

ITEMS

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Communicator linkup

Communicators for Women Religious met in Indy to turbocharge communications for God.
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Nuclear waste sites

St. Louis is a hotbed of nuclear waste and NAC is taking a look at the issue to discern engagement.
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ONCE UPON A TIME ...

The Good Shepherd Shelter Guild held its annual benefit gala on October 9, 2016. The Guild honored Sr. Anne Kelley with its Lifetime Achievement Angel Award for 21 years of dedicated service to the shelter.

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Green Corner

By Jeanette McDermott

Province Director of Operations Monte Abbott and I accompanied Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal on a tour of nuclear waste sites in St. Louis last month. Monte also serves on the Advisory Board for the National Advocacy Center (NAC) and is helping NAC explore environmental concerns to determine where it can engage for impact. I documented the tour.

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PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Gala *Cont'd from p. 1*

"Honoring Sr. Anne was a perfect tie in to our theme *Once Upon a Time ...* because of her years of dedication," said David Rodrigues, Benefit Chair.

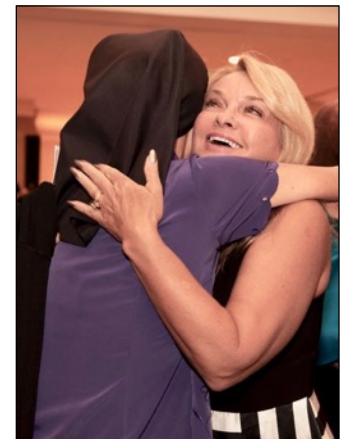
"The past and present are tied together with stories. Sr. Anne shared some of the stories that shaped the shelter. One of the moms spoke and also shared her story. This helped to make our guests more aware of what we do and demonstrated how their support adds to the story as we grow our future," David said.

The gala grossed more than \$200,000, including \$88,300 from the silent and live auctions and Donation Ask. Platters, which children in the shelter painted, each fetched \$2,500. The platters are always a draw, according to Geri Simmons, Guild treasurer and past-president.

According to Geri, 276 people attended the gala. She said, "The 2016 gala was our 18th event and most successful to date. I've had many attendees call me to say how much they enjoyed the evening."

Special guests included general assignment reporter for NBC4 Southern California Patrick Healy and Ashton Smith, one of Hollywood's most popular voice actors.

Thanks to Margaret Norton for permission to use her photographs.



Clockwise from top: Ashton Smith reads the award he is about to present to Sr. Anne Kelley. A mother and her daughters proudly display a children's platter they bought at auction. Sr. Anne poses for a selfie with family members. Guests applaud Sr. Anne as she prepares to step to the podium to accept her awards for 21 years of service to Good Shepherd Shelter. Youth perform a skit that is based on shelter stories. A hug summarizes the glow that surrounded Sr. Anne and guests at the gala. Good Shepherd Sisters and Shelter CEO Mark Rothman surround Sr. Anne on this night to remember.



PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

What ripple effect are my actions creating?

By Lizzie Tschida, Mission Effectiveness

St. Mary Euphrasia says “Our strength is in our unity.” We experienced this first hand when nearly 80 Sisters and lay joined together September 20-23 for a Gathering in Detroit, Michigan.

Participants came from the North American provinces/regions: Central South, French Canada, Mid-North America and New York/Toronto. We were fortunate to have Sr. Anne Josephine Carr as our main presenter. She is fresh off her most recent term on the Congregational Leadership Team.

The theme for this year’s Gathering *A Single Pebble: Our Ripple Effect Moving from Our Foundational Story to a Collective Narrative* shaped conversations about what it means to be partners in mission, how we live out the mission in our lives and work, and what is distinct about our Good Shepherd work.

We placed a timeline on the conference room wall to visualize



Participants dropped a pebble into a bowl of water and reflected on the ripple effect their actions might cause as Good Shepherds.

our Good Shepherd history. The timeline held pictures and dates that are significant to Good Shepherd, particularly North America.

The timeline begins in 1601 with the birth of St. John Eudes. It moves through the era of St. Mary Euphrasia and the founding of programs all around Canada and the United States.



Teambuilding with an Earth ball.

During the opening ritual, participants added the date they joined Good Shepherd to the timeline to claim their place in the Good Shepherd story.

Continued on next page



Mission Partners claim their place in the Good Shepherd story.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Ripple *Cont'd from p. 3*

Throughout the four-day gathering, Sr. Anne Josephine expanded on the theme in a series of five talks. Participants responded to deepening questions following each talk.

First, Sr. Anne Josephine focused on our mission and its ripple effect. She then talked about the make or break situations for Saints John Eudes and Mary Euphrasia. How and why they decided to care for women and girls at a time when many did not. Participants paired up to share their own make or break moments.

The third talk explored how Saints John Eudes and Mary Euphrasia formed leaders for mission. This prompted dialogue about leadership for mission and what that looks like.

Sr. Anne Josephine's fourth talk dealt with the evolving nature of how the mission has looked and how it has been expressed over the years, including the directives from the 2015 Congregational Chapter.

The final talk left the group thinking about how true maturity and humanity is about having the ability to be tender.

We also heard from Province Leaders who were present: Sr. Francisca Aguillon (Central South), Sr. Maureen McGowan (NY/Toronto), and Sr. Madeleine Munday (Mid-North America). Each Sister spoke of her own experience of what drew her to Good Shepherd and influenced her to make a lifelong commitment. They also spoke about the beauty of our mission today.

Sr. Rita Bou Abboud from Montreal shared information about her work caring for refugees from many countries, but mainly Syria. Sr. Tram Nguyen spoke about her



Clockwise from top: CORA Services CEO AnnMarie Schultz (left) and Tina Awolfalaju share a conversation. A group presents their thoughts on what is moving the mission further and what is in our hearts to do in response. Table discussions, breaks and evening entertainment bonded Good Shepherds at the Gathering. Kim Neal (left) and Sr. Francisca Aguillon talk together in an Appreciative Inquiry interview.

internship with the Mission Development Office in Rome.

A consistent highlight for the Gatherings is dinner and a tour of Vista Maria, the Good Shepherd program in Detroit. Vista Maria youth entertained us with interpretive dance and original poetry and rap music.

The Gathering was a moving experience. It broadened a deeper understanding of how we are all connected.



PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL



Turbocharging Communications for God

Communicators for Women Religious (CWR) tell the stories of Catholic Sisters. Their words, photographs and videos advance the mission of congregations.

At the annual CWR Conference in Indianapolis last month, one of the presenters — Sr. Nancy Sylvester, IHM — told the audience of 111 CWR members, "You are the voice of women religious. You are creating the future of women religious."

The Millennial generation

Another presenter, Sr. Patricia Wittberg, SC, brought participants up to speed on the Millennial generation. She made a number of wow statements, among which were these two nuggets:

1. Religious life has the ability to meet the deepest hungers of the Millennial generation: contemplation, discernment of life choices.
2. A third of Millennials entering religious life found their community through a media story that was written about the community or a Sister in that community.

Contemplative engagement

A session on contemplative engagement reminded attendees that silence was God's first language. Through silence we can take a long and loving look at what is real without stumbling over biased world views.

Sr. Jan Craven, SP, presented a session on the spirituality of communications. She challenged communicators to tell the story of their own spiritual journey so they can better tell the stories of Sisters.



Top: Participants stayed informed of conference sessions and activities through an app on their cell phones. From left: Province Vocations Director Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez, Province Communications Coordinator Jeanette McDermott; and Congregation Communications Coordinator Sr. Monique Tarabeh. Bottom: Vendors with good stories to tell made a splash at the CWR conference. A favorite was Water with Blessings, a global group of mothers and missionaries who bring clean water to God's thirsty children.



The theme for this year's CWR conference was *Advance your Mission: Turbocharge your Communications*. The theme played on the conference location, which is

home to the famed Indianapolis 500 automobile race. Workshops and presentations focused on social media, crisis communication and outreach to young women.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Vote for a revolution of tenderness

Pope Francis calls politics “one of the highest forms of love, because it is in the service of the common good.”

We are called to politics; we are called to vote because we are Christian. Your prayers, your ministry, our mission all reflect God’s call for justice and love. But more is needed. We must demonstrate our commitment to those we serve, to those living on the margin, to social justice and the social mission of the Catholic Church.

As a member of the Good Shepherd community, you already have shown that you have a heart for what Pope Francis calls a “revolution of tenderness.”

*“The Gospel tells us constantly to risk a
face-to-face encounter with others,
with their physical presence which challenges us,
with their pain and their pleas,
with their joy which infects us in our close
and continuous interaction.*

*True faith in the incarnate Son of God
is inseparable from
self-giving, from membership in the community,
from service, from reconciliation with others.
The Son of God, by becoming flesh,
summoned us to the revolution of tenderness.”*

~ Pope Francis (Evangelii Gaudium 72)

Please vote on November 8 and please pray for our nation and elected officials.

Visit the National Advocacy Center’s special page on the elections for materials to help you and others engage in the political process through the lens of our faith.

<http://www.gsadvocacy.org/resources.html>

Submitted by Larry Couch, Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center



Mission Partners from the Province Center are calling Missouri voters to encourage them to vote No on Amendment 6, a proposal that is listed on the November ballot. More than 220,000 Missouri residents will lose the right to vote if the Amendment passes. From left: Sisters Pauline Bilbrough, Mary Catherine Massei and Sharon O’Grady; and Monte Abbott, Director of Operations.



United in spirit

Sisters from the Province of Mid-North America attended the New York/Toronto Assembly from Oct 21-23 in Willimantic, Connecticut. Clockwise from bottom left: Sisters Jean Marie Fernandez, Elizabeth Garciano, Chris Hock and Christine Truong.

MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

Team GSS participates in Baltimore Running Festival

Team GSS, the lean, mean running machine that represented Good Shepherd in the Baltimore Running Festival on October 15, raised \$8,000 for charity. Slightly more than 100 donors supported the runners. About 25 people supported Sr. Mary Carol McClenon with the sizable sum of \$2,154. This made her the top fundraiser for the team. To reward her fundraising success, GSS staff painted the words "Rock Star" in glitter on the back of a team shirt and presented it to Sr. Mary Carol.

"Normally I just try to raise the \$150 that is required for my team T-shirt, but this year I jumped out ahead right

at the beginning with three big pledges: \$250, \$150 and \$50 contributions (from my relatives). That's what got me off to a fast start and made me decide to really work at it this year," she said.

To add to the camaraderie and competitive nature of the run, GSS held two raffles. The first raffle was for a new television that had been donated. Staff who bought tickets could designate their dollars to whichever runner they wished to support. In this way, Team GSS raised more than \$1,100. The team used the same approach to split a \$400 raffle pot 50-50.

To further the fun, runners and virtual runners organized by departments, with each department assigned to a student Unit. The department that raised the most money qualified for a pizza party with the students of their assigned Unit. Administration and the Tours Unit won.

Just about the time staff was being divided into competing departments, Sr. Mary Carol said she asked GSS Director of Facilities Paul Beeker for a contribution, and he graciously donated \$20.

"Ha! After making the donation he heard from his fellow 'Cellar Dwellers' who called him a traitor to his department," said Sr. Mary Carol."

According to Sr. Mary Carol this was the first year GSS competed within departments. "It was great bonding," she said. "We'll do it again. Go team GSS!"

GSS makes local news



Last month's issue of *Items of Interest* reported on the year-long partnership between Good Shepherd Services Baltimore and HobbleJog Foundation. The partnership will officially launch at the GSS Gala on November 3rd. In the meantime, Baltimore's local media has shown an interest in the projects that have already begun through the partnership. GSS CEO Michele Wyman (left), GSS Board Chair Will Buttarazzi, and HobbleJog founder Susan Hahn pose for a photo as they head into the studio at WJZ-TV to tape a segment of "On Time," which features local stories. WJZ-TV is a CBS owned-and-operated television station that is located in Baltimore, Maryland.



Placards represent people who registered for the Baltimore Running Festival as virtual runners. They raised funds but did not walk or run in the event. People holding the placards participated in the run.

MINISTRY NEWS

ZEAL

Both sides of the border

by Larry Couch, Director of Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center

I arrived in Nogales, Arizona, early Friday afternoon on October 7. I came for a protest march that School of the Americas Watch (SOA Watch) had organized. Fr. Roy Bourgeois, a laicized Roman Catholic priest, founded the human rights group in 1990 to protest the training of Latin American military officers at the School of the Americas.

The school is located on a U.S. Army base in Fort Benning, Georgia. Some of its graduates have committed murder, rape and torture in Central and South America. Other graduates have allowed people under their command to commit these atrocities. Crimes include the 1989 murder in El Salvador of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter.

The year following the massacre, and every year until 2016, SOA Watch has held its annual protest against the school at Fort Benning. This year SOA Watch shifted the protest and demand for immigration reform to Nogales, Arizona, and Nogales, Mexico, where a border wall separates the two cities.

Solidarity and friendship

We gathered at the notorious Eloy Detention Center Friday evening. As the sky darkened over the desert, cars parked facing Eloy and flashed their headlights. Detainees answered by flickering their cell lights. They knew we were there in solidarity and friendship.

On Saturday more than 770 of us marched to the border wall. We carried placards showing our support for immigrants and refugees. Since I had never been to Mexico, I was looking forward to being on the Mexico side. Sadly, I

misunderstood the directions and ended up in Arizona. After listening to the music and speeches and joining in the prayers, I persuaded a couple of people to walk with me and circle around to Mexico.

A chance encounter

To my delight, I saw a colleague who works for the Sisters of Mercy. She invited me to join her group in visiting the Kino Border Initiative Center. The center is a binational organization that offers assistance to migrants through its soup kitchen, nursing clinic and women's shelter.

After hearing a presentation about the Center visitors broke into small groups and shared what was in our hearts. When asked why I had come to the wall, I replied that I came to learn more and to feel more.

As we boarded the bus to leave, several young Mexican men offered us older people their seats. This simple and friendly gesture touched us, especially in light of the U.S. attitude toward immigrants that the presidential campaign has fostered.

The evening had cooled off by the time we returned to Arizona. We welcomed down time to eat, relax and chat about our experiences. Later, we returned to the border. Speakers from various faith traditions spoke of having compassion for our brothers and sisters and encouraged us to continue working for immigration reform. We prayed for the world's immigrants and refugees.

The Gospel reading at Mass on Sunday was about the 10 lepers whom Jesus cured. Only one leper gave thanks. The priest spoke of following God's will in our lives, emphasizing that to follow God's



Larry Couch stood at the border of Arizona and Mexico last month to advocate for the end of family detention of migrants.

will we must be people of gratitude. I reflected on what a difference it would make if we were grateful for the many gifts that immigrants bring us each day. Hardly a meal goes by without our benefiting from their work in our fields and processing our food. We could also enjoy their presence and build relationships with them. We cannot live in appreciation and openness when we live in fear and hatred.

Witnessing holy people

I returned to the gathering on the U.S. side of the wall after Mass,

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MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

Border *Cont'd from p. 8*

where I met a group that travels across the U.S. planting crosses where immigrants have died. They invited marchers to join them in a prayer service for the hundreds of immigrants who perish in the deserts each year.

I was reminded of a song that Woody Guthrie wrote to lament the plight of immigrants who had died in an airplane crash. Rather than reporting their names, the media simply called them deportees.

I think now of these people who plant crosses in no-man's land to remember those who have died. My greatest blessing from this trip was meeting really holy people. For this reason I feel grateful.

As I walked away from the border to end my involvement in the protest, I turned for a final look at the wall. From the top of a hill I saw below me the long curve of steel



Marchers formed on both sides of the border wall to protest School of the Americas and advocate for immigration reform.

that divides people in the U.S. and Mexico. It is more solid than any cathedral.

When our descendants look at the wall, what will they think? Will they remember us as a fearful, selfish

people? Or will they consider us a generous, welcoming people as enshrined by the Statue of Liberty?

Visit <http://www.gsadvocacy.org> to learn more about Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center.



Vista Maria has presence at National Dropout Prevention Network Conference

Sister Janice Rushman (right) was one of the Mission Partners from Vista Maria who attended the National Dropout Prevention Network Conference in Detroit last month. The National Dropout Prevention Network improves opportunities for young people to fully develop the academic, social, work and healthy life skills needed to graduate from high school and lead productive lives.

Vista Maria and Clara B. Ford Academy (CBF) collaborated with the National Dropout Prevention Network on this year's conference. A panel discussion was held on the Vista Maria campus with national thought leaders, Vista Maria staff and CBF students. The topic of discussion was how a trauma-informed teaching curriculum can offer an alternative to suspension discipline methods for students.

Vista Maria CEO Angela Aufdemberge said she is grateful "for the partners and elected officials who work tirelessly to ensure students obtain a quality education."

MINISTRY NEWS

ZEAL

Rose Haven gets some help from its friends in October

Rose Haven had an eventful month in October. They began a partnership with Birch Community Services, which is now supplying Rose Haven with groceries for the women they serve at the day shelter. Staff and volunteers participated in Mission Effectiveness training with Lizzie Tschida and Sr. Cathie Boerboom, founder of Rose Haven. The Junior League of Portland helped Rose Haven spruce up its day shelter for women. And Rose Haven sold raffle tickets and started putting final touches on their Branching Out reception, which will be held November 3. The annual fundraising reception introduces people to Rose Haven, which plays a unique role in serving women and children during daytime hours with safety, services, supplies and support.

Right: The Junior League of Portland helped Rose Haven beautify its day shelter for women last month. The Junior League supported Rose Haven as part of its annual service day to make a positive impact in the Portland community. Rose Haven is one of five area non-profits the Junior League supports for their efforts in helping women, children and families in the Portland community.



Mission Effectiveness training at Rose Haven

Director of Rose Haven Rebekah Albert (2nd from left, first row) said Mission Effectiveness team member Lizzie Tschida (holding photo of Saint Mary Euphrasia) "put some intention around mercy and how that value guides our work." Sister Cathie Boerboom (3rd from right standing), founded Rose Haven and participated in the Mission Effectiveness training last month.

COMMUNITY LIFE

ZEAL

Glorious day of overflowing grace

The September issue of Items of Interest reported on parishioners from Farmington, Missouri, who made a pilgrimage to the Maria Droste Contemplative Community for the year of Mercy. This story tells what happened next.

The year-long Jubilee of Mercy closes on November 20, 2016. One of the central components of the Jubilee has been that Holy Doors throughout the world have been opened so that anyone who entered could experience the love of God.

Each diocese had the opportunity to open a Door of Mercy. The St. Louis Archdiocese declared the Maria Droste Contemplative Community one of six Holy Doors of Mercy in St. Louis. During the Jubilee of Mercy the Community welcomed more than 100 pilgrims through its Holy Doors.

Among the pilgrims were more than 50 parishioners and priests from the St. Joseph Church in Farmington, Missouri. The experience for the Farmington pilgrims was so profound that they wanted to show their gratitude by doing something special for the Maria Droste Community. So they invited the Sisters to visit them in Farmington and to accompany them to the Holy Doors of the [National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal](#) in Perryville. Sr. Madeleine Munday accepted the Sisters' invitation to join them on the pilgrimage.

"Our goal was to spoil the Sisters. The highlight of the day for me was seeing the joy on their faces," said Fr. Rickey Valleroy, parish priest.

A special day

The pilgrimage included Morning Prayers at St. Joseph Church in Farmington, where Sisters received gifts and blessings of song from the parish children. The journey



Sr. Elizabeth Garciano blessed one of the young parishioners after she presented gifts to the Sisters on behalf of St. Joseph Church.



Sisters and parishioners traveled by bus to each of the pilgrim sites.

continued with a bus ride to Perryville for a visit to the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, followed by a home-cooked meal and visit to a grotto at Apple Creek, Missouri.

The pilgrims then traveled to St. Genevieve Catholic Church, the oldest parish west of the Mississippi. The special day ended with a trip to Dairy Queen, and then the 90-minute ride home with drivers Ron and Sandi Brooks from St. Joseph Church.

"This was a priceless and glorious day. The grace was overflowing," said Sr. Elizabeth Garciano.

Continued on next page

COMMUNITY LIFE



ZEAL

Pilgrimage *Con't from p. 11*

Clockwise from bottom left: Parish priest Fr. Rickey Valleroy welcomes the Maria Droste Contemplative Community to St. Joseph Church in Farmington, Missouri; Sisters spend time at the Grotto of the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville; Sister Lalani and a new friend review photographs at St. Genevieve church; Sisters make their first visit ever to Dairy Queen and ponder their many choices of ice cream; Fr. Rickey and the Sisters prepare to pray as they head out on the last leg of the pilgrim journey.

COMMUNITY LIFE

ZEAL



First graders from St. Ann Catholic School visited Sisters at Immaculate Heart Convent last month. The children sang songs to the Sisters, chit chatted with them and read books to them about animals. Before the children left, they gave each Sister a hand-made Halloween decoration for her bedroom door.



The singing nuns

Sr. Damiana spends time each week with Sisters at Immaculate Heart Convent to teach them songs in her native Korean language.



Babies' lives matter

When Sister Josephine asked Immaculate Heart Convent's receptionist Shirley Norful if she could make a poster for her bedroom door advocating for babies' lives, Shirley responded with zeal. The poster she made ended up being too large to fit on Sr. Josephine's door, so it graces the main hallway at Immaculate Heart instead.

GREEN CORNER



ZEAL



NAC examines nuclear waste problem in St. Louis *Cont'd from p. 1*

Sen. Chappelle-Nadal represents District 14 in the Missouri Senate. She said, "I ran for state congress literally to save the lives of people who live near nuclear waste sites in St. Louis. No political allies were addressing this issue, so I stepped forward to do it."

The Senator also conducts Town Hall meetings to address citizen concerns. Several Religious and Laity plan to attend meetings in November and December.

St. Louis and the atomic age

The story of radioactive waste in St. Louis begins with America's atomic weapons program at Mallinckrodt Chemical Works (now called Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals) on North 2nd Street. The U.S. Department of War hired Mallinckrodt in 1942 to produce [fissile material](#) from the original Belgian Congo Uranium (U235) for [The Manhattan Project](#). Mallinckrodt used the materials to produce atomic bombs that were dropped over Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

From 1942 to 1957 Mallinckrodt purified tens of thousands of uranium products at locations in and around the city of St. Louis. By the mid 1940's Mallinckrodt had run out of space downtown and began shipping its uranium enrichment waste to a 21.7-acre tract of land at the St. Louis airport. They secretly dumped the nuclear waste on Coldwater Creek and in



The West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton, Missouri, is an illegal dumping ground that contains one of the single largest concentrations in the U.S. of hazardous radioactive Thorium-230 residues.

various St. Louis suburbs, with the approval of the federal government. Coldwater Creek flows through north St. Louis County before draining into the

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The St. Louis airport became a site for stored radioactive waste (left) when Mallinckrodt Chemical Works ran out of space for the waste at its downtown headquarters location. The No Trespassing sign is on property near the airport that became contaminated when radioactive materials migrated to the site.



GREEN CORNER



ZEAL

Nuclear *Con't from p. 14*

Missouri River near the confluence of the Mississippi River. The creek interconnects underground caves, springs and groundwater tables. This system — coupled with wind, rain, flooding and groundwater seepage — made it possible for radioactive material to travel.

Waste Contamination

From the 1950's to 1970's population boomed in rural St. Louis County. With population growth came a flurry of construction activity for new subdivisions and businesses. Construction grading disturbed radioactive materials, effectively redistributing the contamination throughout all of North St. Louis County. Some of the radioactive materials that had previously been buried were now exposed to open air, or used as fill for newly created subdivision lawns.

Waste was later moved from the airport to nearby neighborhoods.



Railroads played a key role in allowing radioactive waste to migrate throughout St. Louis.

During the move, improper handling and transportation of the waste further contaminated areas along haul routes.

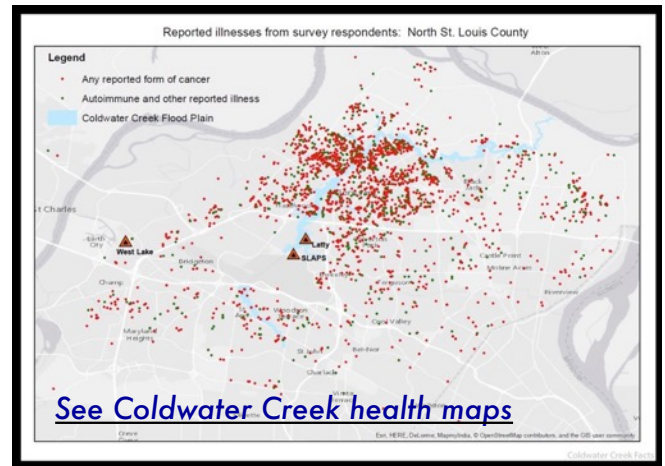
"What you see is an environmental health disaster unfolding slowly over decades," said Dr. Faisal Kahn, Director of St. Louis County Department of Public Health.

The most well-known nuclear waste site in St. Louis is just 11 miles from the Province Center. The West Lake Landfill Superfund Site is an illegal dumping ground that contains one of the single largest concentrations in the U.S. of hazardous radioactive Thorium-230 residues.

The landfill is located in the Missouri River floodplain, just upstream from the confluence with the Mississippi River, as well as St. Louis metro region drinking water intakes. It is immediately adjacent to an underground landfill fire.

"There are three federally documented waste sites in St. Louis. But oral reports from haulers suggest that waste was being dumped at many unregulated sites in North St. Louis County," Monte said.

North St. Louis County was an agricultural region during the atomic age. Radioactive materials were stored in open piles and mixed with residential dirt. The radiation leached into local farms and backyard gardens, as well as local dairy supplies. Neighborhoods in North County have been chronically exposed to ionizing radiation for decades through inhalation and ingestion.



Radioactive dust is still being carried by wind and water today.

Cancer clusters

Neighborhoods in North St. Louis County are experiencing identical cancers and diseases that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry have linked to ionizing radiation exposure.

Dr. Khan said identifying a true cancer cluster is very difficult, but that what is happening in North County needs long-term study. Currently, engineers are testing soil along the 15 mile Coldwater Creek. The federal government is paying for some of the cleanup, but it will take years to complete.

"People are just starting to unravel this issue. The data is technical and hasn't been translated for average people. The entire situation is huge and complex," Monte said.

There are many groups of stakeholders who are investigating different parts of the puzzle, each of which is focused on their own needs and concerns. No one has the 30,000-foot view and no one is

Continued on next page

GREEN CORNER



ZEAL



Nuclear *Con't from p. 15*

serving as the bridge between the groups, according to Monte.

Action groups

The groups represent a diverse citizenry. Some of the groups represent residents who are suffering from atypical diseases and have lost family members from rare forms of cancer. Other groups represent federal agencies, hauling companies and corporate boards of directors, politicians, doctors and environmental activists to name just a few.

Monte will continue to engage with Sen. Chappelle-Nadal and citizen action groups who are monitoring the situation so he can report back to NAC at quarterly meetings with information that will help the Advisory Board discern possible ways to help.

So many questions

As for me, I wonder about things I never gave thought to before the nuclear waste tour. I grew up in a North County suburb and played in Coldwater Creek as a child. My mother lives less than five miles from the West Lake Landfill.



The West Lake Landfill is just 11 miles from the Province Center.

What was the extent of contamination in Coldwater Creek where I played as a child? How has living near one of the most dangerous nuclear waste sites in the United States affected my mom's health? How much effort is really being made to clean up the messes in North St. Louis County?

I don't know where my questions and this newfound awareness will ultimately lead me, but I do know my next step. I will attend Sen. Chappelle-Nadal's town hall meeting in Normandy on November 5 to hear what The People are saying about this problem and learn how they are organizing to find solutions and create change.

Links to help you understand the issue

1. Coldwater Creek Facts: <http://www.coldwatercreekfacts.com/experts/>
2. Chronology of Events in St. Louis: <http://www.coldwatercreekfacts.com/chronology-of-events/>
3. Coldwater Creek Health maps: <http://www.coldwatercreekfacts.com/2015-health-maps/>
4. The Manhattan Project: <http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/einstein/peace-and-war/the-manhattan-project/>

Announcements & News Tidbits

Sr. Claude Salama has a new email address:

mariasisterc@gmail.com

Sr. Stanislaus is no longer on Yahoo. Her email address is

stanie414@gmail.com

The fax machine number for the San Francisco Community is (415) 586-0355. The fax number

for Good Shepherd Gracenter is (415) 337-4668.

Some people are still sending mail to Sr. Joan Tubbs at her old address in Orange, California. Please send mail to her at Immaculate Heart, 7626 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121.

Vista Maria gives thanks to the LoveLight Foundation for its support and funding for Vista Maria's Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program for young women in need.

Deadline for the December issue of Items of Interest is November 22, 2016.

ACROSS BORDERS



ZEAL

A school in Angola brings hope

People across the globe observed International Day of the Girl Child on October 11. At the St. John Eudes School in Angola, the question was asked of girls: *What does it mean for you to be a girl?*

15-year-old Ester replied, "Being a girl is to know love, to be loved. To be a girl is to be a heroine. A girl is courageous, a protector and worker. Being a girl is to like yourself the way you are. Being a girl is about pursuing dreams and realizing them. A girl is like a book waiting to be read."

For the past 50 years the Good Shepherd Sisters of Angola have gained experience in training and empowering women. Sisters meet the needs of the population through healthcare and education ministries. Education for girls is especially important as only 53.8 percent of the country's women are literate. Many of the Sisters' literacy programs have been turned into formal vocational training programs and small income-generation initiatives.

The St. John Eudes School has enhanced the lives of students and prepared them for the work force. It has also created an open dialogue with local leaders so that everyone — Sisters, school, students, government and community — can work together.



Students at the St. John Eudes School are getting a new lease on life in Angola, Africa.

The St. John Eudes School is an example of how Good Shepherd Sisters, the local community and the government have joined together to effect change for justice and peace. The school has helped both parents and children understand the importance of education.

Learn more about St. John Eudes School at <http://www.fondazionebuonpastore.org/progetti/leaving-behind-shattered-world-war-school-angola-brings-hope>



Sr. Maria de Lurdes, Province of Portugal, discusses human trafficking in the most current issue of *Embrace the World*, a journal of congregational justice issues that is prepared by the Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office. <http://www.buonpastoreint.org/downloads/index/11>

Sr. Claudia helps trafficked women

Sister Claudia Palacio is currently working at Dawn's Place in Philadelphia, a safe house/program for women who have been trafficked domestically for prostitution. Some of the residents come from prison, and others come on their own seeking help. The clients range in age from 23 to 45 years old. The women at Dawn's Place are taking a human rights class from Sr. Claudia as a part of the program. A group of residents and staff members from Dawn's Place are planning a trip to the Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center (NAC) to learn about the advocacy work of NAC and visit Washington, D.C. The women may accompany NAC Director Larry Couch on subsequent trips to Washington to talk with legislatures about human trafficking.

Dawn's Place provides women who voluntarily want to get out of being commercially sexually exploited a safe place to recover from the abuses they have suffered. It is a place where they can feel at home and begin their journey into recovering their dignity.

LEADERSHIP TRAVEL

ZEAL

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson	Nov 6-12 Nov 15-23	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville International Committee for Formation, Ireland
Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez	Nov 5-12 Nov 15 Nov 17	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville Council of Women Religious meeting, San Francisco National Religious Vocation meeting in Berkeley CA
Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth	Nov 5-12	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville
Sr. Maureen Johnson	Nov 4-13	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville
Sr. Dolores Kalina	Nov 5-15	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville
Sr. Maureen Kunz	Nov 5-13	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville
Sr. Marie Maurer	No travel	No travel
Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid	Nov 6-12 Nov 14-16	PLT meetings & Province Assembly, St. Louis/Belleville Good Shepherd Shelter Board meeting, Los Angeles
Sr. Madeleine Munday	Nov 1-3 Nov 6-7 Nov 8-11 Nov 11-12 Nov 27-30	Visit Sisters at Beechwood, Cincinnati PLT meeting, St. Louis Province Assembly, King's House, Belleville PLT Meeting, St. Louis Visitation at Maria Droste community, St. Louis

Cornucopia has become the most common symbol of a harvest festival. Originally the cornucopia was a curved goat's horn that overflowed with fruits and grains. The horn-shaped container now is usually made as a basket or from bread, and is filled with autumn foods and colors. It is also known as the Horn of Plenty. For Americans, the cornucopia represents the fall season and coming of the holidays.

Happy Thanksgiving!



PROVINCE CONTACT

ZEAL



"Cultivate thoughtfulness."

Saint Mary Euphrasia

Contact us

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

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