

# ARCHES

A newsletter for neighbors of the University of St. Thomas

April 2008

## Seminarians and sophomores to live in campus apartments on Grand

Up to 100 additional undergraduate students will live on the St. Thomas campus this fall as a result of two housing projects on Grand Avenue.

Between 50 and 60 St. John Vianney Seminary students will live in the apartment building at 2085 Grand instead of at six off-campus sites, and 40 sophomores will move into the apartment building at 2151 Grand.

Both buildings this year house St. Thomas students and young alumni as well as a few members of the general public. Under the changes, 2151 Grand will become part of the university's Residence Life system and St. John Vianney will operate 2085 Grand.

The projects are a result of an ongoing effort to encourage more undergraduate students live on campus. About 45.3 percent to live on campus this year, and the two new projects should increase the residential population to 47 percent.

Here are the details on each project.

### **SJV Grand**

St. John Vianney enrollment has more than doubled this decade,

from 70 in fall 2001 to 154 last fall, and the seminary building at the north end of the St. Thomas campus has room for only 100 students. Consequently, about 50 students are living this year in four neighborhood houses and the rectories at the Cathedral of St. Paul and Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

The 2085 Grand building, which St. Thomas has owned since 2001, will be leased to St. John Vianney and will be renovated this summer.

"It will be a great improvement to have all seminarians in two locations versus seven," said Father William Baer, rector of the seminary. "Our 28 sponsoring dioceses very much want their seminarians to live on campus so they are an active part of the St. Thomas community."

Baer said seminary life in SJV Grand will be similar to what occurs in the main building. Two priests will live in SJV Grand and will oversee the formation of seminarians. There will be a small chapel and each floor will have a lounge. SJV Grand residents will join other seminarians each morning in the main building

chapel for prayer and Mass, and other all-seminary gatherings will include spiritual conferences and certain meals. SJV fall enrollment is projected at 160 students.

Coadjutor Archbishop John Nienstedt thanked St. Thomas for addressing his request to find an alternative housing arrangement for the seminarians so they could live on campus. He called the 2085 Grand building "a perfect solution. I am immensely grateful to those at St. Thomas who assisted with this project. Their cooperation could not have been better."

The archdiocese founded St. John Vianney in 1968. Its mission is to provide a setting where young men grow stronger in their faith and discern whether they want to pursue the priesthood. Students graduate with a St. Thomas degree and some matriculate at major seminaries, including the St. Paul Seminary. Since its founding, 322 St. John Vianney alumni have been ordained.

### **2151 Grand**

St. Thomas has owned the apartment building at 2151 Grand

*Continued inside*



UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

# UST continues encouraging students to live on campus

*Continued from front page*

since 1999, and has decided to add it to the Residence Life system to provide a special residential experience for sophomores.

The building will be renovated this summer and will include 16 apartments, mostly triples and doubles, and a lounge. An undergraduate student who is an apartment coordinator and a graduate student also will live there.

Aaron Macke, director of Residence Life, said 2151 Grand will provide sophomores a second on-campus option in addition to staying in residence halls.

“More sophomores would like to live in Morrison or Selby halls but there isn’t room because of the number of juniors and seniors who live there,” Macke said. “The 2151 Grand building is

a natural step and keeps them on campus. We also will keep our ‘sophomore experience’ floors in Dowling and Brady for students who want to stay on the main campus.”

## Campus housing trends

By this fall, St. Thomas will have added more than 1,000 beds over the last 11 years in an effort to build a stronger residential community and encourage more students to live on campus and not in the neighborhood.

About 35 percent – 1,630 – of undergraduate students lived on campus in 1997. Morrison and Selby halls, which are apartment residences for 340 and 418 students, opened in 1998 and 2005. St. Thomas also has added housing at other locations in recent years, including the Child Development Center Residence in 2005 and houses at 2110 Summit and 2109

Grand in 2006. In addition, several Grand and Summit houses are assigned as Catholic Studies houses.

The residence halls and houses have had virtually 100 percent occupancy for a decade. Ninety percent of freshmen, 44 percent of sophomores, 23 percent of juniors and 17 percent of seniors live on campus this year. This fall, a projected 2,650 undergraduate students will live on campus, or 47 percent of the anticipated day undergraduate population.

A Conditional Use Permit approved by the city in 2004 allows additional housing on the two blocks bounded by Summit, Cleveland, Grand and Cretin. The total number of beds on the blocks cannot exceed 450, the permit says, and there can be no more than 100 beds on Summit.

St. Thomas has no short-term plans to redevelop the two blocks for new housing, but will continue to monitor residential housing demand. Planned short-term construction projects include the south campus parking ramp in 2008-09, improvements to athletic and recreational facilities in 2009-2010, a new student center in 2010-2011 and renovation of Murray-Herrick Campus Center in 2011-12.

## District Council 13 chooses ‘Union Park’ as new name

District Council 13 has chosen Union Park District Council as its new name. One of 17 district planning councils in St. Paul, District 13 includes the neighborhoods of Lexington-Hamline, Snelling Hamline and Merriam Park. UPDC represents all three neighborhoods to the city of St. Paul.

District 13 is bounded on the west by the city limits and the Mississippi River, on the south by Summit Avenue, on the east by Lexington Avenue and on the north by University Avenue, over to Cleveland Avenue and south to the railroad right-of-way and the west back to the river.

The new name, Union Park, is meant to suggest the union of various neighborhoods. Its motto is “Many Neighborhoods – One Community.”

The name Union Park also has historical roots, according to architectural historian Jim Sazevich. Union Park was an early amusement park that then was platted into city lots in late 1880, Sazevich said.

The individual names of neighborhoods within Union Park will remain to represent parts of the community: Desnoyer Park, Shadow Falls, Iris Park, Snelling Hamline, Lexington-Hamline and Merriam Park.

### FYI

Commencement ceremonies are scheduled at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 17, on UST’s St. Paul campus. Please be aware that there may be more traffic congestion in the area as a result. Thanks for your patience!

## Over the back fence



**By John Hershey, Neighborhood Liaison**

Even though it's been snowing to beat the band lately,

signs of spring are in the air. Just listen to bird songs in the mornings as they respond to the return of light to Minnesota!

So I am convinced that warmer weather is coming and I know, after 10 years of doing this job, that windows will start to open and that students who live in the neighborhood might become more obvious – perhaps sometimes disruptive – late at night or in morning's wee hours, when you're trying to sleep. I also know from listening to members of our neighborhood advisory committee over the course of the winter that

they don't believe enough neighbors really know how to respond to an immediate disruptive situation on their blocks.

After you feel you've exhausted all reasonable means of requesting cooperation and you're still experiencing difficulty, I hope you use this primer (or refresher). Cut it out and tape it to your refrigerator to help you request help in the most appropriate and efficient way:

### **To report disruption in your neighborhood:**

1. Call 911 (emergency) or (651) 291-1111 (non-emergency). Identify the problem property and request a police response.

2. Call the UST Public Safety 24-hour dispatch at (651) 962-5100. Identify the problem property, tell the dispatcher you've called the police and you want this matter reported to university officials. (Public Safety officers always respond to

calls within an approximately six-block radius from campus to observe.)

3. Call UST's neighborhood liaison – that's me – at (651) 962-6123 and request followup with the police, Public Safety, the landlord, the plaintiff(s) and the tenants.

4. The next day, call the landlord if you have a contact number and also call your local community council office and request their attention to the issue. Union Park/District Council 13's number is (651) 645-6887; Macalester-Groveland/District Council 14 can be reached at (651) 695-4000.

If you take these few steps you can insure the most immediate and effective response as we employ a variety of strategies by working with several offices to try to help you address "quality of livability issues" in your neighborhood.

## Time to register the kids for summer day camp

The 25th annual Summer Day Camp at St. Thomas' McCarthy Gym runs from June 23 to Aug. 15.

Camp sessions offer children ages 3-12 a variety of activities that focus on recreation, the natural world, diversity, the arts and environmental issues. Daily Red Cross swimming lessons also are provided.

One- and two-week sessions and extended day options are available, and a free junior counselor program is designed for boys and girls 13-16 (bonus: a 25-use card for McCarthy gym is given to those who complete the junior counselor program).

Preschool sessions range from

\$147 for weeklong preschool sessions to \$268 for two-week sessions available for school-age children.

A link to details and a registration form can be found on UST's Neighborhood Relations Web site, [www.stthomas.edu/neighborhoodrelations](http://www.stthomas.edu/neighborhoodrelations).

To register, send a signed registration form and \$100 registration fee to McCarthy Gym, Mail MCG, University of St. Thomas, 2115 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. The balance of camp fees is due June 1.

If you have questions, call Peggy Margenau at (651) 962-5933. Hurry! Sessions are filling fast.

## Mark your calendar for July 30 Neighborfest

Mark your summer calendar for Neighborfest, St. Thomas' annual community celebration. It will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 30.

A theme for this summer's fest hasn't been announced yet, but it's always a fun evening with free food, music, kids' activities and time to relax with campus neighbors and friends.

Details will appear in the July issue of Arches.



# At St. Thomas

Join the St. Thomas community for these speakers, events and performances.  
For more information, call the number listed with the event or (651) 962-6400.

## April 24

*Lecture on North American integration:*

Dr. Robert Pastor, director of the Center for North American Studies at American University, will give a free lecture, "The North American Idea: Why the Candidates Don't Get It, But (Most of) the People Do," from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in 3M Auditorium of Owens Science Hall on UST's St. Paul campus.

Pastor says that no two countries are more important to the United States than are its bordering neighbors, Canada and Mexico, and that U.S. prestige cannot be restored until we treat our neighbors as essential partners in a global economy.

Pastor was national security adviser for Latin America (1977-81) and has been a consultant to the U. S. Departments of State and Defense. A former political science professor at Emory University, he was a founding director of the Carter Center's Latin American and Caribbean Program and the Democracy and China Election Projects. He is author of 16 books; his most recent is *Toward a North American Community: Lessons From the Old World for the New* (2001).

The lecture is supported by a gift to the university's College of Arts and Sciences from Donald B. Regan, a North St. Paul businessman who is founder and chairman of Premier Bank system in Minnesota. The Donald B. Regan Distinguished Lecture Series will continue at St. Thomas for six years.

For further information, call Dr. Robert Riley, professor of economics and director of the university's International Studies Program, (651) 962-5687.



*New Approaches to Vase Painting lecture series:* "The Telltale Health: Geometric Pottery and the Greek Family" is the title of a free lecture by Dr. Susan Langdon. The public is invited; the talk begins at 7 p.m.

in Room 126 of UST's John Roach Center for the Liberal Arts.

Langdon teaches in the Department of Art History and Archaeology at the University of Missouri.

For info, call the UST Art History Department, (651) 962-5560.



## May 4

*Liturgical Choir concert:* St. Thomas' internationally known Liturgical Choir will host a hymn festival of music by the Rev. Jan Michael Joncas from his newest recording, "In the Sight of the Angels: Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs."

The concert, at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas on Cleveland and Laurel avenues, is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Open Arms of Minnesota, a nonprofit organization that serves meals to people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer or other chronic illnesses.

The concert will be the first since the chapel's recent renovation. Its sanctuary and crucifix will be blessed at Ascension Sunday Mass at 11 a.m. May 4. Neighbors are always welcome to join the university community for worship.



## May 9

*Rwandan genocide survivor to speak:* A young Rwandan woman who survived the 1994 genocide in her country by hiding in a pastor's cramped bathroom for 91 terrifying days will speak at a University of St. Thomas conference and give a public lecture at the Basilica of St. Mary in downtown Minneapolis.

Imaculée Ilibagiza, who told her story in a best-selling book, *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* (Hay House, 2006), will speak about forgiveness and her experiences in Rwanda at 7 p.m. May 9 at the

basilica, located on Hennepin Avenue between 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets. The public is invited.

Admission to the lecture is \$12, and \$2 of each admission will be donated to Ilibagiza's Left to Tell Charitable Fund, which assists Rwandan orphans. Tickets may be purchased in advance at [www.stthomas.edu/gradpsych/events](http://www.stthomas.edu/gradpsych/events) or at the door beginning at 6 p.m. A book-signing and reception will follow Ilibagiza's talk.



## May 20-June 20

*Exhibit:* See artwork by preschoolers in "The Class of 2008: Art from the UST Child Development Center," an exhibition in the Lobby Gallery of O'Shaughnessy Educational Center.

Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and noon to 10 p.m. Sundays.



## June 7

*Music in Owatonna:* Take a trip to Owatonna, about an hour south of the Twin Cities, for "Big Big Band 2008," featuring the Glenn Miller Orchestra. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. the Owatonna Degner Regional Airport.

Tickets, available May 1 at Owatonna businesses Kottke Jewelers, Owatonna Shoe and Tone Music, are \$15 general admission, \$10 for seniors and students with I.D. Patron packages are available, too.

Music in Owatonna is a civic group dedicated to hosting high-quality music performances in the Owatonna community. UST is among the group's sponsors.

Bring your dancin' shoes! Need to know more? Call Marlene Levine at UST's Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna, (507) 446-4464.