There have been 47 statements of charges due, four attorney referrals, 16 defaults, two animal violations and eight vehicle violations.

Thirteen units are for sale. One is not paying carrying charges. Three applications are pending and four move-ins are scheduled.

J.P. Corbett was acknowledged as the Good Neighbor of the Month for August.

Sheryl opened the floor to member comments. Using the club room for twice-monthly member get-togethers was discussed.

Trash and animal waste littering the grounds were discussed.

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

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

Closed Session

The board discussed the annual meeting in September.

The board voted unanimously to accept a bid of \$7,300 from Darel D. Kyle to perform the audit on the cooperative.

Dudley discussed the attorney status report.

The board voted unanimously to replace a retaining wall in front of units 1211 - 1221 with stone blocks at a cost of \$1,500. The maintenance crew will do the installation.

The board reviewed the revised pet permit and made corrections and changes. These paragraphs will replace the explanation on page two:

"Violations of this permit will result in receiving a 10-day notice to comply.

"If the violation is not remedied, a second notice will be sent. If the violation is still not remedied, the pet permit will be revoked and the pet must be removed from the property."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Running for re-election: Ed Korte

I am seeking another term as a member of the board of directors of Independence Square Townhouses, Inc., because

I want to help keep our housing cooperative prosperous while providing a safe and well-maintained place for members to live.

I am asking for your vote during the Annual Membership Meeting on Wednesday, September 19.

I was elected to a three-year term on the board in 2009 and I currently serve as chairman and photographer for our "Around the Square" monthly newsletter.

In April of 2010, I was chosen as a Good Neighbor of the Month.

During the three years that I have served, I have worked with the other board members

- to support our affordable housing mission at all levels
- to encourage member participation in cooperative activities and open sessions of board meetings
- to obtain refinancing for repairs and upgrades to Independence Square Townhouses
- to approve renovations that improved individuals units of all members and the entire property.

I am retired and have the time and interest to give board responsibilities the attention they deserve and to give all decisions affecting the cooperative thoughtful consideration.

Your vote is important to me. Please attend the annual meeting and re-elect me to another term.

Michael Gamble for Board of Directors

My name is Michael Gamble, and I live in unit 1430.

I have lived in Independence Square for over 20 years and would like to serve on the Board of Directors.

In my many years of living in this great community, I have seen a lot of changes, both by structure and by management. I have seen our community grow and I want to be part of making Independence Square an even better place to live.

I currently am in the nursing industry where I get to use my passion of caring for other people. Also, if you have seen me around the Square, you might have seen me with my faithful companion, my dog Lucy, who is an Australian collie mix. She loves her home just as much as I do.

I was appointed a board member last year and look forward to working with the other board members and the members

of the community again if I am elected to make the place where we live the best we can make it. Independence Square is a place we can call home and we should be proud of living here. Thank you for your consideration.

Ray Gamble for Board of Directors

My name is Ray Gamble and my seat is up for election for the Board of Directors here at Independence Square Townhouses.

I have been serving on the board since 2004 and am currently secretary-treasurer of the board. I would like to serve another term with your help. I have lived here since 1985 and want to keep this a decent and affordable place to live.

I hope each and every one of you will put forth the effort to be at the annual membership meeting in September and cast your vote. We all need to work together on this and the board needs all the input from the members it can get if we are to continue improving the cooperative.

Thank you all for your involvement and, hopefully, your vote.

Anti-theft tips for Vehicles

Thefts from motor vehicles generally occur when criminals drive or walk through areas looking for vehicles that are unlocked or have objects left in view.

It only takes a few seconds for a thief to break into your vehicle.

By taking a few simple precautions, you can take away the criminal's opportunity to make you a victim of this crime.

Always lock your vehicle with the windows rolled up.

The harder it is for a thief to get into your car, the more likely the thief will move on to the next car.

Almost half of the thefts from inside motor vehicles involve a vehicle that was left unlocked.

Don't leave anything of value inside the vehicle in plain sight.

This includes cell phones, radios, briefcases, purses, packages, compact disks and other valuables.

They should not be left in your car period. But if they are, they shouldn't be in view.