ST. CLOUD, Minn. (Oct.) -- The renovated Garvey Commons, the student dining hall at St. Cloud State University, will be dedicated at 4 p.m. Oct. 19 at St. Cloud State University (SCSU).

Speaking at the dedication ceremony will be Robert Carothers, chancellor of the Minnesota State University System; Brendan McDonald, SCSU president; Jerry Ziebell, SCSU food services director, and Mike Hayman, student housing director. The ceremony will be outdoors in the parking lot adjacent to Garvey Commons, and will be followed by a gala dinner for residence hall students and invited guests.

The south half of Garvey Commons opened its door in the fall of 1962 replacing the food service that operated in the basement of Stewart Hall. At that time, enrollment in the school was 5,500 students, according to Ziebell. The north half of Garvey was opened during the 1964-65 school year and the seating capacity increased to 800.

Planning for an addition to Garvey and a concourse link to Sherburne Hall dormitory began in 1980. In 1985, the Minnesota State University System approved a $2.9 million allocation for the expansion. Construction started in February 1987 and was completed this September. Seating capacity in the expanded dining hall is 1,100.

Since Garvey's inception, 60,000 students have been served more than 25 million meals, Ziebell said. Garvey Commons is named for Beth Porter Garvey, who was appointed dean of women students at St. Cloud State in 1926.

St. Cloud architect Fredric Wemlinger designed the addition. Primary contractor for the project was Donlar Corp., also of St. Cloud.

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