



# Ponté Palmero

RESORT-STYLE LIVING

## February 2025

### Resident of the Month



Our Resident of the Month for February 2025 is Mary Steel. She was born at home in Mill Valley, CA, during the time before the Golden Gate Bridge was built. Her father, a Bay Area native, was a businessman who manufactured and sold fruit and berry baskets made of wood and metal. Her mother was from England. Her parents happened to live in the same building and met each other over needing to borrow a pan for a party. Mary's childhood was different than most. The nearest elementary school was 21 miles away and there was no bus. She lived in a remote area of California at the time, in northern Mendocino County. Needing a solution and wanting Mary to have friends she would keep throughout her school years, her parents found foster families for her to live with near the closest high school district - 70 miles away in Ukiah. Mary lived away from her parents during the school year, with 5 different families, for 8 years. Her mother would come to visit her while she was away at school.

Mary graduated from Ukiah High School in 1946. She attended college at U.C. Berkeley and graduated with a B.S. in history. After graduation, Mary worked at the Emporium store on Market Street in San Francisco. In those days, everyone went to San Francisco to go shopping. Mary had an advantage in that she had a college degree, and she easily got a job as a supervisor. She lived in Berkeley and commuted to work in S.F.

On weekends, Mary and her friends played tennis. She met her husband, Geoffrey, on the tennis courts through mutual friends. He was waiting to see if he passed the bar exam. Somehow or another, they exchanged phone numbers and were married about 2 years later. (Continued on pg. 2)

**Mary Steel: Resident of the Month**

# Happy Birthday

- Mike Scholle - Feb 1
- Sharon Schmid - Feb 6
- John Saia - Feb 6
- Maureen Whitaker - Feb 6
- Allison Murbach - Feb 8
- Linda Grey - Feb 12
- Les Francis - Feb 13
- Diane Pereira - Feb 15
- Dorothy Huffstutler - Feb 15
- Don Mencarini - Feb 16
- Ray Griffith - Feb 18
- Patricia Lendahl - Feb 18
- Roberta Ostby - Feb 18
- Nancy Coben - Feb 19
- Bob Bauerle - Feb 20
- Nancy Cramer - Feb 20
- Diane Hoggard - Feb 22
- Vergie Drury - Feb 23
- Sue Woodhouse - Feb 23
- Janice Ziegler - Feb 25
- Mildred Lester - Feb 27

# Happy Anniversary

- Janice & Norton Ziegler - Feb 1
- Karl & Barbara Kampe - Feb 7
- Sam & Joan Jennings - Feb 11



## Resident of the Month

*(Continued from pg. 1)*  
They were married for 58 years. Mary has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

Geoffrey's first job was in southern Alameda County. There was no public transportation to San Francisco at that time, so Mary had to quit her job. They rented a 2-bedroom house in Centerville, now part of Fremont. Mary lived in Fremont for 70 years.

Mary was a Friends of the Library volunteer for 15-20 years. She reads about 4 books a month. She enjoys historical fiction and the occasional biography. About living at Ponte, Mary said, "I like being around people. I like knowing that there's company."

## Terry Giving Us a Beautiful Bouquet



## M.O.R.E. Performing Their Beautiful Christmas Songs



## LDS Church Youth Group Singing



## Ukulele Club Performing at the Lighthouse



## Hot Chocolate Time



### John Adams Academy Doing Arts and Crafts With Us



### Resident's Dog Loving the Leaves



### Arts & Crafts With Nic



### Ponte's Christmas Village



### Wit & Wisdom

"To fall in love with yourself is the first secret to happiness."  
—Robert Morely

"How you love yourself is how you teach others to love you."  
—Rupi Kaur

"Not only do self-love and love of others go hand in hand, but ultimately they are indistinguishable."  
—M. Scott Peck

"If you have the ability to love, love yourself first."  
—Charles Bukowski

"Love yourself first and everything else falls into line. You really have to love yourself to get anything done in this world."  
—Lucille Ball

"Self-love is not a place we get to but a place we choose."  
—Shannon Kaiser

"It is only when you have mastered the art of loving yourself that you can truly love others."  
—Robin Sharma

"You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection."  
—Buddha

"Talk to yourself like someone you love."  
—Brené Brown

### Nat Brown Performing for the Resident Christmas Party



### Resident Christmas Party





## Laugh Lines: Isn't It Romantic?

Why is Valentine's Day a good day for a party? Because you can party hearty! Join in the holiday fun with these riddles about love in the animal kingdom.

Q: Why do skunks like Valentine's Day?

A: They are very scent-imental creatures.

Q: What do you call two birds in love?

A: Tweethearts.

Q: What do owls say to declare their love?

A: "Owl be yours."

Q: What did the bat say to her boyfriend?

A: "You're fun to hang around with."

Q: What do pigs give each other on Feb. 14?

A: Valen-swines.

Q: What did the sheep say to his girlfriend?

A: "I love ewe." And she replied, "You're not so baaad yourself."

Q: What did the slug write on his valentine?

A: "Be my valen-slime."

Q: What did one bee tell the other bee?

A: "I love bee-ing with you, honey!"

Q: What did the octopus say to his date?

A: "I want to hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand."



## Brent & Zach Performing at the New Year's Eve Party



## Sharing a Nice Conversation



## Good Friends



# Just for Fun

## A Frightful Awakening! By Helen Carlson

It is Friday, December 20....5 AM.... I am sound asleep... suddenly noise and lights... I live independently with my dog ... my bedroom has a door to the outside. Three firemen barge in... I think they say, "wake up.. what's going on?" I don't understand.. I am scared and bewildered... I need my hearing aids! I fumble to insert them with my stiff arthritic fingers. What is going on? Why are they here? They tell me my Bay alarm went off... how could it ...why? I think I have a strong heart.. This intrusion could have caused a heart attack!!! The fireman sees the alarm button on the floor...?? At night I always hang it on my walker which is next to my bed for use to go to the bathroom. How did it get on the floor?? We look at Sterling. My 15 year old Australian cattle dog.. Did he come in and knock it to the floor? He often comes in at night to be let out to do his business! I am ok.. But I am somewhat in shock.. It is scary to have men "Breaking in"! The alarm company calls. My son calls.. But I am fine. I ask the fireman.. Will I be charged for this visit? NO, no they tell me.. And I am glad because Sterling has no money or income.

## A Frightful Awakening (Continued)

The firemen leave.... I am wide awake! BAY alarm calls.. My family calls. No use going back to bed now... my mind is trying to process all of this excitement. I am calming down now. It is not April Fools' Day.. Nor Friday the 13th.. It's the Christmas season! This whole affair sounds like something you would see on TV... The "Emergency" show.... It will take me a long time to get over this very strange episode... isn't life interesting?

## Try a 30-Day Challenge

If your New Year's resolution is fading fast, try a 30-day challenge instead. Completing a daily goal or task for the shorter time frame is more attainable for most people. But 30 days is still long enough to be challenging and to create a habit that can become part of your life for the long haul.



## We Heart Caregivers!

To honor the health care professionals, family members and friends who provide needed help and support, we celebrate National Caregivers Day on the third Friday of February.

## Nancy Cramer Humbly Accepting Resident of the Year 2024



## Ponté Palmero Directors To Contact the Directors, Call the Concierge at (530) 677-9100

Administrator.....Landon Pilegaard  
 Managing Director.....Terry Howard  
 Activities Director.....Nancy Peabody  
 Assisted Living Director.....Jennifer Hinch  
 Memory Care Director.....Dej'ja Bracy  
 Business Office Director.....Kelli Riley  
 Maintenance Director.....Kevin Hallmeyer  
 Marketing Director.....Rachel Amador  
 Marketing Director.....Amy Elias  
 Food Services Director.....Alex Winters



Ponté Palmero Resort-Style Living

## “This Month In History” FEBRUARY

**1878:** Thomas Edison receives a patent for his first major invention, the phonograph.

**1905:** The first Rotary Club meets in Chicago. The service organization now has more than 35,000 clubs worldwide.

**1914:** In Washington, D.C., a groundbreaking ceremony is held on the western end of the National Mall for the Lincoln Memorial.

**1922:** Embracing the “broadcasting boom,” President Warren G. Harding

has a radio installed in the White House.

**1935:** The board game Monopoly goes on sale with a price tag of \$2. Now a classic favorite, millions have played the property trading game.

**1947:** Inventor Edwin H. Land demonstrates his Polaroid Land Camera, which could produce a black-and-white photo in 60 seconds.

**1954:** A group of children in Pittsburgh is the first to be inoculated against polio with a new vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk.

**1968:** With smiles, songs and stories, the TV series “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” premieres on national public television.

**1985:** The Coca-Cola Company launches a new flavored soft drink, Cherry Coke.

**1995:** American businessman Steve Fossett completes the first solo flight across the Pacific Ocean in a balloon.

**2006:** At the Winter Olympics in Italy, U.S. speedskater Shani Davis becomes the first black athlete to win an individual gold medal in Winter Games history.

**2011:** “The Artist” wins the Oscar for best picture. It was the first silent film to win the award since “Wings” in 1927.

**2014:** Comedian Jimmy Fallon becomes the host of the late-night talk show “The Tonight Show.”