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CONTACT: BRIDGET F. CLARK DIANE SERRATORE
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
845-398-4016 845-623-8913

WRITTEN BY: COLLEEN PEREZ

**STAC STUDENTS PROVE THAT PLAYING WITH FOOD
“CAN” MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
Student-made sculptures of canned goods will be donated to People to People

(SPARKILL, NY, April 10, 2009) –The Humanities Division and the Office of Student Activities at St. Thomas Aquinas College have joined forces to host a Canned Food Sculpture Contest. The building will take place Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Romano Student Alumni Center on campus, while the judging will be held on Monday, April 20, 2009 at 5 p.m. All of the food collected will be donated to People to People of Rockland County. For more information regarding the canned food sculpture contest, call 845-398-4125 or email rmurray@stac.edu.

On Thursday, April 16 38 St. Thomas Aquinas College students will take on the task of artistic engineers. Their mission: to create a sculpture using only canned and non-perishable foods. Students representing five on-campus organizations including the Art Therapy Club, Spartan Dancers, SGA Executive Board, The Thoma Newspaper, and Psychology Club will building five unique sculptures out of hundreds of cans of food that have been donated by members of the college community.

“This is a great opportunity for the students to exercise their creativity while at the same time contributing to a good cause,” comments Dr. Robert Murray, chairperson of the Division of Humanities and Professor of English. “Collaborative work across the different areas of the college shows students that we are all members of the same caring STAC community, and that we can have a little fun together, but also help people in our county who cannot afford food for their families.”

From abstract designs and sandcastles to the signature STAC torch, the students will build their sculptures in a short amount of time in competition format. The sculptures will remain on display in the college’s Romano Student-Alumni Center until a judging ceremony on Monday, April 20. at 5:00 p.m.. Dr. Carl Rattner, Professor of Art and other members of the art faculty will judge the sculptures and award prizes in a variety of categories.

All materials used to build the sculpture will be donated to People to People of Rockland County. "Now more than ever, People to People faces the daunting task of feeding Rockland's hungry," said Diane Serratore, Executive Director of People to People. "The numbers of people needed help have increased significantly over the past six months," Serratore said. "Activities such as St. Thomas Aquinas College's CANstruction are vitally important in supporting the mission of People to People as we work to assure that no child goes to bed hungry in one of the wealthiest counties in the nation. To put it simply and starkly: food is not an option. It is essential."

People to People, founded in 1973, works to help struggling Rocklanders through difficult times with dignity by providing food, clothing, school supplies, refurbished computers and other support.

St. Thomas Aquinas College's 2,700 full and part time students can choose from over 97 different majors, minors, specializations, and dual degree programs across five divisions: The Humanities; Business Administration; Social Sciences; Natural Sciences & Mathematics; and Teacher Education or are enrolled in one of our graduate programs. The college has a long standing tradition of community service. For more information on the College visit www.stac.edu.

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