

Our gardens are in bloom!

Around Mother Joseph Province, sisters were gardening this summer, and not just for themselves.

For the past 2 ½ years, Sister Charlene Hudon has been working as volunteer coordinator at Neighbors in Need food bank, which started the Garden of Hope in Burlington, Wash., in the Skagit Valley. The food bank's programs include providing a total of 40 children from two elementary schools with backpacks filled with nutritious foods for the weekend. Each week, Neighbors in Need also provides a box of food for 32 homebound people, 60 to 80 pounds of meat to Tent City, and food for four places in Mount Vernon

(Domestic Violence, Friendship House, Senior Center, and Peer Connection).

In the Yakima Valley, Sister Roberta Rorke was working with a local group that started a project to provide food for the poor, as well as work for local youth. This is the effort's second year and the response has been so enthusiastic that a second garden might be started elsewhere. Financial support for the project has come from the Sisters of Providence, in addition to a local group of judges, lawyers and physicians. ●



Dressed in the full, traditional habit, Sisters Pam White (left) and Rosalie Locati greet guests at Sacred Heart Medical Center's picnic for the homeless in Spokane.



Sister Charlene Hudon is among this group of gardeners in the Skagit Valley.

Pictured working with Sister Roberta are (from left) Shane Buckman, Preston Mesa and Pancho Villegas.

Around Mother Joseph Province, sisters were gardening this summer, and not just for themselves.



Continuing the legacy of feeding the poor

One of the events celebrating the 125th anniversary of Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center and Children's Hospital in Spokane, Wash., was a July picnic for the homeless. Two Sisters of Providence wearing the full traditional habit (Srs. Pam White and Rosalie Locati) were among the sisters, hospital administrators and friends of Providence who greeted and fed guests served by Hope House, Women's Hearth, House of Charity, Union Gospel Mission and the Spokane Mental Health Homeless Outreach Team.

From the hospital's earliest days, the sisters provided meals to people in need. When the need was most severe, 1894-95, the sisters served more than 5,000 meals in the hospital kitchen. "As a Sister of Providence, I felt really privileged to be with Sister Pam and to say by our presence and by wearing the habit that this is the legacy of the sisters," said Sister Rosalie. "It reminded me of the reason the sisters first began their work, and it encourages me to be faithful to my charism as a Sister of Providence to be in solidarity with the poor." ●



Intercommunity vocation retreat

Eight young women attended the first annual Intercommunity VIVA! Vocation Retreat to discern and explore a call to religious life as a vowed sister on July 9-10 at St. Placid Priory of the Benedictine Sisters in Lacey, Wash.

The weekend was a collaboration of the Seattle Archdiocesan Vocation Team and was sponsored by the Serra Clubs of Western Washington. The gathering gave women the opportunity to step away from their busy lives into a prayerful space of listening, quiet

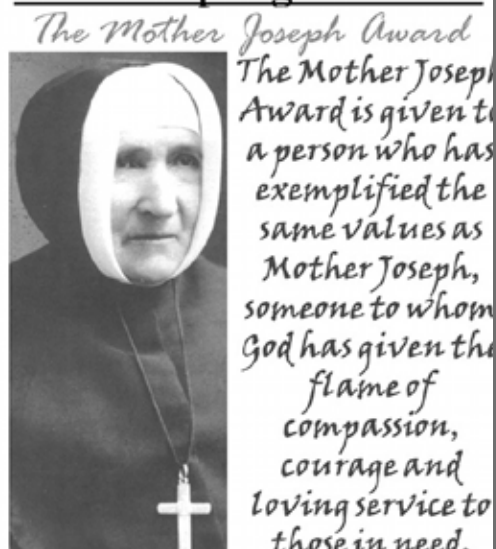
reflection, nature walks, art projects, sharing, laughter, and learning.

Sisters from several local communities, including the Sisters of Providence, told their own vocation stories. DVDs and slides presented people who have made their vocational choices, and Sister Susan Francois of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace shared her journey as a sister in temporary profession. There was time for quiet, personal prayer, prayer together, the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass. ●



Vocation directors and young women who attended the VIVA! Vocation Retreat: (from left) (back row): Amalia Camacho, CSJP, Jo-Anne Miller, CSJP, Patricia Novak, OSF, Joan Gallagher, SP, Monika Ellis, OSB, Francine Barber, OP; (second row): Marcia, Becky, and Jennifer; and (front row): Emily, Valerie, Angie, Mary Ann and Leslie.

Now Accepting Nominees



Mother Joseph Award

This year, the Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, will once again present the Mother Joseph Award to an individual who exemplifies the values and courage of Mother Joseph. The deadline for nominations is October 14, 2011.

Information about the award and the required nomination procedures may be found on the Sisters of Providence website (www.sistersofprovidence.net). ●

New Providence Associate

Laura Keim, of Seattle, became a Providence Associate at a simple ceremony at St. Joseph Residence on June 22. She was received by Provincial Councillor Jo Ann Showalter; Sister Paula Cosko, SP liaison; and by Cheri Allan and Karie Owens, Greater Seattle PA co-coordinators.

Laura, who is a spiritual director, chose readings and hymns that reflected her deep spirituality and compassion for the poor. Welcome, Laura. ●



Laura Keim



Hawley Center

Renton conference center named in honor of Providence Ministries sponsor

A ceremony held by Providence Health & Services on June 21 in Renton, Wash., marked the naming of the System Office conference center in honor of Providence Ministries sponsor Chuck Hawley. The PH&S board approved the creation and naming of the Hawley Center "in honor of our cherished colleague and sponsor."

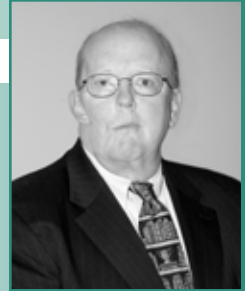
The conference center is the site for many PH&S meetings and conferences,

as well as the Sisters of Providence Provincial Chapter.

The resolution of appreciation, signed by Sister Lucille Dean, chair of the PH&S board, and John Koster, MD, PH&S president and CEO, highlighted Chuck's dedication to the mission of Providence and to the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. ". . . Chuck has touched countless lives across the continuum of care through

his dedication to improve long-term care, increase access to senior housing and acute care, and develop innovative programs to address the needs of the chronically ill . . ."

The ceremony announcing the naming, which was attended by Chuck and his wife Gail, was held in conjunction with the biannual lunch gathering for retired Providence executives. A formal opening and blessing of the Hawley Center will be held at a later date. ●



Chuck Hawley



Pictured from left are:

Sisters Claire Gagnon, 92; Mary Ann Bochsler, 90; Germaine Chabot, 92; Irene Charron, 91; Georgette Jean, 90; Ann Deuprey, 95; Margaret Keller, OP, 91; and Rita Bergamini, 90. Not pictured are Sisters Mary Shearer, 93; Mary Leona Miller, 91; Scholastica Lee, 90; and Joan O'Brien, 90.



Nonagenarians unite!

What do you do when you have 11 sisters at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, who are in their 90s? You form the 90-Year-Old Club, according to Sister Jacqueline Fernandes, superior there. ●

**Here's to joining the
100-Year-Old Club!**

We embrace being an international, intergenerational, intercultural congregation.



We invite you to

Come and See



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Provincial Chapter

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Sisters Vilma Franco (left) and Hong Nga Nguyen engage in deep conversation at the Provincial Chapter.



Provincial Superior Karin Dufault (left) missions Sister Paula Cosko.

Provincial Chapter attendees include two scheduled for "Come and See" experience

Angie, from Issaquah, Wash., was born in Fort Wayne, Ind., and graduated from Seattle Prep, in Seattle, Wash. She has a bachelor's degree in humanities with a major in diagnostic ultrasound from Seattle University and a certificate in biomedical regulatory affairs from the University of Washington. She is presently a senior clinical education specialist for Siemens Ultrasound. Angie is very active at St. Joseph Parish in Issaquah, especially as chair of the Outreach Commission, The REX (Religious Education for Everyone) program, Together We Build, and the Next Step Pregnancy Center.

Mary Anne, from Seattle, was born in Port Jefferson, Long Island, NY. She has a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from the University of Washington. Mary Anne has worked for Microsoft and owned her own business, Goat Milk Candy and Svedala Bakery. She presently is working at the L'Arche Community in Seattle and is very involved at St. James Cathedral with RCIA, the Welcome Back Team, Children's RCIA, the Cathedral Guild, and the Cathedral Kitchen.



Angie Grimmer (left) and Mary Anne Coles were present for the opening day of the Provincial Chapter in Renton. They were looking forward to a fall Come and See experience in Seattle. The two were among eight women who attended the first annual Intercommunity VIVA! Vocation Retreat in July at St. Placid Priory of the Benedictine Sisters in Lacey, Wash. (For more information on the retreat, see the Briefs section.)

By the time the two began their stay at Garfield House on September 3, they already had met many in the Providence community through their time at the Provincial Chapter.

Welcome, Angie and Mary Anne! ●