



Spotlight on our Employees. Soon Lee, (Chung, Soon OK)

Have a medical problem in the middle of the night; on the other end of the phone will usually be Soon Lee, R.N. who is the night charge nurse in the Medical Center. She likes working the graveyard shift, because it is less hectic than the day shift, and she can work on her research and writing during the day. She and her husband (a recently-published poet) are both members of the Korean Literature Society of America. A book of her essays (*Good News*) has been published and she has contributed to an essay anthology. Recently (6/15/2012) the *Cedar Street Times* published her essay "Music in Canterbury Woods". Her book is available at local libraries.

Soon Lee came to the United States in 1978 (having received her R.N. in South Korea) with her husband, who was a graduate student at the University of California at Los Angeles. When he became a professor at the Defense Language Institute, they moved to the Monterey area. Currently they live in Seaside Highlands. She worked for Monterey Pines Skilled Nursing Facility for over thirty years. She began working at Canterbury Woods in 1992, initially part time and now full time. She is a long-time member of the Central Presbyterian Church of Monterey-Korean.

Soon Lee has two daughters. One is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and is the Program Free Manager (Anti-Trafficking Services Program) at the Asian Women's Center in New York City. Helen, who graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara, recently decided to change careers and to return to school to become a nurse practitioner.

When asked what her favorite part of her job is, she replied that it was handling emergencies to save lives, since every life is very important. Soon Lee is very grateful to two Canterbury Woods residents, her ESL teachers, Gwen Straight and Jack Beigle. She wants everyone to know how much she likes working here.

Featured in What's New 8/16/12.