

Big apartments in Buena Park high-rise

YOUR HOME | 18-story Pensacola Place boasts attached supermarket

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It's close to everything, but not in the middle of everything." That's how leasing consultant Ben Treutler sums up renting an apartment at Pensacola Place in the Buena Park neighborhood on the North Side.

"This is a quiet neighborhood and not as congested as Wrigleyville, which is north of us," Treutler said. "Plus, our apartments are larger than apartments you'll typically find in Wrigleyville and the downtown area."

Pensacola Place, an 18-story high-rise at 4334 N. Hazel, has 264 apartments. Rents for studios range from \$1,095 to \$1,295; 1-bedrooms range from \$1,375 to \$1,560 and 2-bedrooms from \$1,625 to \$1,885.

The spacious apartments feature: floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the lake or city; large walk-in closets, wall-to-wall carpeting; mini blinds and individual heating and air-conditioning systems.

Some of the apartments recently have been renovated and offer renters new kitchens with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances.

"Renters here really enjoy all of the building amenities and love the location," Treutler said. The building is chock-full of amenities that include: an outdoor swimming pool and large sun deck; 24-hour fitness center; tennis court and basketball hoop; on-site laundry facility; picnic deck with gas grills and a business center with free Internet access, copier and fax service. An indoor



Renter Troy Meinders shows off his apartment — and great view — at Pensacola Place, 4334 N. Hazel. | TOM CRUIZ-SUN-TIMES

QUICK PEEK

What: Pensacola Place, 4334 N. Hazel

Rents: Studios, 1- and 2-bedrooms from \$1,095 to \$1,885

Amenities: Outdoor pool, business and fitness centers; tennis court

Information: Call (773) 528-7000; www.pensacolaplaceapartments.com

heated parking garage has a free do-it-yourself car wash.

The building also features the

World Gym & Fitness Center, a 25,000-square-foot facility. For shopping, there is a Jewel/Osco store attached to the building at ground level.

Renter Troy Meinders says the amenities at Pensacola Place are a big attraction. Meinders moved to Chicago from Florida late last year and now rents a 1-bedroom apartment.

"I love having an outdoor pool and I use the tennis and basketball courts all the time," said Meinders, 44, a career development coordinator at Team Englewood Community Academy High School in Chicago. "I'm a big bike rider and I can pick

up the lakefront bike trail about two blocks east of here."

Even more importantly, Meinders likes the atmosphere at Pensacola Place. Meinders says everyone is friendly and the leasing staff is very helpful. Having grown up in a small town in Iowa, he likes coming home to such a neighborly environment.

"I stop and talk to the people in the office all the time. They're very concerned about how you feel about everything. Plus, when it comes to getting something fixed, there's no wait on anything. Once I had a leaky faucet and it was fixed within hours," Meinders said. "Even the other apartment renters here are

friendly. When I get in the elevator people always talk to me. It feels warm and inviting."

As for the apartment, Meinders says it's "comfy, cozy and homey. Another nice thing is that I'm on the 15th floor and I have a balcony looking west and I can see Wrigley Field and almost as far west as the planes landing at O'Hare Airport."

Meinders also says he likes having a kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. He also enjoys having the kitchen and living and dining rooms open to each other to create a big living area.

"I'm very happy living here," Meinders said.