

## **2010 Silver Stars**

**Anita Schacher** has been employed in long-term care for more than 44 years, beginning as a nursing assistant at the Benedictine Center in 1965. She served Clatsop Care Center as an Activity Director/Social Services consultant in 1983 before moving on to the positions of Social Services Director, Nursing Home Administrator, and now CEO of the health district as well as Administrator of Clatsop Retirement Village Assisted Living.

A simple request several years ago by a Clatsop Care Center resident for a fried egg when fried eggs weren't on the menu launched Anita and the organization on a journey to transform care and services at Clatsop. Her staff will tell you that Anita was "culture change" before the phrase was coined. Anita has been a fearless leader in Clatsop's culture change journey, and Clatsop Care Center would not be the organization or facility it is today without her.

Anita has also served the Alliance in numerous positions on committees and on the Board of Directors. At meetings, if we had an award for the most interesting and colorful socks, Anita would most certainly win.

Clatsop staff note that Anita also goes out of her way to participate in their themed events and dress-up days. She can laugh at herself and doesn't care if she looks silly – no matter who she is supposed to meet that day.

Thank you, Anita, for being **you**, and for your passion and commitment to Clatsop Care Center Health District and to Oregon's elders.

**Stephanie Bates** is a 25-year veteran of the Life Enrichment Department at the Mennonite Home in Albany.

Stephanie's peers will tell you that her delightfully unique personality and quick wit make everyone she encounters feel at ease. She tells great stories, loves life, and brings that joie de vivre to her work.

Stephanie has been a pioneer in creating an enriching and life-filled environment at Mennonite Home, where she loves to offer opportunities for residents to encounter nature. During Farm Week, farm animals live in stalls built in the Life Enrichment room, and larger animals like horses parade up and down the halls.

One of Stephanie's favorite memories is when she and DNS Judy Gott took a resident to Disneyland because it was her dream. Stephanie believes in taking chances and going the extra mile to ensure residents' dreams continue to come true. Just listening to residents' stories is one of her greatest joys.

Costumes, parties, antiques and much more all play important roles in providing meaningful and life enriching activities for Mennonite Home residents, and Stephanie is amazing at providing an ongoing stream of fanciful, entertaining, educating and fun opportunities for the Mennonite Home family. In this family, she is the crazy big sister who makes everyone's life better every day.

Stephanie, here is a message to you from your peers: The Mennonite Home is truly blessed to have a caring, committed and hilarious staff member who is so dedicated to our residents and their quality of life. Thank you Stephanie from the bottom of our hearts for 25 years of extraordinary service.

And from your Alliance admirers: thank you so much for your dedication to Oregon's elders.

**Linda Williams** is Marketing Director for Parkview Christian Retirement Community in Portland.

As Marketing Director for Parkview Christian Retirement Community, Linda is tireless. She plans special events, networks, does followup and is constantly thinking of ways to improve her community. Her hard work and abilities have kept occupancy high and revenue strong – no small feat in this day and age! Most important, she also exhibits a deep faith and a great love for Parkview Christian residents.

Linda is truly a shining example of the many talented people who bring excellence, integrity and passion to aging services in Oregon.

Thank you and congratulations Linda!

**Martha Mizuta** is a Certified Nursing Assistant at Pioneer Place in Vale, Oregon.

Martha has been employed at Pioneer Place since March of 1980 and at the age of 76, she runs circles around staff a third her age. She went to CNA school because it was winter, there was no farming and she wanted to learn how to take blood pressures so she could take them for her parents. Martha says that “it’s not what you learn in school, it’s what the resident wants – that never changes.”

Martha is not only thoughtful of the residents, but of her co-workers and community residents as well. She makes bakery goods for residents and staff on all holidays, and is very involved in her church and in her community, where she has tutored individuals in reading and English. She loves to sew and has made uniforms for her co-workers.

Martha takes care of her 101-year-old mother, who still lives independently, and enjoys sharing stories of the old days with residents she knew as a young woman.

Pioneer Place Administrator Dave Looper notes that Martha is also a whiz at crossword puzzles, and if there’s ever a contest, his money would be on Martha. He also adds that in his 36 years in this business, he has not met a finer person.

On behalf of the Alliance, thank you and congratulations to Martha for being such an inspirational example of those who dedicate their lives to serving others.

**Reva Flatebo** is a Renovation Assistant for Rogue Valley Manor in Medford.

Reva is both patient and caring when providing excellent support to the Renovations Department. Advancing from Housekeeper to Renovations Assistant, Reva has always been a team player. She has received an employee of the month award and has perfect attendance for 9 of her 25 years.

Reva is a great example of the support staff whose essential contributions allow their communities to provide the highest quality care and services to their residents.

Congratulations to Reva, and thank you on behalf of the Alliance for your years of service.

**Kay Girsberger** is Director of Health Services for Rose Villa Senior Living Community.

Kay is a registered dietitian and began her tenure at Rose Villa as the Food Service Manager. For the past 19 years, she has led the Health Services Department, fully embracing the values of person-centered care, nurturing those same values in staff, and working to integrate respect, choice, and excellence in care into everything that Rose Villa does.

On behalf of the Alliance, we also want Kay to know how much we have appreciated her support over the years as a member of Alliance committees as well as the work she continues to do on behalf of elders across Oregon as a member of the Steering Committee of MOVE, Making Oregon Vital for Elders, (Oregon’s culture change coalition).

Thank you so much, Kay, for your dedication to providing the highest quality services to elders in the Rose Villa community and across the state.