

COMMUNITY INSIDER

Volume 1 Issue 17

Winter 2026

Editor's Welcome

Happy New Year!

The holidays are over and it's the beginning of a new year. This is a great time to refresh, reflect, reset, and try something new. Maybe start a new exercise routine or try a new hobby or practice mindfulness and try to unplug more. Perhaps you'll clean and refresh your space and start the year with a literal clean slate.

Whatever you choose to do I hope you take time to enjoy the winter season and all it has to offer and to reflect on the year just past. (And for those like me who don't like winter, remember that it doesn't last forever.)



Even in Winter there is a hint of spring

Melissa Pappas
Editor

Mark Your Calendar

Presidents Council: January 26th, February 23rd, March 23rd at 10:00AM

Computer Team: January 22nd, February 26th, March 26th at 1:00PM



Let there be light in the darkest time of the year.

President Council Contact Information

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Website:

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Important Numbers

Maintenance Work Order: 298-4413

Emergency Maintenance: 227-9919

Police non-emergency: 292-1111

Noses are red, fingers are blue. I'm tired of winter, how about you?"- Unknown

Hi-Rise Happenings

Seal Community Meal:

On January 10th the Saint Anthony Park Community Council hosted the annual Winter Warm-up Community Meal at Seal Hi-Rise.



Food was provided by several neighborhood restaurants. (Herbst Eatery and Farm Stand, Lanna Thai, Colossal Café), along with food and drinks provided by the SAPCC.





There was live music and several raffle drawings. The big prize was a gift card donated by Hampden Park Co-op.

There was also a getting to know you bingo game and know your rights “Red cards” available for anyone who was interested in one.



All attendees had a very pleasant time. The next big event that SAPCC will be doing at Seal will be a National Night Out get together in collaboration with the neighboring townhome community.

Just for Laughs



Computer Corner

Happy 2026!

This issue I would like to address a few things I’ve notices/heard about when going out to hi-rises.

The first is turning off computers. Expectations for this can vary by hi-rise but the general best practice is to always leave computers on and just to log out or restart them when you are finished using them. Leaving computers on allows updates to be installed overnight and can prolong the life of the hard drive and other components.

The next issue is a two part one. The first is guests using the computers. As stated in the Computer Use Protocol that should be posted in your computer area, guests are not allowed to use the hi-rise computers. This applies to both children and adults. It also applies during community room rentals. (Room rentals generally only allow use of the community room space and not library/ computer room areas.) That brings me to the second part of this issue; children/those under 18 using the computers.

According to the posted rules, children are also not supposed to be using the computers. A possible exception can be made if the young people are residents of that hi-rise. In that case, they may use the computers for things like schoolwork as long as a parent or adult guardian is with them while they are doing so. Children should not be unattended in hi-rise computer areas.

The final thing is just a reminder to be sure that computers and monitors are secured with locks and that the computer areas are cleaned and checked regularly. I have noticed things like missing mice and keyboards and even thefts of things like

monitors lately. Missing equipment should be reported to management along with any information you have on the last date and time you saw the missing equipment there.

Hi-Rise Holidays

Here is how some of the hi-rises decorated for the holidays in 2025.

Neill:





Hamline:



Valley:



Cleveland:



Central:



Exchange:



Edgerton:



Iowa:



Seal:



Resolve to Recycle Correctly

Did you ever wonder who empties the recycling bins in your hi-rise and keeps the outside bins neat? It's not House Elves or Building Maintenance; it's your volunteer Recycling Coordinator. This dedicated member of your hi-rise community is helping to keep your building neat (and to bring in extra funds to your Residents Council) every day in all kinds of weather. Here are a few things

to help make their job a bit easier.

These items are not recyclable:

- Black plastic
- Plastic containers from takeout/ frozen meals
- Egg cartons
- Random household items, even if they are made out of plastic or glass
- Candles/ candle jars
- Plastic with a #6 or 7 on it
- Plastic bags. Paper bags are recyclable once emptied. (Dump out bags when recycling things rather than putting the full bags in the bins.)
- Medicine bottles

Please flatten boxes before putting them in the cardboard dumpster. Also, remove all packing materials and throw them away.

Please take large boxes out to the cardboard dumpster and take furniture and household items out to the trash. (See below for how to request assistance if needed.) Also, take your household recycling out to the bins if you are able. Personal recycling should not be left in the laundry room bins. (This can be ignored if your hi-rise allows this.)

If you need assistance with getting your recycling out to the bins, see your HSC to request assistance. Pickup at your door can be arranged for those with disabilities or injuries.

Resident Council Coordinator

I hope everyone has been able to stay warm during the holidays. I'd like to remind you that although elections will not take place until April, now is a great time to start thinking about which offices you may want to run for and to prepare for the upcoming election process.

In addition, we will be renewing vending contracts soon. This is a good opportunity to begin reviewing vendors and decide whether your council would like to renew an existing contract or explore a new vendor.

Thank you all for the wonderful work you do for your councils. I hope everyone continues to stay active and enjoys fun indoor activities throughout the winter.

Youa Thao – Resident Council Coordinator

Commissioner Thomas

I would like to congratulate all officers for successfully hosting holiday events such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's celebrations at your hi-rises. Your leadership and dedication help bring residents out of their units, giving them the opportunity to meet their neighbors, share a meal, and enjoy meaningful time together.

I am also excited to hear that the Newsletter Team will be taking their photos together this spring. This team has been working incredibly hard to produce the quarterly newsletter and to help keep all hi-rises connected.

I want to remind all council leaders to continue the great and selfless work you do to create positivity and community within

your hi-rises.

Commissioner Leonard Thomas



Word from the Newsletter Team

The Newsletter committee team would like to encourage everyone to practice being kind and continue to show compassion towards each other. We hope everyone would stay warm during these cold weather, and we look forward to connecting with you all again soon!