

# 2010-2014 Provincial Council

Members of the 2010-2014 Provincial Council are (L-R) Sisters Jo Ann Showalter, Judith Desmarais, Maureen Newman and Karin Dufault, who will be the Provincial/ Team Leader.



## Karin Dufault, SP Provincial/ Team Leader

Sister Karin is executive director of Supportive Care of the Dying: A Coalition for Compassionate Care, headquartered in Portland. She has been a loaned executive to the coalition from Providence Health System-Oregon. Sister Karin is a veteran of Providence's senior leadership, beginning with 12 years as chair of the board and four years as vice president of mission leadership.

## Team Members/ Councilors

### Judith Desmarais, SP

Sister Judith previously served in education, and on Provincial and General Councils headquartered in Seattle and Montreal.

### Maureen Newman, SP

Sister Maureen, a teacher, has also served in school administration for many years.

### Jo Ann Showalter, SP

Sister Jo Ann, after many years in health care as an ultrasound and X-Ray technologist, completed studies in pastoral ministry and earth literacy. She has been giving a year of service to the retired sisters as a member of the community life team at Mount St. Joseph.

**A** team of four sisters who will lead the Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2014, was elected by the sisters at their chapter meeting held in Spokane in June. The election of Karin Dufault, SP, to the position of Provincial Superior of Mother Joseph Province has been confirmed by General Superior Kathryn Rutan, SP, and the General Council. The sisters also elected three Provincial Councilors in their prayer and discernment process. The councilors are: Judith Desmarais, SP, Seattle; Maureen Newman, SP, Seattle; and Jo Ann Showalter, SP, Spokane.

**In addition to leading** the religious community, Leadership Team (Provincial Council) members serve as corporate members of Providence Pariseau Corporation, which includes Providence Hospitality House and Sojourner Place. They also cosponsor several other ministries for women and children through Transitions in Spokane. The current Leadership Team members also are the corporate sponsors of Providence Health & Services, but as of January 1, that role will be taken over by sisters and lay people who will form Providence Ministries. **Look for more about the new Provincial Council, in the next issue of Caritas.**

Planning Committee members for the Chapter of Elections were (L-R) Sisters Karen Hawkins, Judy George, Marilyn Charette, Provincial Councilor Annette Seubert, and Jo Ann Showalter.

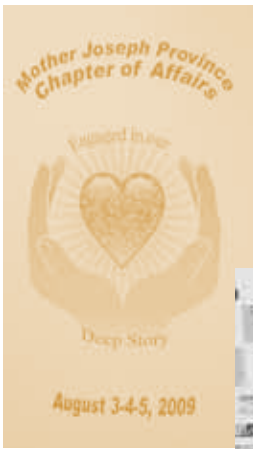


# Engaged in Our Deep Story

**T**his gathering is still being talked about, and not just because it is the first to be held at the new headquarters of the Provincial Administration in Renton, Wash. It was a prayerful, playful and provocative three days involving Sisters of Providence and Providence Associates. The topics of discussion, including what it truly means to be international and multicultural, the sharing and the brainstorming were heartfelt, passionate and ultimately unifying. And the icing on the cake was a lively skit presented by sisters in formation from the Philippines, Vietnam, El Salvador and the United States.

Joining the attendees were General Councilor Alba Letelier and Councilor Secretary General Claudette Chénier, from Montreal. Their comments indicated they felt they were part of something special. Sister Claudette called it “a rich experience and a privilege... The open, frank discussion of feelings, I experience that as a grace.” Being part of the gathering was “a way to grow ... ongoing formation for me,” Sister Alba added.

You had to have been there ... but these images offer just a flavor of an extraordinary gathering. ●



Displays offered attendees lots of food for thought.



Sisters in formation performed a lively skit. Shown below, Hong Nga Nguyen interviews (L-R) Sisters Margarita Hernandez (the Bishop of Nisqually), Jessica Taylor (Mother Joseph), Suzette Bautista (Blessed Emilie Gamelin) and Vilma Franco (Mother Bernarda Morin).



New candidate Marita Capili (left) shared a quiet lunch outside with Sister Josie Ramac.





Fellow Californians Lillian Rouzan, PA (left), and Mary Alice Miller, SP, connected.



Meals were provided by the kitchen staff of the Providence Café in the Providence Health & Services System Office.



"Providence of God" rang out in Tagalog in the voices of (L-R) Sisters Lina Afinidad, Margaret Bischoff, Josie Ramac, Suzette Bautista and Fidela Adriano.

Friends delighted in gathering in the sunshine in the courtyard outside during breaks. Pictured (L-R) are Sisters Jessica Taylor, Jacqueline Fernandes and Dorothy Klingele, St. Joseph Residence activities coordinator Vicky Smith, and incoming novice Hong Nga Nguyen.



Sister Fran Stacey (left) found a corner to chat with Sister Vilma Franco.



The sharing and listening in table discussions were both intense.

# Briefs

## Walk of the Heroines Sisters visit Portland site honoring Mother Joseph and other heroines

**W**alk of the Heroines, a garden gathering place and interpretive center on the Portland State University campus, celebrates the lives and accomplishments of three centuries of women, including Mother Joseph. At the June 17 opening event, more than 400 attended the reception, strolled the grounds to read the names inscribed on a memorial wall, and took pictures as keepsakes.

Sisters of Providence who were among the throng were delighted to walk along the Iris Rill Garden that is dedicated in honor of Mother Joseph. It features a natural waterway from east to west that symbolizes the journey that Mother Joseph and four other Sisters of Providence made from Quebec to Fort Vancouver in 1856. Sister Karin Dufault, one of the speakers at the opening event, said the garden was a most appropriate choice for a tribute to Mother Joseph. "The seeds planted are reminders of the seeds she planted and nurtured in the Northwest." In Oregon alone, the fruits of her labors include seven hospitals, 42 clinics and a center for medically fragile

children, said another speaker, Russ Danielson, vice president and chief executive of the Oregon Region of Providence Health & Services.

The Walk of the Heroines also features Mother Joseph's quote, "My sisters, whatever concerns the poor is always our affair," carved in the stone walkway. Her bio and photo are included in an educational kiosk onsite and on the project website. (<http://www.woh.pdx.edu>)

Former Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts, emcee for the opening event, said the design for the project was approved back in 2002, and recognizes "three centuries of women, every creed and color, named and unnamed." Providence Health & Services is among the contributors who made this place of recognition of women possible. Roberts said \$200,000 was contributed by the Associated Students of PSU in 2001. The \$3.7 million project also supports a permanent fund for student scholarships and community programming through the Department of Women's Studies at PSU.

At the time of the event, the project had 1,187 donors and the names of 500 women on the wall, with room for nearly 700 more. Fundraising is underway for the project's second phase, including an Interfaith Friendship Garden. A tax-deductible contribution of \$100 or more will allow the donor to honor a heroine on the kiosk and website.

You can find the Walk of the Heroines at the juncture of Portland State University and the South Park Blocks in downtown Portland, across from PSU's Hoffman Hall. ●

## Organ pipes from Providence Heights find new home

**H**oly Trinity Lutheran Church in Port Angeles, Wash., has doubled the size of its organ with the addition of pipes taken out of Trinity Lutheran College in Issaquah. The Trinity Lutheran campus is the former Providence Heights College of Sister Formation. The new organ, with about 2,000 pipes, a revamped console and a new electronic system, reportedly will be the North Olympic Peninsula's largest. The result is "a richer, more depth of sound" instrument, according to Joy Lingerfelt, music minister and church organist. A dedication concert for the new organ is planned for December 6. ●

## Mission accomplished!

**C**ongratulations to Sister Karen Hawkins, who completed her master's degree in transforming spirituality at Seattle University in June. Friends celebrated the successful completion of her three years of study at a potluck celebration at her home in West Seattle following the graduation ceremony. ●



Sister Karen Hawkins

## Providence Ministries

### Missioning scheduled for new sponsors of PH&S

**S**eattle Archbishop Alex J. Brunett will join the Sisters of Providence on October 9 in missioning two sisters and three lay persons who will become the sponsors of Providence Health & Services. The special Mass and missioning ceremony will be held in the chapel at Providence Mount St. Vincent in West Seattle.

The new sponsors are Anita Butler, SP; Johnny Cox; Charles (Chuck) Hawley; Barbara Savage, PA; and Barbara Chamber, SP. They already have been involved in orientation and formation meetings and will begin their sponsorship as part of Providence Ministries on January 1, 2010. ●



Pictured at the Walk of the Heroines are (from left): Sister Lynda Thompson, SNJM, director of pastoral care at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center; and Sisters of Providence Margaret Bischoff, Joyce Green, Jeanette Heindl, Ana Dolores Orellana Gamero, Rita Ferschweiler, Karin Dufault and Lenora Donovan.