Chapter underway
The 30th Congregational Chapter gets underway on June 7 and runs through July 2.
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Day of prayer
Contemplative communities in St. Louis came together for a day of prayer on May 4.
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On the western edge
Sr. Joan Spiering discusses her Good Shepherd zeal for care of the earth.
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Celebrations of Life
We celebrate the lives of three Sisters and a Companion who went home to God in May.
Page 16

PMNA ATTENDS NY ASSEMBLY
Five members of the province leadership team attended the New York Province Assembly May 15-17. A Mission Partner with the New York Province, Kimberly Williams, Director of Good Shepherd Volunteers, found the assembly to be a time for her to experience a greater sense of unity and identity with Sisters and the Good Shepherd mission. Kimberly shares thoughts about her experience on page 2.

Reigning Roses Walk
Mother’s Day 2015 was a spectacular day for Rose Haven to host its 2nd annual Reigning Roses Walk. More than 350 participants and volunteers gathered to celebrate special women in their lives. Rebekah Albers, Executive Director of Rose Haven, said the morning Continued on page 4

Meals are an important part of province assemblies, as Sisters and Mission Partners get acquainted and reacquainted during these times. L-r: Sisters Carol Bearisto, Debbie Drago and Sharon Rose Authorson break bread together at the New York Assembly. Sr. Elizabeth Correia passes by in the background.
Putting our trust in the master builder

By Kimberly Williams

On May 15-17, I had the privilege of joining the Good Shepherd Sisters for their New York Province Assembly. The Good Shepherd Sisters have a wonderful way of being hospitable, so it did not surprise me that I felt welcomed right away.

Throughout the weekend there were thoughtful presentations from the Sisters from Toronto, the Contemplative Sisters, and a few Mission Partners. Sr. Winifred Doherty led a discussion about the integration of the Congregational Mission Development Office, Justice and Peace and Spirituality Committee. Reports were given from the US Provinces and the Province Direction Statement was reviewed. Table discussions followed each of the presentations and our facilitator, Sr. Janice Rushman, kept us on task and on time.

The theme of the weekend was integration, and with that, how to unite, support, and encourage one another well. As much as I was invited and encouraged to engage in the discussion and offer my perspective as a Mission Partner, I also had the sense that I was privy to a special behind the scenes glimpse of how the Sisters process and grow together. These gatherings seem to be more than a time of reconnection, but a time of developing unity and identity. I particularly appreciated the times of prayer.

There was a moving service dedicated to Sisters who have passed away recently. The opening and closing prayers incorporated Archbishop Oscar Romero’s poem “A Future Not Our Own.” These words were a healthy reminder that from where we stand we cannot know what the future will

Continued on next page
NY Assembly  *Cont’d from p. 2*

hold, but that this is an opportunity to trust the master builder.

I left so encouraged and proud to be in partnership with the Good Shepherd Sisters. I am excited to translate what I learned to the Good Shepherd Volunteers who serve in this mission throughout the North American provinces and the world, including a hope for this unknown future.

*Provincial News*

NY Assembly  *Cont’d from p. 2*

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*Congregational chapter*

The 30th Congregational Chapter of the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd is being held from June 7 through July 2, 2015 in Angers, France. Srs. Madeleine Munday, Glynis McManamon and Maureen Johnson are representing the Province of Mid-North America. Chapter is a spiritual event and time of corporate reflection and conversion. By promoting renewal in the spirit of Good Shepherd charism, the chapter safeguards our heritage and is a source of life and inspiration for the entire congregation. The congregational leader and apostolic and contemplative councils are elected during this time. The chapter examines reports on the affairs of the congregation, the directions that have been submitted by congregational assemblies, province chapters, and also those that were sent by local assemblies and individual Sisters. Chapter addresses issues of general concern and decides directions for the entire congregation. The congregational website will contain frequent updates to help us all stand in global solidarity during the congregational chapter and to keep us informed and connected. Visit often at [http://www.buonpastoreint.org](http://www.buonpastoreint.org).

*Love abounds at Chicago House of the Good Shepherd.*

This summer PMNA will entrust Chicago House of the Good Shepherd to Catholic Charities so that the mission will continue. We will run this story in the July issue of *Items of Interest.*
Hail to the Grad!

Sister Anna Tram Nguyen received her Master’s Degree on Saturday, May 23, 2015, from the University of San Francisco with her major in Organizational Development. Sr. Tram went to college in Louisville, Kentucky, before transferring to the University of San Francisco to finish her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology. Sr. Tram’s post-secondary studies entailed two additional years of dedicated academic performance.

“Sr. Tram is to be heartily commended for her academic excellence!” said Sr. Marguerite Bartling.

The Sisters in the San Francisco community and residents at Good Shepherd Gracenter held a dinner party to honor Sr. Tram and celebrate her achievement. They planned a menu and prepared an Asian meal of fried rice, orange chicken, fresh salad and Vietnamese egg rolls. The revelers capped off the meal with a decorated cake.

“The residents at Gracenter were so happy to help plan and organize this special event for Sr. Tram, as she has done so much for the women at Gracenter,” Sr. Marguerite said.

“Sr. Tram shops for their groceries each week and always purchases their favorite foods and snacks. She has been the on-call staff for Gracenter every Sunday, and has been an active participant in all of the activities at Gracenter,” Sr. Marguerite said.

Sr. Tram said she especially thanks Sr. Barbara Beasley and Sr. Mercy de Leon for their assistance and support in helping her to complete her hard work in school. As an expression of her thanks to the Sisters in her community, Sr. Tram quoted St. Mary Euphrasia and said, “Gratitude is always the memory of the heart!”

New Contact Info
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Albania bound
Srs. Madeleine Munday and Glynis McManamon will visit Sr. Olga Cristobal in Albania before going to the Chapter in Angers. Watch for a story next month.

Sr. Claudia earns MSSW
Sr. Claudia Palacio earned her Masters of Social Work degree in May. She was unavailable for a photo and story. Read about her achievement next month.
COMMUNITY LIFE

Sing it out Sisters!
The Sisters at St. Joseph Residence are exuberant about practicing songs for Mass. Sr. Mary Carol McClenon, who leads them in music activities, said, “Choir practice is our catch-all phrase for learning or reviewing songs. We did combined choir practice in the chapel with both Baltimore communities during Lent and other times when we have special music to learn for a Feast. The Sisters in St. Joseph Residence really enjoy it, while the Good Shepherd Services Sisters aren’t so eager.”

Sr. Mary Carol believes that singing has a stimulating effect on the Sisters at St. Joseph. For example, she said, “Sr. Joanne becomes quite animated and eventually works up to conducting with her arms, and Sr. Laetitia likes to ham it up.”

“All of the Sisters enjoy taking turns picking songs they’d like to sing at Mass. We sing at every Mass -- all of us who are able, and some of us who can only croak, too,” said Sr. Mary Carol.

Immaculate Heart Convent sings the joys of consecrated life
By Sr. Christopher Mullan
Looking for a way to answer the Holy Father’s call to celebrate this Year of Consecrated Life, the retired community of Immaculate Heart Convent came upon the song, “Wake the World with Dawning Joy.” Since each verse paraphrases the words used by the Holy Father to express his hopes and purpose for the year, the song serves as a way to remind us, as retired religious, to pray in union with all consecrated persons to ensure that the year may be fruitful. One day each week at Immaculate Heart “Wake the World with Dawning Joy” is part of the liturgy of the day, either at Mass or Evening Prayer.

One hurdle in launching this project was the fact that the original sheet music copy is in very small print. At Immaculate Heart LARGE PRINT is popular. Multiple experiments resulted in a printed sheet that just fits the bill. We will be happy to send a copy of the sheet music to anyone who would find it useful. Together we could fill the World with Dawning Joy.

You can hear the song “Wake the World with Dawning Joy” and also download the sheet music for it at http://www.vocationnetwork.org/articles/show?id=455.
May crowning of Our Lady

Young Tessa has been growing up among the Sisters in Baltimore. She is home-schooled by her mother, so she has a flexible schedule and often brings her dog Chocolate to visit the Sisters.

On May 10, 2015, the weather held off nicely so the Sisters could hold the annual May Devotions outdoors. Sisters from Good Shepherd Services and St. Joseph Residence communities gathered at 1:30 p.m. for a May Procession and May Crowning. The statue of Our Lady Mother of the Good Shepherd, which was brought to Baltimore when the house in Reading, Pennsylvania, closed, is located in plain view from the windows at the St. Joseph Residence community room, so the Sisters who were unable to come outside participated from a comfortable location. We sang Marian hymns and brought roses to Our Lady. Some of the roses had been sent to Sr. Teresa Floyd as a Mother's Day gift from a former student! Finally, Tessa crowned the Blessed Mother. Tessa is the daughter of our staff member Barbara. The statue is quite tall, so in spite of the ladder Tessa was unable to reach Our Lady's head. Therefore she placed the crown on the lamb in Our Lady's arms. Convent mission partner Donna Wells made the decorations and floral crown.

Submitted by Sr. Mary Carol McLenon

Each year Tessa (above) and the Sisters in Baltimore look forward to the May Procession and Crowning of Our Lady Mother of the Good Shepherd.
The Contemplative Sisters of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri, were invited on May 4, 2015 by Most Reverend Edward M. Rice, Sister Marysia, RSM, and Lynne Lang for a day of prayer and recollection at Mount Grace Convent of Perpetual Adoration, where the nuns are commonly called Pink Sisters because of their rose colored habit. The Knights of Columbus transported Sisters to and from Mount Grace Convent.

Challenge to take courage
The day began with the vocation story of Bishop Rice and was followed by his keynote presentation. He emphasized that we are on a “journey of faith.” The Bishop urged us to take courage through fidelity and zeal, putting our heart into our prayer-filled daily lives. If we are empowered by the Holy Spirit we will face challenges for whatever the future holds.

Bishop Rice went on to say that as consecrated contemplative women we have a special call in the Church to keep watch at the dawning of the day through our prayer, charism and spirituality. We are a “sign” of good things to come as we search for the face of God.

The Bishop spoke about human formation being needed to build quality community life. He said that in a community it is necessary to cultivate those qualities which are required in all human relationships.

After he spoke of this we had time to reflect and share about what we are doing together as a community of love. We were anxious to learn from one another, as there were many common practices among us, as well as the various structures and traditions. We really experienced what the meaning of “unity in diversity” means as we came together as contemplatives living different charisms and lifestyles.

Mission of prayer
We spent more time in table sharing and group sessions in the afternoon. We had come together from different congregations and different nationalities, yet our mission of prayer was the same. We are all intercessors for the entire world. As Carmelites, Pink Sisters, Redemptoristines, and Good Shepherd Sisters we live the Paschal Mystery with joy, experiencing the presence of God in our communities. It was an amazing experience. Although most of us had just met one another on the day of prayer it was as if we had always known each other.

We began creating action plans to address the needs of our communities. We addressed caring for our elderly and ill Sisters, looking at the generation gaps, formation, vocation ministry and more. The time passed all too quickly and we expressed to Sr. Marysia our desire to spend another day together!

Continued on next page
Day of prayer  Cont’d from p. 7

Happy reunions
The day of prayer also held some happy reunions. Sr. Sharon Rose reconnected with the Redemptoristine Sisters, renewing a 30-year friendship. Sr. Sharon Rose had made two retreats with them in Liguori and visited the Sisters often when the Fathers there were her spiritual directors.

Another surprising moment occurred when Sr. Mary Helen, a Redemptoristine nun, told us that she had been an apostolic Good Shepherd Sister for 10 years in the Philippines. She remembered Sr. Madge, and they shared fond memories together. We noticed that over half of the Pink Sisters were Filipina, so we are sure that everyone can imagine the joy this brought to both Sr. Madge and Sr. Beth. They all bonded as family and the rest of us had fun watching them speak in Tagalog! It was truly a day to be cherished in all of our hearts.

Symbol of unity
Before we closed for the day each Congregation wove together a cross signifying our oneness in our unique calling. Lynne Lang framed them for us and we were given the woven cross as a remembrance of our special day together. We express our gratitude to Most Reverend Edward M. Rice and Lynne Lang for their presentations and for Sr. Marysia who organized and planned this day of graces, as well as providing delicious snacks and a noon meal. We cannot forget to mention Archbishop Robert Carlson who gave his blessing on our day and encouraged us to attend. It was really a day worth recalling as contemplatives praying for the whole world, that we are one in the spirit and one in the Lord. We look forward to the next journey of faith as we face the future of the contemplative nuns in St. Louis, Missouri.

Sister Marysia Weber, Director of the Office of Consecrated Life for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, organized the day of prayer after meeting the Adoration Sisters at their Open House and having a conversation with them about their spiritual needs. The Sisters lamented that there had not been a collaborative day of prayer among contemplative Sisters since 1985 and that they felt unfulfilled by not having a time set aside for contemplatives to come together for prayer and holy sacrifice. Sr. Marysia relayed what she had heard to Archbishop Robert J. Carlson and Auxiliary Bishop Edward M. Rice.

“Bishop Rice and Archbishop Carlson see the contemplative Sisters as a powerhouse of prayer and joyful witness to the love of God. When they learned of the longing the contemplative Sisters felt for a collaborative day of prayer, we began planning immediately to meet this need,” Sr. Marysia said.

Sr. Marysia coordinated the day of prayer with the assistance of Bishop Rice and Lynne Lang, who works in the Catholic Education Office as Director of School Climate for the Archdiocese.

“Our contemplative Sisters represent the jewel of the Kingdom of God through their life of prayer, love and sacrifice. We want to do whatever we can to always meet their needs, “Sr. Marysia said.
Sister Caridad honored for volunteer service

Holy Cross Hospital in Washington, DC, bestowed a special honor on Sr. Caridad Tamayo on May 3rd, when it awarded her a service pin at a banquet at the Marriott Hotel in North Bethesda for her volunteer work. Sr. Caridad has given more than 4,500 hours of volunteer service to the hospital over the course of nearly nine years.

“It was so wonderful,” said Sr. Caridad. “The decorations and flowers were beautiful and the food delicious. During the talks we were praised for our service so gratefully. I felt my heart full of love for what I do, and for the graces I receive everyday when I help those who are reaching the end of their lives and there is nothing for them to do but trust and believe that God is everything in our lives. We must confide in Him to the end,” she said.

Sr. Caridad said the banquet and award ceremony were particularly meaningful for her this year because her personal physician of more than 30 years, Dr. Jose Quiros, attended the banquet with his wife to witness her being honored.

“I was delighted by the whole event!” said Sr. Caridad.

Greetings from Sr. Olga Cristobal

Here I am with Sr. Mirjam (l-r), Zuri (Social Worker) and our driver Tom. We spent the day together on an outing after attending a seminar on Human Trafficking. The photograph was taken at a UNESCO SITE in Burint, Albania.

Our ever vigilant and camera-ready Sr. Anne Kelley snapped this photo on Venice Blvd. just a few blocks from the LA shelter.
Green thumbs up

The Gracenter Gardening Day on May 16 was a big success, with 22 people helping to pull weeds, plant native flowers and beautify the grounds. A luncheon capped the morning for the hard-working Sisters, Gracenter residents and neighborhood volunteers, former residents, Good Shepherd Guild members and friends of the staff and their children.

Sr. Marguerite Bartling said, “Everybody had a fabulous time. The highlights of the day were seeing the new brick border completed on the flower bed, a weeded rose garden with fresh mulch in place and a delicious home-made lunch.”

The group planted native drought tolerant succulents that were donated by the Good Shepherd Guild. The day was pleasant and not too hot, according to Sr. Marguerite. She said, “We completed our tasks just in time for lunch and a relaxing afternoon.”

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Rose Haven

Cont’d from p. 1

started with a beautiful reception with mimosas, pastries, coffee, raffles and live entertainment. A leisurely 5k walk followed the morning festivities. Walkers strolled through northwest Portland, which included a tour of Rose Haven. More than $50,000 was raised to support services for the homeless and abused women and children that Rose Haven serves in Portland. Learn more about Rose Haven at www.rosehaven.org.
Faith leaders call an end to mass immigration detention

Larry Couch, Director of Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center, and 17 other faith leaders met recently with Melissa Rogers, Special Assistant to the President and Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships and other senior White House staff, to demand the end of mass immigrant detention. The participants delivered a letter signed by 1,500 leaders affiliated with various religious denominations decrying a detention policy that shatters families and traumatizes children.

At the meeting, participants spoke of the despair of women and children in detention. Women have gone on hunger strikes and one woman attempted suicide. They spoke of the impact of prolonged detention on babies and toddlers and children in general. They spoke of women and children who were torture victims or otherwise have been already traumatized in their home country or during their flight to safety. The faith leaders urged President Obama to end the costly and inhumane detention policy.

Larry Couch, Director of Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center (far right), stands with other faith leaders in Washington, DC, calling for an end to mass immigration detention.

Hearty congratulations and many blessings to Sr. Agnes Nolan, who celebrates her 75th Jubilee on June 29.

After 44 years of service to Good Shepherd, CORA’s Executive Director Jim Harron is retiring. CORA will throw a farewell party for Jim on June 26 in Philadelphia.

The Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles is gearing up for summer camp. This year’s camp will include performing arts to help children heal through self-expression. The shelter is raising money for the camp. You can donate to the cause at http://bit.ly/1d3XjYI
CORA Charity Circle

CORA Services held its inaugural Charity’s Circle Event at the Union League in Philadelphia on May 12, 2015. The purpose of the Charity Circle was to honor those individuals who have committed resources to the future growth and vital programming of CORA Services. Daniel Fitzpatrick and Walt D’Alessio co-chaired the event, which included networking and an early morning breakfast program that celebrated 44 years of CORA’s community impact. CORA assists children, youth and families experiencing emotional, academic and social challenges which impede their development and productivity. The Charity Circle Event was complimentary and by invitation only.

Guests listened attentively and appreciatively to the presentations and program that celebrated CORA’s 44 years of community impact.

Taking time out from the Charity Circle to have their photograph taken are from left: AnnMarie Schultz, CORA’s current Chief of Operations and incoming Chief Executive Officer; William G. Becker, CORA Board Chair; Kenneth N. Garber, CORA Vice Chair; and Jim Harron, CORA Chief Executive Officer who will retire on June 30.

Sr. Marie Sowerby straightens a pin on the lapel of Board vice chair Kenneth Garber.

Breakfast guests learned about the early history of CORA Services, beginning with its founding administrator Sr. Mary Charity Kohl, RGS (top) and enjoyed opportunities to network with one another (bottom).
GSS Baltimore holds annual safety fair
By Sr. Mary Carol McClenon

Good Shepherd Services Baltimore held its 9th annual Safety Fair in May. The event is a fun and efficient way to do mandatory annual training updates required for all staff.

We play ‘Safety Feud’ based on Family Feud and Jeopardy. The students have a safety poster contest, and there is a safety essay contest. Other activities geared at the students include visits from community police and our local firefighters.

Angela Holland, Education Administrator for Good Shepherd School, gave a shout-out to all the students and staff who attended the Baltimore County Fire Department’s fire safety presentation.

“The kids remained safe, asked appropriate and some very complex questions and stayed engaged. The Fire Department was impressed by our students and said their behavior was better than many public schools they visit. Once again, when we set high expectations for our students they always meet and sometimes exceed those expectations,” Angela said.

“Thank you to all the Education staff and Mrs. Beth for making such a big production seem effortless. I’m beyond impressed!” Angela said.

Years ago, the Safety Fair Committee commissioned a college art student to develop the mascot for the Safety Fair. The Peacenik mascot spreads messages of safety and peace around campus. The mascot approaches students and asks them for recent examples of safe behavior, or encourages students to be safe. Essentially the students got a sticker, along with a bag of pretzels this year, if they were able to have a conversation about safety and safe behaviors. The sticker always has Peacenik on it giving a peace sign, along with the year’s theme. The theme this year was ‘Don’t Learn Safety by Accident.’

This year there was a team of "safety minions" who accompanied the Peacenik. They sang their own song with safety related lyrics. It was rather cute. The students laugh at the volunteer wearing the very large costume, which helps lighten their mood. Almost all students have a positive experience. We don't approach anyone in crisis. The whole event is designed to stir up interest and excitement among the students.
25th Journey of Hope Luncheon

By Sr. Glynis McManamon

Sr. Mary Catherine Massei and I were so glad that we were able to attend Maryhurst’s 25th Journey of Hope Luncheon on May 19 at the Marriott in Louisville, Kentucky. The luncheon, which began in 1991 with 20 or so participants at Vincenzo’s Restaurant, has grown and grown over the years. This year had the highest attendance ever, with more than 750 guests.

Maryhurst inaugurated The Butterfly Awards this year in honor of the luncheon’s 25th anniversary. The award recognizes corporations, individuals and organizations who have had a significant impact on the lives of Maryhurst children. This year’s honorees were Brown-Forman, the Junior League and Kentucky State Representative Jimmie Lee, who spoke eloquently about the need for people to be the voice for the voiceless.

Liz Curtis Higgs, Kentucky author and speaker who describes herself as an “encourager,” talked about the mission of Maryhurst. She invited guests to step up and contribute to support Maryhurst, and quoted Saint Mary Euphrasia warmly throughout her keynote.

Gorgeous jewelry and artwork made by the girls at Maryhurst were offered for sale before and after the luncheon, in addition to raffle items that included gift certificates and bundled packages for restaurants, nights on the town and spa and relaxation.

The growth in support for Maryhurst over the past 25 years has been very, very steady. It’s incredible to see how many people are allied with us in the Good Shepherd Mission in Louisville and in the whole of Kentucky! To hear the words of St. Mary Euphrasia being spoken by Liz Curtis Higgs was a surprise and such a blessing.

By the way, Liz Curtis Higgs’s best selling book is *Bad Girls of the Bible.*

Maryhurst Alumna of the Year Sheri Clarry (left) accepts an award from Judy Lambeth, Executive Director of Maryhurst, while keynote speaker Liz Curtis Higgs applauds.

Maryhurst Alumna of the Year Sheri Clarry was a resident on the Maryhurst campus from 1977-1979. She said Maryhurst gave her an eye opening experience where a love/hate relationship developed. She soon realized she was being given an opportunity to grow and excel as a young teen and quickly embraced that to turn her life around.

“It felt exhilarating and I could actually breathe for the first time,” she recalled. Now having the confidence to love who she is and speak up for what she believes in, Sheri is enjoying the ride of life and knows she is a survivor.

Today Sheri can be found in Sarasota Florida, where she has worked as a personal trainer for 25 years. A mother of four, Sheri most recently adopted her six-week old grandson. Her positive attitude and joy in life shows how truly far she has come and how Maryhurst helped her get there.
Zealing at the Western Edge
By Sr. Joan Spiering

My favorite province assembly location was the one along the Chattahoochee River in Georgia. The spacious grounds for walks and the architecture of the buildings promoted community. After dinner, we naturally migrated to the fireplace room to share the day’s experiences or play cards.

At our province merger meeting there, I introduced an environmental proposal on behalf of the Portland Community. As the words left my mouth, a member stood up and said: “We’ve been recycling for years. Why do we need an environmental goal?” I resisted the urge to say something snarky.

Hoping for the big shift
I kept trying. Spurred on by the trust that environmentally friendly actions were indeed taking place across the province, I kept hoping for the BIG shift. To what? To a striking unified province effort on behalf of “protecting the earth and the poor.” (cf. Pope Francis)

At the Western Edge in Rockaway Beach, I can fire my GS zeal for care of the earth at St. Mary’s by the Sea and beyond. During Lent, I was able to put together and facilitate a care of the earth series.

In our logo, designed by parishioner Doris Matthews, a heart encircles fragile earth which rides the waves of the sea. Very symbolic for a Catholic church that sits on the Pacific coast!

Spring efforts. Fred Wright, parish member and recently retired environmental consultant led, the presentations with stunning photos and a Power Point. Participants learned ways that moving earth for construction, farming, logging, or building roads can have beneficial or negative impacts on water supply for humans, fish and other animals and plants. There was time to talk about what we can do to safeguard this precious resource.

Fish passage
Finally, I want to share a photo of a meeting I attended recently (top photo). The topic of the meeting was a project for fish passage in the Jetty Creek Watershed which supplies drinking water for Rockaway Beach. Present were engineers, a public works director, forestry personnel and a few dedicated citizens. We began in a conference room of City Hall and continued at the watershed. It was raining! Besides developing a new lexicon, I found myself in a venue I hadn’t anticipated when I left home without rain gear.

I asked a friend to take a picture for Items of Interest. The editor of the newsletter, Jeanette McDermott, said the picture has the feel of a photo bomb. I had to ask her what that means. And so it goes for zeal at the Western Edge. Doesn't this look like fun? It is!
Sister Teresita Mater  
11 October 1921 – 27 May 2015

On a beautiful fall day, in the midst of the Great Depression, Tracy began her life October 11, 1921 at Olmitz, Kansas. She was the youngest of 12 children: five brothers and six sisters.

From the testimony of her lived experience, she could declare with conviction and describe with enthusiasm the unique delights of growing up in the heart of a large family, on a farm in Kansas. Her parents migrated to America from Sunwald, Marovia, in 1899. Her father died in 1924 and her brother Alfons, 23, was named legal guardian of his 11 siblings. From the age of three Tracy regarded Alfons as the father figure in her life.

After she graduated from St. John’s Academy High School in Wichita Tracy went on to take a secretarial course and worked as a secretary until she was 23 years old. With the aid of her Franciscan Spiritual Director, she discerned her desire for the enclosed life and applied for admission to the Poor Clare Community in Spokane, Washington. She was accepted, and to her dismay her health began to decline. She already had misgivings about the certainty of her Call to the Poor Clare’s.

In the meantime, she had learned of the Good Shepherd Congregation, the Magdalen’s, and St. Mary Euphrasia. She inquired into the possibility of entering the Magdalen Community in St. Paul. She was encouraged, but it was suggested that she enter the community in Omaha, Nebraska, as the weather in St. Paul might be too severe for her. She entered in Omaha in 1946 and was given the name of Rose Virginia. She took her first Vows July 22, 1948 and after 31 happy years there, Sister was missioned to St. Paul, Minnesota. After Vatican II she took the name Teresita, which means Little Terese.

During her 67 years of vowed life Sr. Teresita used her many gifts and talents for her communities’ benefit and served in many capacities. She was local leader in both the Omaha and St. Paul communities. In Omaha she worked in the sewing room and loved gardening. Sister was blessed with an outstanding memory and usually served as our local historian. Sr. Teresita was a proficient writer and handled all of our correspondence. She was the heart of our community, a heart filled with gratitude.

Submitted by Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth

Sister Monica Nowak  
20 February 1945 – 1 May 2015

Sister Monica’s parents were John and Martha (Skop) Nowak. Sr. Monica was born premature and almost died. John was Martha’s second husband, so there were two parts of the family. It was a homey family, with delicious food. Sr. Monica loved good food and enjoyed cooking. She brought this love of cooking with her to the convent. Sisters would often wake up to the aroma of Sr. Monica’s baking bread.

Sr. Monica entered the Good Shepherd congregation on September 8, 1963, and was one of the first to go to our interprovincial formation in St. Paul after the Second Vatican Council. She loved her vocation as a Sister of the Good Shepherd and carried that love through her work. Sr. Monica dressed as a clown to bring joy to others. She and Sr. Noreen Sheedy often wore their costumes.

Continued on next page
Sr. Monica  *Cont’d from p. 16*

clown costumes to meetings and Community gatherings, which kept everyone in good spirits. Both of the Sisters enjoyed entertaining others. Monica loved her Sisters, and they treasured her caring for them.

The gift Sr. Monica brought to her work in vocations was an ability to call forth in others the best they could be. She met people where they were and used that gift to support others. She had relationships with people in all walks of life and always honored them for who they are. Sr. Monica had a keen “other awareness” for people and touched the lives of all she met. This love for others deepened throughout her life and grew more beautiful.

Sr. Monica’s many duties included vocation and formation ministries. She was often sent where the need was greatest. She cared many degrees, which she used in her various works. She helped people be all that God wanted them to be. She trained many Sisters and Lay Partners in new ways and ministries. Sr. Monica helped develop and grow the Associate Program.

Sr. Monica was named Chief Executive Officer of Rosemont in Columbus, Ohio. She loved the work and gave herself unreservedly to it. She was later assigned to Marycrest in Cleveland, as administrator. She saw the need in leadership and left the post that she loved so well to respond to a new province need. She went to Lourdsmont to help with fundraising, and stayed through the move to Scranton, Pennsylvania. Her health deteriorated steadily. She was missioned to Vista Maria in Detroit and left there to go to Pelletier Hall to await God’s call to heaven. She became an inspiration to all of us as she awaited God’s call, ever becoming weaker, ever living in and with God, loving her Sisters and the Lay Partners, pushing herself to be with and in Community. At the end of each day she would pray, "Lord, Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Submitted by Sr. Elise Kramer and Sr. Dolores Kalina

Sr. Monica Nowak

Sister Regina Mayr

8 February 1930 – 5 May 2015

Katherine Mary Mayr was born in Dubuque, Iowa, to John and Katharina Mayr, who came to this country from Bavaria Germany, providentially five years before Hitler’s storm clouds were forming for World War II.

Katherine’s father was a butcher by trade. Her mother lost two children in childbirth. They were blessed with the arrival of their one and only precious little daughter. Sister is survived by two cousins in Germany and a long-time friend, Mr. Jack Thompson, who was like a brother to her. Katherine was taught by the Franciscan nuns and had the privilege of beginning piano with

Continued on next page
Sr. Regina Cont’d from p. 17

them at age seven and organ instruction in the Sisters’ conservatory. At 13 she became the church organist under her father, who was the choir director.

In her young years, Katherine wanted to be a Sister and her confessor suggested she visit the Good Shepherd nuns for whom he was also director. Sister was attracted by their cloistered prayer life. She entered and was clothed on February 8, 1949. She was professed in 1951 and made final vows on August 19, 1954. She was given the name of John the Baptist in honor of her father. Years later, when names were changed, she again honored her father by taking the name Regina, which was his mother’s name.

Sister was never able to return to her hometown convent in Dubuque because it became necessary to close the house. In fact, each of the houses in which she ministered were closed: Dubuque, Sioux City, Omaha and Denver. In each of these houses Sister worked with girls and did secretarial work for the superiors. Sister loved her stay in Denver with its surrounding mountains and loving Sisters and staff. Here she began to use her music again in a choir for the girls. This was a period of contentment for eight years, until it became necessary to close the house and return to St. Paul.

In St. Paul, Sr. Regina continued with her music and was also given permission to study for an LPN so that she could use the nursing skills for our Sisters and girls. After completing the training she was “on call” for medical need until the program was closed and the Sisters moved into their spacious new grounds on Hodgson Road, outside the city of St. Paul.

Sister next went to work in the city parishes, like many other staff members. This was a ministry she continued with joy for 16 years. She worked in St. Charles Borromeo Parish doing pastoral care. She prepared youngsters for First Communion and was on call for whatever parish needs arose.

As Sister Regina’s health began to decline from neuropathy, she had trouble walking and began using a cane. She retired to Immaculate Heart on January 22, 2004. Sister’s musical talents again became greatly appreciated. Her playing the organ allowed our choir director to truly direct the choir.

Sister remained devoted to her prayer life and once said, “For my vow of zeal, I offer all that I do to save souls.” Surely the choirs of heaven are singing their appreciation for all she has done here below.

Sr. Mary Regina died very peacefully on May 5. She will be missed very much by the Sisters, the Staff and all who loved her. May she intercede for us from her Heavenly home.

Submitted by Sr. Pauline Bilbrough

Joanne Bellisari, Companion of Jesus Good Shepherd

Joanne S. Bellisari was a Good Shepherd Companion. She passed into the loving arms of God on May 10 after a lengthy illness. She was 69. Joanne retired from Graham Ford after 35 years of dedicated service. She was a long-time active member of Our Lady of Victory Church and Grandview High School Alumni Association. Joanne was very proud of her Italian heritage! She loved everything Italian. The best food was Italian. The best place to travel was Italy. Joanne professed private vows as a Jesus the Good Shepherd Companion and was devoted to the core values and teachings of Saint Mary Euphrasia. One of her closest friends in life was Sister Dorothy Doyle. In lieu of flowers, Joanne’s family requested that memorial contributions be made to Sisters of the Good Shepherd Victims of Domestic Violence Fund.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson</td>
<td>No travel</td>
<td>No travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez</td>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>Vocation talks Year of Consecrated Life, San Francisco</td>
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<td>June 4-10</td>
<td>Canon law workshop, Dallas, PA</td>
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<td>June 11-20</td>
<td>Retreat, St. Louis</td>
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<td>Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth</td>
<td>June 10-19</td>
<td>Retreat, St. Louis</td>
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<td>Sr. Maureen Johnson</td>
<td>June 1-July 4</td>
<td>Congregation Chapter, Angers, France</td>
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<td>Sr. Dolores Kalina</td>
<td>June 4-11</td>
<td>Canon law workshop, Dallas, PA</td>
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<td>June 12-22</td>
<td>Home visit</td>
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<td>June 25-27</td>
<td>CORA visit, Philadelphia</td>
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<td>June 27-30</td>
<td>Visit with Silver Spring community</td>
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<td>Sr. Maureen Kunz</td>
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<td>June 11-18</td>
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<td>June 19-21</td>
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<td>June 22</td>
<td>Travel to Blane, WA</td>
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<td>June 11-14</td>
<td>Visit St. Joseph Residence, Baltimore</td>
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<td>Sr. Madeleine Munday</td>
<td>June 1-4</td>
<td>Visit Sr. Olga, Tirana, Albania</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 5-July 4</td>
<td>Congregation Chapter, Angers, France</td>
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“Always lift them up in their own eyes.”

Saint Mary Euphrasia

Rose Ohiku and her young charge at Chicago House of the Good Shepherd.