NYC's newest hotspot is kept at an icy 29 degrees Fahrenheit; it'll cost you $20 to get in to buy a drink (loaner parkas included).

Becker brings us a "who knew?!": Chicago's newest Gehry is an iceberg of a reception desk in the landmarked Inland Steel Building: "once we get used to it, it will become one of those funky objects beloved by the Chicago public."

Two we couldn't resist:

Glancey and Moore give Rogers the "towering genius" treatment: one "reviews a glittering career"; the other finds revelation in revisiting three houses he built in the 1960s, "when he was an ambitious but struggling architect."

Henry Ford's Highland Park complex in Detroit "is a step closer to seeing new life" as an automobile heritage welcome center.

Kats tries to fathom the Whitney's wish for an "aesthetically unremarkable" building "designed to be looked out of, not looked at" (and a missed opportunity).

STUDIO V tapped to design a $500 million TOD for Stamford, CT.

A look at P.A.T.H., the Starck/Riko design series of prefab homes that have "zero-energy or even positive-energy potential" (no mention of affordability).

Siraj takes a look at "a movement to popularize cost-effective and environment-friendly construction...that also brings in elegance" - and affordability.

A look at P.A.T.H., the Starck/Riko design series of prefab homes that have "zero-energy or even positive-energy potential" (no mention of affordability).

Roche cheers the possibility of legislation that will make open, public design competitions standard for national memorials, putting an end to "the unusual process that led to Gehry's selection" for the Eisenhower Memorial.

Capps cheers the "scaffolding creeping up" the Washington Monument "like kudzu has overtaken the memorial...Lit up like a spectral line...Even public sector companies are jumping in on the green bandwagon...In the next seven years, more than 50% of buildings in India from the corporate sector will want their buildings to be green, a significant rise from nearly zero in 2008. By Chandrashekar Hariharan/Biodiversity India Conservation Limited (BCIL)- The Hindu (India)

Save the Eisenhower Memorial from its commission: ...Congress has been investigating the unusual process that led to Frank Gehry's selection. The House is now considering a bill to replace that process with the public design competition standard for national memorials. That is the only proper course... By Sam Roche/Right by Ike: Project for a New Eisenhower Memorial- Washington Post

'Preserve Chandigarh's rich urban and architectural legacy': The draft Chandigarh Master Plan 2031 seeks to preserve the modern heritage and rich urban and architectural legacy of the City Beautiful...The city's monumental architecture, principles of town planning of sun, space, and verdure, as enunciated by Le Corbusier... -- Times of India

Green money: Or why we are happy that environment-friendly construction is being driven by the bottom line...Even public sector companies are jumping in on the green bandwagon...In the next seven years, more than 50% of buildings in India from the corporate sector will want their buildings to be green, a significant rise... -- Observer (UK)

Developer Named For $500 Million Stamford Transportation Center: ...a massive transit-oriented development project... "It's going to be a 24-7 work-play area..." -- STUDIO V Architecture [image]- Stanford Daily Voice (Connecticut)

Architecture: what tech giants' buildings say about them: Google proposes a relatively sober "groundscraper"[ in London] while Apple's California design has something cutting about it...choices are revealing about corporate personalities... Most popular... is the compound-as-kindergarten approach...Facebook asked Frank Gehry to make a building... "more anonymous", an unusual request for an architect not known for his quietness. By Rowan Moore -- Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM); Foster + Partners [images]- Observer (UK)

The New Downtown Whitney Building is "Not About Architecture": Piano is giving the museum a building that is not bad so much as it is aesthetically unremarkable, because this is precisely what the Whitney wants...a building that is "better from the inside than the outside"...designed to be looked out of, not looked at. By Anna Kats -- Renzo Piano Building Workshop; Cooper, Robertson & Partners- Artinfo

Water Works: Big plans to make Minneapolis' riverfront a sight to behold: ...RiverFirst, a 20-year multi-agency plan for the Mississippi...Hit another mark along the way along its Pilgrim's Progress path to becoming reality...And the team members are impressive... "They do impressive thoughtful research." By Martya Harris -- SCAPE/Kate Orff; Rogers Marvel; James Lima; SRF Consulting- MinnPost (Minneapolis)

Woodward Avenue Action Association closer to creating auto attraction at Ford's historic Highland Park plant: ...complex where Henry Ford's moving assembly line was born is a step closer to seeing new life...development of an automobile heritage welcome center... -- Crain's Detroit Business

Towering genius: Richard Rogers at 80: [his] buildings may divide opinion but there is no disputing that he is one
Richard Rogers: the man who taught us to love colour: As the architect turns 80 and the Royal Academy dedicates a show to his work, we revisit three of the highly original houses he built in the 1960s as his career was just beginning...It is revealing to travel back a half-century, before he won a peerage, a knighthood and a Pritzker, to a time when he was an ambitious but struggling architect... By Rowan Moore -- Team 4; Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners [slide show]- Observer (UK)

AIA National Healthcare Design Awards: AIA Selects 12 Projects for National Healthcare Design Awards -- Michael W. Folonis Architects; Mahlum; Stanley Beaman & Sears; ZGF Architects; TsoiKobus & Associates; CO Architects; RTKL Associates; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)/ICME/ITC; Payette; Lennon Associates; Cannon Design; HDR Architecture [images, links]- ArchDaily

Icehenge? Chicago has a new Frank Gehry, and it's Like Nothing You've Seen: ...Inland Steel Building reception desk is an intriguing work...it's also a subtly subversive one, providing a small explosion of the 21st century into the late 1950’s vision of Netsch, Graham and Lippold...once we get used to it, it will become one of those funky objects beloved by the Chicago public. By Lynn Becker [images]- ArchitectureChicago Plus

A really cool Vegas bar opens in midtown: The Hilton's new Minus5 is made of about 600 ice blocks: The temperature in the bar is a constant 29 degrees Fahrenheit, and customers are given parkas...Now customers will have a place to cool their heels if they are annoyed about the no-room-service policy. - Crain's New York Business

A Conversation with Gordon Young, Author of "Teardown: Memoir of a Vanishing City": Place is not always the result of the work of well-intended design professionals. By Kenneth Caldwell [images]- ArchNewsNow