



# Ponté Palmero

RESORT-STYLE LIVING

## Resident of the Month



### Resident of the Month: Roger Santos

Our resident of the month for March 2025 is Roger Santos. He has lived at Ponte Palmero for 2.5 years. Roger was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and moved to Palo Alto, California when he was 3 months old. In those days, families stuck together. His grandfather and aunts and uncles had relocated to California 2 years prior.

Palo Alto was a wonderful place to grow up, Roger said. It was there that he met Zandra, the love of his life. They met in 1955 at a party. He was 16 and she was 14. "People say there's no

### March 2025

love at first sight, but I'm telling you ..." he said. Something special happened when he saw Zandra. They danced together and it was love. Two weeks later, Zandra moved away to Virginia to live with her aunt and uncle. Roger thought what he and Zandra had was just a short memory. Throughout high school, he didn't have much luck in love, so much so that he seriously considered becoming a Catholic priest after graduation. He ended up deciding against it and joined the Air Force. 4 years after they had met, Zandra moved back to California. Roger was on leave from the Air Force and planned to ask Zandra's sister for a date. When Zandra came down the stairs, it was like no time had passed. He asked Zandra out instead. They dated and married when he was 20 and she was 18.

After Roger was discharged from the Air Force, he and Zandra settled down in the Bay Area. They lived in Mountain View and later bought a house in Palo Alto. Roger and Zandra both worked for Hewlett Packard, he in corporate finance and she in corporate payroll and H.R. At 40 years old, Roger went back to college at Santa Clara University. He graduated with a B.S. in Economics, and returned to work at Hewlett Packard. After 25 years and 20 years respectively, Roger and Zandra retired from H.P. and moved to Shingle Springs to be closer to their children. They bought a beautiful home on a hill with 8 acres. It was everything Zandra had ever wanted.

Roger was married to his beloved Zandra for 65 years. He has a son and a daughter, 6 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren. He is lucky that his children live relatively nearby and he enjoys getting to see his grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow up.

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# Happy Birthday

- Judy Borders - March 6
- Misa Hodges - March 6
- Ray LeVitt - March 12
- Ralph Harder - March 12
- Lori Sieber - March 15
- Carol Perusse - March 16
- Kala Deepchandani - March 21
- Donna Burgeson - March 25
- Norma Rice - March 25
- Bob Caldwell - March 26
- Anna Boros - March 26
- Fred Unsworth - March 28
- Asmina Jiwa - March 31

# Happy Anniversary

- Les & Shari Francis - March 4
- Stan & Pat Brown - March 27



## Resident of the Month



Zandra and Roger Santos on their wedding day.

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In terms of hobbies, Roger enjoys reading. He is currently reading a book on U.S. history. He is also in the process of writing a memoir about his first 20 years in Palo Alto and his 65-year marriage. A bit of advice on marriage he will undoubtedly include in his book: "We never ever went to bed angry."

About living at Ponte, Roger loves the personnel. "Everyone is so helpful and so easy to get along with," he said. He enjoys visiting with his friends each day in the dining room, and he is a big fan of trivia!



## Eat Like You're Irish

Add authentic flair to your St. Patrick's Day celebrations by indulging in some traditional Irish foods.

*Corned beef and cabbage.* It's the dish everyone in North America associates with St. Patrick's Day, but it's really an American version of the bacon and cabbage eaten by Emerald Isle residents. When Irish immigrants arrived in the U.S., they found corned beef brisket to be less expensive and more available than bacon, so they incorporated it into their home cooking.

*Soda bread.* The key ingredients of baking soda and buttermilk give this rustic, round loaf its distinctive flavor and texture. According to Irish legend, an "X" is cut into the loaf's top to let fairies out while the bread is baking.

*Colcannon.* Potatoes are present at nearly every Irish meal, sometimes in two different forms. This dish—mashed potatoes mixed with kale or cabbage, scallions, and butter or cream—is a delicious addition to any St. Patrick's Day plate.

*Irish stew.* Often considered Ireland's national dish, this hearty stew was traditionally made with mutton. Nowadays, lamb is more likely to accompany the flavorful mix of potatoes, onions and carrots.



## El Dorado Community Concert Outing



## Hand and Foot Group



## Midtown Jazz



## Memorable Melody: 'When Irish Eyes Are Smiling'

This beloved musical tribute to the Emerald Isle was written by three Americans in 1912, at a time when Irish ballads were enormously popular in the U.S. Chauncey Olcott, George Graff Jr. and Ernest Ball wrote the song for the Broadway play "The Isle O' Dreams," and its lighthearted lyrics and catchy melody appealed to audiences. Along with becoming a St. Patrick's Day standard, the tune has been featured in dozens of Irish-themed films and TV shows.

## New Resident Mingle



## Ciarra Going the Extra Mile



## Guest Speaker Admiral Rocky Deal





Valentine's Arts & Crafts



Enjoying Friday Night  
Happy Hour With Andrii!





**Jon the Piano Man  
Entertaining Us**



**Amanda Happily Taking  
Residents to Where They  
Need to Go**



**Sue Serving Up Donuts  
and a Smile  
Every Tuesday**



**Donuts Every Tuesday  
at Pete's**



**Honoring Veterans at  
Gordon Cambridge's  
Celebration of Life**





## Symbols of Luck

Since the beginning of civilization, people have used various symbols to bring them good luck.

*Four-leaf clover.* Irish legend claims this green plant will bring luck—if a person can spot the rarity. Scientists say the odds of finding a four-leaf clover in the wild are 1 in 10,000.

*Ladybug.* These insects, recognized by their bright red bodies with black spots, are beneficial to farmers and gardeners because they feast on plant-eating pests, which may be why many cultures admire “lucky ladybugs.”

*Horseshoe.* Ancient folklore was full of mischievous fairies who were afraid of metal, so people hung iron horseshoes above their doors to keep them away. Some believe that hanging a horseshoe with the ends pointed up collects good fortune; others say that pointing the ends down allows luck to flow onto those below it.

*Penny.* You’ve probably heard the saying, “Find a penny, pick it up, and all day long you’ll have good luck.” The coin is said to be lucky only if found face side up.

*Rainbow.* Legend has it that a pot of gold can be found at the end of a rainbow, explaining why the colorful sight is a sign of good fortune.

## West Coast Dance Group's Amazing Performance





## Super Bowl LIX



## Wit & Wisdom

"Are you looking for gold, friend? Look around you; anything useful to you is pure gold, pure silver!"  
—Mehmet Murat Ildan

"The man who treasures his friends is usually solid gold himself."  
—Marjorie Holmes

"Fire is the test of gold; adversity, of strong men."  
—Seneca

"If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world."  
—J.R.R. Tolkien

"Truth, like gold, is to be obtained not by its growth, but by washing away from it all that is not gold."  
—Leo Tolstoy

"Gold is good in its place; but living, brave, patriotic men are better than gold."  
—Abraham Lincoln

"Wealth stays with us a little moment if at all; only our characters are steadfast, not our gold."  
—Euripides

"The finest compliment you can pay a man is that his word was as good as gold."  
—Evel Knievel



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

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Ponté Palmero Resort-Style Living

## “This Month In History” MARCH

**1790:** The first U.S. census is taken and records a population of 3.9 million.

**1899:** A German pharmaceutical company patents aspirin.

**1912:** Oreos, the cream-filled chocolate sandwich cookies, are introduced by the National Biscuit Company.

**1923:** Time magazine debuts.

**1933:** Frances Perkins is appointed secretary of labor, becoming the first woman to serve in the Cabinet.

**1941:** The National Gallery of Art opens in Washington, D.C.

**1951:** The comic strip “Dennis the Menace” by Hank Ketcham begins syndication in 16 newspapers.

**1968:** Country music singers Johnny Cash and June Carter marry.

**1981:** TV anchorman Walter Cronkite, often called “the most trusted man in America,” retires from the “CBS Evening News.”

**1994:** Hockey great Wayne Gretzky nets his 802nd NHL goal, breaking the previous record held by legend Gordie Howe.

**1997:** Singer, songwriter and former Beatle Paul McCartney is knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

**2002:** Halle Berry wins the Oscar for best actress for her role in “Monster’s Ball.” She was the first African-American to receive the award.

**2006:** The first tweet goes out at the launch of social media website Twitter.