

Ponté Palmero
RESORT-STYLE LIVING

Resident of the Month



Resident of the Month: Janie Estep

Our resident of the month for November 2026 is Janie Estep. She has lived at Ponté Palmero for 3 years. Janie was born in Merced, CA. Her father was a cattle rancher and her mother was a substitute teacher.

November 2026

It was hard work being the daughter of a cattle rancher but Janie loved it. She had her own horse and helped her father with work on the ranch. Both of Janie's parents were college graduates, and they required their two daughters to go to college for at least two years.

Janie met her husband, Freddy, at the county fair when they were just ten years old. That day, their parents introduced two very reluctant kids who just wanted to go play at the fair. They ended up at the same high school and started dating seriously after graduation. The two married and had three children. Freddy and Janie both shared an interest in farming. Freddy studied agriculture in college and they bought 200 acres. Life took Freddy and Janie in a new direction when Freddy fell in love with engineering. He worked on B.A.R.T. (Bay Area Rapid Transit) and was eventually promoted to chief field inspector. He wanted to keep advancing in his career but was told he needed an engineering degree, so back to school he went. Freddy attended the University of Washington and in two years earned civil and industrial engineering degrees. Freddy loved engineering in a way that made the work challenging but not hard. Janie helped support the family while Freddy was in school, working 4:00 PM to midnight operating the printing press at a printing company.

Janie attended Sierra College. She started working part-time as a school safety officer and helped out as a room mother. When her youngest child was in fifth grade, she started working as an instructional aide for elementary schools. She had taken top testing so she could run a classroom.

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Happy Birthday

Barbara Kampe - Nov. 9
Bill Johnson - Nov. 11
June Barton - Nov. 12
Linda Russo - Nov. 16
Carole Mitchell - Nov. 22
Joyce Adair - Nov. 22
Paula Lester - Nov. 29
Jennette Richey - Nov. 29

Happy Anniversary

Jim & Carol Portanova - Nov. 12



Resident of the Month

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Janie began working in California's central valley, worked with high school children in a special day class at Soquel High (she loved those kids so much!) and finished her 37-year career working in Chula Vista. Janie's favorite age groups to work with are fourth graders.

Freddy and Janie were a great team. They loved to go on cruises, visit Yosemite, and tour wineries. A saying Janie's grandmother passed down that she took to heart is "don't go to bed on a fight." When Freddy passed away, he and Janie were married for 59 years, 6 months and 18 days, "but who's counting?" Janie said. They have three terrific kids, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, three in-law grandchildren and one great-grandchild on the way. Janie likes to do needlepoint in her free time, a hobby she began when her kids were little. She also enjoys playing bingo and going on our monthly winery outings. Janie loves her GEM electric golf cart that she can drive in 35 mph zones. She has a pretty fun roommate too, her golden retriever Muffin, who keeps her on her feet.

Outing to High Hill Ranch in Apple Hill












HOW THIS
HIGH HILL RANCH


Welcome
HIGH HILL RANCH








PIE PORCH









Outing: Lewis Grace Winery











Oktoberfest at Ponté

























Ukulele Club's Fall Sing-a-long





Thank You

A Letter to the Editor

Hi, I am a fairly new resident at Ponté. When my daughter brought me to look at Ponté Palmero, I was very impressed, but it turned out not nearly as impressed as I should have been.

After I moved in, I learned what a wonderful place it is. The facilities are great but what has impressed me the most is the staff. And not just part of the staff but all of it. The drivers are amazing, the front desk people always have the answers, the restaurant people are always friendly and very efficient, the maintenance workers are always there quickly, and there doesn't seem to be anything they can't fix.

I have never heard a sour word from any of them or even received "the look." And believe me, I have earned them.

They are well trained and seem to enjoy helping and serving us residents.

"THANK ALL OF YOU."

I am properly impressed now.

Sincerely,

A Thankful Resident



Sippin' Cider Social











Community Concert at Union Mine High School





Ponté's Book Club Meets the First Wednesday of Each Month





Fall at Ponté





Arts & Crafts









Employee Spotlight



Brandyn

Name: Brandyn

Department: Maintenance crew

How long have you worked at Ponté Palmero? 6 weeks

A fun fact others might not know about you: I enjoy going fishing.

What do you like most about your job? Working with my hands.

Favorite type of music: classic rock

Favorite color: blue

Favorite TV show: *Fast N' Loud*

Coffee or tea? Coffee

What is one of your life goals or something you'd like to accomplish in the future? Being successful enough to provide a fun and comfortable life for my wife and kids.

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

Administrator.....Landon Pilegaard
Assistant Executive Director.....Kassie Bush
Managing Director.....Terry Howard
Activities Director.....Nancy Peabody
Assisted Living Director.....Cat Burgess
Memory Care Director.....Jennifer Hinch
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"

NOVEMBER

1929: Movie star turned Princess of Monaco, Grace Patricia Kelly is born on Nov. 12. She was an iconic actress during the Golden Age of Hollywood and an advocate for children in the arts.

1930: The Bank of Italy in San Francisco changes its name to the Bank of America. Currently, the financial company is the second-largest banking institution in the United States.

1942: In the midst of World War II, the minimum age for the U.S. military draft is dropped from 21 to 18. This quickly brought out supporters of lowering the legal voting age, too, with the phrase "Old enough to fight, old enough to vote."

1960: John F. Kennedy becomes the youngest person to be elected U.S. president.

1989: The fall of the Berlin Wall occurs on Nov. 9. With the literal destruction of the wall, the figurative "Iron Curtain" between the U.S. and the Soviet Union was dissolved as well, ending the Cold War.

1994: Returning to the ring after a 10-year retirement, George Foreman wins the world heavyweight boxing championship—the oldest ever to earn the title, at age 45. "Big George" still holds the record.

2011: The creative video game Minecraft is released. It has since become the bestselling video game in history, with 140 million active players.

2022: The global population reaches a new high of 8 billion people.

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