



the Listening Post

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Paging the Guinness Book of Records!

It may not have occurred to most park residents, but thirteen couples in the park have been married for 50 years or more. If one were to compare this with the total park residents, it would produce a percentage of close to 12%, depending on how the count is made. One can draw any number of conclusions from these facts, but the most obvious one is that living in this park seems to agree with residents.

On Valentine's Day, February 14, the Council has planned a party honoring the 50-year couples. Please plan to join the fun at 3:00 in the afternoon in the Rec. Hall to celebrate these many years of togetherness. The honorees are:

Matt and Lola Yakes	6/3/21
Floyd and Dorothy Crankshaw	10/11/24
Bill and Dortha Swickard	3/9/29
Chauncey and Hulda Robinson	9/28/29
Vaughn and Dorothy Nighswander	12/25/33
George & Florence Finnett	5/23/35
John and Donna Darling	5/26/35
Tom and Phyllis McElroy	5/22/35
Art and Marguerite Oestreich	5/23/36
Chet and Margaret Sizelove	6/13/36
Fred and Irene Kalagher	7/11/36
Fred & Loretta Brandemill	8/15/36
Jay and Jennie Hubbard	10/30/37

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My dog is so obedient. He does what he is bid.

The park bench said "Wet Paint" And that's exactly what he did!
Agnes White Thomas in National Inquirer

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This Is Gulf To Bay

What is it that "makes" Gulf to Bay? It certainly is not a collection of stately mobile homes. It is not wide beautiful shady streets with pleasant walkways. It is not a luxurious club house or recreation hall with tennis courts, billiard rooms, a swimming pool and other so-called amenities.

Gulf to Bay is concern; it is caring, it is compassion and, yes, it is love as illustrated by the recent outpouring for Peanuts and then, more recently for a far lesser problem, the cards, calls, notes, and concerns visited upon your Editor. My heartfelt thanks to all.

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Ted Turner, the sports mogul says, "Lead, follow, or get out of the way."

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Believe It or Not

Would you believe that a chance encounter concerning the purchase of a dozen of eggs would lead to a marriage of sixty seven years? No fiction! This is exactly what happened to Matt and Lola Yakes.

It seems that Lola was sent to a neighbor to buy a dozen eggs and that is where she met Matt. Only a short time later they were married and began this extra-ordinary union which has lasted all of these years. They were married on June 3, 1921, which also happens to be Matt's birthday. Perhaps he chose this date so that he would only have one day to remember anniversaries. At any rate, two sons arrived on the scene -

Believe - Cont.

Delbert and Eugene. They are both married and have four children each. Of interest is the fact that Matt began to work in a book-office supply store. Subsequently, Matt and Lola established their own store selling school books and office supplies at a location in Muskegon, Michigan.

With the advent of free text books, the book end of the business became secondary, although still part of the over all inventory. Both of the sons are still running the business, and, in turn, their children are working in the store at the present time. Three generations of Yakes at the same store, officially called the "Yakes Office Supply Company."

Matt and Lola began to spend part of each winter at Gulf to Bay in 1960 where their first location was at what is now 110 Aura where the Hires now reside. At that time there was nothing on the Gulf side of the main road except bush and swamp. Dije and Estade were not in existence either. They moved into 24 Cielo Court in 1972.

Years ago, the park owners lived in what is now the Rec Hall building where the Finellis now live. All mail was delivered to the main address and there was separated by the owners into individual mail boxes located where the present library is.

They have had a number of owners and managers to deal with but their favorite ones were Les and Ruth Pfliger who some of the "old timers" may still remember and who still live in the Englewood area. There was one well which supplied drinking and wash water for the whole park but it was so terrible tasting that bottled water was purchased for drinking and cooking. Water from the city itself was subsequently brought over by pipe line which can be seen at the smaller bridge.

In the "olden" days it was possible to plan a fish dinner early in the afternoon and still get a nice mess of three and four pound reds, or trout or snook in time for dinner. (Things have changed!)

It may not seem possible, but Lola and Matt still like to go dancing and may be seen quite often on Thursday nights at the local Elks Club. Both have stated that if they had it all to do over again, they would change nothing and that includes the marriage as well as living in Gulf to Bay. A great couple and a great set of neighbors and an asset to the park! We wish them well and many more years together!

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It is a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water.
Franklin P. Jones in Quote Mag.

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M.H.O. Inc. News

Please do not forget the scheduled general meeting of the M.H.O. Inc. member on Monday,, Feb. 15, 1988. The main order of business is the consideration of the report by the nominating committee for replacements of those who's term has expired. These are: Allison Brown, Tom McElroy, Harry Ide, and Art Oestreich.

The nominating committee consists of Vaughn Nighswander, chairman and George Finnett and Charles Deierlein. Additional nominees may be presented from the floor following procedures outlined in Article IX section six of the by-laws.

The law firm of Isphording, Korp, Payne, Muirhead, Haworth and White are presenting a free seminar/workshop for representatives of Mobile Home Parks. The workshop will concern the purchase of mobile home parks by tenant organizations.

February 22, 1988 from 12:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 300 Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, Fla. 33950. Please see letter on bulletin board.

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Husband: "What's for supper?"
Wife: "Take Out."
Husband: "What kind of take out?"
Wife: "Me."

Parker and Hart, North American Syndicate

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Park Travel News

There are still some seats available for the Golden Apple Dinner Theater presentation of "Hello Dolly" starring Roberta MacDonald on the Sunday matinee, March 20th. \$22.00 covers dinner, theater, round-trip bus, all taxes and all tips. This is always a nice day out with friends.

Lorraine is the park contact to make reservations for the all day AARP dinner cruise to Sanibel Island on Feb. 26th. It will be a fun day at sea with non-stop entertainment and includes round trip bus transportation. See the poster in the hall for details.

Be sure to make final plans for the Eastern Carribean Cruise Feb. 29th-March 7th. If for any reason you have changed your mind and now wish to go, see Lorraine immediately to see if you can be accomodated.

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Did you know if you ---

1. Take any number from 1 to 10
2. Double it.
3. Add 8
4. Divide by 2
5. Subtract your original number, and you will always end up with 4.

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February Committee

Sunday Brunch, February 21st, - we will be serving a buffet of breakfast and lunch foods from 11:00 through 1:00. Something for everyone! \$4.50 per person.

Dot and Jim Manley,
Gladys & Jim Thorne

Elsie & Ralph Freeman
Virginia & Don Reppenhagen

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Father to Teacher: "What is he ever going to need to know about Algebra? Stick to the country!"

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Golf

January 23 - 23 golfers played. The team of Bob Arnholt, Betty Baker, Boyd Gunderson and Bus McConnell were the winners.

January 30 - 21 players. Dot Manley, Jim Manley, Matt Yakes and Paul Stunzig were the winners, with a score of 38.

This Saturday we'll be playing a slightly different type of tournament - after playing from the best drive everyone will play his own ball. - Dot Manley - Reporter.

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Today's Chuckle: Ever notice how when someone says they're speechless they make one anyway?

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Aura St. - by Betty Baker

The Carl Browns are away for a few days. They have had lots of company from home so they deserve a rest.

Edna has been busy getting her mobile home renovated. Next week it should be finished. It looks lovely Edna.

Ethel has the cold we all seem to get this winter. Get better fast Ethel, so you can get to Bingo.

Not much news at the Galats. Just busy doing everyday things.

Anne has a nice new roof over the patio. She repainted the floor so everything is nice. Anne took a bus trip to Tampa to see the horses run. No luck on the betting but a good day out from the park.

Nothing new at Betty's. Just doing the usual things.

Lu has been having a problem with her leg but still she keeps busy.

Aura St. - Cont

Dick Hire was in the hospital for a couple of days for tests. He is fine and going places. Its good to have the Gunnisons here and Boyd keeps active with golf. Marge has company this weekend.

Millie is in the hospital in Michigan. We wish her well.

The Bottenfields are late getting down here. We hope to see them soon. (Editor: - Bill is feeling fine and active again. Bill and Helen plan on being in Gulf to Bay by the end February.)

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Ol' Lush must be taking vitamins. He's got quite a spring to his stagger lately.

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Bayo St. - by Gladys Thorne

Rose Ouimet and brother Nohe entertained Nohe's daughter Diane for several days. They also visited their brother Eddie at Bonita Springs. Eddie and son Paul and his wife visited with them here at the park for a day.

Charley Letsch spent last week entertaining a close friend, Eleanor Stayton, from N. Y. Says he enjoyed the company. Nancy Parretta and Lynn Williams also of New York spent a few days in the park. Eleanor, Nancy & Lynn are all old friends who used to work with Charley at Montauk State Park on Long Island.

Dick & Flo Leeper are enjoying a week with daughter Darlene and husband Tim Smith from McKeesport, Pa. Their son Shawn Leeper spent the prior week here in the park with mom and dad. He lives in St. Louis, Mo., and is with T.W.A.

Next week Alice Hess will be entertaining her sister-in-law Gladys Swiger, brother-in-law Glen Hess and his wife Sylvia for a few days. They are all from Mich.

The Finnetts had as guests their niece and her friend from Oshawa. They had been to the Everglades and were on their way to New Orleans for the Mardi Gras.

Floyd and Gwen Gilbert have finally arrived in the park. Wasn't quite sure if they could make it. Glad they're here anyway.

Ted Meals has moved into his trailer on Bayo St. Glad to have Ted on our street again. Sure wich his wife "Dot" would come down too.

Mabel Gaudette will be having fun entertaining her life long friend Jenny Gosselin from Chicopee, Mass. for a ten-day stay. She will be arriving on the 15th of Feb.

All & Isabelle Ward are looking forward to a nice long visit from Daughter Arlene Horvath from Michigan. She will be around now and then for a couple of weeks.

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A golf ball is a golf ball, is a golf ball, is a golf ball--no matter how you putt it.

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Cielo St. - by Ruth Hicks

George and Dolores Hommell entertained Frances, Toad, Millie and Ernie from Killarney, Ontario. They are staying at El Galeon.

Stopped at the Rumpfs. Mickey was indisposed but did yell out that she and Bob were expecting Deborah.

Visiting Tom and Phyllis McElroy in the near future is daughter Janet and grand-daughter, Lisa from Marshfield, Mass.

Virginia and Don Reppenhagen had a windfall at the bingo game and split their winnings.

Missed the Wrights and Christensons' residence on last months round, but better late than never. Welcome to Gulf-to-Bay.

Charlie and Ruth Hicks want to thank George and all the helpers that worked on their little patio. Now Ruth won't miss anything thats going on.

Cielo St. - Cont.

Stretch Klinger bought Percie a beautiful rose bush for her birthday. Before they had a chance to see it bloom, the squirrels made short work of the buds. Frustrating Critters.

Irens Stevenson is home after her bout in the hospital. Bill says she is feeling better, but is going to have more testing done. We miss seeing her around.

Angie and Georgia must have green thumbs. Their flowers are beautiful.

Billy Kell had very good news from son, Billy. Seems as tho we'll have another Billy Kell in the music world. Son has a new record - "Write me a country song." Its getting plenty of air time in N. America. The song will also be used as the sound track - made for T.V. movie called "The Cowboy." Some day we'll be able to say "We Knew His Dad."

Billy wants to remind us that a birthday bash is planned for March 12 - 7:30 for March birthday people. There will be a concert and dancing. You 'all' come.

Jinks Tenner was surprised by a short visit from son Jerry. Jerry hails from Minne. Mn. and will be in our park till the weekend.

Stopped at Cora's. She was busy cooking dinner for herself and Jane Wiley. Says she is feeling much better.

Now our "Mickie" knows our Florida friends. Jack & Fran Smith want to thank all of the nice people in the park who have been so good to Mickie who ended his second trip this year on Friday. Also, thank you so much for the Campbell Soup labels. Keep on saving them all year - because they go toward purchasing audeo-visual equipment for an early childhood education center.

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Drink and the world drinks with you. Swear off and you drink alone.

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Dije St. - by Allison Brown

Bob and Rita Boulanger said they were happy to be going home for their eldest son's wedding, but were hoping that Connecticut weather wouldn't get too cold before they could head back on February 9th.

Bob Carruthers surprised Ladeema by bringing their son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren down from Michigan for 10 days. Nearly everyone in the park knew they were coming except Ladeema, (so she says). It was a wonderful surprise. Craig, Carolyn, Stephe and Russ love to visit in Florida and enjoyed the beach, fishing and golf.

A few Dije residents are jetting to Los Vegas on Feb. 9th. Bob and Ladeema Carruthers, Katy and Hank Mastie, Clara Bessinger plus Alice Exelby from Estada and Ed and Elsie Holda from Grove City will try for four days to come back with more money than they left home with. Watch out Los Vegas!

Ruth Salmon spent a day recently at Busch Gardens in Tampa mainly to see the two giant pandas from China. They are enormous animals with adorable faces and well worth the trip. Ruth's daughter, Elaine Osgood, will be here on Feb. 19th for a short visit and her mom is anxious to see her.

Jay & Jennie Hubbard with George and Joey Gallaher went to Haines City last Monday to pick up Jennie's sister, Marion Walker whom many will remember from previous visits. Marion came down from Michigan along with two other women friends in a 27-foot RV - an adventuresome trio!

Ralph and Roxanne enjoyed a visit from their grand-daughter April, her husband Ed Laughlin and little 10-month old James Theodore. April missed seeing her father, Gene, who had to leave just before her arrival. Gene had had a nice week with his mother. April and her family slept at Uncle Harry's house just down the street. All the neighborhood help was appreciated by the family, and many thanks to the Thatchers for the loan of a crib and to the Stunzigs for the high chair. It's wonderful having a little "rug-rat" under foot!

No news from the Deierleins this issue, but Shirley says that's good. No news, no extra laundry, no extra meals, no bathroom competition.

The Robinson household is a little quieter since their Iowa neighbors, Barb & Oliver Hutton and Oliver's sister, Iva Heiserman, took off. They stayed at the Windjammer, but spent their days at Gulf-to-Bay. Lots of fun. The Robinsons are now expecting a week-end visit from their grandson, Joe Robinson of Des Moines.

Dije St. - Cont.

No report from the Masties at the moment, but wait until next month. February is winding up for action with that Los Vegas trip and then the big cruise plus company coming. Life is never dull at 418.

Anne Hale is looking forward with pleasure to a visit from her sister-in-law, Sally Hale, whom she expects to arrive on Ash Wednesday from Winsted, Conn.

The lights are burning at 401 Dije these evenings. George Gallaher has finally retired, and he and his wife Joey are settling in to enjoy their winter home. The Gallahers are friends of the Hubbards, and have joined the Sunday Diners Club which goes stuffing each week after church. It's good to see life up on the corner at last!

Its chicken stew and/or boston baked beans on short notice these days at the Browns of Dije St. This is the time of year when the "Troops" descend on the west coast. That's when Connecticut vehicles with numerous occupants, with or without notice but with ravenous appetites, arrive at 409 to share their joy and Aunt Al's favorite fillers for hollow-legged relatives. It's an expensive tradition, but a sure-fire method of keeping in touch.

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Isn't it strange that God's masterpiece -an infant -can be produced by unskilled labor?

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Estada St. - by Helen Bleck

No news from the Dursts except that they have had a few days of good fishing.

Dottie Hall reports feeling great! Enjoying life. The robins have arrived and spring is here.

The Manleys enjoyed a visit from their Vermont son and friend. Not good weather, but better than up north.

Marge and Dick Hamilton had a visit from Vic * Doris Garrettson of Lima, Ohio, who are wintering in Bradenton.

Mary Kay O'Donnell and Mary Jane are spending the week-end at Epcot. Ruth Nelson keeps busy and enjoying this nice weather.

Charlie wants to move to Florida to live with Grandpa and Grandma Downing. Everything quiet here for a few weeks, then the Rohebacks will be arriving. Les says fishing has been good.

Bill & Alice Exelby entertained George and Theda Folk from Bryan, Ohio last week. Tom and Marge Korican from Britton, Mi. also stopped by for a short visit.

Helen Bleck had Donna Bleck visiting her for a few days last month.

The Oestreichs are expecting Marguerite's sister Frances Nuchman from Texas to visit for several weeks. They will drive to DeLand to spend a few days with sister Ethel and Mac, Brother John and Betty are at Tamarind for two months, so the Lamon clan are gathering again.

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Holidaze: -Vacation days are free from care - My boss says when, - My wife says where.

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Cielo Ct. -by Mary May

Joanne & Dean Gould are proud owners of a "pre-owned" boat. Now to learn the waters. Son, David, his wife Donna and sons Justin and Jarrod (our only grandchildren) are visiting from Kalamazoo, Mich. They will be here for one week. Our daughter Sharon is visiting us for four days. She lives in Naples, Fl. The weather has cooperated and we are enjoying the beach and that new boat.

Lola and Matt Yakes have their grandson Dennis and his wife Leslie here for a week. Weather was not good but our visit was great. They loved our beach. Eugene and Edna were here over night on their way to Jamaica for 12 days of working, building churches and schools. They will return to Englewood for a 2-week stay on Feb. 12th.

Cielo Ct. - Cont.

George Uto is thinking ahead and preparing for daughter Lorraine, her husband and two sons' visit in March.

Andy Grant is still "helping" George Croteau at Brook-to-Bay. We love to work two or three hours a day then hit the beach.

Mary May says - "Busy is the word at my house. I made a fast trip to Illinois to bury my father-in-law. Arriving in Champaign, Urbana, Il. with a 31° temp. A first-hand reminder of why I live in Florida! My mother, Jo Schmitt, stayed with her brother in New Port Richie while I was gone.

Loretta and Fred Brandemill - working inside and out, trying to get everything ready for our daughter Jan, her husband Clarence, and grand-daughter, Debbie's arrival in March.

Dolly and John Papp had the pleasure of re-uniting two Ohio women that had not seen each other in over 40 years. One lives in Englewood, and the other in Lake Placid now. That made our day.

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Today's Chuckle: He who laughs last just got the government contract for thousand dollar toilet seats.

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Golfo St. - by Dortha Swickard

Bobbie & Larry Pidel have been enjoying themselves on the beach, in the Rec Hall and visiting the State Parks and cousins in Naples. Except for the cold snap, we really think its just great here.

Noble and Eleanor haven't exactly hibernated during the cold spell- just have been busy painting on the inside for a change.

Cam & Cal are expecting grandchild #8 in September. (Andrea and Mike) so they will be going to Seattle to welcome the new baby and help take care of Hannah Jane.

Gene Hallett is expecting to have her daughter Nancy coming in Feb. 9th, and be with her while she has her eye surgery Feb. 10th. Nancy will stay with her for a week.

The Crankshaws are expecting grand-daughter Sheryl and husband from Shannock R.I., and their little boy Michael, for a short visit.

Dorothy and Walter Rasmussen entertained Thelma and Marshall Maxsou who were down from Eagle River, Wisconsin. (22 below and 36" of snow.)

George Jacobson reports that his wife Audrey is greatly improved.

#9 Golfo will be empty for the last time this season, if all goes well. Etta and Freeman flew back to Cape Cod so that Etta can retire from her treasurer's job. The 11th they head back here to stay until the end of April.

Dottie Kerber says no special news.

Its good to see Nettie taking her daily walk. Always a big smile and a pleasant "Hello". What a great neighbor we have.

Former neighbors of the Swickards, Anabel and Mike Sherman, stopped in, thought our park really nice.

Helen & Charlie Verrill are busy doing this and that, but Charlie says "nothing special."

Waiting for Norma and Jean who should be arriving around the 23rd.

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The voting wasn't even close in a Bismarck, N.D., contest to pick names for the Dakota Zoo's two yaks. The winners: Yak and Yill.

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