

ARCHES

A newsletter for neighbors of the University of St. Thomas

February 2005

Residence hall, child care center on schedule; business building plans continue

Construction workers and planners remain extremely busy these days on three construction projects on the St. Thomas campus in St. Paul.

The new Child Development Center and Student Residence on the northwest corner of Grand Avenue and Finn Street will be completed by April 1. The center will move from its existing quarters in Christ Child Hall in early April and hopes to open the new facility by April 18.

Crews from Ryan Companies will finish exterior brick and windows work by mid-February and will complete interior work in March. The center will occupy the entire first floor, with the second floor set aside for apartment-style housing for 17 undergraduate students who will intern, work or volunteer at the center.

On the north end of campus, Opus Northwest workers are on schedule to complete a 422-bed residence hall and 355-car underground parking ramp in time for the 2005-2006 school year.

The hall will be "topped off" by March 1. Crews will install exterior brick and windows through May and complete

interior work and landscaping over the summer. Students will move into the building over the Labor Day weekend.

Opus will be doing double duty on campus during the summer with construction beginning on McNeely Hall, the new business education building, and a 121-space underground parking garage on the site of Christ Child Hall at Summit and Cleveland avenues.

Opus architects and engineers are wrapping up work on the project's site plan, which the city will consider in March. St. Thomas and Opus have been working closely on site plan issues with the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee, a new organization made up of representatives from the university and four neighborhood organizations (for more about this group, see John Hershey's column inside).

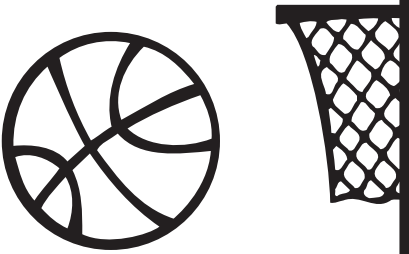
The Zoning Committee of the St. Paul Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the site plan at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 3, in City Council Chambers in City Hall. The full commission will consider the site plan at 8:30 a.m. Friday, March 11, in Room 40 of City Hall.

A second public hearing, by the City Council, will be held this spring on St. Thomas' request to vacate the east-west alley between Cleveland and Finn. A date has not been set for the hearing.

Opus plans to raze Christ Child in mid- to late May and excavate the site over the following several weeks. The construction project will last 15 months, with the garage and the 75,000-square-foot building opening in time for the 2006-2007 school year.

If you have questions on any of the construction projects, please call John Hershey, (651) 962-6123, or Doug Hennes, (651) 962-6402.

**Hoop it up
Feb. 12!
(Details inside)**





UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

Around the University of St. Thomas

New deans appointed

School of Engineering: Dr. Ronald Bennett has been appointed founding dean of the University of St. Thomas School of Engineering. Bennett has been director of the undergraduate engineering program since 1993 and director of Graduate Programs in Engineering and Technology Management since 1995. Since July 2004, he has served as interim director the school. He lives in Highland Park.

School of Law: Lisa Brabbit has been named assistant dean for external relations and programs for the St. Thomas School of Law. Brabbit, who since 2002 has served as director of the School of Law Mentor Externship Program, will oversee the mentor externship and all other externships, alumni relations and student organizations.

School of Divinity: After six years as academic dean of the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, Dr. Jeanne McLean will step down from that position on July 1. She will take a one-year sabbatical leave, and upon her return she will have teaching and administrative responsibilities in the School of Divinity's Pre-Theology Program. McLean is an associate professor of philosophy. Dr. Catherine Cory will serve as interim academic dean during McLean's sabbatical. Cory is an associate professor of New Testament in the university's Department of Theology. She is former chair of that department and has been serving as director of the School of Divinity's Master of Arts in Theology Program. A

formal search for a permanent School of Divinity academic dean will be conducted during the 2005-2006 academic year.

Archbishop Harry Flynn has appointed the Rev. John Ubel as interim rector and vice president of the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity.

The appointment was effective Jan. 1 and will continue until a new permanent rector is named. The former rector, Bishop Frederick Campbell, was named bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, last fall by Pope John Paul II.



Cleaner-uppers: More than 300 UST students and alumni participated in the St. Thomas Alumni Association's fall Community Cleanup on Nov. 7, 2004. They did yard cleanup chores at the homes of 37 elderly and disabled St. Thomas neighbors. Thanks, everyone!



No business like snow business:

Members of UST's Commuter Center staff handed out hot chocolate and ice scrapers in university parking lots late last fall while they spread the word about St. Paul snow emergency rules. And, during the recent snow emergency, UST neighborhood liaison John Hershey distributed 40 "snow emergency" notification signs to student volunteers who help get the word out to their neighbors. Results: Fewer tickets, fewer tows, cleaner streets.



Children's literature: UST hosts its 13th annual Hubbs Children's Literature Conference Feb. 26. This year's conference features keynote speaker Steven Kellogg, illustrator of more than 100 picture books, including *A Rose for Pinkerton* and *The Christmas Witch*. If you're interested in quality literature for kids, register by calling (651) 962-4550.

Hoop it up Saturday, Feb. 12

Join the Tommies for some free basketball fun on Saturday, Feb. 12, in Schoenecker Arena.

The Tommies will host the Cardinals of St. Mary's University in Winona; the women's teams play at 1 p.m., followed by the men's game at 3 p.m.

Tickets and treats are on us!

Use the coupons below.

You'll also get free sno-cones and cotton candy, and the kids will love face painting and pictures with Tommie, UST's fun-loving mascot. Enjoy performances by the UST Cheer Team, Dance Team and Pep Band, too.

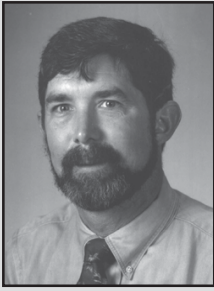
Concession Stand Coupon

Free popcorn, one per person while supplies last
Saturday, Feb. 12
Schoenecker Arena

2 Free Admissions-Basketball

St. Thomas vs. St. Mary's
Saturday, Feb. 12
Schoenecker Arena

Over the back fence



By John Hershey, Neighborhood Liaison

One of the outcomes of the August 2004 agree-

ment among the community councils, the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association, Neighbors United, the city and the university is the mandate to create a neighborhood advisory committee that is "charged with resolving university-community problems, and providing for communications on campus master planning and development, and to enhance university-community relations."

That committee – the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee (WSNAC) – began meeting in September. Members include Jim Toscano and Les Meltzer, SARPA; Todd Curtis and Marc Manderscheid, Macalester-Groveland Community Coun-

cil; Doug Hennes, Karen Lange, Mary Sue Miheve, Mike Thyken and I represent St. Thomas; Scott Banas and Jeanne Matross, Merriam Park Community Council; and Alyssa Rebensdorf and Ian Charpentier, Neighbors United. Toscano and I chair the committee.

The group has created some basic bylaws and a governing structure. It has met monthly on the second Tuesday of each month to address a variety of town and gown issues. The meetings are open to the public. It is fair to say that we have begun to communicate directly with one another. It is also fair to say that some of the progress we've made hasn't come easily and that there are still issues with which we need to deal. But we are talking, we're trying to work together, and I am grateful for that – and I hope we keep at it. It's best for all concerned.

One of the very first things WSNAC did was to create three permanent subcommittees that are designed to do significant homework on university and commu-

nity concerns and to report back to the main WSNAC group on the issues germane to their charge. The subcommittees – Housing, Campus Development, and Traffic, Parking, Parking and Safety – have started meeting to do their work. It's important to know that the subcommittee structure provides a way for interested citizens to become directly involved with university and community issues. You can participate in those meetings. You can make your opinions known. You can have a voice. You are welcome to participate. WSNAC encourages you to participate in the subcommittees of your choice.

Should you wish to find out more about the specific subcommittees, what they're up to, or where and when they meet, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be delighted to share the appropriate contact information with you. Your participation at the grassroots level can make for a stronger, healthier neighborhood.

Center for Senior Citizens' Education offers short courses for folks 55 and older

UST's Center for Senior Citizens' Education offers a variety of short courses this spring. Designed especially for people 55 and older, they're taught by faculty members and community experts. Cost for each is \$50. To learn more about them and to register, call (651) 962-5188.

Scheduled this spring on UST's St. Paul campus are:

- "American Education: Past and Present," 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, March 17-May 12

- "Ireland: An Unfolding Map," 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 29-May 10

- "The War of Our Youth: World War II – 60 Years Later," 1:30-3:30 p.m. Thursdays, March 31-May 26

- "Unlocking the Biblical Books

of Wisdom," 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 6-May 18

Short courses offered on UST's campus in downtown Minneapolis are:

- "Poems: Good 'n' Favorite," 1-3 p.m. Mondays, April 4 -May 23

- "The Medieval Enquirer: Headlines From the Dark Ages," 10 a.m.-noon Mondays, April 4-May 16.

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.

Feb. 16

Multicultural Forum: The University of St. Thomas College of Business and the Twin Cities Chapter of the National Black MBA Association will host the 17th annual Multicultural Forum from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Paul RiverCentre.

The forum, supported by more than 35 Midwestern firms and organizations, will focus on "The Pursuit of Cultural Competence."

Brad Anderson, vice chairman and chief executive officer of Best Buy, and George Fraser, author of the bestseller *Success Runs In Our Race: The Complete Guide to Effective Networking in the African Community*, will deliver keynote presentations.

More than 30 workshops sessions will be offered on topics that include "Evolution of Diversity," "Spirituality at Work," and "Legal Size Me." Participants will learn more about the relationship between culture, communication style and comprehension in today's workplace. Vendor exhibits and a career fair will showcase companies' diversity practices and hiring needs.

The Multicultural Forum began in 1989 and has grown into a leading event for advancing diversity in the workplace.

Cost of the attending the forum is \$125 and includes breakfast, lunch and afternoon refreshments.

For more information or to request a registration form, call (651) 962-4018 or register online at <http://www.stthomas.edu/cob/multiculturalforum>.



Music: Guitarist Joan Griffith gives a faculty recital at 8 p.m. in Brady Educational Center auditorium:



Feb. 21

Performance and lecture: Hyesook Kim and Stéphane Lemelin, duopianists, and

lecturer Rev. Stephen Schloesser, S.J., will give a performance and lecture, "Olivier Messiaen's *Visions de l'Amen* and the French *renouveau catholique*," at 8 p.m. in Brady Educational Center auditorium.

This project was made possible by a grant from the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, a research institute at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Kim is a professor of music at Calvin College; Lemelin teaches piano and chamber music at the University of Ottawa, where he also serves as the director of graduate studies (performance).

Schloesser, a 1980 St. Thomas alumnus, teaches history at Boston College and is an adjunct professor at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Specializing in 19th- and 20th-century French cultural history, he studies Catholicism's intersections with various modernisms.

For more information about this event at St. Thomas, contact Dr. James Callahan, (651) 962-5856.



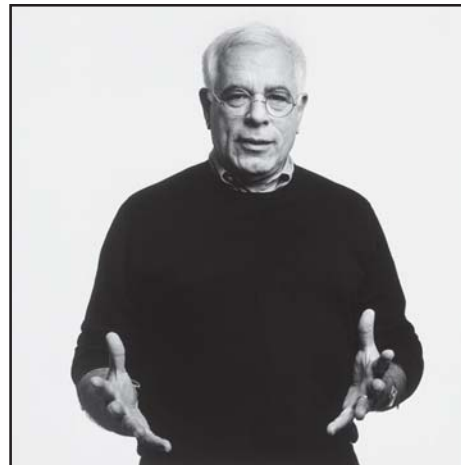
March 2

Architecture in Motion: Internationally renowned architect and educator Dr. Peter Eisenman will give a keynote speech opening St. Thomas' exhibition and accompanying symposia, "Building the Impossible: Architecture in Motion."

The exhibition, including architectural drawings, photographs and models, will cover the history of kinetic architecture – buildings that move – and the merger of architecture and technology that makes them possible.

The exhibit will be on display from Monday, Feb. 28, through Monday, April 4, in the lobby gallery of O'Shaughnessy Educational Center. Works also will be displayed in Room 102 of the nearby O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center.

Eisenman will discuss his challenges in



Award-winning architect Peter Eisenman

designing the innovative Arizona Cardinals' Stadium – the first in the United States to feature a fully movable playing surface – at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in O'Shaughnessy Educational Center auditorium. Symposia continue for professionals and educators on Thursday, March 3, and for students on Friday, March 4.

Eisenman's lecture is \$15 for general admission; \$10 for students, \$5 for St. Thomas alumni, and free to St. Thomas students, faculty and staff with ID.

Call the St. Thomas Art History Department, (651) 962-5560, for additional information or to obtain prices and registration materials for the professionals' symposium March 3.

The exhibition and the March 4 students' symposium are free and open to the public.

In 2001 Eisenman received the Medal of Honor from the New York City American Institute of Architects and the Smithsonian Institution's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award for Architecture. In September, at the ninth annual Architectural Biennale in Venice, Eisenman was presented the Gold Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement in architecture.