



## **SPOTLIGHT ON OUR EMPLOYEES: Estela Garcia Reyes**

Brought to you by the Annual Employee Appreciation Fund Committee

Ever wonder whom you hear singing in Buildings C, B and J? It's our Housekeeper, Estela Garcia Reyes. Songs burst forth as she cleans (or while she is doing almost anything), especially songs in Spanish, but psalms if the resident is ill. She started working at Canterbury Woods in 1999.

Estela, who is the mother of Alma Canseco (previous Spotlight) and four other children, came here from Oaxaca, Mexico in 1990. She was widowed when her children were little and at times worked three jobs to support them. She worked at Highlands Inn as a Housekeeper for eight years, at the Doubletree Hotel (now the Portola Plaza Hotel) and here for ten years and at the same time on the weekends cleaned the rectory and offices at Saint Angela Merici Catholic Church in Pacific Grove, and prepared weekend meals for the priests.

When not working Estela likes to cook Mexican food and seafood. Her specialty dish is tamales. She enjoys walking on the beach and singing in her church choir at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Seaside, where mass is offered in Spanish (also in Vietnamese and Tongan!).

Estela recently returned to Oaxaca for the birth of her grandson. One daughter and son-in-law still live there. She enjoyed visiting her brothers and sister as well and going to the beach!

She says she likes everything about her job here, especially talking to the residents!

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