

Montana State University Law School in his letter in support of her nomination. "Who Mary Anne is and what she does radiates the values and the vision of Mother Joseph and evokes deep feelings of gratitude in those who have known, worked with and been served by the Sisters of Providence." She lives the mission, proclaims the values, nourishes the heritage and the traditions, invites participation, and emulates courage, compassion and sacrifice, said Sullivan, who was a member of the St. Patrick Hospital advisory board in the 1970s, then served again from 1997 to 2003.

Linda McKnight, a Providence Associate in Missoula and one of the nominators, agrees that Mary Anne has had a tremendous impact. "...under Mary Anne's leadership, the Providence charism continues to be passed on to the employees of St. Patrick Hospital." Mary Anne empowers, encourages and inspires through orientations, meetings, retreats and leadership workshops, but mostly through example. "Even though the Sisters of Providence are absent physically, their Spirit continues to be remembered and lived," Linda explains. "Like Mother Joseph, Mary Anne is a woman of vision and tireless energy, who not only teaches but lives the challenge of compassion, respect, excellence, service and teamwork."

Anne Hoppie, RN, who has been working with Mary Anne for seven years, says she is "a natural healer" and teacher. Mary Anne also is a gifted story teller. "She has also helped me define my core values of nursing, which are promotion of health, facilitation of healing

and alleviation of suffering. She did this through telling stories and enabling me to have the confidence in my ability to make a difference." Those stories directly influenced the delivery of patient care, Anne says.

It was Mary Anne who taught the important lesson that "Nursing is not just about performing skills and delivering medications, but rather it is about providing for the emotional, spiritual and physical needs of the patient," Anne says. Among the many stories Mary Anne tells is the story of Mother Joseph, reminding employees of the hospital's history and its mission.

"In telling her stories, she is a champion for all disciplines that impact patient care at St. Pat's. She is relentless in reminding everyone from administrators to housekeepers that we are here for those in need, both patients and each other," Anne explains.

Mary Anne currently is leading the effort to provide a transformational health-care experience for patients and an inspirational workplace for employees. She began

with retreats last fall to introduce the concept, which led to creation of two lists of promises: the first to patients and the second to co-workers. "Once again, Mary Anne helped define a vision that puts relationships with patients and each other as the center of what we do," Anne says. "I have learned from Mary Anne that one must never let go of a vision. If the vision is true to the values of Mother Joseph and Providence Services, it must always be the focus of what we do and how we do it."

Joyce C. Dombrowski, RN, MHA and vice president of nursing at St. Patrick's, praises Mary Anne for her passion, constant support and encouragement of others, and her contributions toward creation of an inspirational workplace. Her compassion for caregivers who provide continuous service during times of crisis inspires, elevates and "raises them up so that they can once again serve the vulnerable," Joyce adds. "She is a beacon of light and a constant source of strength and vision."

Mary Anne's reach extends far beyond St. Patrick's to the betterment of the entire Missoula community,

including her neighborhood and her beloved Christ the King parish, Joyce says. Mary Anne and her husband Reg love the area and especially enjoy the beauty of Western Montana that replenishes their energies.

Mary Anne also is "a guiding light in these uncertain times" for health care, with its nursing shortages and budget constraints, wrote Judy Gustafson, RN, coordinator of pain & palliative care. As a member of the administrative team and the manager for pastoral care staff, Mary Anne realized employees need to have outlets to express their frustrations. She helped establish the VENT program, which offers them an opportunity to debrief after stressful or traumatic events. Mary Anne also mentors, facilitates team-building retreats, serves on the ethics committee, and is coordinator for the LEAD (Leadership Education and Development) program.

"Her faith, vision and commitment to the mission of the hospital and, more specifically, to the mission of the Sisters of Providence are unwavering," Judy wrote "She provides each of us with a sense of courage and a determination to persevere while continuing to provide the very best care possible to those we serve." ●

***For the Sisters of Providence, the poor are those for whom the Lord has a love of predilection (preference); persons and groups whose basic needs are not met, and victims of injustice, especially the rejected, the marginalized, the voiceless.—Constitutions and Rules, 9.1***

**Just who are the poor? If we are still for a moment, we can hear them: the cries of people in anguish, pain, fear, isolation and uncertainty. Their voices are carried on the winds of devastating tropical storms in Haiti, the remembered echoes of earthquakes and hurricanes in El Salvador, and on the whispers of women and children everywhere who find life difficult, if not impossible, because of hunger, homelessness and violence.**

**As Sisters of Providence, our ears are particularly attuned to those cries for help, and we are gratified by the many laypeople who assist us with our ministries that actively work to meet the needs of the poor. So many are depending upon all of us who are more fortunate. We cannot let them down. We invite your continued support of our mission and ministries in this Christmas season and into the new year.**

**In the words of Blessed Emilie Gamelin on September 10, 1851: *I prayed that you may always love the poor, and that peace and unity may always be with you.* That is the Sisters of Providence prayer for you, as well. ●**



Archives staff (from left) Norman Dizon, Peter Schmid and Loretta Green enjoy their new home. ●



Archivist Loretta Green works to reorganize things. ●

# ST. JOSEPH RESIDENCE REMODEL



Sister Florida Hinse enjoys her new living quarters. ●

**St. Joseph Residence, the home for retired sisters in West Seattle, has emerged from a major remodeling effort as a charming oasis. A blessing ceremony was held at the site on September 26.**

*Living quarters and communal areas were updated and redecorated. The Providence archives was enlarged with new processing and reference space and a new HVAC system that will prolong the life of paper records, photographs and artifacts. In addition, the Providence library has a new home in the building with bookshelves, a card catalog, work space and an electronic database. ●*



Bill Bouten, PA, and Sister Anita Butler are aided in blessing a room by Sister Immaculate Kyampeire, DM. ●



Sisters enjoy meetings in a bright, airy new dining room and help themselves at the remodeled serving station. ●





*Sister Eva O'Hare cuts the ribbon to officially open the remodeled SJR building. Joining her are (from left) Sister Anita Baker, Father Anthony J. Haycock and Sister Maureen Newman.* ●

*The new library is Sister Joan Gallagher's domain.* ●



*Sister Florida Hinse makes use of the new library's working space.* ●



*The view from the community room.* ●



*A grotto graces the lobby.* ●



*Maureen Morris holds a prominent place in the remodeled lobby.* ●



*"Heavenly Bubbles" is the name of a spa created for the sisters.* ●