

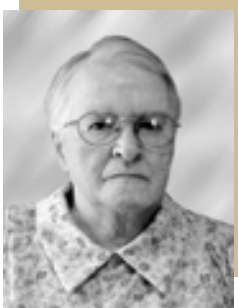
students at Providence Child Center in Portland. She was born in Portland, the ninth of 10 children of a German father and Norwegian mother born in Minnesota, where the couple met. Sister Mildred met the Sisters of Providence through her family and an older sister, Mary Theresa, another longtime teacher who became



Sister Alphonsa Maria. One of the highlights of Sister Mildred's teaching years was when both sisters taught at Blanchet High School in 1964-65. Sister Mildred retired to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, in 1995. ●

### Sister Agnes Rohr

(Sister Augustinus), Spokane, was born in 1916 in Brooklyn, NY, and was taken in by the New York Foundling Hospital of the Sisters of Charity in New York City as an infant. She grew up in Yakima with the adoptive family of Peter and Mary Rohr that she joined in July 1919. Her adoptive sister, who later became Sister M. Cabrini Rohr, was 8 years old when her new baby sister arrived by train. She died in 1997. Sister Agnes graduated from St. Vincent Academy, Walla Walla, and entered the novitiate in 1934 at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, where she professed first vows. Her 35-year ministry in teaching began in the former Sacred Heart Province, in schools from Alaska to California, including Olympia, Yakima, Moxee City, Vancouver, Walla Walla, Seattle, Portland, Burbank and Monroe, Alaska. Spanish was her favorite subject. She also served as principal of Providence Academy, Vancouver, 1959-60. Her second career was in health care, starting in 1971 in medical records at Providence Hospital, Portland, and then admissions and the information desk at St. Vincent Hospital, Portland.



She later became receptionist at St. Vincent, followed by a move to St. Mary's Hospital, Walla Walla, where she was admitting clerk and then director of volunteer services. In late 1982, she transferred to the

former St. Ignatius Province. After serving on the switchboard and as a driver at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, she retired there in 1988 but continued to volunteer for a time as a Eucharistic minister at St. Aloysius Parish. ●

### Sister Georgette Bayless

(Sister Mary Joan), Yakima, was born the middle child of seven in San Jose. After graduating from Notre Dame High School she enrolled at San Jose State College in pursuit of a nursing career. She embraced the call to religious life while at Providence College of Nursing in Oakland. She entered the religious community in 1945, professing first vows in 1947 and final vows in 1950. She was nursing supervisor at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Yakima, then at Providence hospitals in Portland, Astoria, Yakima and Anchorage. She was nursing school director in Walla Walla and assistant director and later supervisor and inservice instructor in Portland, patient visitor in Medford, and associate director of nursing in Missoula. Sister Georgette served in pastoral care in Everett, Burbank and Olympia, then worked in mission effectiveness in Yakima and



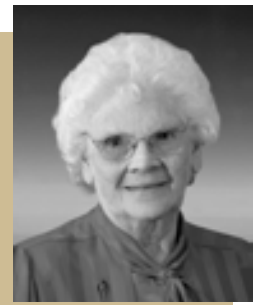
Toppenish. She retired from full-time ministry in 1995 in Yakima, but continues to serve on the boards of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Catholic Family and

Child Services and its subsidiary, Foster Grandparents, Interfaith/La Casa Hogar, and Yakima Valley Community Foundation. She is a member of Pax Christi and a lifetime member of Zonta International. She started a neighborhood program for preschool children and parents called Expanding Your Horizons and she founded Hospice of Snohomish County in 1977 and its fundraising namesake, Bayless Foundation. In 1981, Sister Georgette received the Jefferson Award for community service from the Seattle Post Intelligencer. She also has been recognized as a distinguished citizen by the Everett Chamber of Commerce and received a special award for commitment to health care in Everett. ●

### Sister Rose Marie Dillman

(Sister Andrea), born in Strasburg, N.D., and raised in Yakima, was a longtime teacher in Yakima, Seattle, Olympia, Vancouver, Moxee, and Sun Valley, Calif. She also served as principal at Sacred Heart School, Tacoma and at Holy Family School, Seattle. Thirty-seven of her teaching years were spent at Seattle's John F. Kennedy High School, where she also was a counselor, retiring in 1995. She still is very much a presence there, tending

the school's beautiful rose garden, attending all the games and helping the school set up an archive. She also participates in breakfast prayer groups and is a Eucharistic minister for school Masses. Her former students, now ranging in age from 28 to 55, are never far from her thoughts and she keeps in close touch. No matter where she encounters them, they come up to say hello. Struck by a car in a 1977 accident in front of the school, she broke both arms, legs and her lower back. The doctors said she would never walk again, but nothing could keep her away from her beloved students. It is especially fitting then, that a school celebration, including a Mass and dinner, was part of her Jubilee year. ●



### Sister Maureen Hurley

(Sister Marie Anita), Seattle, was born in Butte, Mont., but her family lived in Walla Walla. She and her siblings – a brother and a sister – attended Catholic grade school and then St. Vincent Academy. She entered the Sisters of Providence at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, and her first ministry was as a teacher at Holy Rosary School in Moxee. That began a 40-year teaching career that took her to Seattle, Tacoma, Fairbanks, Olympia, Sun Valley, Anchorage and Yakima. Sister Maureen also

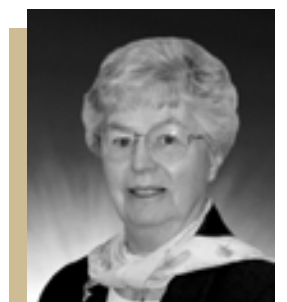


was principal at schools in Seattle, Yakima and Everett, plus eight years at St. Finbar School in Burbank. She later studied Montessori education in Portland, then became principal of the Montessori

school at Providence Child Center, Portland. Before her retirement in 1970, she worked as a receptionist at Providence Portland Medical Center. She has lived at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, since the end of 2004. ●

### Sister Therese Kohles

(Sister Mary Bernice), Seattle, was born a middle child in a loving family with 13 children in Oakland. She left at the age of 19 to enter the Sisters of Providence. At profession of first vows in 1945, she had asked to be considered for foreign missions, but was assigned instead



to the business office at Providence Hospital, Seattle. Her career in nursing included administration and hospitalwide education in Seattle, Everett, Anchorage, San Francisco and Medford. From 1977 to 1983 she was director of Providence Child Center in Portland. Sister Therese studied at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley in preparation for work in mission effectiveness in Burbank and in Oakland, where she was the only Sister of Providence. She worked with administration, boards, employees and the women's auxiliary. When she retired to Seattle in 2001, she eagerly volunteered at the information desk at the Providence campus of Swedish Medical Center. She also became a volunteer at the Sisters of Providence Library at St. Joseph Residence. ●

in Burbank. She was over the age of 70 when she retired. Last September she moved to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, where her older sibling, Sister Jeanne Parent, also resides. ●

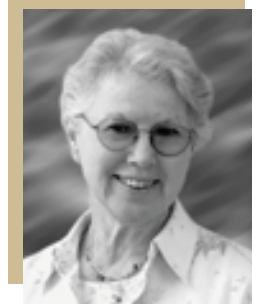
## 50 YEARS

**Sister Anita Butler** (Sister Francesca), Seattle, was born in Los Angeles but raised in Burbank. Her father, a ground transportation worker at Burbank's airport, was transferred to the new Los Angeles International Airport and moved his young family to Burbank's St. Finbar Parish, where fourth-grader Anita met and was taught by the Sisters of Providence. She stayed close to the Providence sisters, returning to St. Finbar after she went on to high school, helping

them on weekends and after school. She entered the Sisters of Providence at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, in 1995. She and her classmates in the novitiate started teaching after two weeks of training, working towards their college degrees in summers at the College of Great Falls. She taught at St. Joseph School,

Vancouver, Sacred Heart School, Tacoma, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, and at St. Finbar in Burbank. She also was a teacher and assistant principal at Providence High School, Burbank, principal at St. Catherine School, Seattle, and academic vice principal at Kennedy High School, Seattle. Sister Anita then served 10 years as provincial treasurer and began 26 years of investment work with the cash-balance retirement trust at Providence Health System. She also worked at Providence Portland Medical Center as special project coordinator for administration and then headed a separate division for senior services followed by regional director of long-term care. In 1999 she became superior at St. Joseph Residence, the home for retired sisters in Seattle, and took on overseeing a \$6 million, 20-month renovation of the building. Most recently, she was appointed provincial treasurer and a member of the 2005-09 Leadership Team. ●

**Sister Lenora Donovan** (Sister Stephen), Portland, born in Columbus, Neb., is the youngest of seven children. Her family moved to Yakima when she was 9 and they all picked fruits and hops on local farms to pay tuition at St. Joseph School, where she first met the Sisters of Providence. She graduated from St. Joseph Academy in Yakima, then moved to Portland where she worked, went to school and received a license as a practical nurse. Her first job was at Multnomah County Hospital and she also joined a young adult group of Christian Workers at her parish, St. Andrew's. In 1954 she joined the Sisters of Providence, entering two years of novitiate training. She made first profession in 1956 and was assigned to work with the elder residents at St. Vincent Home for the Aged, Seattle. In 1963 she enrolled in nursing school at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Yakima. After passing the state board exams she went to Port Townsend, Wash., to be a registered nurse at St. John Hospital. Then she was assigned to the oncology unit at St. Vincent Hospital in Portland. Later she was assigned to clinical pastoral education after completing classes at Providence Medical Center, Portland, and receiving certification as a chaplain. She did parish work at Sacred Heart Parish in Medford for 12 years, then returned to Portland to take a job visiting the homes of the elderly with Providence ElderPlace, which she continued until her retirement in 2000. She continues to reside in Portland. ●



# Jubilee Celebration

## Sister Gilberte Parent

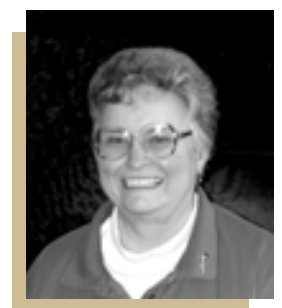
(Sister Cecile Marie), Seattle, was born in Roxton Falls, on a farm in the Province of Quebec, during the Depression. One of 12 children, she had always known she would enter the Sisters of Providence, as aunts, cousins and sisters in her family had before her. She entered the community in Montreal in 1944 and was sent as a missionary to Spokane, where her aunt was provincial superior of the former St. Ignatius Province. One of Sister Gilberte's first tasks was to learn to speak English. A good cook, she was considered a natural to become a dietitian,



but her heart led her to bedside nursing. Her early ministries included serving as nursing supervisor in Walla Walla, Seattle and Portland, then becoming assistant administrator at St. John Hospital in Port Townsend. Later she served as nursing supervisor in Fairbanks and Seattle, then became a staff nurse at St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank. For seven years she served as a hospice volunteer



**Sister Judith Edwards** (Sister Maura), Seattle, was born an only child in Denver during World War II. Her father was a bricklayer for the government, so the family frequently traveled. In 1944, when Judith was a second grader, the family moved to Yakima, where she entered St. Joseph Academy and met the Sisters of Providence. She entered the religious community in 1954. Her first ministry was teaching sixth grade at St. Patrick School, Walla Walla, followed by assignments at Holy Family and St. Catherine schools, Seattle; St. Finbar School, Burbank; Our Lady of the Holy Rosary School, Sun Valley, Calif.; Catholic Junior High School, Anchorage; St. Michael School, Olympia; St. Joseph School, Vancouver;

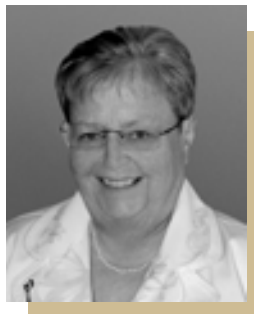




and Our Lady of the Lake School, Seattle. Her favorite assignments were teaching seventh and eighth grades and serving as assistant principal at St. Michael's. Sister Judith became records manager for Providence Health System in Seattle, serving for four years before moving to the business office at Kennedy High School. She taught English there for another five years, then, after a period of transition for medical reasons, became part-time librarian for the religious community in 1992. She recently moved to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. ●

### Sister Carolyn Koreski

(Sister Mary Timothy), Olympia, was born in 1935 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Yakima, the third of four children on a fruit ranch in nearby Naches Heights. At the age of 7 she developed the first symptoms of painful, crippling arthritis and was cared for by her then widowed mother. Carolyn was a sophomore at Holy Rosary School



in Moxee when her mother remarried a Mabton rancher and moved the family there, where Carolyn first met the Sisters of Providence. Encouraged by the sisters, she and her sister Maryann decided to continue their Catholic education at Providence Academy, Vancouver. When Carolyn graduated, she sought to enter the religious community but initially was turned down because of her health. With her doctors' help, she successfully contested that decision and was accepted three days before entrance to the novitiate at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle. She professed first vows in 1956. Her first ministry was teaching 62 second graders at St. Michael's School, Olympia. In her subsequent 14-year teaching career she taught every grade through eighth except the first and fifth. After receiving K-12 certification as a school counselor, she worked as a school counselor for five years before a year of medical leave. From 1976 to 1980 she worked part time with Catholic Community Services and St. Michael's in Olympia, doing home studies, working with unwed mothers and assisting with adoptions. Next she served five years on the formation team, then was asked to be sister representative at St. Helen Hospital in Chehalis, which later merged with Providence Hospital. She held that position for 17 years, until she retired in 2003. She continues to serve on the foundation board at Providence Centralia, as well as on the community board and the ethics committee. ●

### Sister Mary Catherine McGuire

(Sister Mary Margaret), Seattle, was born at Providence Hospital in Everett in 1933 and grew up on a dairy farm near Snohomish. She graduated from Snohomish High School, then attended Washington State College in Pullman for a year before transferring to Seattle University. She met the Sisters of Providence during student retreats and in 1954, at the end of her junior year, she entered the religious community at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle. She made first profession in 1956. Her first ministry was teaching second grade at St. Joseph Grade School, Yakima. After several other assignments she returned to Yakima to teach at St. Joseph Academy in 1960, then to teaching assignments in Vancouver and Anchorage. She returned to Yakima and St. Joseph's in 1966, just in time for the consolidation of the area's three Catholic high schools. Following her years of teaching she was assigned to the emergency admitting department of St. Peter Hospital, Olympia, where she learned the importance of sisters being available to respond to patients in crisis. She enrolled in a clinical pastoral education course in Albuquerque, then spent 20 years in pastoral services at St. Vincent Medical Center, Portland, St. Joseph Pavilion and Medical Center, Burbank, and Providence Medical Center and Providence ElderPlace, Seattle. Today she volunteers in English as a Second Language classes at North Seattle Community College and assists at the Sisters of Providence Library. She also is a lector for Mass at St. Joseph Residence and music leader for special occasions. ●



### Sister Kathryn Rutan

(Sister Jean Patrice), Montreal, was born in 1936, the second of six children. She has lived "the fullness of religious life," entering the Sisters of Charity of Providence in Seattle in 1954, the year she graduated from high school in her birthplace of Great Falls, Mont. After six to seven years of very traditional religious life came Vatican II, the civil rights movement and the anti-war movement. Sister Kathryn, working on a master's degree in political science



at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., was right in the midst of it all. Her first ministry was teaching fourth grade at St. Francis Xavier School, Missoula. She also taught at Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, Wallace, Idaho, and in Great Falls at St. Thomas Home and at Sts. Peter and Paul School, where she also was principal. She received a bachelor's in education from the College of Great Falls in 1961 and the master's from Georgetown. She also did post-graduate work at Seattle University and Louisiana State University. In 1967 she was a summer intern in the office of 1st District Congressman Arnold Olsen and in 1970, Montana named her both Outstanding Young Woman and Outstanding Educator of the Year. Sister Kathryn taught political science and history at the College of Great Falls and was director of community development for Opportunities Inc., Great Falls. She has served as a provincial councilor and was provincial superior of the former St. Ignatius Province from 1986 to 1992. She was legislative policy coordinator for Providence Services, interim director at Providence Renewal Centre in Edmonton, and also spent a year as a dishwasher at Eddie's Fine Foods, Boise. Active in many peace and justice groups, she also was assistant director of Montana Encampment for Citizenship. She was in Spokane, serving as a member of the first Leadership Team of Mother Joseph Province, formed in 2000, when she was called to Montreal. In October 2002 she moved there to become general superior of the 1,000-plus member congregation of the Sisters of Providence International. ●

25 YEARS

### Sister Ana Dolores Orellana

OMO, Yakima, was born in El Salvador in 1963, the fourth child in a family of six brothers and four sisters. She met the Oblates of the Mother of Orphans at the age of 15 and claimed to be the mandatory age of 16 to enter the community. When she was 18, she entered the novitiate in Milan, Italy. Her father, coffee farmer Jose Stanislaus, was taken by soldiers and never returned home. Her mother and most of her siblings received sanctuary at St. Ann Parish in Spokane and continue to live in that city. Sister Ana Dolores met the Sisters of Providence there and has been living with the Providence sisters as she explores a transfer of vows. Currently, she is living in Yakima, teaching 15-year-old Mexican girls Quincinera preparation, including responsibilities they will have to take in this coming of age rite in their community, and she is taking English as a Second Language courses at Yakima Valley Community College. ●



# Briefs

## St. Catherine Alumnae Award

**S**ister Alexis Melancon, College of Saint Catherine, class of 1949, has received an alumnae award from her alma mater, presented to those who have demonstrated leadership, service to humanity and support of the college's ideals. She has been an elementary and high school teacher and administrator, as well as founder and director of Emilie House, which serves the elderly poor in Portland. One nominator wrote: "Alexis has a way of valuing persons and drawing the best from them. She is able to lift

others up without creating a dependency. She has a gift for developing leadership in others, guiding them to see their possibilities and encouraging them in their academic, social and work situations."



Alexis Melancon, SP

## Sister receives service award from Seattle University

**S**eattle University's Center for Service presented its Spirit of Community Award to Sister Beatrice "Bea" LaFramboise in May. She recently completed a ministry begun in 1984 at Providence Hospitality House, a shelter for homeless women and their children in Seattle's Central District, and is returning to vocation work. The award presenter, Victoria Rucker, Community Partnership Program director, described Sister Bea as "a woman who has led with grace and

humility, with dignity and integrity, and who graciously invites the people she meets to come into Providence Hospitality House to share a meal with the families and staff who live there."



Beatrice LaFramboise, SP

## Sister Michelle Holland receives first Woman of Providence Award

**S**ister Michelle Holland, of Spokane, received the first Woman of Providence Award, a specially created silver medallion, in June at the 25th anniversary celebration of Women of Providence in Collaboration (WPC), an organization she helped found. The other foundress, Ruth McGoldrick, SP, of Holyoke, Mass., also received the award at the motherhouse of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind.

WPC is open to congregations of women religious that use Providence in their congregation's name. The three-day Providence Event drew more than 220 participants from the United States and Canada. In addition to the presentations to the founding sisters, members of the first steering committee also were honored "for carrying forth the dream and hopes of the group through its organizational years."

WPC, a little idea with big impact, was born in 1980. Sister Michelle, then provincial superior of the former St. Ignatius Province, and others became concerned that the dwindling number of Providence sisters demanded a coming together of communities with similar agendas and goals. At the end of 1980, there were 171 Providence sisters in the province east of the Cascade Mountains and 282 in the former Sacred Heart Province, west of the mountains. Today, in the Mother Joseph Province formed by combining the two provinces in 2000, there are about 185 sisters.

It became clear back in 1980 that in the future it would be very important for sisters to reach out to other religious communities with a similar agenda. A combining of forces would bring the strength that the sisters' numbers alone could not provide. Sister Michelle wrote to every community with Providence in its name – men and women. Fourteen congregations expressed



Sisters Michelle Holland (right) and Ruth McGoldrick received the first Woman of Providence Award in June at a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Women of Providence in Collaboration, which they founded.

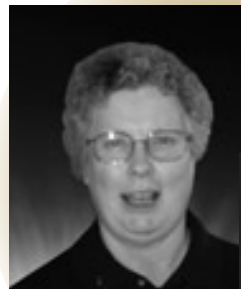
interest – all congregations of women, and Women of Providence in Collaboration was born. The group's first gathering was held in Great Falls, Mont., in July 1980.

Because of the interest that was generated, the plan became to do the same every two years in gatherings in different locations so more sisters could attend. Those gatherings came to be known as Providence Events.

"Women of Providence has been more than a chance for sisters to get together," Sister Michelle says. "It was a good thing for the people dealing with formation because it was their first exposure to sisters of other communities who were their own age. It strengthened them and let them know there were other women religious their age." Another example of the impacts of the collaboration was discussions on Providence caring for the world that led to the sisters' involvement in ecology movements and other initiatives, she adds. At the Providence Event in June, the group took official stands against misuse of Earth's resources and against the trafficking of women and children. ●

## High school alumni honor sisters

**S**isters Lucille Dean and Mary Hawkins were among seven individuals honored in June by the Alumni Council of Providence High School, Burbank, at its Jubilee, "Fifty Years of Memories." Sister Lucille retired as principal at the end of the 2004-05 school year after serving in that role since 1986. She initially came to the school in 1963 as a social studies teacher. Sister Mary, who began her tenure there as a social studies teacher and department chair, has been academic vice principal since 1990. ●



Lucille Dean, SP

Mary Hawkins, SP

