

## 2010 SR. MADELEINE OF JESUS AWARD WINNERS CHOSEN

*(From: Rivier Today, Spring 2010)*

The Alumni Council has selected **Sr. Martha Villeneuve, p.m. '63** and **Lise Pellerin Ouellette '55** as the 2010 recipients of the Sr. Madeleine of Jesus Award. The award, named after Rivier's founder, honors alumni who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and contribution to Rivier College, outstanding service to his or her community and profession, and significant civic, professional, or humanitarian efforts.

Sr. Martha Villeneuve, p.m. '63 earned her bachelor's in mathematics at Rivier, then went on to earn a master's degree in mathematics from Boston College. She entered the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary in 1951. She taught at Notre Dame High School in Berlin, NH and elementary school in Berlin and Gorham. In 1971, she was assigned to teach full-time in the Mathematics Department at Rivier.

From 1975 to 1992, Sr. Martha served as Chair of the Math Department. During that time, the department was expanded and renamed to include computer science. Sr. Martha developed partnerships with local businesses to help create strong academic programs and secure software and hardware gifts in kind supporting the new programs. Sr. Martha supervised the growth of the College's computer labs from one small office to the Academic Computing Center. In 2002, she retired from full-time teaching. She continues to direct the computing center, which allows her to maintain contact with students and faculty—something she enjoys.

Sr. Martha has served on a variety of committees for the College and has held various responsibilities within her religious community as well.

Lise Pellerin Ouellette '55 has been a loyal supporter of the College—and the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary—for many years. Born and raised in Grand mere, Quebec, Lise spoke only French when she arrived at Rivier in 1951. Sr. Louis Pierre, later called Sr. Sylvia Trottier, took Lise under her wing. She became a lifelong friend and mentor.

When Sr. Sylvia left the Rivier campus, Lise began visiting her and other Sisters in Hudson and in Manchester. Lise trained to become a Reiki practitioner. She administers Reiki, a holistic therapy, to some of the Sisters, helping them to relax and maintain more energy. She administers Reiki to patients at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center, where she also serves as a Eucharistic Minister.

Lise currently serves on the Alumni Council. She is a former member of the Alumni Association's Nashua Chapter. She and her husband, Dr. Paul Ouellette, established the Sr. Sylvia Trottier Memorial Scholarship to honor Sr. Sylvia's memory and support current Rivier students. ■