

# NID Works

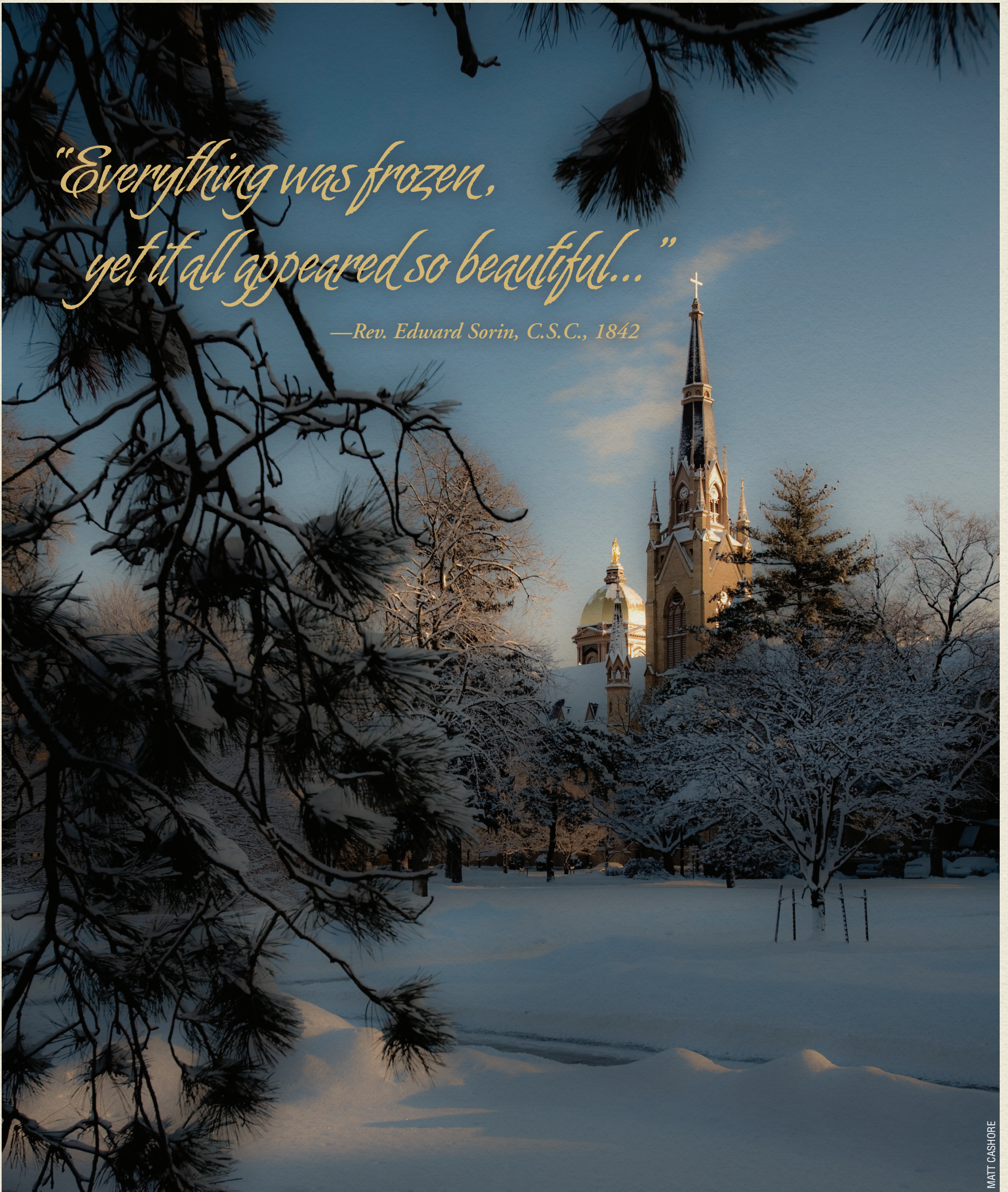


News for Notre Dame faculty and staff and their families

Vol. 7, No. 9, December 10, 2009

*"Everything was frozen,  
yet it all appeared so beautiful..."*

*—Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., 1842*



MATT CASHORE

## In This Issue »

New virtual tour of campus, *p. 3* • The meaning of Christmas, *p. 4*  
Parking lot safety, *p. 6* • The beauty of the Nativity at the Snite Museum, *p. 8*

# Links of the Irish

A new NDWorks feature points out campus Web developments

BY BILL SCHMITT, NDWORKS

The world of media and electronic communication is changing every day, and Notre Dame is a microcosm of that change. Below are some of the latest ideas and resources for sharing information among all members of the campus community.

A national resource for audio and video podcasts produced by colleges and universities has grown up at the iTunes store, and Notre Dame is one of some 300 institutions of higher education participating. Find Notre Dame's offerings at [itunes.nd.edu](http://itunes.nd.edu).

A new virtual campus tour feature launches in late December at [tour.nd.edu](http://tour.nd.edu). An archive of Notre Dame Video Channel productions can be found at [video.nd.edu](http://video.nd.edu).

Faculty and staff members who avidly read their daily copies of The Observer—along with thousands of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College students—may want to visit that newspaper's newly redesigned Web site at [ndsmcobserver.com](http://ndsmcobserver.com). Among the improvements: It's an easier read, and readers are invited

to submit comments after each story. The undergraduate journalists are tweeting, too, at [twitter.com/ndsmc-news](http://twitter.com/ndsmc-news).

Online publications aren't just for students. The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies recently inaugurated its online journal, "Peace Policy," at [peacepolicy.nd.edu](http://peacepolicy.nd.edu). There's no charge to subscribe. By this and other means, Notre Dame is sending its insights about peace throughout the world.

The First Year of Studies, which serves as the college for all incoming undergraduates, has a new look for its Web site, produced by Agency ND, the Web and print development arm of the Office of Public Affairs and Communication (OPAC). Check it out at [fys.nd.edu](http://fys.nd.edu). The site includes a link to a blog written by First Year of Studies Dean Rev. Hugh R. Page.

Another redesign just made its debut on Nov. 23. The College of Arts and Letters can still be found at [al.nd.edu](http://al.nd.edu), but Marie Blakey, director of communications, points out several embellishments, including "a special focus on the needs of our primary audience: undergraduate and graduate students."

The site now also contains a faculty bookshelf that displays a sampling of recent books ([al.nd.edu/about/the-faculty/faculty-bookshelf](http://al.nd.edu/about/the-faculty/faculty-bookshelf)); a news section ([al.nd.edu/news](http://al.nd.edu/news)), where users can subscribe to news feeds or the College's quarterly e-newsletter; and a photo gallery ([al.nd.edu/about/photo-gallery](http://al.nd.edu/about/photo-gallery)).

Don't forget the University's Office of News and Information site,



MATT CASHORE

Page

updated daily with announcements and profiles at [newsinfo.nd.edu](http://newsinfo.nd.edu). These OPAC professionals also alert the public to the latest Notre Dame news via [twitter.com/nd\\_news](http://twitter.com/nd_news).

## Cavanaugh Hall wins Dorm Energy Competition

Annual competition saved the equivalent of nearly \$3,000 worth of electricity

BY RACHEL NOVICK, OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Cavanaugh Hall is the winner of the 2009 Dorm Energy Competition, having reduced electricity consumption by 34 percent compared to previous years.

"We kicked off the competition by having a 'Wall-E watch' in our 24-hour space—at least everyone was in the same room and not using energy sitting in their separate rooms!" says Alicia Vasto, Cavanaugh's sustainability commissioner.

Cavanaugh's energy savings, which amounted to \$718 for the month of November, will be donated to student government's Global Water Initiative, a yearlong campaign to raise money to build wells in Africa. "Since the money was going to a good cause, we had a greater incentive to save energy," says Vasto.

Pasquerilla West ranked second in the competition, with a 27 percent savings over previous years. "We tried to make it fun by putting Christmas lights in the bathrooms and putting tape over the light switches," said Lauren Demeter, PW's sustainability commissioner. "The other major thing was making a concerted effort to remind people to unplug everything before they left for break."

All together, the residence halls saved 58,800 kilowatt hours, equivalent to \$2,940 worth of electricity and 84,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.



CAROL C. BRADLEY

## NEWS BRIEFS

### THE NOTRE DAME COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTES TO CHARITIES THIS SEASON

Members of the staff of Sorin's at the Morris Inn chose to send a contribution to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana with the funds designated for their Team M&M celebration. The Morris Inn will match that amount, and the generous donation will provide up to 3,000 meals for needy families in Northern Indiana. Team M&M was designed to develop teamwork between the merged Morris Inn and McKenna Hall staffs.

**Alumni Association** and the **Humane Society** have partnered to offer photos with Santa and pony rides (\$8) inside the blue barn at Clayview Farms, 50871 Ironwood Drive. Everyone is welcome between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. Proceeds benefit the Humane Society and the Animal Rescue Center in Costa Rica, a service project for Notre Dame families. For more information, contact Kathy Sullivan, [sullivan.6@nd.edu](mailto:sullivan.6@nd.edu).

The **Athletic Department** is accepting donations of non-perishable food items through Friday, Dec. 18. Collection bins—as well as "loose change jars"—are available at Rolfs Sports Recreation Center, the Rockne Memorial, the Joyce Center, Rolfs Aquatic Center, Eck Tennis Center and the Warren Golf Course. All donations benefit the Food Bank of Northern Indiana.

The **Pre-Veterinary Medical Association of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's** and **PAWS (Proponents of Animal Welfare Service)**

conducted two fundraisers the week of Nov. 30. An Avon products sale benefited the SJC-SNAP spay-neuter program, which helps low-income families spay and neuter their pets. In addition, a pet food drive collected small bags of dog and cat food, which will be distributed through the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County to families in need, helping keep pets out of animal shelters.

A reminder: **United Way** pledge cards must be returned to the Office of Human Resources by Wednesday, Dec. 23. Donations are fully tax-deductible, and 5 percent of your total donation may be designated for the Employee Compassion Fund, benefiting members of the Notre Dame community with emergency or catastrophic needs. You may also make a one-time donation to the United Way from your first paycheck in January.

### OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### Changes to email, calendar storage policy

OIT has implemented a new storage policy that affects Exchange email and calendaring systems. As of Nov. 30, hold times for items in the deleted items folder will be limited to 30 days, after which the items will be automatically deleted. Exchange accounts have a 1 GB default storage quota, and items in the trash count toward that quota. To view your storage quota, visit [oit.nd.edu/exchange/quotas/quotas.shtml](http://oit.nd.edu/exchange/quotas/quotas.shtml). If you have questions, contact your departmental OIT support staff or the OIT Help Desk at [oithelp@nd.edu](mailto:oithelp@nd.edu) or 631-8111.

### GINGERBREAD HOUSE AUCTION HELPS THE HOMELESS

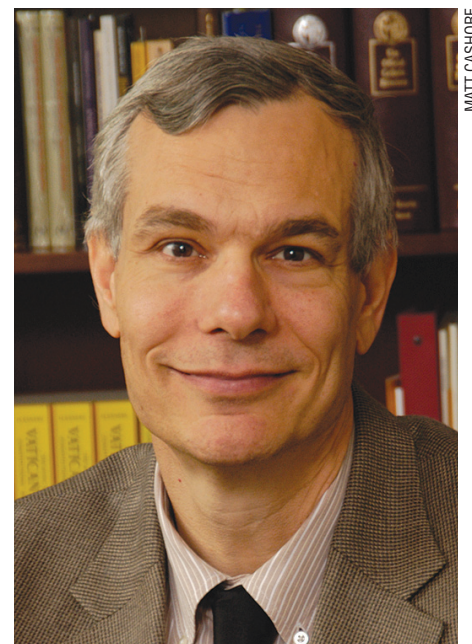
Winning bidders will take home an icing-and-candy-covered work of art in the Morris Inn's second annual gingerbread house auction benefiting the Center for the Homeless. Bids can be placed on the houses—on display outside Sorin's—through Sunday, Dec. 13. Bids will be posted daily, and winners will be notified Monday, Dec. 14. The gingerbread houses were created by the Morris Inn's talented culinary staff. Above, pastry assistant Melissa Elashrafi, at left, and line cook Shannon Zila add details to a gingerbread house.

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

#### Cavadini honored by Pope Benedict XVI

John C. Cavadini, associate professor and chair of the theology department and McGrath-Cavadini Director of the Institute for Church Life, has been named by Pope Benedict XVI a member of the Order of the Knights of St. Gregory the Great.

Cavadini received the papal honor at the request of Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who praised Cavadini "for his study of Catholic theology, his recruiting of outstanding theologians for the theology faculty at Notre Dame and his assistance to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops."



MATT CASHORE

Cavadini



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR**  
Gail Hinchion Mancini

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Carol C. Bradley

**CONTRIBUTING EDITOR**  
William G. Schmitt

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**  
Monica Hoban

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Kristina R. Craig,  
Kreative Koncepts

**COPY EDITORS**  
Brittany Collins  
Jennifer Laiber

**STUDENT INTERN**  
Lisa Bucior

**STUDENT REPORTER**  
Katie Doellman

NDWorks, Notre Dame's faculty and staff newspaper, is published by the Office of Public Affairs and Communication. The views expressed in articles do not necessarily reflect the views of NDWorks or the administration. NDWorks is produced semimonthly during the academic year when classes are in session, and monthly during June and July. Online PDF versions of past NDWorks can be found at [nd.edu/~ndworks](http://nd.edu/~ndworks). Submit story ideas, questions and comments to [ndworks@nd.edu](mailto:ndworks@nd.edu) or contact Carol C. Bradley, 631-0445 or [bradley.7@nd.edu](mailto:bradley.7@nd.edu).

The deadline for stories is 10 business days before the following 2009-2010 publication dates: July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 28, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 7, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25, March 18, April 8, April 22, May 6, May 20, and June 17.

## Busting myths about extremist legislators

Award-winning collaboration debunks conventional wisdom

BY JOSH STOWE, ARTS AND LETTERS

John Griffin, associate professor of political science, has helped debunk a myth about ideologically extreme legislators in an award-winning paper he co-wrote, raising the question of whether citizens hold elected officials accountable.

Conventional wisdom holds that extremist legislators fare worse than moderate ones in congressional elections because they're more likely to vote in ways that don't reflect their constituents' policy preferences—a pattern that voters don't tolerate. Griffin and Brian Newman, a Pepperdine University professor, question this inference in their paper, "Are Ideologically Extreme Legislators Really Out of Step?" The publication has earned them the Emerging Scholar Award from the Midwest Political Science Association, which is the second-largest political science association in the United States. "We show that ideologically extreme members of Congress aren't more likely than moderates to vote in ways that are



Griffin

out of step with their constituents' policy preferences," Griffin says.

That's an important finding, Griffin says, because previous scholarly works have attributed extremists' relatively poor showings to the quality of representation they provide—an inference that now turns out to be incorrect.

"The take-home point is that in order to see when legislators are representative—and in order to determine if citizens hold them accountable—we need to compare their behavior with their constituents' wishes," he says. "We don't learn much about representation by comparing legislators' behavior to that of other legislators."

The paper is the latest collaboration between Griffin and Newman. It follows their 2008 book, "Minority Report: Evaluating Political Equality in America," in which they analyzed the political inequality that racial and ethnic minority groups face and explored ways to reduce it.

Griffin is working with John Aldrich, a Duke University professor, on a book that examines the emergence of a competitive party system and explores why it is important for democracy.

Griffin says the book, scheduled for publication in 2011 or 2012, uses the American South to study the question because the Democratic Party controlled most public offices in the region from the end of Reconstruction until World War II.

He sees this latest work, like the paper he co-authored and his earlier research, as part of his larger scholarly passion.

"I am interested in political equality," he says, "or whether the preferences of citizens are equally represented in the outputs of government."

## ARTS AND LETTERS

# Creating a 'thesis culture' in Arts and Letters

Changes will mean a more sophisticated undergraduate experience

BY SHANNON CHAPLA, NEWS AND INFORMATION

When John T. McGreevy was appointed I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean of Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters last year, he said "Notre Dame's effort to at once become a preeminent research university, enhance an already strong reputation in undergraduate education and nurture a distinct religious identity is one of the most important experiments in American higher education, and I look forward to assisting this project from a new vantage point."

This fall, McGreevy continues to make good on that promise, implementing a number of changes that will help the college create a more intense and sophisticated undergraduate experience.

As one of his initial goals, McGreevy is working with the faculty to triple—within three years—the percentage of Arts and Letters students who complete a senior thesis.

Defined as a yearlong original research project, a senior thesis can be a written text, artwork or a performance or production, but in every case includes working one-on-one with a faculty member or graduate student who is in residence throughout the process.

It's an aggressive goal, and one about which he's most passionate.

"We want to create a thesis culture in which students are encouraged to research complex problems, learn something in the process that no one else has ever learned before and make contributions to the world of scholarship," McGreevy explains. "That's an ambitious goal, but one that can transform the student experience."

Research grants and study abroad, an experience shared by some 59 percent of Notre Dame undergraduate students, will be more heavily emphasized as launching points for a senior thesis. McGreevy explains that, for example, a student study-

ing in London for a semester might uncover an idea there for a research topic, apply for an Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program grant and return to London over the summer, strategically planning toward a thesis.

Last year, a committee led by Stuart Greene, associate dean for undergraduate studies, began examining how to enrich the thesis programs in Arts and Letters departments. It established a common due date in March, to be followed by a "Senior Thesis Day" reception. But more importantly, each department now is encouraged to develop a multiyear support system for students doing a thesis or creative project. Departments with the most successful models are sharing best practices.

"I see this initiative less as a numerical quota and more as a challenge for departments to innovate," says Joshua Kaplan, director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Political Science. "For most students, the thesis represents a departure from the kind of writing they do in their courses. The University encourages undergraduate research, but students need to learn how research is actually done before they undertake a project of their own."

Kaplan recalls a senior thesis, written by former political science and history double major Allyson Connolly, that was especially notable because it linked her two majors, drew on her experiences from interning in Washington, D.C., and proved challenging, but ultimately changed the way she viewed herself as a student.



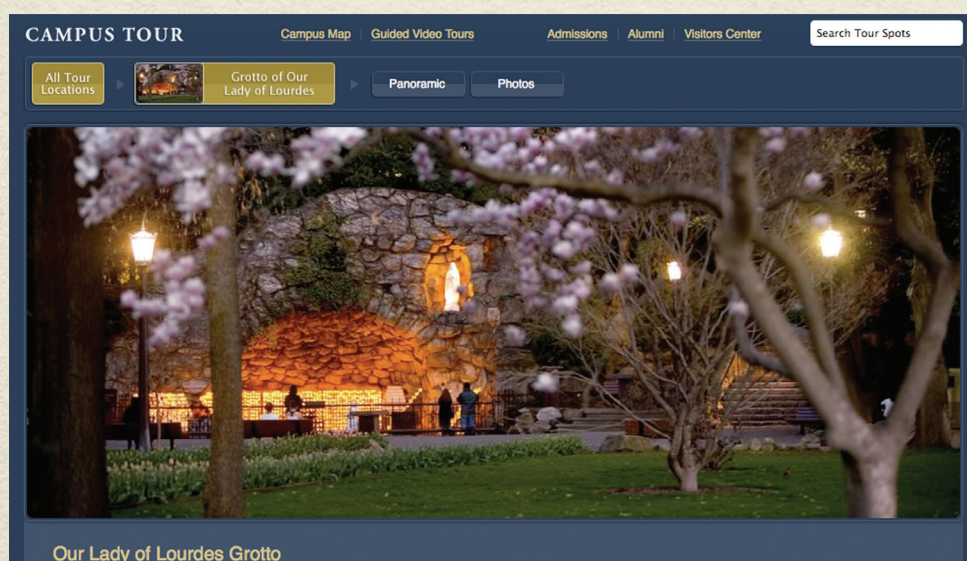
McGreevy

Titled "What Kind of Compromise Was the Missouri Compromise," Connolly's thesis examined the legislative history of the 1820 agreement between pro-slavery and anti-slavery factions in the Congress that involved primarily the regulation of slavery in the western territories.

"The thesis process provided me with the opportunity to step up academically," Connolly says. "I knew I had to go beyond even the higher level writing seminars I had taken. It challenged me in every way and required me to utilize every skill I had learned thus far at Notre Dame," she says. "I can say without a doubt that it was the highlight of my academic experience at Notre Dame."

Says McGreevy, "Thinking through intellectual issues and completing an independent project are invaluable experiences for our students because they are better prepared for the work force with skills that will last a lifetime, whether in the business world, graduate or professional school or community service. For graduate school, the experience really is indispensable. Many programs won't consider anyone who hasn't done a senior thesis."

## Virtual campus tour goes live in mid-December



The beauty of campus, available online

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

A new virtual campus tour, designed by AgencyND interactive designer Jim Gosz, is scheduled to go live Thursday, Dec. 17. "It's like a Christmas present for all those who love Notre Dame," says Gosz.

"The goal was to show people who can't get here—or who want to revisit Notre Dame—the beauty of the campus."

The site, [tour.nd.edu](http://tour.nd.edu), is designed to grow, and more videos, panoramic images and photographs will be added.

Site visitors can tour popular destinations such as the Main Building, the Grotto and the stadium. "But we also wanted to show other areas people might not be familiar with, such as Jordan Hall of Science, the new Geddes Hall and the Log Chapel," says Gosz. "We wanted to show people that there's more on campus than the Dome and the football stadium."



St. Nicholas of Myra by James Christensen, © James C. Christensen, courtesy of the Greenwich Workshop®, Inc. [greenwichworkshop.com](http://greenwichworkshop.com).

## The Meaning of Christmas

Through the years I have noticed how happy I am on any day that it snows and how unhappy I am when it rains.

I think memories of childhood joy and disappointment are at the bottom of these deeply buried feelings that rise up unbidden. On snowy days as a child, we were excused from school and anticipated a wonderful day of sledding down the hill nearby. On rainy days we were not allowed outside to play, and plans for fun were regularly obstructed by the weather.

These memories of joy and sadness lie buried deeply in our souls, and they are aroused anew by some circumstance in the present that is reminiscent of the past feelings so overwhelming in the emotions of a child, whose disappointment is irremediable anguish and whose anticipation is blissful happiness.

I believe the memories of childhood Christmas mornings, surrounded by the heart's desire and the cornucopia of gifts left in the night underneath the decorated Christmas tree by the mysterious "Santa Claus," remain a memory of happiness in us that is never lost.

Some such childhood memory of lavish extravagance enables an adult to resonate more fully with the mystery of Christmas prayerfully understood in all its wonder. Hence I would not pit Santa Claus against Saint Nicholas, nor the secular against the holy, nor the body against the soul. It is from the material soil that our spiritual life blossoms. Christ in Christmas is rooted in every child's memories of an astonishing intervention of love in their life, found of all places in their stocking.

In other countries, legendary gift-bringers also make mid-winter visits to the children in their homes. The gift giving of the Magi in the infancy narrative of Jesus in the gospel of Matthew led to the custom of Epiphany-day gift giving in the Christian community.

This practice was found in southern Italy from an early date. Pasqua Epiphania, a female gift-giving figure, captured the imagination. La Befana, as her nickname became, was an alternate version of a Nicholas as a Christmas gift-giver. Father Christmas in England and Père Noel in France have become interchangeable with Santa Claus/Saint Nicholas. Christkind, the German for Christ Child, became in its popular pronunciation Kriss Kringle. Many were the names, but the mysterious winter gift-giver who appears on the eve of the Christ child's birth remained a story that perdured over the centuries.

Gift-giving is what human life is about. We give and we receive. What do we have that we have not received? Gratitude and thanksgiving may be chosen reactions to this life, but they are most appropriate in the light of the cornucopia of blessings that surround us. We are gifted with existence itself. We are gifted with love on all sides, if we have eyes to see its moment and heart to accept it. Daily life is transformed into a sacrament of thankfulness, when the "gift-giving" becomes a way of life.

Christians celebrate on Christmas day the birth of Jesus Christ. God is made flesh; God becomes human in a marvelous exchange where nothing of either divinity or humanity is lost or diluted. It is a marvelous marriage in which the creation remains itself and yet is swept up in an ineffable communion with the infinite God of creation.

The Christmas incarnation is a marriage made in heaven. The magi bring gifts to the Christ child in the stable in Bethlehem (Matthew 2: 1-12). Gold, incense and myrrh are gifts for a king—birthday gifts and wedding gifts all in one. Humanity has never had more to celebrate or more reason to give thanks. In giving us his son, the God of all heaven and earth has given us everything.

—"St. Nicholas in America," Rev. Nicholas R. Ayo, C.S.C.

## A giving spirit all year long

Father Nicholas is the author of a book on St. Nicholas

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

*In the Nicholas story the three maiden daughters of a penniless father are without a dowry and hence could not marry... Bishop St. Nicholas throws a bag of gold in their bedroom window on three successive nights and disappears. Such a gifting love story is what all of us want deep in our hearts from our God, our parents, and from our church.*

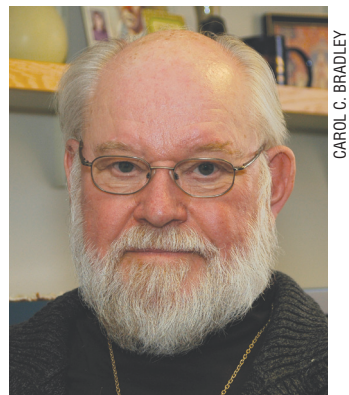
Rev. Nicholas R. Ayo, C.S.C.'s interest in St. Nicholas came from a collection of stories a friend made

up into a book for him. "She was Dutch, and her family had the custom of St. Nicholas coming on Dec. 6," he says. "I started collecting Nicholas pictures and stories, and after retirement came, I decided to write a book."

Father Ayo arrived at Notre Dame as a freshman in 1951, returning in 1981 to teach in the Program of Liberal Studies. He retired in 2004, and on Nov. 29, celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination.

His book, "St. Nicholas in America," published by Corby Books, is available at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore and through [corbypublishing.com](http://corbypublishing.com).

"There's a lot of the Christmas spirit here at Notre Dame all year long," says Father Ayo. "A lot of giving people, spiritually and intellectually. To give without cost, without expecting a return—it's a spiritual oasis."



Father Ayo

# Advent: A season of reflection and preparation

## Offering a message of hope

BY WILLIAM G. SCHMITT,  
NDWORKS

'Tis the season to be jolly?  
Well, yes and no: If you're citing the "Catechism of the Catholic Church," this is the season of Advent, which is full of joyful

hope but is also largely a time for recollecting the "ancient expectancy" and "long preparation" that preceded the coming of Jesus.

So should December be dour at the Dome?

Hardly, says theology professor Lawrence Cunningham. "Advent is one of my favorite times of year," he says.

The penitential elements of this season "keep us focused" and give us an opportunity

to slow down for a moment of reflection before we're totally caught up in the secular distractions of Christmas, says Cunningham.

Liturgies of this season, he adds, include some "very rich readings" from the Scriptures in which the prophets spoke powerfully—sometimes with words of warning but with an overriding message of hope.

Rev. Gregory A. Green, C.S.C., the member of the campus's Congregation of Holy Cross community who is designated as chaplain to the Notre Dame staff, mentioned a new book about hope when asked about suggestions for celebrating Advent.

Ave Maria Press, a ministry of Holy Cross, recently published

"The Gift of Hope: Advent and Christmas Reflections in the Holy

Cross Tradition." The book, edited by Rev. Andrew Gawrych, C.S.C., is available at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore and [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com).

The Office of Campus Ministry offers materials for heightening an appreciation of Advent. Faculty and staff can share in the resources for students' Emmaus faith-sharing groups. Check out [campusministry.nd.edu/faith-sharing/emmaus/](http://campusministry.nd.edu/faith-sharing/emmaus/) and click "Emmaus materials."

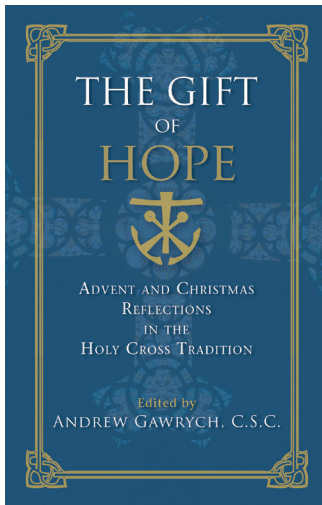
Those who are really looking for the experience of "slowing down" and "reflection," which transcends the Advent season and indeed goes beyond the joy of Christmas on the calendar, can check out the silent retreat being offered by the Office of Campus Ministry.

Notre Dame faculty

and staff are invited to participate in a five-day silent retreat at Moreau Seminary during Jan. 4-10. Applications are due by Wednesday, Dec. 16, and the forms are accessible at [campusministry.nd.edu](http://campusministry.nd.edu) by clicking on "Retreats" and then on

"Silent Retreat."

This is the second year in which Notre Dame is offering a silent, directed retreat in the Ignatian tradition to all members of the campus family.



## Creating an online prayer experience unique to Notre Dame

Alumni Association site has taken 24,000 prayer requests since 2007

BY KATIE DOELLMAN, NDWORKS

The Alumni Association's [pray.nd.edu](http://pray.nd.edu) site allows those unable to visit campus to make Grotto prayer requests online. The service was created in 2007 through a gift from Arthur Fredericks '50.

Since the site was created in 2007, [pray.nd.edu](http://pray.nd.edu) has logged approximately 425,000 visits and received 24,000 prayer requests.

Kathy Sullivan, the Alumni Association's senior director of spirituality and service, got the idea

for the site from an alumna—her seatmate on an airline flight—who observed that living and working at Notre Dame was a blessing—one could visit the Grotto anytime.

Their conversation made Sullivan ask herself, "Is there a way we can somehow be an ambassador for people, and go to the Grotto for them for their deepest needs?"

The site creates an online prayer experience unique to Notre Dame.



MATT CASHORE

Visitors submit Grotto requests online, and prayer requests are said at the Grotto on Thursdays. A green candle is lit on behalf of all the prayer requests that [pray.nd.edu](http://pray.nd.edu) receives.

Anyone who sends a prayer request and provides an email address or other contact information receives a personal response.

"We want them to know that this is very sacred to us," says Sullivan.

The site also offers daily reflections, which are available via email to subscribers. New reflections are posted daily. A reflection written by a Notre Dame student is featured on Mondays, and a faculty or staff member writes the Friday reflection. Sullivan writes reflections for other days. Members of the Notre Dame community are welcome to contribute.

Also available on the site are prayer cards, and a link inviting visitors to make Mass requests. Visitors can even become a fan of the site on Facebook.

[Pray.nd.edu](http://Pray.nd.edu) will soon begin broadcasting a television program series titled "Tender, Strong and True: Living the Gospel Daily." It will be faith-based, with practical application for challenging times in everyday life.

The shows will be profession-

ally produced and will air live on USTREAM, an online network of channels, on one Sunday of the month starting in December. Broadcasts will be archived and stored on [pray.nd.edu](http://pray.nd.edu) so users can watch them at their convenience. The first show is called "Liberating Christmas: How to Sidestep the Seduction of Materialism."

For All Souls Day this year, [pray.nd.edu](http://pray.nd.edu) asked members of the Notre Dame community to submit names of anyone for whom they would like a prayer to be said. Alumni around the world were asked to stop for a moment of silence and prayer at 12:30 that afternoon. They prayed for 13,000 names that day.

"To know that your loved ones were remembered by name at the Grotto meant a lot to people. That is a tradition we will continue," Sullivan says.

## THE LOG CHAPEL IN WINTER

The Log Chapel is a reconstruction of the original, which was built in 1831 by Father Stephen Badin when he established his mission at Lake St. Mary and named it Ste.-Marie-des-Lacs.

Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., the first president of Notre Dame, arrived with seven brothers in 1842. On Dec. 5, 1842, in his first letter to Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., founder of the Holy Cross Order, Father Sorin wrote:

*Everything was frozen, yet it all appeared so beautiful. The lake particularly, with its mantle of snow, resplendently white, was to us a symbol of the stainless purity of Our Lady... Like little children, in spite of the cold, we ran from one end to the other perfectly enchanted by the beauty of our new home.*

Father Badin's original Log Chapel—then known as "The Indian Chapel"—burned to the ground in 1856. The present chapel was built in 1906.

MATT CASHORE



# 403(b) Universal Availability Notice

## Supplemental retirement accounts available to all

Employees looking for fresh ways to save for retirement should be aware that the University offers a supplemental retirement plan in addition to the pension and 403(b) retirement programs that are part of the regular employee benefits package.

Employees, including part-time, temporary and on-call workers, are eligible to participate in the plan, called the University of Notre Dame Supplemental Retirement Account Plan (SRA Plan), regardless of their eligibility in Notre Dame's other retirement programs.

Participation in SRAs is completely voluntary, and contributions are independent of those made in the Notre Dame Defined Contribution Retirement Plan for Faculty and Administrators ("NDFR Plan") and the University of Notre Dame Employees' Pension Plan for non-exempt and hourly employees.

The SRA program recognizes that an employees' retirement may be more comfortable if he or she is able to supplement such post-retirement income sources as pensions, Social Security and 403(b) retirement investment accounts.

The benefits of using the SRA are:

- Contributions are made on a pre-tax basis, which reduces the amount of your annual income that is taxed
- SRA contributions and earnings grow tax-free until they are withdrawn

Employees may begin contributing to SRAs at any time in the calendar year. They can change the amount they're contributing and stop their contributions anytime as well. SRA contributions may be invested with Fidelity, TIAA-CREF and Vanguard.

The minimum SRA contribution is \$10 per month. The Internal Revenue Service prescribes a maximum annual contribution depending on an employees' age and length of service to the University. In calendar 2009 and 2010, those under 50 can contribute up to \$16,500; those 50 and older could contribute an additional \$5,500.

Additional information about the SRA plan or how to enroll is available by calling askHR at 631-5900, or by consulting [hr.nd.edu/benefits](http://hr.nd.edu/benefits).



## HEALTH COACHING

Lori Rush, development, gets a blood pressure check from Pro Health health coach Dave Stahl. Stahl is available for free health screenings, including blood pressure checks, strength tests and body fat checks from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month in the lobby of Grace Hall. Several staffers with dangerously high blood pressure have been referred to physicians as a result of the screenings.

# Parking lot safety important as winter arrives

## Be aware, and slow down

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY

The shortest distance between two points is a straight line—but if you follow that logic in a parking lot, it's an accident waiting to happen, say Major Jeff Korros and Officer Richard Kazmierzak of the Notre Dame Security Police.

At 7:45 in the morning, the library parking lot can look like the Indy 500—drivers going too fast, cutting diagonally across parking lanes and suddenly pulling through parking spaces.

NDSP has received complaints, and they're paying attention—and for everyone's safety, so should you.

"There is no place on campus where people are allowed to drive faster than 20 miles per hour," Kazmierzak says. "In a parking lot, you should drive half that. You never know what's going to happen. Five miles an hour can be too fast, depending on the conditions."

Think of it as the "Three C's," Korros adds: Common sense, caution and care. "Don't drive across the painted lines. Pedestrians aren't expecting you to do that. Stay in the aisles. Stop at intersections."

Scan the driver's side of other cars, he says. Be aware, and anticipate—is the driver about to back out in front of you? Is a car door about to open?

In winter, safe driving in parking lots and on campus streets is especially important. "Slow down," Kazmierzak says. "Get your foot off the gas. Start stopping sooner. A four-wheel-drive vehicle can drive through snow—but it doesn't stop any faster."

The two offer some other safe winter driving tips as well: Check your tire pressure, and make sure the tread is



Officer Richard (Kaz) Kazmierzak warns people to slow down when driving on campus.

good. Never get below a quarter tank of gas. Check your heater, antifreeze and windshield washer fluid. Another thing that's handy to have is spray-on de-icer, in case your door locks freeze.

And clean ALL your car windows. "Some people clean just a little peephole," Kazmierzak says. "You can't see what's in front or behind you."

That doesn't make for safe driving—and it's also a ticketable offense.

Pedestrians must also be cautious and aware, Kazmierzak adds. "The pedestrian may have the right of way, but they may be dead right," he says. "Car versus pedestrian... I haven't seen a pedestrian win yet."

## Still talking—or texting—while driving?

Lifeworks, Notre Dame's 24-hour employee assistance program, offers new statistics on the dangers of texting and talking while driving:

- A study by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute found that texting while driving increases the risk of collision by 23 times.
- Drivers using phones are four times as likely to cause a crash as other drivers. Drivers using cell phones are just as likely to crash as someone with a .08 percent blood alcohol level—the point where drivers are generally considered intoxicated.
- Hands-free devices do not eliminate the risk of getting in an accident, and may give drivers an unrealistic sense of safety.

No matter how good a driver you are, your ability is impaired when you use electronic devices. For access to Lifeworks, visit [lifeworks.com](http://lifeworks.com) and type in User ID notredame and password gond.

## SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The University congratulates the following employees who celebrate significant anniversaries in December, including 25-year employee **Dennis R. Krol**, Landscape Services.

### 20 years

**Denis J. Lindquist**, IT administrative services

**Lisa Suhanosky**, College of Arts and Letters

### 15 years

**Lee A. Farner**, business process advisory services

**Nancy E. Horvath**, provost's office

### 10 years

**Mary L. Bystry**, custodial services

**David T. Guthrie**, Morris Inn

**Sharon A. Zens**, development



Krol

## NEW EMPLOYEES

The University welcomes the following employees who began work in November:

**Evgeny Alekseev**, civil engineering and geological sciences

**Christopher Jerde, Andrew R. Mahon and Clayton Thomas**, biological sciences

**Megan S. Nelson**, Mendoza College of Business

**Michael J. Seelinger**, aerospace and mechanical engineering

**Tao Wang**, ND NANO

**Levi J. Wilson**, chemical and biomolecular engineering

**William F. Zech**, physics

# Building to start in The Triangle next summer

## Forty-plus already on the waiting list for market-rate housing

BY GENE STOWE, FOR NDWORKS

The South Bend Heritage Foundation Inc. expects to start building homes next summer in The Triangle, a once-distressed residential area south of Eddy Street Commons.

Notre Dame, which once owned some of the land, has been an important participant in the project, says SBH Executive Director Phil Byrd, who works closely with Greg Hakanen, Notre Dame's director of asset management and real estate.

Some Notre Dame-connected residents have signed up on a waiting list for market-rate housing that will be built in the area east of Georgiana Street and south of Napoleon Boulevard, stretching east along State Road 23.

When the project started some five years ago, the land was divided into 92 lots. The redesigned development will have 55 homes.

"When we started, about half of those were vacant lots," Byrd says. "Of the remaining 40 or so houses there, at least half of them were rentals."

Heritage Foundation typically builds or remodels houses one at a time as individual lots or distressed homes become available in a neighborhood. This time, the project was much larger.

"There were so many vacant lots, and a lot of the houses were substandard, too," Byrd says. "The decision was made to redo the

whole thing. Notre Dame owned a number of lots in The Triangle. We bought some and exchanged some and sold some to get the configuration right."

The foundation has bought all the land except seven lots, owned by four people, and negotiations are approaching a conclusion. Meanwhile, the engineering firm Danch and Associates has been replating and redesigning the neighborhood.

"We're re-laying out the streets, looking at utility placement," Byrd says. "The electricity will go underground."

When it owns all the land, the foundation will apply for approval of the Planned Unit Development, a process that can take several months.

"We hope to have that done and be building houses by next summer," he says. "We already have the infrastructure money from the TIF dollars that were generated from Eddy Street Commons."

Thirty percent of the lots will be set aside for low- to moderate-income families, those that earn less than 80 percent of the median county income for the family size.

"We will provide a grant to those families that will make the house purchase affordable," Byrd says. "The other 70 percent are market rate."

Set-aside homes likely will be between 1,000 square feet and 1,400 square feet. Market-rate homes likely will be smaller than 2,400 square feet and cost \$250,000 to \$300,000, depending on amenities that homeowners choose.

"There will be architectural standards," he says. "We already have 11 suggested designs that reflect the

## Interested in building a house in the Triangle?

### Here's what you need to know

Sometime in mid-to-late summer 2010, the Triangle development will make available about 55 lots for new housing in the area east of Eddy Street and north of South Bend Avenue.

Forty of the lots will be market rate, with the rest reserved for low-to-moderate income families—those that earn less than 80 percent of the median income for St. Joseph County, based on family size. For a family of four, that's an income of about \$46,000 per year.

Quite a few people have already put their names on the waiting list, says Phil Byrd, South Bend Heritage Foundation executive director. When the time comes, it'll be first come, first served. "We'll start going down the list calling people," he says. "Not all of those who express interest will decide to build."

There are a few caveats: You can't buy more than one lot, and homes must be owner-occupied—no rentals allowed. Deed restrictions will be put in place to enforce the rules.

In addition, there will be a list of approved builders, and there are style guidelines that must be followed (you won't be restricted to those builders, but builders and plans must be approved).

To add your name to the list, call Jessie Whitaker at Heritage Foundation, 289-1044, ext. 204. For more information, visit [SBHeritage.org](http://SBHeritage.org). Click on "NNRO" (Northeast Neighborhood Revitalization Organization), then click on "Triangle Development."

SBH has examples of 11 different home plans on the Web site, based on designs of actual houses in the neighborhood. Approved styles include American Foursquare, Tudor, Dutch Colonial and Craftsman bungalow.

In addition to the development, notes Byrd, another big change is in store: The Five Corners intersection will be reconfigured beginning sometime in 2010. "The five corners will go away, and it will become a four-lane, divided median road."

architectural character of the Northeast Neighborhood."

Heritage Foundation expects to have design standards and guidelines for the whole Northeast Neighborhood written into the city zoning ordinance.

"If you want to build in the Northeast Neighborhood, these are the standards," Byrd says. "They're not onerous."

Heritage Foundation has already remodeled some 15 to 20 houses, most selling for \$60,000 to \$70,000, in the Northeast Neighborhood, including some 60 percent of the homes on St. Louis Boulevard between Corby Boulevard and South Bend Avenue.

One house near Hill and Crescent, completely remodeled with four bedrooms and 2½ baths, is listed at \$80,000.

The work, like the 30 percent set-aside in the Triangle, avoids gentrification of the area that would drive out lower-income families. At the same time, unlike some other infill housing, the property is in a neighborhood expected to increase in value.

"We will continue to do infill throughout the neighborhood," Byrd says.

With no advertising, some 40 to 50 people, almost all South Bend residents, have already joined a waiting list for the market-rate homes. Some are Notre Dame-connected, while others are not.

"A lot of them live in the Northeast Neighborhood and want to downsize," he says. "They like living in town."

## Upcoming Events

### MUSIC

**Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD** performances continue in December and January. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [performingarts.nd.edu](http://performingarts.nd.edu) or call the box office at 631-2800.

**The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD: Turandot—Puccini**  
1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11  
*Browning Cinema*

In director Franco Zeffirelli's breathtaking production of Puccini's last opera, Maria Guleghina plays a Chinese princess whose hatred of men is so intense that she orders beheaded all suitors who can't solve her riddles.  
\$22/\$15

**The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD: Les Contes D'Hoffmann—Offenbach**  
1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 and  
1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20  
*Browning Cinema*  
A fictionalized look at the life and loves of German romantic writer E.T.A. Hoffmann. Met music

director James Levine conducts star tenor Joseph Calleja in the tour-de-force title role.  
\$22/\$15

**The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD: Der Rosenkavalier—Strauss**  
1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9 and 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, *Browning Cinema*  
Strauss's comic masterpiece of love and intrigue in 18<sup>th</sup>-century Vienna  
\$22/\$15



RecSports is offering drop-in fitness classes Friday, Dec. 11 through Wednesday, Dec. 16. Classes are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. View the complete schedule at [recsports.nd.edu](http://recsports.nd.edu).

Personal training packages are 20 percent off through Wednesday, Dec. 23. Visit [recsports.nd.edu](http://recsports.nd.edu) and enter promotion code 20%XMAS2009. For more information, call 631-6100.



Offenbach's Opera, *Les Contes D'Hoffmann*



## New places to eat on Eddy Street

If you're thinking about trying a new spot for lunch, dinner or a cup of coffee, **Eddy Street Commons** offers several new alternatives.

- **Chipotle Mexican Grill and Five Guys Burgers & Fries** are open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Sunday.
- **Hot Box Pizza** is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday; 11 a.m. to midnight Wednesday and Thursday; and 11 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- **The Hammes Bookstore and Café** is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.



From the permanent collection of the

# SNITE MUSEUM



1. *Adoration of the Magi*, 1838, by Eduard Karl Steinbrück, oil on canvas
2. *Madonna and Child with Saints Peter, Ambrose, and Charles Borromeo*, about 1741-42, by Giambattista Pittoni, oil on canvas
3. *The Ashbaugh Madonna*, 1917, by Ivan Městroví, wood
4. *Madonna and Child*, 1530-40, by Girolamo Mazzola Bedoli, oil on panel
5. *The Holy Family with the Infant Saint John and Two Angels*, about 1650-60, by Lubin Baugin, oil on panel