

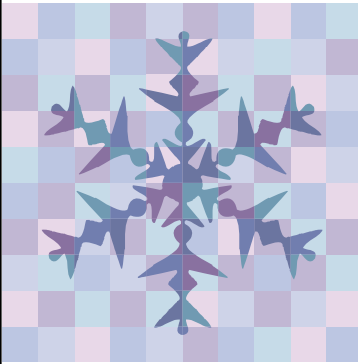
Skally Herald

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

WINTER 2005

Neighborhood Events

Grand Meander Saturday December 3, 2005: fun all along Grand Ave, two art fairs, holiday shopping bargains, great food, trolley rides, hay wagon rides and listen to carolers along the avenue.



Grand Avenue Wide Clearance Sale Saturday, January 14, 2006: huge sales and discounts on holiday goods. A great post-season shopping experience!

Saint Paul Winter Carnival January 27 thru February 5, 2006: The nation's oldest and largest winter festival offering more than 100 events including parades, cultural celebrations, ice and snow sculpting, and more. <http://www.winter-carnival.com>

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Important Winter Reminders!

1. This time of year there are increased car, house and apartment break-ins. The two things you can do to prevent this is (1) to **keep valuables in your car and apartment out of site** and in a safe place and (2) **use the locks** on your car doors, and apartment doors and windows.
2. Please make sure to **clean food debris off dishes before washing them** in the sink. Our sinks do not have food disposers and the drain pipes are older and are prone to getting clogged.
3. Remember to **keep your inner and outer windows closed** to help keep the building warm. If your apartment gets too hot, notify us and we will adjust your heaters. Do not open your windows because this will cause other apartments to get cold!

Current Availabilities

We have a **studio** apartment available for December, January or February at 622 Grand Ave, the rent is \$575/month, and a **1 bedroom plus den** available for February, the rent is \$740 per month.

If you know someone interested have them call us, Rebecca (651-695-9728) or Chad (651-283-0706).



Remember that current residents are allowed to transfer to another apartment.

Also if you refer someone who rents an apartment you will receive \$100 off your next months rent, and they will receive \$100 off their first months rent.

Recycling Tip

Reduce Use of Packaging

- (1) Take a shopping bag with you to the grocery store.
- (2) Put holiday gifts in reusable gift bags.
- (3) Buy food, drinks and toiletries in returnable/resuable containers and ask local shops to stock them.
- (4) Ask your school or workplace to provide reusable cups, plates, cutlery etc.
- (5) Buy recycled products.

Homemade Cleaners

Glass Cleaner

Mix in a sprayer bottle:

- 1 cup rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar

All-Purpose Cleaner

Mix in a sprayer bottle:

- 1 tbs clear, non-sudsing ammonia
- 1 tbs clear laundry detergent
- 2 cups water

Furniture Polish

Mix in a sprayer bottle:

- 1 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup lemon juice

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Energy Tips

Light Bulbs: One of the best ways to save money on your electricity bills is to switch from incandescent lights to compact fluorescent lighting. Compact fluorescent bulbs use from 60%-75% less energy!

Refrigerators: use the most energy of all your appliances. Keep energy use down by: (1) keeping the fresh food compartment at 37°-40° F and the freezer compartment at 0°-5° F, (2) regularly defrost refrigerators and freezers that have a manual-defrost function. (Don't let more than 1/4 inch of frost build up), (3) close the refrigerator door after use, and (4) do not leave the door open while deciding what to eat.

Shades: Open your shades to let in the sun during the daytime. Close your shades at night to keep in the heat.

Power Strips: Many electric devices around your home are never really turned off. TVs, VCRs, and DVD players usually have "instant on" features that use electricity both day and night whether you are watching them or not. One way to fight this phantom electric usage is to connect all of your entertainment devices to a power strip. When your are not using them, flip the switch off. Then you can be sure they aren't sucking up your electricity while you are sleeping.

Cooking: If you're baking breads and cakes, preheating your oven may be necessary. But for most foods (casseroles and broiled items) preheating simply isn't necessary. It's an energy and money waster. Smaller meals can be cooked in an electric skillet, broiler or toaster oven. They use half the energy of their full-size electric counterparts, and won't heat up your kitchen. Boil Until Boiling And Not A Minute Longer. Once water or other liquids reach a state of boiling, they won't get any hotter. If you need to bring something to a boil, turn the burner down or off when it starts to boil. Plan Your Meals. A meal like roast chicken, green bean casserole and brownies can all be cooked at the same time because they cook at the same temperature. It is easier on you and your oven too. Cover It Up Covers and lids on your pots and pans trap steam to help cook food faster. Keep The Heat Inside The Oven Every time you open the oven door, you lose about 25 degrees of heat. This means your food will take longer to cook and your oven needs to work that much harder to keep the temperature consistent. Pay Attention To Pots & Pans Pans with flared sides or bottoms that are smaller than your burner let heat escape. If pots and pans are too big, or have warped bottoms, food will not cook evenly. For most foods a medium weight aluminum pan cooks faster and more efficiently than other types. Save heavier pots and pans for foods that require slow and steady cooking. Keep Your Oven Clean. An oven that's free of grease and baked-on residue will work more efficiently. Thaw First, Then Cook. If you thaw your foods completely before cooking, you're oven won't have to work so hard to cook your meal.