

## Nikkei Concerns | Seattle Keiro

**Kinuyo Yokoyama, 25 years, CNA** | Kinuyo started with Seattle Keiro on June 22, 1983. She has maintained excellent attendance. She works very well with others and is very helpful to her peers. She is a native Japanese speaker and is thereby able to communicate well with the Japanese residents and interprets for others who are not Japanese speakers so they may communicate more easily with residents as well. Even after 25 years, she's still willing to go the extra mile and work extra shifts when needed. Kinuyo is compassionate not only to residents but to family members as well. Family members have often made comments about her kind and cheerful nature. Japanese residents are happy that they can communicate with her in their own language and they love her smile. She has been a consistent and faithful presence for the past 25 years and Seattle Keiro is honored to have her as part of our team. ★

## Norse Home

**Sally Holmes, 39 years, CNA** | Sally started working at the Norse Home in 1968 as a nursing aide for a whopping salary of \$1.25 an hour. Her work load was 12 residents, a big change from the 40 residents she cared for in a different facility. Born with hearing and sight problems, she had a natural sensitivity to others' disabilities. Her family encouraged nursing as she was a natural caregiver with family. She could not afford nursing school so she received 8 weeks of training to become a nursing aide instead. Raising two children and health problems has not deterred her as she continued to work a shift that others might dread. When asked what keeps her motivated to get up each work day at 2:00 a.m. and be on duty at 4:30 a.m. each day, she says "I love taking care of these people" Norse Home salutes Sally's almost 40 years of dedication to serving our residents. We are honored to work with her.

**Martha Michels, 33 years, Restorative Aide** | Martha began working at the Norse Home in 1974 as a nursing assistant. In 1980 the Norse Home started its restorative care program. Martha applied for the newly created restorative aide position. She was hired as the first RA, received her RA training at Good Samaritan in Puyallup, and has been an integral part of the Restorative Care program at the Norse Home since its start. Martha has fabulous people skills and excels at motivating residents to participate in their restorative care programs. She is a skilled, knowledgeable RA who is dedicated to the residents and their well-being. She is a Norse Home Shining Star.

**Linda Willson, 31 years, Restorative Aide** | Linda began working at the Norse Home in 1977 as a nursing assistant. She became the 2<sup>nd</sup> restorative aide in 1986. Linda received her RA training at Good Samaritan in Puyallup and continues in this position working with the residents at Norse Home. She is skilled at assisting residents to regain and maintain their functional abilities. Linda is cheerful and encouraging with the residents, who look forward to their restorative programs, which enrich their lives. Linda is also very astute at noticing changes in residents and bringing this to the attention of the LN. She is a valuable member of the Norse Home and deserves to be recognized with the Silver Star.

## Rockwood Retirement Communities

**Sandi Sunde, 25 years, Housekeeping Supervisor** | Sandi began working on July 12, 1983 for Hawthorne Retirement Community while owned by Presbyterian Ministries, and continues to this day as an employee of Rockwood at Hawthorne. Sandi began her work as a waitress in the dining room, became the dining room supervisor, and transferred to the Housekeeping Department in January 2001. Sandi has recently taken on the role of Housekeeping Supervisor. ★

**Carol Norton, 25 years, CNA** | Carol began working on August 8, 1983 for Hawthorne Retirement Community while owned by Presbyterian Ministries, and continues to this day as an employee of Rockwood at Hawthorne. Carol has worked for her entire tenure at Hawthorne as a CNA. For the last few years, Carol has enjoyed the opportunity to work a part-time schedule.

## Wesley Homes

**Janet Edwards, 25 years, Receptionist** | Janet has been an Employee of the Month six times and Employee of the Year in 2000. It goes without saying she is highly appreciated by staff and residents. Her service began in Environmental Services as a Supervisor in Housekeeping. Upon coming to the administrative department, she took on the role of the Lead Front Desk Receptionist. She is a great communicator with a training style that is very constructive and positive. Janet is a very caring, devoted and dependable employee. We hope she will continue to be a part of the Wesley team for many more years. ★



## Recognizing 25+ Years of Service Silver Star Awards

### Cascade Vista

**Sharon Johnson, 25 years, Restorative Nursing Assistant** | Sharon is a truly caring nursing assistant. She is passionate about her profession and excels at all of her responsibilities. She takes on extra duties with enthusiasm and leads by example and is an inspiration to others.

### Christian Health Care Center

**Fran Matheis, 35 years, Quality Assurance** | Fran's career at Christian Health Care began after completing LPN training. Her first assignment was in the evenings which worked well for her while, over the next 7 years, she gave birth to her 4 children. Her kids literally grew up at Christian Health Care. During her evening shift, husband Rick would bring the kids to work during Mom's break so she could nurse the baby and tell stories to the older ones. Fran has served in most every position at CHCC. Team Leader, Nurse Manager, MDS, QA and the list goes on. She serves on Employees Relations and as the facility photographer. She's committed to the CHCC mission of, *Providing skilled health care services with compassion and love in Christ's name.*

**Nellie Vanderkooi 37 years, MDS Coordinator** | Nellie began as CHC a nursing assistant on her way to becoming an RN. She has worked in a variety of nursing positions but since the birth of the SNF MDS, Nellie has suffered through the growing pains associated with that too! In spite of the challenges, she has remained faithful to the interdisciplinary MDS process. Nellie has led more care plans than all of us put together! Nellie has 4 grown kids, 2 of whom have been employed at Mom's work place. Nellie and husband Martin are avid supporters of local high school sports. She always has a smile and is dedicated to service the needs of others at work and in the community. ★

### Covenant Shores

**Priscilla Miller, 25 years, Administrator – Residential Care** | Priscilla began as a dining room hostess at Covenant Shores and moved up the ladder into marketing as a marketing rep. then to marketing director, then to her current position as the Administrator for Residential Care. Priscilla has served the residents and staff well, over the years in all of her positions. It has been a true gift of God to be associated with her in the service of the residents of Covenant Shores.

### CRISTA |Cristwood Independent Living

**Vivian Johnson, 35 years, Administrator** | 35 years of service that spans the breadth of CRISTA's retirement community. Vivian's history at CRISTA started in 1973 as a staff nurse in the nursing center, and from there held positions of Staff Development, DNS, and Administrator. In 2006 she became the Administrator of Cristwood, our largest Independent Living complex. Vivian has many passions in life but is known for her love of the Lord and her desire to teach and mentor staff and residents. Her most recent endeavor at Cristwood is working with the residents to "Tell Their Stories". Vivian is an amazing leader with a goal to teach, empower and evoke passion about life and sharing the love of Christ with others. THANKS Vivian for bringing joy and purpose to the lives of our seniors.

### Foss Home and Village

**Ida Shelton, 25 years, Village Wellness Nurse** | Ida began her career as a CNA and quickly advanced into a Team Leader position. She attended nursing school while working and in 1989 earned her LPN degree and became a med /charge nurse. She held various nursing positions in the nursing home until 1996, when she became a Wellness nurse in our assisted living. Ida is a tremendous asset to Foss. In every position she has held she exhibits exceptional clinical skills, amazing rapport and empathy with the residents, families and staff, and outstanding versatility. She is a great team player and a creative problem solver. We thank Ida for being a trusted, reliable, leader who is a constant source of optimism and always gives 110%. ★

**Annette Ward, 25 years, Nurse** | Annette began her career as a med/charge nurse on the night shift. During her tenure she has held a variety of nursing positions and worked all shifts. Very early on it was noted that Annette was loyal to Foss, always willing to help out and maintaining a high standard of nursing care. Through the years she has also become known as an innovative, holistic team player who is flexible, calm and dependable. She takes exceptional care of the residents with much patience, love and understanding. She is well liked by families and staff, empowering others to learn and grow. We thank her for all she has given us these 25 years!

### Garden Village

**Linda Lortie, 28 years, RN** | Linda is efficient, accurate and thorough when providing care. Linda is detailed in her documentation. She always exceeds standards of practice. Linda is the kind of nurse who makes a great nurse-mentor. She has performed in Nurse Administrative positions – however her favorite place is at her patient's side. Linda serves in the capacity of Team Leader on our Rehabilitation Unit. Residents, families, peers, and physicians place their confidence in Linda's expertise and competence. They know that when Linda is on duty excellence abounds! ★

### Horizon House

**Soth Ear, 25 years, Engineer 1** | Soth was recently recognized for his 25 years of service at the Horizon House All-Staff meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. His supervisor had many nice things to say about him including that residents (and staff) often ask for him specifically on certain projects because he is so good! Soth was a farmer and furniture maker in his homeland of Cambodia before relocating to Michigan. Soth has been nominated many times and won the honor of Employee of the Quarter. Horizon House is proud to have Soth on board.

**Julia Gobunquin, 25 years, NAC** | Julia will celebrate her 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. She came to Horizon House from the Philippines working first as an Anesthesia Technician at Swedish Hospital and as an NAC for another Care Center. Julia received her RN degree from a University in the Philippines. Her supervisor in a recent evaluation wrote: *"Our residents rely on you and they appreciate you. You are always to work on time with a good attitude and friendly face. You take the time to explain clearly to residents what you are going to do – that makes a big difference. Thank you for being part of our great team!"*

**Ron Twedt, 25 years, Engineer 1** | Ron will celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. During his tenure, he has been a janitor, painter, maintenance/ renovations technician and finally an engineer. Ron has been a shop steward for the union for many years and, as such has participated very effectively and knowledgeably on union negotiation teams. Ron is a man of few words and soft-spoken but when he speaks, people listen. His co-workers and residents really like him - and is a pleasure to work with. He takes pride in his work and it shows.

### Judson Park

**Debra Ellis, 25 years, Restorative Aide** | Debra joined Judson Park in September 20, 1982. Most of Debbie's time at Judson Park has been in the restorative and nursing department. With her tenure in the department she has a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the restorative programs and the benefits of such a program. Her residents enjoy working with her as she encourages them to do their best. Not only do her residents love her, but their family members trust her to provide the best care to their loved ones.

### Kline Galland Home

**Teresita Ulep, 28 years, CNA** | Teri started working at Kline Galland in July 1980. She has worked all different areas of long term care. She is enthusiastic, always ready to give a helping hand to all. She carries out her job duties with a smile and her interaction with residents is kind and gentle. She has worked here long enough to see the facility grow from two small units to 205 beds.

**Arsenia O'Meara 27 years, CNA** | Arsie came over from the Philippines, and in 1981, she took a CNA class at Kline Galland and has worked here ever since. She has worked in our transitional care unit for about 5 years and enjoys the long term care attachment that she gets in taking care of residents with chronic health issues. She calls them her family. She is kind, patient and spends time listening to her residents. She makes every resident in her care feel important.

**Feliza Reyes-Verzosa, 25 years, CNA** | Fely came to us from the Philippines, where she had completed her pre-nursing courses and worked there as a Med Tech. She took the CNA course at Kline Galland and has been a key member of our care team ever since. She loves working with residents and making their life better. She doesn't mind hard work, and says that the residents' well-being is her priority.

**Virginia Garces, 28 years, CNA** | Virgie came to Kline Galland July 1980 to participate in a NAC training course and has been here ever since. She is always ready to give a helping hand to coworkers and charge nurses. She is dependable, compassionate and has a kind interaction with her residents. She is well respected by residents and her coworkers. The residents often request to have Virgie care for them. She takes pride in her family. Her daughter has worked at Kline Galland as a CNA, and is now studying to become an RN.

**Josefina Diga, 25 years, CNA** | Jo got her BS in the Philippines in Medical Technology. She came to Kline Galland in June of 1983 to take the NAC class and has been working on the evening shift for most of those 25 years. Jo carries on her work in a quiet cheerful manner, always willing to help out residents and coworkers. She enjoys the dementia unit and is very understanding of their needs. She also has worked at another company as a phlebotomist for 20 plus years. She says CNA work is hard but is has been rewarding.

**Remedios Vitente, 25 years, CNA** | Remy came from the Philippines where she had completed her nursing degree. She took the CNA class at Kline Galland in June of 1983 and has worked on the night shift for 25 years. She said is worked out better for her family and when her family was at the age to stay by themselves, she continued to stay on the night shift. She had adjusted to the routine and enjoys the night shift. She has worked on our Transitional Care Unit since it opened. She is very kind and gentle in her nightly care of the residents, and is very dependable. ★

### Living Care Centers

**Dennis Malgesini, 25 years, Administrator** | Dennis began his work at Living Care on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1983, coming to us from Yakima County where he served as a Senior Programmer. Dennis became our first Administrator for Information Services and immediately entered the Administrator-in-Training program. He became a licensed administrator in May, 1984. Dennis oversaw Living Care's transition from a 'paper' accounting and medical record system, through the early evolution of electronic data processing, to the nearly paperless and wireless system we use today. In 1999 Dennis took on the additional responsibilities of becoming the administrator of both our Health Center & Assisted Living Facility. Today, Dennis wears the hats of CFO, Chief Information Officer and Administrator of both our nursing home and our boarding homes—and he still says he likes it! Dennis exhibits Christ-like love and concern for the residents and staff he serves. We are truly blessed to have him in leadership at Living Care.

**Leeanna Norman, 25 years, Housekeeper** | Leeanna began her work at Living Care in 1983 when she was 20 years old; *her first job*. She started her career in our Health Center, and over the years has also worked in every one of our apartment and assisted living buildings. She has been a Team Leader in both Housekeeping and Laundry. Leeanna always gives her very best. She loves every resident and is always willing to help wherever needed. Leeanna always has a friendly smile to share. She is truly a treasure on our staff. ★