

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

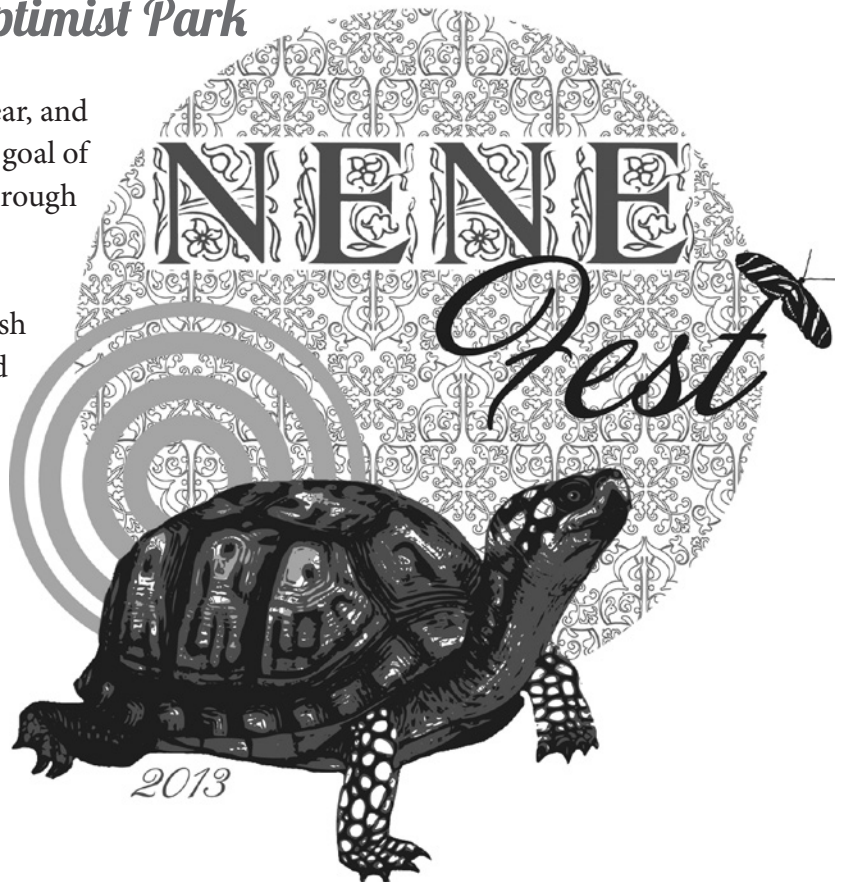
2013

Spring Newsletter

5th Annual Nenefest 2013: April 27th from 3 to 9pm at Optimist Park

We have some exciting plans for Nenefest this year, and we need your energy, excitement and ideas! The goal of the Fest is to create experiences of community through the celebration of local culture and music.

FOOD: New Leaf Market will cater a main dish (with a meat, vegetarian, and vegan option), and neighbors will donate side salads and bread. We will sell a plate with lasagna, sides and bread and the proceeds will go back to the neighborhood association for future Fests and other events. We will also separately sell neighbor-made single servings of dessert. We will serve food from 5 to 8pm.



Nene Fest 2013 t-shirt design, featuring the box turtle, designed by Charity Myers, The Creative Pool Design

CALENDAR

2nd Sunday of Each Month, Potluck in the Park

Optimist Park, 4:30 p.m. In addition to the potluck dish to share, please bring your own utensils and perhaps a chair or blanket for sitting and visiting. **March 10th Potluck will include bouncehouse for the kids starting at 4:00 pm**

Saturday, April 27: Nene Fest, 3-9 p.m., Optimist Park

Saturday, April 20: Neighborhood Yard Sale, Optimist Park

Thursday, July 4: Bike Parade, meet at Optimist Park

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5th Annual Nenefest 2013:

April 27th from 3 to 9pm at Optimist Park

(continued from page 1)

Here's what we need:

Side Salads and Bread: We are looking for people to make and donate side salads of about 20 portions or a couple of loaves of bread. Everyone really appreciated your wonderful homemade sides last year! Please contact Wendy as soon as possible at yashimaluathotmail.com if you're interested.

Desserts: If you can donate a dozen or more single-servings of sweet treats (with proceeds funding neighborhood projects) please contact Connie at cbbersokatnettally.com.



Servers: We need volunteers for one-hour shifts from 5 to 8 pm to serve food! Please contact Wendy as soon as possible at yashimaluathotmail.com.

Paper Goods Coordinator: We need someone who can organize existing inventory, buy more, and take it to the Fest. Please contact Wendy at yashimaluathotmail.com.

T-SHIRTS: The popular Nenefest t-shirts will return! Our neighborhood artist Charity Myers has created the new t-shirt design featured on page 1. Shirts and posters will be sold at the Fest on a first-come-first-served basis. We need volunteers to take a shift selling shirts. Please contact Patty if you can help: cecisharpatembarqmail.com.

MUSIC: We will have stages and neighborhood musicians once again! If you are a neighbor who is interested in performing at this year's Nenefest on April 27 contact Richard Bertram at bertram63atgmail.com.

Slots fill up quickly, so let him know by April 1st and he'll try to fit everyone in. We encourage new musicians as well as seasoned professionals to play!

If you are interested in MC'ing the stage (even for an hour long shift), contact Richard at bertram63atgmail.com. Being an MC would involve announcing bands and reminding people about scheduled events during the fest.

We'd like to have a first annual Nene Kids Band that will perform at the Fest! We want to form a children's band with guitars, fiddles, mandolins, hand drums, harmonicas, banjos and singers -- and have some adults teach each group how to play or sing a few simple songs. Kids and adults who are proficient with the instrument can help kids who are just learning. All levels of experience are welcome. Have a kid aged 5-17 who is interested? Are you an adult musician who would like to help kids learn a few songs? Please contact Daphne by March 15th at daphne.holdenatcomcast.net.

ACTIVITIES: We have some great ideas for activities already, including tie-dying Nenefest or other shirts, and need more. If you have something you'd like to do and want to be on the schedule, please contact Daphne at daphne.holdenatcomcast.net.

NEIGHBORHOOD ART, CRAFT AND BUSINESS SHOWCASE: We want neighbors to set up tables and booths where they can sell their hand-made art or crafts or let others know about their businesses. Please do not sell individual portions, as this may interfere with our plans to sell food to support neighborhood events (including the Fest itself). Rather, if you are a baker, chef, or food producer, please sell whole loaves of bread, whole pies, jars of honey, or other food that people may buy to take home. You will need to provide your own table or booth and materials and let us know your plans by April 1st. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Kevin Hattaway at kevin.hattawayatcomcast.net.

(Nenefest article continues on page 3→)

5th Annual Nene Fest 2013: April 27th from 3 to 9pm at Optimist Park

PUPPET SHOW: If you're interested in being part of a puppet show collaborative (brainstorming the script, creating giant puppets, being part of the band, stage managing) please contact Doug at dpschrockatcomcast.net.

OTHER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Stage set up coordinator and stage set up crew:

The coordinator will need to plan how to set up the stage so that bands have shade. Being part of the crew requires getting out to Optimist Park the morning of the festival and helping. We will need people with long ladders and trucks. Contact Grant if interested at grant.gelhardt@gmail.com.

Break down and garbage crew: Coordinate getting enough trash containers and stay after the fest has ended and break down the stages, and pick up trash and recycling. Contact Grant if interested at grant.gelhardt@gmail.com



Meany Nene, 2010 Nene Fest

Nene Fest photos courtesy of Ansje Burdick

Membership Renewals - Treasurer's Update

Your Board sends a big thank you to all our neighbors who have renewed their *Indianhead - Lehigh Neighborhood Association* membership this year. Please know that your support is greatly appreciated! You still have time to renew or join if you haven't done so already.

Send your support to: Patty Ceci Sharp
IHLNA Treasurer
2002 Walahaw Nene
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Resident: \$10
20 years+ Resident: \$5

Lost form? No worries – just make sure we have your street address. We like to have the renewals in by April 1, this year, but we will accept your support anytime!

The full treasurer's report will be published in our fall 2013 newsletter. Contact Patty at: cecisharpatembarqmail.com with any questions.

You can also renew via PayPal! Go to IHLNA.ORG for the Link or scan this QR code with your smart phone.



Call the Cops on Coral Ardisia

by Susan Cerulean

If you saw me on my hands and knees in the backyard of our home on Hasosaw Nene, you would either applaud my second childhood, or call me crazy. Branchlets of azalea bushes tangle in my hair, and even my cat wonders why I am crawling under the shrub border where he likes to hide.

But I have a purpose: I stalk the invasive Coral ardisia. It's not as exciting as hunting pythons in the Everglades, but it's the same concept. Many, many non-native plants and animals are disrupting our beautiful planet, by finding places they can outcompete the finely-tuned local flora and fauna.

Coral ardisia is also sometimes called Christmas Berry, a horticultural name that could lull us into believing it is not a plant out of place. This small upright shrub, with its scalloped, waxy leaves and persistent clusters of shiny red berries is easy to spot, but don't confuse it with Nandina.



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Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

Ardisia (imported from Japan) has infiltrated nearly every yard in Indianhead. They have choked the downhill slopes along Koucky Creek, and if you really want to see a horror, take the boardwalk to Blairstone Forest from Mountbatten, where an Ardisia monoculture strangles a once-lovely wetland.

So many of these plants have grown up under our back hedge, that I have to pace myself to ever imagine actually freeing the ground so that ferns, trillium or columbines can resume their rightful places in the shady understory. But I am a writer working at home, and I have come up with a strategy to fight. Once a day, I take a break from the computer and go out back and pull 10-20 Ardisia plants. It takes only five or 10 minutes. The small plants pull out easily by hand; the larger ones, I loosen with a borrower's spade first. You got to get out the roots. I put the berries right into the trash; but we've learned that the plants burn well in the small fire pit in our backyard. My plan is to free our yard of this particular invasive exotic plant before the mosquitoes return this spring.

If you don't have the time or interest to be a full-fledged Ardisia cop, here's an easy way you can help. Carry a small plastic bag and a little pair of scissors when you walk around the neighborhood. Clip off the clusters of the berries, stuff them into your plastic bag, and put them in your trash. If the plants are growing on private property, you'll have to ask permission, but if they're on the public right-of-way, go ahead and stop those invasives from reproducing.

Next, I'm going to take on the air-potato!

To see pictures of Coral Ardisia, or learn more about its bad habits, check out this website: plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/42 OR use your smart phone to scan this QR code.





Hi y'all! This is Emma Hanley speaking! Maybe ya know me or maybe ya don't. Anyhow, y'all know my name now and I go to Hartsfield Elementary and call Indianhead home. But this year, everything is different...

Guten Tag! Ich bin Emma Hanley und... Never mind. For all of you that didn't recognize that language, it is called German or in German: Deutsch. For all of you that don't know what or where Germany aka Deutschland is, it is a little country plop right in the middle of Europe where I am not supposed to be. And y'all know where I'm supposed to be. But since I'm here, I might as well tell y'all a bit about it.

The capital of Germany is Berlin, the city where my family and I are living for 10 months. But don't think that I am here on vacation. I am going to a German public school in my neighborhood called Grundschule am Rüdeshheimer Platz, and I can tell you, the schools here are very different from the schools in the Sunshine State. Here we start the school day at 8 am and classes end at 1:30 pm. During that time we have two recess periods of thirty minutes each. While quizzes are common, I haven't yet been subjected to any standardized testing. Walking in a straight silent line is strictly forbidden and you can't count on your teachers to bring you to your next class. Apparently, because we have already gotten our wiggles out, we are to be trusted in the corridors.

The school is only 300 meters away from our apartment, that's 0.2 miles, about the distance from Vertigo to Video 21/Craig's. My walk to school in Tallahassee is five times longer and also five times more beautiful than here. However, one bonus here is that on my way home I can stop by the bakery from time to time and buy a delicious pastry. Many students walk to school on their own, like me. Kids who live further get to school by bike.

We also have bikes and ride them whenever it is too far to walk and too close to waste a bus or metro ticket. Riding here is really easy; Berlin is quite flat, most streets have bike lanes, and everyone rides, from toddlers on kick-bikes to senior citizens on trikes carrying their walking canes on their luggage rack. Even mail is delivered by bike, whatever the weather.

With a population of over 3 million people, Berlin is a much bigger city than Tallahassee. To have room for so many, most people live in small apartments with shared courtyards. But some people also rent little areas of communal land in order to garden.

Even though I am very lucky and glad to be here, I really miss Indianhead. Most of all, I miss my friends, my school, Optimist Park and the nature all around us.

So see y'all at the end of the summer!

Optimist Enhancements

Have you visited the park lately? The City resurfaced the basketball court and installed a shower by the volleyball courts. The neighborhood association has been lobbying the city's Parks and Recreation Department for several years, asking for enhancements. In addition to the court and the shower, they told us that they will install several new pieces of playground equipment.

Many thanks to Chris Lisenby, from the Parks and Recreation Department, and Andrea Griffin, Neighborhood Services Coordinator. If you have a minute, please send them an email and thank them for their continued efforts to make Indianhead/Lehigh the best place to live in Tallahassee.

Christopher.Lisenbyattalgov.com Andrea.Griffinattalgov.com

If you have ideas for future park enhancements, please contact Sandy Neidert at **sandylincolnatcomcast.net**.

Crime Watch/Safety Update

In this Crime Watch/Safety Update:

- **October 22 meeting with TPD**
- **Summer and Fall 2012 recap**
- **Summary of TPD advice**

The Tallahassee Police Department sent Community Relations Officer Cleveland Allen Jr. and Sergeant Artemus Shepherd to meet with neighbors on Monday October 22, 2012. In case you missed it, this was the night we broke the fence at Optimist Park because we had such a big crowd gathered. TPD characterized the Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood crime events of summer 2012 as a notable spike in crimes of opportunity – home and auto burglaries. TPD explained that every week they review call volume, trends and spikes and in coordination with other agencies such as the Leon County Sheriff's Office, and shift resources accordingly. From October 1 – December 31, 2012, 80 calls to TPD were made by Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood residents. Over half were about suspicious people, incidents or vehicles. 13 were to report burglaries of homes or vehicles. As of late January, no arrests had been made on any of the burglaries.

According to TPD, our job is to "harden our homes" to reduce opportunity. TPD provided the Home Security Checklist that is enclosed in this newsletter and recommended that residents make the listed improvements to their homes, property and day to day habits.

ILNHA also asks that you please:

- Program your phones with TPD's non-emergency number 891-4200 and call to request that they check out a suspicious person, incident or vehicle.
- Join our private Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood group on Facebook for fast updates from your neighbors on incidents and the latest advice and information from TPD/LSCO.
- If you are a victim of a crime, call and report it.
- If you see a suspicious person, incident or vehicle, call and report it.



OFFICERS OF IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt	grant.gelhardt@gmail.com	At-Large: Sandra Neidert	656-7894
Treasurer: Patty Ceci Sharp	309-0260	At-Large: Tony Biblo	656-2528
At-Large: Mary Louise Bachman	877-6344	At-Large: Connie Bersok	942-7904
At-Large: Cyndy Brantley	656-7445	At-Large: Mike Murphree	219-1223
At-Large: Daphne Holden	459-1138	At-Large: Edward Reid	edwardatpaleo.org

2012 Indian Head/Lehigh Real Estate Report

by Terry Anne Kant, Realtor-Broker and 22 year resident of Indian Head

FOR SALE



Information below is believed to be true but not warranted and based on data from the Tallahassee Board of Realtors listing service: Capital Area Technology and Realtor Services. Almost all neighborhood sales were on this listing service.

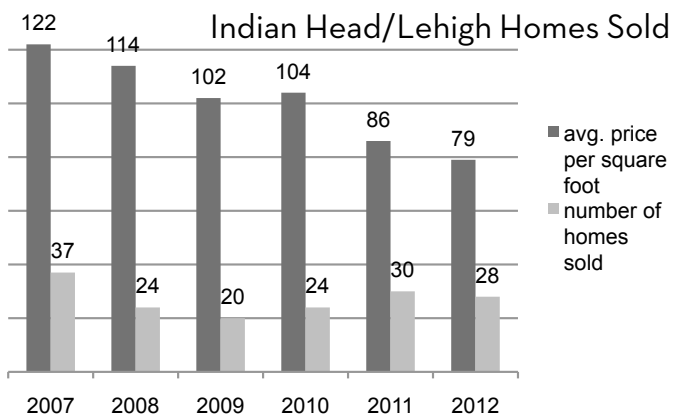
- **28 homes were sold in 2012 in Indian Head and Lehigh.** Of those, eight (29%) were either short sales (where the current market value of the house is less than what is owed on it and banks and sellers agree to take a loss), bank owned (where it has been foreclosed on and the bank can make a direct sale) or distressed sale (owner circumstances cause a property to go on sale for under current regular market value for area). Most of the homes in these categories are in need of repairs and/or are in bad condition.
- **The average price for sale per sq footage was \$79, with a range of \$33 to \$134 per square foot.** For the eight homes that were short sales, bank owned or distressed, the average per square foot was \$65, while the average for other homes sold was \$90 (with a wide range in this category).
- **Sold prices ranged from \$34,500-\$150,000.** Again, a wide range for one neighborhood.
- **The average days on market to sell a property was 110 days, with another wide range of 2-447 days.**
- **Currently there are only nine active listings, with six under contract. More than half are short sales or lender owned.**

What does all this mean for the value of your home? If you had a 1,200 square foot home in our neighborhood, its current "value" may be somewhere between \$74,000 and \$158,400. We do not have any uniformity in pricing for Indian Head and Lehigh due to such variety in homes, styles and conditions. So while this information may provide some guidelines, pricing a home to sell or buy in our neighborhood is tricky.

How do Indian Head/ Lehigh homes compare to others? For Tallahassee, during this same period, ~32% of closed sales were short sales or lender owned, all of the SE quadrant was ~36%, and Indian Head/Lehigh was ~29%. The City average sold price was 51.85 per square foot and 140 days on market. Indian Head/Lehigh is faring better on average than the southeastern quadrant and Tallahassee as a whole.

Because there are few homes for sale right now (nine) as compared to last year (usually closer to 20 available at any given time), this tends to bode well for sellers. Whenever inventory is down, and interest in a neighborhood is high (generally go hand in hand), prices tend to start increasing, especially on well-maintained homes. Of course, the time of year can be a factor and we do expect more homes to start coming on the market as we approach Spring and Summer.

While the graph doesn't seem to reflect much improvement, it does reflect some stabilization, and the hope is that as the problem properties diminish, our overall neighborhood values will increase.



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Yoga for Creative Inspiration!

by Ellen Shapiro, co-owner of Namaste Yoga,
1369 East Lafayette Street

There are many proven physical and mental benefits of yoga, such as reducing stress and improving a wide variety of health conditions. Another amazing benefit of yoga is- creative inspiration! We all have ways we express ourselves creatively every day, such as in gardening, cooking, mentoring, and performing the tasks of our jobs as workers, householders, and parents. Yoga practice helps foster our creativity by bringing us into the present moment, connecting us with our hearts and bodies and getting us out of our heads, and calming us so that deeper, more soulful aspects of our inner selves can manifest.

Recent research on creativity found that in those who got a flash of creative insight, the brain was cutting out other sensory input to allow the answer to emerge from the subconscious. Yoga practice creates these very changes in the body/mind through simple and easy-to-learn breathing and posture techniques. Whatever your fitness level and current physical challenges, give yoga a try, and watch your flexibility, balance, strength, endurance and creativity grow!

Nene Time Warp

by Charity Myers

In a recent search of the Florida Memory Collection, I discovered this lovely photo of children playing in our very own, Indianhead Acres. With the warm winter we've had so far this year, it's tough to imagine that our hood was blanketed in so much snow!

The Florida Memory Collection is a part of the State Archives of Florida. You can view an extensive amount of their collection online at floridamemory.com.

Children enjoying a day of snow in the Indian Head Acres neighborhood - Tallahassee, Florida, 1957 or 1958



Photo and caption courtesy of the State Archives of Florida

Seventh Annual 4th of July Bike Parade

Meet at Optimist Park clubhouse on Thursday, the 4th of July at 9 am to decorate your bike, or you can bring your bike already decorated. Once the bikes are decorated, we will go on a bike ride/parade in the neighborhood, then return to the clubhouse for a pot-luck brunch and play time on a water slide. The neighborhood association will provide decorations and drinks; you provide your bike, cover-dish for the potluck brunch, and the fun. If you don't feel like riding – then please come as a spectator and enjoy hanging out with your neighbors. This is for the young and the old and all those in between!

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Neighborhood Signs-Coming Soon!

Everyone wants to feel good when they arrive home and folks should feel welcome as they enter our unique neighborhood. With this in mind, the Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood association is in the process of creating signs to be placed at selected entrances of the neighborhood. As small visual markers in keeping with our neighborhood character, these signs will add to the overall aesthetics and identify our neighborhood, as well as reinforce our sense of identity and pride.

We will ask you, the residents of Nene Land, to vote for your favorite design idea for the signs at Nene Fest 2013.

*Look for the special display
at Nene Fest on April 27th!
& vote for your favorite sign.*

Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

Exterior Doors

Yes No

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house—even if it’s just for a few minutes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Garage and Sliding Door Security

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The sliding glass door has a strong, working key locks. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A dowel or a pin to secure a glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Protecting Windows

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outdoor Security

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

continues →

HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST (continued)

Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination. ☐ ☐

Outdoor lights are on in the evening—whether someone is at home or not or a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed. ☐ ☐

Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly. ☐ ☐

Security When Away From Home

Yes No

At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence, when we are away from home for an extended time period. ☐ ☐

The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home. ☐ ☐

Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time. ☐ ☐

A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away. ☐ ☐

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property

Yes No

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security, laminated padlocks. ☐ ☐

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use. ☐ ☐

Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point. ☐ ☐

Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain. ☐ ☐

Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute. ☐ ☐

Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks. ☐ ☐

Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying number approved by local police. ☐ ☐

Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house. ☐ ☐