

Nun: Sister Monica goes home

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beat. She had arrived at 8 a.m. that morning, checked email, visited patients and readied the chapel for daily mass. She left for home with her typical joie de vivre.

St. Anthony CEO Harry Geller chatted with her for about half an hour that morning and didn't detect anything amiss. With her passing, he said, there is an angel-sized hole at the hospital.

"She was basically the moral compass of the whole place," Geller said. "She was so attentive and compassionate. She exhibited radiance and kindness toward all."

He paused. "She'll be missed on terra firma," Geller said.

St. Anthony Hospital Chaplain Rick Oliver will miss the way Borden addressed everyone as "love" and set the tone of life at the hospital. The nun had not only humanity, but brains, he said. She served on the board of trustees and foundation board for the hospital (which is owned by Catholic Health Initiatives). She earned two master's degrees and had a career in education before coming to St. Anthony in 2006. She served as principal at Oliver's own high school, Sacred Heart Academy in Klamath Falls, though he graduated before she arrived.

Oliver said Sister Monica also spent time serving in the Caribbean and Puerto Rico. If she had a weakness, it might have been her daily cup of java.

"She loved Puerto Rican coffee," he said.

Borden, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, served the hospital before moving to Pendleton to replace another sister who retired.

"I commuted to the board meetings from Spokane," said Sister Monica in a video. "When Sister Columba retired at 92, she asked if I would consider coming to Pendleton, so I did that."

This was her second move to Pendleton. She attended high school at Pendleton's St. Joseph's Academy, which closed in 1974 and met the wrecking ball soon after. The footprint became part of the adjacent St. Anthony Hospital, a 102-year-old institution that was demolished after a new \$70 million medical center opened at its present location in late 2013.

Sister Monica transitioned from the old hospital to the new with the rest of the staff. Oliver said the Family Birthing Center was a place she most loved to spend time.

"Every baby she held was 'the most beautiful baby in the world,'" he said. "She always talked of the glow of new mothers."

When a baby was stillborn, she helped family members cope with grief. She attended memorial and burial services.

Borden also served as the hospital's historian. She sifted through "mountains of photographs and articles" and was organizing them, Oliver said.

"She was a larger than life person," Oliver said. "She had an abiding faith that was absolutely contagious."

Smith, who is now the hospital's communications director, will miss hearing Borden's pet greeting for her of "Hello, beautiful."

"She was so kind. She always had a smile," Smith said. "It's a huge loss."



Capital Press Photo/Mitch Lies

Oregon State University Extension plant pathologist Jeremiah Dung at the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center's Grass Seed Field Day May 22 encourages growers to help researchers monitor ergot spore counts by placing traps in fields.

Ergot: Local growers asked for help

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starting to get into the boot stage, you should start thinking about putting on that first fungicide application to protect flowers," Dung told growers.

He added that researchers are utilizing a blog format to relay information to growers again this year, allowing them to provide more frequent updates than when they were sending out updates via email.

Ergot is a fungal disease of grasses grown for seed that affects perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass in Eastern

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Growers can contact Jeremiah Dung for more information on ergot at 541-475-7107 or at jeremiah.dung@oregonstate.edu.

ately after they initiated trapping on April 24, he said.

"We are seeing some ups and downs in spore production," he said, "but generally we are seeing less than 50 spores produced in a day."

Dung said researchers also are evaluating the potential for resistance to two commonly used ergot fungicides this year.

"We want to establish a baseline that we can have in our back pocket, so we can monitor populations of ergot and make sure that we aren't encountering fungicide resistance in certain growing regions," Dung said.

Oregon production systems. Ergot spores reduce yield by replacing seed in seed heads. The fungus requires an unfertilized flower to infect, so once pollination occurs, flowers are no longer susceptible. Researchers started catching spores immedi-



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