



# View



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Rachel Lummus and Kim-Thoa Nguyen

## UST Gears Up for Family Weekend

Bring your friends and loved ones out for a weekend of fun and family bonding during the fourth annual UST Family Weekend, Oct. 19-21, held throughout campus.

The weekend will offer a chance for parents to attend classes with their children, visit local museums, attend Mass in the Chapel of St. Basil, try their luck at Bingo Night, participate in on-campus community service projects, and attend a Celt soccer game and Lady Celts volleyball game. Parents can also break out their

dancing shoes and show off their skills at the parent dance contest.

The weekend will also include the St. Augustine Birthday Celebration and Carnival, on Saturday, Oct. 20, on the Campus Life Mall.

The St. Augustine's Birthday Celebration is free and open to the public. It will feature food, face painting, a petting zoo, arts and crafts, live music and novelties for kids of all ages.

For a the complete schedule go to [http://www.stthom.edu/Public/index.asp?page\\_ID=4433](http://www.stthom.edu/Public/index.asp?page_ID=4433).

For more information and to RSVP, students, their families, faculty and staff, can contact Matt Prasifka at 713-525-3512.

## Seeing Green: Partygoers Celebrate Everything Irish

More than 300 gathered with the Friends of the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society for the annual Irish Gala, at the Houstonian Hotel, Thursday, Sept. 27. The event celebrated honorees Debbie and Patrick J. Moran and was chaired by Michele Malloy (pictured right with Dr. Robert Ivany and wife Marianne).

The event grossed more than \$150,000, with money also raised for the Bishop John McCarthy Scholarship for Study Abroad in Ireland.



## Oktoberfest: The German Fest at its Best

The fifth annual Oktoberfest will be from 7-11 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, on the Crooker Center Patio. Admission is \$3 for those under 21; \$5 for those 21 and up. Twenty-one and up bring ID. This event is sponsored by the UST German Club and co-sponsored by the UST History Society, Knights of Columbus, Texas Club and the International Studies Society.

Oktoberfest will feature authentic

german food, live entertainment and a raffle with a chance to win a free weekend rental of an Audi. The free weekend rental is courtesy of Momentum VW-Audi.

For more information, contact Derek Young at [youngdr@stthom.edu](mailto:youngdr@stthom.edu).



## ACS to be Commended for Achievement

The UST Student Affiliates Chapter of the American Chemical Society has been awarded "commendable" status by the National ACS. The status is based on the activities and accomplishments listed in the 2006-2007 Annual Report. This puts the Chapter in the top 10 percent of the 980 chapters in the United States and Puerto Rico. The Chapter will be listed in an upcoming issue of Chemical and Engineering News, the society's official news maga-

zine and in Chemistry, the Student Affiliates magazine.

The UST chapter is invited to present a poster at the 235th National Meeting and Exposition to be held in New Orleans, April 6-11, 2008 and will be honored at a ceremony on April 6. The UST chapter has received an award every year since 2000. The award plaque will be displayed on the second floor of Robertson Hall along with plaques from previous years.



The Mass of Blessed John XXIII, commonly known as the Tridentine Mass, will be offered by University chaplain Fr. Daniel Callam, CSB, every Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel of St. Basil. Everyone is welcome.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Zimbabwe: Freedom and Hope



UST presents two of the most effective opposition leaders in Zimbabwe today, Morgan Tsvangirai and Roy Bennett, discussing the current political and social situation in Zimbabwe, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, in Cullen Hall.

### Ireland: Stepping Stones



Rev. Harold Good and Fr. Alec Reid, facilitators of the Northern Ireland Peace Process, will discuss the stumbling blocks and stepping stones in Northern Ireland, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in Cullen Hall. No RSVP or tickets sold.

### "Dum Spiro" Silent Auction



Join the UST Micro-credit Program for a silent auction to help raise funds for microloans for developing countries. "Dum Spiro," meaning 'while I breathe,' will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, in the Old Bookstore, Crooker Center.

### Consul General of Italy Speaks



Center for International Studies will host Christiano Maggipinto, giving a presentation on, "Garibaldi's Historical Role in the Process of Italian Unification and South American Drive Toward Independence" at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17, in Ahern Room, Crooker Center.

## UST Implements Emergency Notification System: *Connect-ED*

University of St. Thomas selects the fast multi-modal communication service Connect-ED from The NTI Group, Inc. to deliver time-sensitive notifications within minutes through phone calls, e-mails and/or text messages to faculty, staff and students. St. Thomas will implement this service during unforeseen events or emergencies.

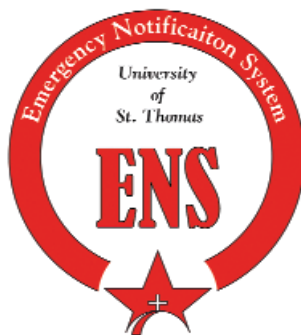
“Today we are forced to prepare for situations that we could not have anticipated and recognize the important role that immediate communication plays in keeping our faculty, staff and students safe,” President Robert Ivany said. “As part of our security measures, we have added the Connect-ED service because it has a successful track record and multi-modal capabilities will allow us to keep the community informed.”

The Connect-ED service enables campus leaders to schedule, send and track personalized voice messages to as many as six phone numbers per person, and immediately

sends messages via four different modes of communication:

- Voice messages to home, work, and cell phones
- Text messages to cell phones, PDAs and other text-based devices
- Written messages to e-mail accounts
- Messages to TTY/TDD receiving devices for the hearing impaired

The next step in the process is to encourage faculty, staff and students to update their emergency information. The University’s Emergency Task Force is developing procedures for entering emergency data. The projected start date for collecting this data is November 2007. Instructions on how to enter emergency data will be posted in the Star View newsletter, on the UST Web site, myStThom (portal) and via a community email blast.



## Simon Cottrell Scholarship Winners

2007 Simon Cottrell International Studies Annual Scholarship winners Claudia Valadez and Nancy Velasquez shared stories of their summer study abroad with scholarship donor Stella Cottrell on Sept. 12. Pictured back row from left to right-Nancy Velasquez, Dr. Wensjoe, Claudia Valadez; seated from left to right-Diana Garcia, Stella Cottrell and Diane Thornton. The scholarship assists undergraduate international studies students with the costs of studying abroad in Europe.

## From Violence to Hope

The Journey of Hope...From Violence to Healing is a speaking tour led by people who have lost a loved one to murder, but still oppose the death penalty. The tour will be in Houston Oct. 13-16, 2007 to speak out against the death penalty. Sr. Helen Prejean, author of

“Dead Man Walking,” and singer/songwriter Nanci Griffith will speak at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, in Jerabeck Center Gym.

The event is sponsored the UST Social Justice Committee and is free and open to the public.



## Joseph Pearce on Chesterton

The UST Knights of Columbus present Joseph Pearce, speaking on “The Charm of G.K. Chesterton: Champion of the Church,” for the second annual Columbian Initiative for Catholic Awareness Lecture 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in Cullen Hall.

This event is produced annually by the UST Knights to honor Christopher Columbus from whom the Order owes its name. A major aim of this event is to promote Catholic education and knowledge through an informative lecture.



# The Menil and St. Thomas Partner for Walking Tour



Visitors to the Houston Museum District will be able to add another attraction to their “must see” list. The Menil Collection and the University of St. Thomas have announced the designation of the adjoining Menil-St. Thomas campuses as a walking tour of the northern gateway to Houston’s Museum District.

Participating in the formal announcement of The Menil-St. Thomas collaboration at the dedication of the new Philip Johnson landmark were UST President Robert R. Ivany, Menil Director Josef Helfenstein, and UST Board vice chair George DeMontrond. The Menil Collection and the University of St. Thomas are nestled in the Houston Museum District just minutes away from downtown. The area joins a rich history and a mutual appreciation of art, education and architecture while offering the beauty of this neighborhood oasis to citizens of the local community and the world.

“We’re pleased that our campuses provide an exciting destination point for anyone who appreciates outstanding art and architecture,” said Dr. Robert Ivany, UST President. “The new Menil-St. Thomas walking tour offers some of the world’s treasures right in the heart of Houston.”

The self-guided walking tour begins at the new Philip Johnson landmark at Montrose and West Alabama and extends to The Menil Collection, located at 1515 Sul Ross. The museum houses the vast art collection of John de Menil and his wife, Dominique Schlumberger de Menil, patrons of the art, educators, and early benefactors and longtime friends of UST.

The tour continues with stops at the Rothko Chapel, the Cy Twombly Gallery, the Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum and the Dan Flavin Installation at Richmond Hall. At the UST campus, tourists can enjoy the beauty of the Link-Lee mansion, as well as three Philip Johnson creations on campus: the Academic Mall, the Chapel of St. Basil, and the Edward P. White Memorial Plaza. Adjacent to the university chapel is an outdoor meditation garden highlighted by a replica of the famous Chartres Cathedral labyrinth. The tour includes the historic Howard R. Hughes House, at 3921 Yoakum.

The tour highlights the work of legendary New York architect Philip Johnson, who began his long Texas career with the Menil’s Houston home. The architectural character of the UST campus derives from Johnson’s original design for the Academic Mall. Johnson would go on to receive praise for the design of the Chapel of St. Basil, which anchors the Mall’s north end. In 2004, Johnson created a third and final project for UST in the new university landmark at the corner of Montrose and West Alabama that rises on the Edward P. White Memorial Plaza, which is named in memory of one of the school’s most dedicated benefactors.

“Ed White responded spontaneously to the concept of a work of art to mark the prominent University corner of Montrose and West Alabama,” noted H. Ken DeDominicis, UST vice president for institutional advancement, “His vision and generosity made it possible to commission Philip Johnson to create the last landmark shortly before his death in 2005.”

The Menil-St. Thomas walking tour covers eight blocks and is free of charge to the public. Guide brochures can be picked up at the Link-Lee Mansion.

*Star View* is published by the Office of Public Affairs as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news.

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