

The original documents are located in Box 13, folder “2/24-29/76 - Florida (3)” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Reply thank - Ford's

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear Fern,

How very nice it was to meet you, and I certainly appreciated your kindness in coming to my suite on such short notice to give me a combout. I am also grateful for the special hairspray. You have marvelous intuition because my hairdo would never have made it through the remainder of the trip without it. Many, many thanks for your special thoughtfulness.

We will be forwarding the photograph as a memento as soon as possible, but I did want you to know of my appreciation for your assistance.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Ms. Fern Geatches
Manager
Island Coiffures
Marco Beach Hotel
Marco Island, Florida 33937



cp

March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Pitts,

How very nice it was to meet you, and please know your thoughtful welcome to the Marco Beach Hotel and kind hospitality throughout my visit was deeply appreciated.

I was most impressed by your kindness in taking care of our every needs and wants -- we were made to feel completely at home. Many, many thanks for thinking of me in this special way. My staff too was most enthusiastic in praise of your excellent assistance and efforts.

Please extend to your staff my sincere gratitude for all their courtesies and marvelous service. I certainly do hope I will have the pleasure of returning soon.

With gratitude and very best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. William Pitts
Resident Manager
Marco Beach Hotel
Marco Island, Florida 33937



cp

March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Everingham,

Your very kind letter arrived just as I was about to try to adequately convey my deep appreciation to you for your many thoughtful kindnesses while I was a guest in your hotel. Please know my husband sincerely appreciated your thoughtful invitation to participate in the tenth annual Tony Lema Tournament on March 15 and has given it to his scheduling office for their consideration. You should be hearing from them shortly.

The kind welcome you extended to me as well as the warmth and hospitality which I encountered at Marco Beach Hotel all added to the pleasure of a very enjoyable although all-too-brief stay.

The suite that you arranged for me was absolutely gorgeous, and I am grateful for your thoughtful efforts in seeing to it that all my needs as well as those of my staff were taken care of. I was particularly struck by the lovely flower arrangements and your kind gesture of providing the delicious pastries, Godiva chocolates as well as the fruit and cheese tray. I owe you a debt of gratitude for all your time, efforts and fine cooperation in helping to make my stay a most enjoyable one.

With deep appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. Roger J. Everingham
Vice President and Managing Director
Marco Beach Hotel
Marco Island, Florida 33937



cp

March 5, 1976

Dear Phoebe,

Needless to say, dear one, the time I spent with you and Jackson meant so very very much to me. I had worried about you so much, and it really gave my heart a lift to see you. Of course we realize the road to complete recovery will still be a little tough but may your faith in God provide you strength and courage during this difficult period. Please know you are constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

Jerry was just so touched to receive the silver spoon and wants to personally write to you. The silk scarf which you specially ordered for me is absolutely exquisite, and I shall enjoy wearing it often with fond thoughts of you -- how appropriate that it should depict a gay and bright side of life.

Hang, many thanks again for the wonderful time I spent with you and for the very special gifts which we dearly cherish. Jerry joins with me in sending our love and prayers.

Fondly,

Mrs. Jackson S. Seag
One Ben Franklin Drive
Apartment 10-4
Sarasota, Florida 33577



March 5, 1976

Dear Gay and Bill,

How very sorry I am that I could not reach you on the phone before my departure from Naples to again express my appreciation for the truly delightful evening I spent with you. It was so special with just the five of us, and the dinner was not only lovely but absolutely delicious.

It was a marvelous pleasure to find that your enthusiasm for dancing is as great as mine. There is no question about it, you two are an "A-Number-One" dance team.

I especially enjoyed our private conversation Gay. It meant a great deal to me to share these moments.

It is my hope that you know of my deep gratitude for your kind offer to open up your beautiful home to me during my visit. I was just so touched by your interest in making my accommodations as pleasant and convenient as possible.

With fond memories and warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Willard V. Merrihue
820 Jamaica Lane
Naples, Florida 33940



March 5, 1976

Dear Marga,

Please know how very touched I was by your warm greeting in Naples. It was such a special pleasure to visit with you, and I will always cherish the lovely gift which is really a work of art. The delicate beauty of the flower truly reflects the love and time you put into making it -- this means so very much to me.

I would love to share a copy of the picture with you as soon as it arrives for it was an occasion which I shall not forget. But I did want you to know again that I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness and friendship.

My husband joins with me in sending our warm best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Marga Kluck
2201 Marina Drive
Naples, Florida 33940

cp



March 5, 1976

Dear John,

You were just so wonderful during my visit to Naples, and please know how grateful we are that you took so much of your valuable time to be of assistance to me -- I owe you a debt of gratitude.

My staff was unanimous in their praise of your excellent help and cooperation in coordinating all the details of my visit. They certainly enjoyed working with you and join with me in sending our deep appreciation for your thoughtfulness.

Many, many thanks to you and your family for the special books, "South Florida's Vanished People" and "Florida's Last Frontier." What a perfect gift and you could not have pleased me more. It will definitely make my next trip to Naples even more meaningful.

Jerry joins with me in sending our sincere gratitude and warm best wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Mr. John A. Smith
Investors Research and Development
Corporation
797 Fifth Avenue, South
Post Office Box 247
Naples, Florida 33940



March 3, 1976

Dear Betty and Les,

How wonderful it was to see you last week, and I was simply delighted that Les took the time to meet me at the airport -- who could ask for a more special welcome to Naples!

You were of such great help not only to me but also to my staff in making the arrangements for my visit, and please know how very much I appreciated this. I loved seeing your home and Betty, you were such a dear to prepare lunch for me knowing I had to eat on the run. The time I spent with you truly added to the pleasure of a very enjoyable though all-too-brief stay. Maybe next time I can bring Jerry and we can spend a few more days enjoying Naples and good friends.

Many, many thanks again for your thoughtfulness, and Jerry joins with me in sending our very fondest regards always.

Affectionately,

Honorable and Mrs. Leslie C. Arends
c/o Mansion House
1601 Gulf Shore Boulevard
Naples, Florida 33940

cp

March 2, 1976

Dear Mr. Tamplin,

How very thoughtful you were to take the time to send me two copies of the Marco Island Eagle. I am indeed honored that your newspaper included a story on my short visit.

Needless to say, I just fell in love with Marco Island. The warmth and hospitality which I encountered during my short visit was most heartwarming. I certainly hope I again have the pleasure of visiting.

My husband joins with me in sending our deep gratitude for your support and our warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. William R. Tamplin
Publisher, Marco Island Eagle
Post Office Box 579
Marco Island, Florida 33937

ep



March 2, 1976

Dear Stella and Harry,

What a disappointment it was to miss your telephone call last Thursday. I really appreciated your taking the time to get in touch with me and am just sorry that my time was so heavily committed. After dinner that evening, it was already 11:30 and I felt it was really too late to give you a call. I do hope you will understand.

Jerry and I really appreciate your confidence and support. At times it has not been easy reaching the hard decisions necessary to overcome the difficulties our country has faced over the past 19 months but your optimism is most reassuring.

Enclosed is the photograph you requested and it comes with our warm regards and fond memories of our friendship.

Jerry joins with me in sending our gratitude for your support and our best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Mr. Harry Pillingen
1560 Osprey Avenue
Naples, Florida 33940



cp

March 3, 1976

Dear Ella,

Thanks ever so much, Ella, for all your efforts in making my first visit to Naples such a very special one.

It was wonderful to see Hal again and delightful to meet your friends, Gay and Bill. I was touched by their warmth and kind hospitality. It was just a marvelous evening and the highlight of my trip to Florida.

I am just sorry that my stay was so short and that I did not have the opportunity to spend more time with you. Maybe next time I can bring Jerry and we can spend more time enjoying Naples and dear friends. Now I can truly see how you fell in love with it because I can back with the same feeling. I certainly have been reminiscing about my visit (though) through your lovely book, Gulfshore Life. Many, many thanks for this gift -- you could not have pleased me more.

Please know again of my deep gratitude, and Jerry joins with me in sending warm best wishes.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Ella Weed
c/o Koeze Cream Nut Bar
1263 Barton, Southwest
Wyoming, Michigan 49509



cp

Pete Sorum

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear Kathryn,

Words simply cannot express what a truly great honor it was for me to participate in the dedication of the Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School on February 25. It was the highlight of my recent trip, and please accept my deepest gratitude for making it such a special and memorable occasion -- one which I shall never forget!

I would like to take this opportunity to personally congratulate you, Kathryn, for all that has been achieved in Creel School over the past five years. They are indeed fortunate to have you as their principal. Not only is your sense of commitment impressive but also your enthusiasm. The dedication and pride of the faculty, students, and the entire community is a true reflection of your hard work and immeasurable contributions. I know you will continue to do an outstanding job, and you have all of my very best wishes in this endeavor.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Kathryn A. Eward
5 Shoreview Lane
Indianapolis, Florida 32903



ep

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear Susan,

How absolutely delightful it was to meet you after receiving your touching letter and hearing so many truly wonderful things about you. It was my great pleasure to visit your beautiful school and to see and feel the pride and happiness which you have instilled in the students. Your commitment is most impressive, and the children are so lucky to have a special teacher like you who has made learning an enthusiastic endeavor for them.

My staff commented most favorably on all of your outstanding help and assistance in putting together the program for my visit, and I owe you a debt of gratitude. I can certainly appreciate all the time, effort, organization and energy that you put into making this so successful and enjoyable for everyone in attendance.

With all my best wishes for your continued success and warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Susan Stafford
5645 Crane Road
Melbourne, Florida 32901



cp

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear Dr. Wheeler,

You certainly have my admiration and deep gratitude for the wonderful job you did in preparation for the dedication ceremony of the Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School. You contributed in great measure to a most enjoyable, rewarding and successful event -- one which I shall not forget. I must say, from first-hand observation, that I concur wholeheartedly with my staff's feeling that it was a very smooth and well-organized affair.

Please accept my appreciation and warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Dr. G. J. Wheeler
2014 Wallace Avenue
Melbourne, Florida 32935

cp



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear John,

Please know of my deep gratitude for all of your work in helping to make my visit to the Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School so enjoyable. I am well aware of what a time-consuming and difficult job it was to coordinate all the details on such short notice.

My staff was unanimous in their praise of your excellent efforts, and I must say that the success of the event reflected your hard work. Again, my appreciation for everything you did on my behalf.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. John M. Forbes, Jr.
1511 Elm Terrace
Titusville, Florida 32780

cp



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 3, 1976

Dear Dr. Rogers,

How very nice it was to meet you and to have the pleasure of participating with you in the dedication of Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School. I am still recalling with pleasure this memorable occasion, and please accept my warm thanks for your kindness throughout my visit.

You have great cause to feel proud of this fine new open space school with a faculty that is dedicated to the needs of the students. It is certainly an impressive example of progress and vision in education.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Dr. Luther Rogers
Superintendent of Brevard
County Schools
3205 South Washington Avenue
Titusville, Florida 32780



Thank you's miami

Mr. & Mrs. Clint Hamilton
3550 Steward
Miami, Fla.

-Dear Martha &
Clint

(lent house for
volunteer reception)

Mr. Norman ^{Brahman} Brahman
Brahman Cadillac
2044 Fawcett Blvd.
Miami, Fla. 33137

Dear Mr. Brahman

(lent parcel truck
drivers; by speaker)

Ms. Paul Linkeis
c/o Brahman Cadillac
address above

Dear Mr. Linkeis
(drivers, baggage)

Mr. & Mrs. John Schulte
50 Miller Rd.
Oral Table
33146

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Schulte
(drivers, motorcycle)
"90 Anne"

Mr. Harry Havan
Gen. Ford Committee
3601 Ford Road
Miami, Fla. 33146

Mr. Janet Hale
~~3601 Ford Road~~
~~Miami, Fla.~~
3037 Harbor Lane
Harbor, S.
H. Brundage
Fla 3316

Dear Mr. Hale
(PFL cost. - help
setup car wash)
(cash)



HOTEL

Fontainebleau



OCEANFRONT 44th TO 47th STS. MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

Mr. Kim Stacks
Mudport Plaza Apts

Upt. 12-N

200 Biscayne Blvd. Flay

Miami, Fla - 33131

Dear Kim
(Student volunteer,
accompanied
Mr F on canvas)

Ms. Lane Zimring

~~1014 Tower~~

~~1237 Johnson~~

~~Unit of Miami~~ ST-120

~~Midway, Fla.~~

440 Park St. ~~Mark~~
St. Petersburg, Fla.
33710

Dear Lane
(Student volunteer,
accompanied Mr F.
on canvas)

March 5, 1976

Dear Kim,

My husband joins with me in sending our deep gratitude for the wonderful job you are doing on his behalf. Thank you most sincerely for your time, patience, energy and dedication. We are truly indebted to indispensable volunteers like you -- not only is your sense of commitment impressive but also your enthusiasm.

It was certainly my great pleasure to meet you and work with you canvassing neighborhoods in Miami. I must say that the success of this great effort reflected your hard work.

With all my best wishes for your continued success and appreciation for everything you are doing,

Sincerely,

Ms. Kim Stacks
Dupont Place Apartments
Apartment 12-N
300 Biscayne Boulevard Way
Miami, Florida 33131

cp



March 5, 1976

Dear Janet,

Please know of my deep gratitude for all of your hard work in preparation for my participation in door-to-door canvassing in Miami. I can certainly appreciate all the time, effort, organization and energy that you put into making this effort so successful.

My staff was unanimous in their praise of your excellent efforts, and I must say that the success of the event reflected your hard work.

With all my best wishes for your continued success and appreciation for everything you did on my behalf.

Sincerely,

Ms. Janet Hale
3037 Harbor Drive, South
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316

ep



March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Davant,

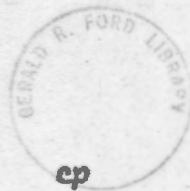
You certainly have my admiration and deep gratitude for the wonderful job you are doing on behalf of my husband. We are indeed fortunate to have someone with your energy and talents and cannot thank you enough for all of your efforts.

Please know of my sincere appreciation for all of your assistance to my staff and the press during my recent visit. It was indeed a pleasure to participate in the door-to-door canvassing, and you contributed in great measure to a most enjoyable, rewarding and successful event. I must say, from first-hand observation, that I wholeheartedly concur with my staff's feeling that it was a very smooth and well-organized effort.

Please accept my appreciation and warmest best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Mr. Harry Davant
President Ford Committee
3601 Bird Road
Miami, Florida 33146



March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Denkins,

How very thoughtful you were to volunteer your time to be of assistance to us during my recent trip to Miami. You contributed in great measure, and my staff commented most favorably on all of your help and excellent cooperation.

Please accept my appreciation for your efforts on our behalf and my very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Denkins
Brahman Cadillac
2044 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33137

cp



March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Brahman,

Please know of my deep gratitude for all of your assistance during my recent visit to Miami. You were just so kind to loan us the panel truck and a driver. I must say that the success of these events can only be accomplished through the dedicated efforts and enthusiasm of people like yourself -- I cannot thank you enough.

My husband and I most sincerely appreciate your support, and he joins with me in sending our warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. Norman Brahman
Brahman Cadillac
2044 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33137

ep



March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schultz,

How very nice it was to meet you during my recent visit to Miami, and please know of my deep gratitude for all of your assistance. You were just so kind to volunteer your time to drive in our motorcade, and I cannot thank you enough. I must say that the success of these events can only be accomplished through the dedicated efforts and enthusiasm of people like yourself.

Many, many thanks again for your special thoughtfulness, and my husband joins with me in sending our warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz
500 Miller Road
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

cp



March 5, 1976

Dear Dave,

My husband joins with me in sending our deep gratitude for the wonderful job you are doing on his behalf. Thank you most sincerely for your time, patience, energy and dedication. We are truly indebted to indispensable volunteers like you -- not only is your sense of commitment impressive but also your enthusiasm.

It was certainly my great pleasure to meet you and work with you canvassing neighborhoods in Miami. I must say that the success of this great effort reflected your hard work.

With all my best wishes for your continued success and appreciation for everything you are doing,

Sincerely,

Mr. David Zimring
440 Park Street, North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33710



March 5, 1976

Dear Martha and Clint,

What a true pleasure it was meeting you and visiting your lovely home. The warmth and hospitality which I encountered was indeed heartwarming.

Words just cannot adequately express enough appreciation for your thoughtfulness in opening up your home and hosting a picnic for all of the campaign volunteers. We are well aware of all the time, energy and organization you put into the success of this event, and my staff was unanimous in their praise of your excellent efforts -- both my husband and I owe you a debt of gratitude.

Again, thank you for all that you have done. Not only is your commitment appreciated but also your enthusiasm. My husband joins with me in sending our warmest regards to your family.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Clint Hamilton
3550 Stewart Avenue
Miami, Florida 33133



Melbourn

① JOAN ~~A~~ FORBES JR.
1511 EUM TERRACE
TITUSVILLE FLA 32780
305-267-3475 — (SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
WORKED WITH THE PRESS AND VISIT.)

② ~~Mrs. BEATRICE SMITH~~

(WORKED VERY HARD PUTTING THE
PRESS CREDITALS TOGETHER AND OBTAINING
THE INFORMATION FROM THE PRESS)

③ MRS SUSAN SAFFORD
5645 CRANE RD.
MELBORN FLA 32901

(KINDER GARDEN TEACHER - WARD
WORKER FOR THE PRESIDENT IN MELBORN
WORKED HARD ON THE PROGRAM FOR FIRST
LADIES VISIT.)

④ DR. G. J. WHEELER
2014 WALLACE AVE
MELBORN FLA 32935

(SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER WORKED HARD
ON OVER ALL PROGRAM)

⑤ MRS KATHRYN EDWARD
5 SHORE VIEW LANE
INDIA LANTIC FLA 32903

(PRINCIPLE PUT THE WHOLE SHOW
TOGETHER)



Blair - he gulf course
Luther Cogen ^{g/m} in 5 yd.

Dressin

Jo

George

Lt. Col. Banks Pilot

Lt Col. ~~Warrin~~ Chichester ^{co' pilot}

Sgt. Brown (Philip Engr.)

Sgt.

Stewards

5836

Sgt.

Schwartz Thos.

981-3826

Sgt.

Jenkins ~~Ann~~

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Sgt.

Beans ~~Ben~~

Bachman James

Andrew AFB

Thank you's

md

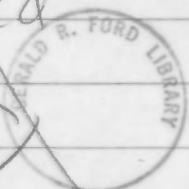
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HAPPY HELPERS HANDCRAFTS
Cultural Center
801 N.W. Aaron St.
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952

red/white/blue stuffed
elephant

Cond.

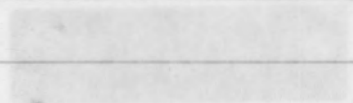
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Number

Comb. 2

Carolyn:

Crew members are attached to the 98th Military Airlift Squadron - which is part of the 89th Military Airlift Wing. Correspondence should be addressed thru the Military Assistant to the President to:

Commander

89th Military Airlift Wing (Special Air Missions)
Andrews AFB, Maryland 20331



HUNT REH

President

Ford
#1000

Love,

VGL Huntleigh
HUNTLEIGH

Huntleigh, Sh

the Spirit



Barb. Lust

1/6 10/11/11

PHANTOM 24

PHANTOM 24

April 1, 1976

NOTE TO PETE SORUM

FROM: Carolyn Porembka

Could you please give me the address of the people who loaned their home to the President and Mrs. Ford in Sarasota on the night of Feb. 28? Also, was an autographed photo or something sent to the Thurbers in New Hampshire who loaned their home to them on Feb. 7.

I have gone over the contact sheets for the past number of trips trying to select a minimum of photographs which should go to key people. Could you please review and revise the list where necessary. I will have to get Karl's approval if the photographs selected are good ones.



Photographs to order

(New Hampshire) Vesta Roy and Martha Barrett were not sent hospitality notes but perhaps they should a photograph. I do not have addresses for them.

A 8226 2-27-76 Martha Barrett ?? (is that her)

Can you select appropriate photos to go to Lancaster Public School?

(Florida) I believe the W. J. Elementary School has their own photographer so photos can be limited.

✓ A 8598 2-25-76 Susan Stafford 20A

Kathryn Eward 99-32

✓ A 8604 28A Patrick Mondor, 417 North Croton Road, Eau Gallie, Florida 32935

✓ A 8578 2-28-76 12A, Mr. & Mrs. Clint Hamilton, 3550 Stewart Ave. Miami, Florida 33133

A 8594 2-29-76 29 (Sarasota WH Res)

~~A 8571 2-27-76 8A (Frank Ursamarso parents)~~

~~" " 10A (Peanut Queen - Name, Address??)~~

~~" " 12A Mr. Roger J. Everingham, Vice Pres. and Managing Director, Marco Beach Hotel, Marco Island, Florida 33937~~

~~" " 15A Mr. William Pitts, Resident Mgr. Marco Beach Hotel~~

✓ " " 18A Ms. Fern Geatches, Manager, Island Coiffures Marco Beach Hotel, Marco Island, Florida 33937

~~" " 28A (if eyes not closed or)~~

~~30A Tommie Barfield Elementary School, Mr. Arthur G. Klinger, Principal, Route 92, Sand Hill Road Marco Island, Florida 33937~~



A 8586 2-28-76 20A & 17A Port Charlotte Cultural Center
801 Northwest Aaron Street
Port Charlotte, Fla. 33952

A 8582 2-26-76 (2 copies) Ms. Kim Stacks, Dupont Place
Apartments, Apart. 12-N, 300 Biscayne
Boulevard Way, Miami, Fla. 33131
Mr. David Zimring, 440 Park Street, No.
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710

(Should Ms. Janet Hale and Mr. Harry Davant get a photo -- could
you identify them)

~~A 85821 2-26-76 14 Mr. & Mrs. John Schultz, 500 Miller Road
Coral Gables, Florida 33146~~

~~A 85671 2-26-76 5A Ms. Marga Kluck, 2201 Marina Drive, Naples
Florida 33940~~

~~A 8580 2-29-76 14 Mr. Jeff Krute, Address?~~

A8606 2-24-76 Mr. Wm. F. A. Elges ?? Gen. Mgr. Jacksonville
Hilton, 565 South Main Str., Jacksonville, Fla
32207

A 8607 2-24-76 Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Post Office Box 6367-
Jacksonville, Florida 32205

Photograph for Colonel Floyd Pfeiffer, President of Senior Service
Association ?



PHOTO LAB ORDER

IN		OUT	
DATE OF REQUEST <i>August 10, 1976</i>	REQUESTED BY <i>Carolyn Porembka</i>	LAB ORDER NO.	
DATE SHOT	ORDER ACCEPTED BY	DATE DUE	
SUBJECT TITLE <i>First Lady's trips</i>		PHOTOGRAPHER <i>Schumacher</i>	
<p>SERVICES REQUIRED</p> <p><i>20 Mar 76 A 8884-11 (Mr. Christie) -- 2 photos</i> <i>2-25-76 A 8598-20A (Susan Stafford)</i> <i>2-25-76 A8599-32 (Kathryn Eward)</i> <i>2-25-76 A8604-28A (Patrick Mondor)</i> <i>2-28-76 A 8578-12A (Cling Hamilton)</i> <i>2-27-76 A8571-18A (Fern Geatches)</i> <i>2-26-76 A8582X-2 (Kim Stacks & David Zimring) 2 copies</i></p>			
DELIVER COMPLETED JOB TO			SPOTTING





FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Mr. William E. Getzen
1550 Ringling Boulevard
Post Office Box 3258
Sarasota, Florida 33578

To Greta Lee and Parker Banzha,
With warm best wishes,

Betty Ford Jerry Ford

Sent 6-29-76

Florida trip
file



FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



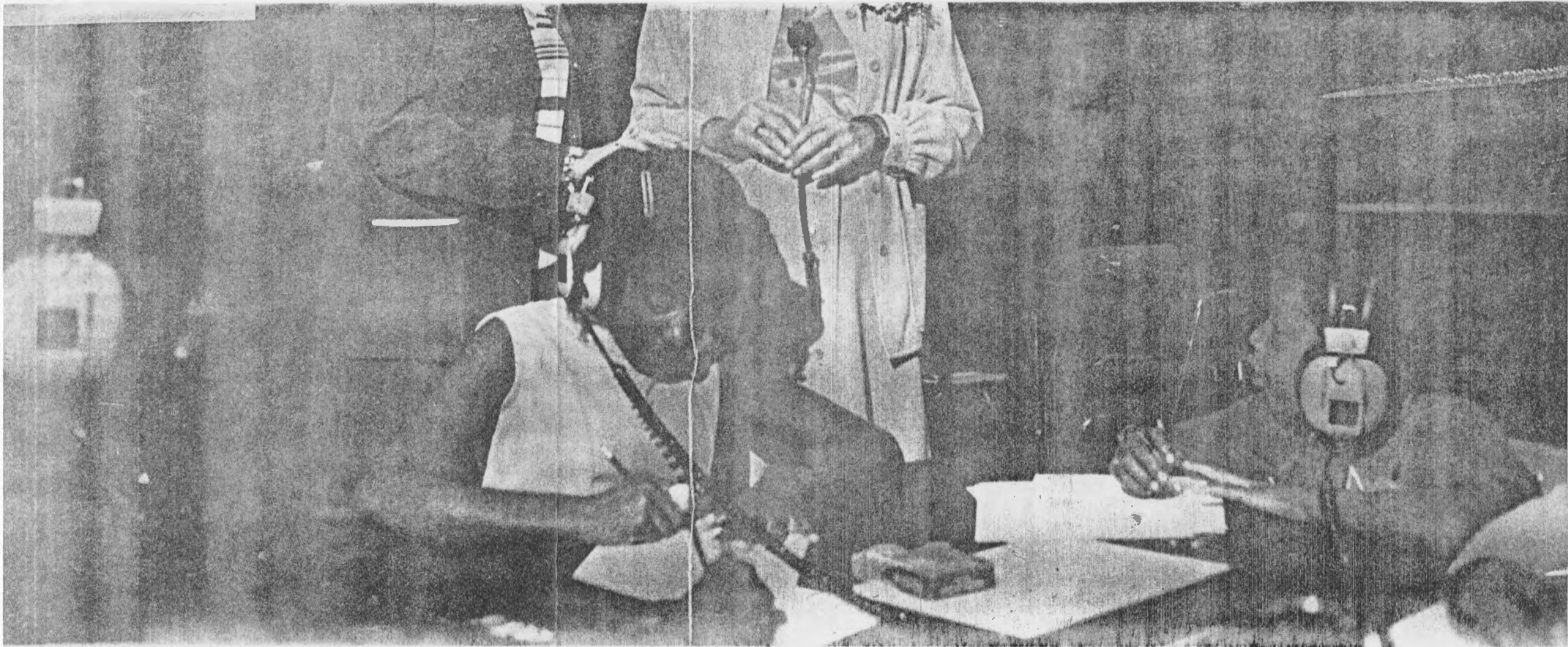
Mr. William E. Getzen
1550 Ringling Boulevard
Post Office Box 3258
Sarasota, Florida 33578

To Ruqay and Elmer Berkel
With warm best wishes,

Betty Ford

Gerry Ford

Sent 6-29-76



To Kathryn Eward
With my warm best wishes,

Petty Ford





To Susan Stafford
With my warm best wishes,

Betty Ford

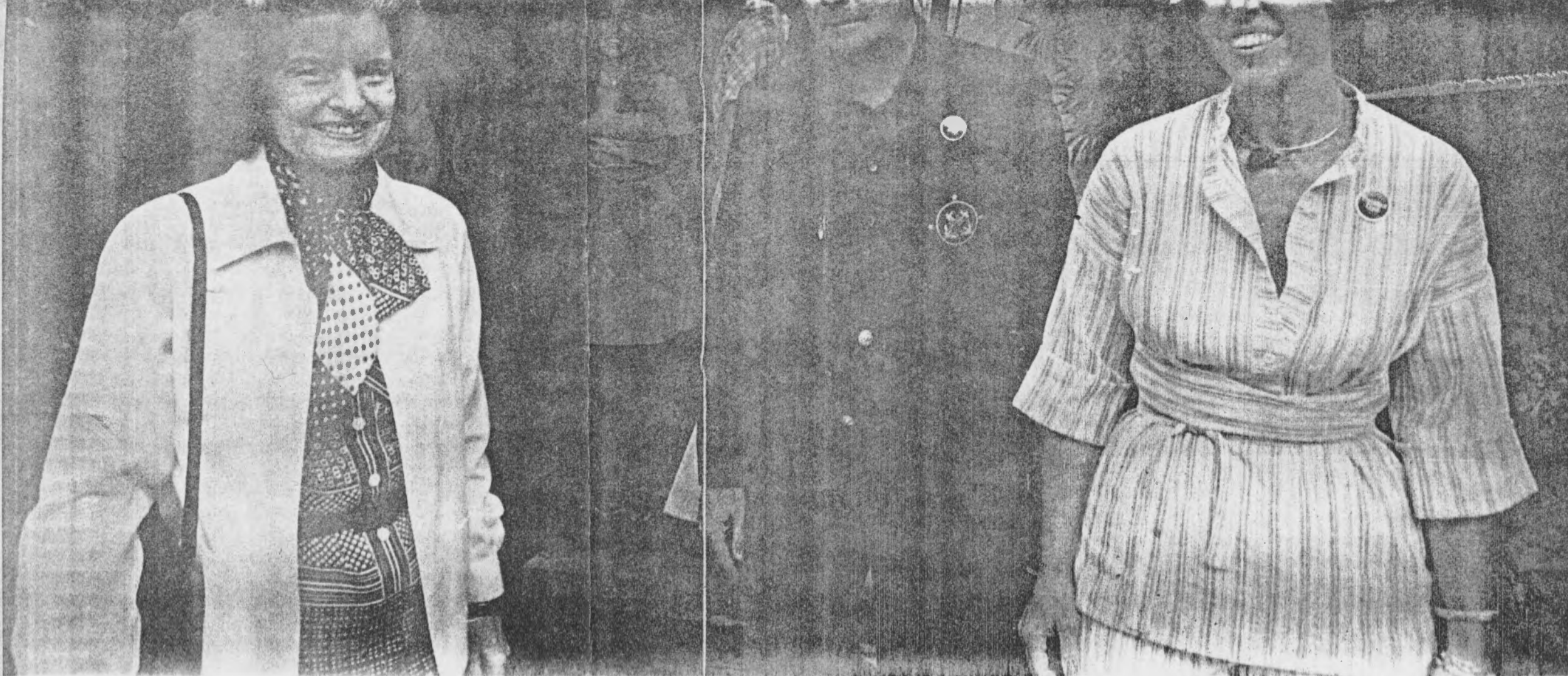




To Fern Geatches
With best wishes,

Betty Ford

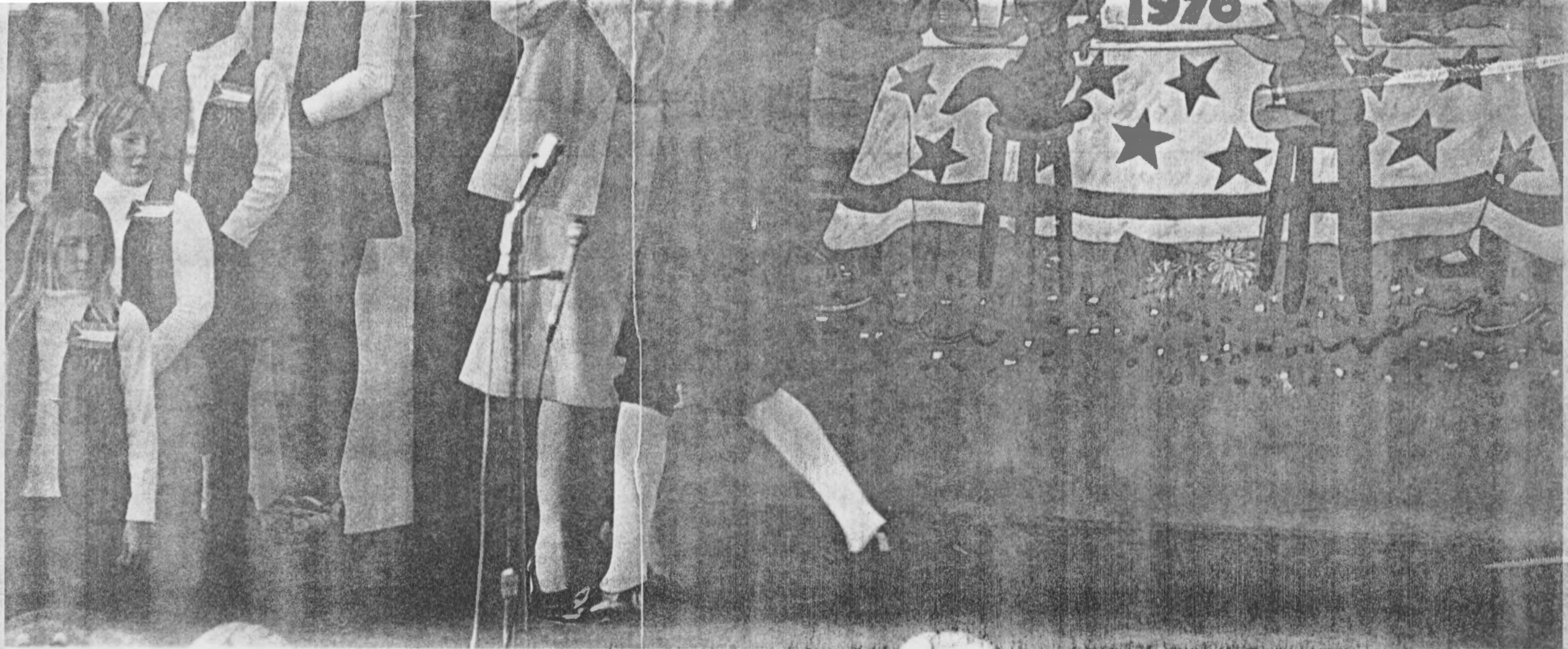




*To Martha and Clint Hamilton
With my warm best wishes,*

Betty Ford





To Patrick Mondor
With my warm best wishes,

Ditzy Ford





To David Zimring
With my warm best wishes,

Petty Ford





*To Kim Stacks
With my warm best wishes,*

Petty Ford

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mrs. Morelli:

How nice it was to see you when the President and I visited the Sarasota Welfare Home last week. The red roses which you presented to me were just beautiful, and I do want you to know how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Many, many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Frances Morelli
Sarasota Welfare Home
1501 North Orange Avenue
Sarasota, Florida 33577



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MEMPHIS

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am delighted to have the attractive red, white and blue necklace which your brother-in-law Congressman John Rhodes kindly passed along to me. It is good to know that you are enjoying your retirement with such a fascinating hobby -- and at the same time bringing pleasure to others. Many thanks for sharing your beautiful work with me.

With my deep appreciation and warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. Everett Johnson
4211 West Roosevelt
Phoenix, Arizona 85009



From
White
Congress
It is
received
the
of
with
address
Mr. Ever
4211 West
Phoenix
85009

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Ms. Zastrow:

It was most kind of you and Ms. Carol Erdmann to present the inscribed cookbooks on behalf of the Aberdeen CowBelles when you came to the White House. The beef recipes are most appealing! I have always enjoyed experimenting in the kitchen and while my busy schedule does not permit me this pleasure, I still collect recipes to be tried "someday." Many thanks to all of you for sharing these compilations with me.

With warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Ms. Berdette E. Zastrow
President
Aberdeen, South Dakota CowBelles
Columbia, South Dakota 57433



Ms. Berdette E. Zastrow
President
Aberdeen, South Dakota
Columbia, South Dakota 57433
Jm/RS/WFM

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Members of the Jacksonville
Florist Club:

How kind of you to favor me with
the green orchid corsage when I visited
Jacksonville. It was lovely! Many thanks
for remembering me with this unusual gift.

With warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

The Jacksonville Florist Club
Jacksonville
Florida



501
103

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Jack
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WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for the bouquet which I received in Port Charlotte. The combination of red roses and babies' breath was just exquisite, and you could not have welcomed me in a lovelier way. Many, many thanks for helping to make my stay in the Sunshine State so memorable.

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Port Charlotte Library
Association, Inc.
801 Northwest Aarocé Street
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952

PORT CHARLOTTE
FLORIDA
33952
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WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

Our family very much appreciated your warm Valentine greeting and the lovely needlepoint gifts. You were most kind to express your friendship in this special way.

All the Fords join in extending our thanks and every good wish to each one of you.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

The Bruce Eklund Family
8421 Spring Lake Park Road
Moundsview, Minnesota 55432



WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Members of the Girl Scouts of
Collier County:

How very kind of you to favor me with
the beautiful yellow rose as I departed from
Naples. Your thoughtfulness brightened the
occasion! I do want you to know that I shall
always treasure the pin you included as a
memento of your friendship and of my visit.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Junior Troop #344
Brownie Troop #163
Shadowlawn Elementary School
2161 Shadowlawn Drive South
Naples, Florida 33940



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

It was so nice to meet you when I was in Florida last week. I certainly enjoyed my visit to the Port Charlotte Cultural Center and was indeed impressed by your efforts. The red, white and blue elephant you gave me is just adorable and will always be a cherished memento of a wonderful day. Many thanks!

With gratitude and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

The "Happy Helpers"
Port Charlotte Cultural Center
801 Northwest Aaron Street
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952



... WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Brownies:

It was so nice to meet you during my visit to Port Charlotte, and I want to thank you once again for the lovely red, white and blue corsage. Your kindness brightened my day, and I shall always cherish the friendship pin and Gulf Coast Council patch which you presented. Many thanks!

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Brownie Troop #44
c/o Mrs. Marie Didion
Leader
Peace River Elementary School
641 Northwest Hancock Avenue
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952



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... WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mrs. Chapin:

My visit to Florida last week was a particularly enjoyable one, and I want to thank you for the framed certificate and Bicentennial flag pin which I received at the Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School. It was most thoughtful of you to confer on me Honorary Membership in the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers. I shall treasure your gifts as mementos of your friendship. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Troy A. Chapin, Jr.
4524 Brookwood Drive
Tampa, Florida 33609



Handwritten notes and stamps on the right margin, including "Mrs. Chapin" and "Tampa, Florida".

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you so much for your personal contribution to making my visit to Jacksonville such a pleasant one. The inscribed medallion which you presented as Acting Mayor is a cherished memento and will constantly remind me of the occasion.

With warm best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Honorable Earl Johnson
President of the City Council
of Jacksonville
City Hall
Jacksonville, Florida 32202



Handwritten notes on the right margin, including "100", "101", "102", "103", "104", "105", "106", "107", "108", "109", "110", "111", "112", "113", "114", "115", "116", "117", "118", "119", "120".

Handwritten notes on the right margin, including "Honorable", "President", "of", "City", "Council", "Jacksonville".

Note: E

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including "11/10/76" and "11/10/76".

HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Elges:

Your thoughtful welcome to the Jacksonville Hilton and warm hospitality throughout my visit meant a great deal to me. The lovely floral arrangement added an exquisite touch to my suite, and I particularly appreciated the tempting fruit-and-cheese plate. Thank you so much for remembering me in this special way.

Please express my deep gratitude to your wonderful staff for their many kindnesses and courtesies.

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. William F. A. Elges
General Manager
Jacksonville Hilton
565 South Main Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32207



1976
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MANAGER
JACKSONVILLE
I have
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Hilbert
1976
General
Jacksonville
565 South
Main Street
1976

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Mrs. Berkel:

My visit to Sarasota was most delightful and enjoyable. I am so pleased that I had an opportunity to stay in your lovely city, and your warm welcome at the airport made me feel right at home. The long-stemmed roses that you presented were indeed beautiful and added much to the occasion. Many thanks for your kind hospitality!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Elmer G. Berkel
2710 Bruce Lane
Sarasota, Florida 33577



2/6/76

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Mrs. Clay:

How very kind of you to favor me with the beautiful nosegay when I stayed in Sarasota last weekend. It was just exquisite, and I deeply appreciated the warm note of welcome you penned on behalf of the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners. Your words of friendship made me feel right at home. Many thanks!

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Eugene H. Clay
Apartment 901
1000 Longboat Key Club Drive
Sarasota, Florida 33577



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for your warm welcome to Jacksonville. The beautiful red roses in my suite were exquisite and made me feel right at home. Many, many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. Dave Rayment
Ortega Florist
Ortega Village
2902 Corinthian Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32210



WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Timmy:

Thank you so much for the lovely asters
and single red rose you presented during my
visit to Florida. The friendship conveyed
by your gift meant much, and I deeply appre-
ciated your warm note of welcome. Many thanks!

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Timmy Foley
Post Office Box 612
Palm Bay, Florida 32905

Timmy Foley
Post Office
Palm Bay

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY
MEMORIAL

GIFT

WHITE HOUSE

March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

Thank you ever so much for the lovely roses I received in Port Charlotte. They were simply exquisite! Your thoughtfulness did much to make my visit to the Sunshine State such a memorable one.

With gratitude and best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

President Ford Committee Volunteers
of Charlotte County
c/o Mr. Craig Smith
Post Office Box 476
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

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March 5, 1976

Dear Friends:

My visit to Jacksonville last week was a particularly enjoyable one. I do want you to know how much I appreciated your coming out to the airport to greet me, and the lovely bouquet of daisies which you presented made me feel right at home. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

The Orange Park High School Majorettes
c/o Mrs. C. Beatrice
Orange Park Senior High School
Blanding Boulevard
Orange Park, Florida 32073



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Mrs. Herring:

I just want to tell you how delighted I am with the beautiful eagle pendant you made for me. It was so nice to see you at the Creel Elementary School, and you may be sure I shall always treasure the gift Cathy Boyett presented as a memento of the occasion and of your friendship. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Cecil Herring
2950 Guinevere Drive
Titusville, Florida 32780

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Mrs.
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310

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TE HOUSE

ch 8, 1976

Dear Stephanie:

How nice it was to meet you and your sister, Stacy, when I visited Jacksonville. The bouquet of carnations you presented at the airport was so pretty, and your friendly greeting made me feel right at home. Many thanks!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes to you and your parents.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Miss Stephanie Hester
611 Custer Circle
Orange Park, Florida 32073



GIFT

17-10/10/1976

HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Scouts:

How kind of you to come out to the Airport to greet me when I arrived at Jacksonville. You could not have welcomed me more warmly, and I was delighted to receive the silver tray and bowl which Kristen and Karen Kimbel presented on your behalf. These engraved gifts will serve as lasting reminders of the occasion and of your friendship.

Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council
Post Office Box 6367
Jacksonville, Florida 32205



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E HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Ms. Lawton:

How very kind of you to favor me with your lovely still life oil painting during my recent visit to Florida. I do want you to know how much I appreciate this miniature depicting daisies in a vase, and it will serve as a lasting memento of your friendship. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Ms. Keturah S. Lawton
7423 Goodnow Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32216



TE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Friends:

How very kind of you to favor me
with the Bicentennial plate from Brevard
County during my recent visit to Florida.
I do want you to know how much I appreciate
your thoughtfulness, and this gift
will serve as a lasting memento of your
friendship. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

The Extension Homemakers
of Eau Gallie
c/o Mrs. Peggy Judd
312 Tenth Terrace
Indianatlantic, Florida 32903



GIFT

Gift / mrs / judd / peggy

HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Hien:

How nice it was to meet you and your brother when I visited the Creel Elementary School. Your warm welcome made me feel right at home, and I deeply appreciated the banner which you presented on behalf of your school. Many thanks for your friendship!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Miss Hien Nguyen
Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School
1566 Palmwood Drive
Melbourne, Florida 32935



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Than:

How nice it was to meet you and your sister when I visited the Creel Elementary School. Your warm welcome made me feel right at home, and I deeply appreciated the banner which you presented on behalf of your school. Many thanks for your friendship!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Than Nguyen
Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School
1566 Palmwood Drive
Melbourne, Florida 32935



THE WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Tracy:

How nice it was to meet you when I visited the Creel Elementary School. You were kind to present me with the PTA pin, and I am proud to count you among my friends. Many thanks!

I am enclosing a booklet that I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Miss Tracy Piechocki
Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School
1566 Palmwood Drive
Melbourne, Florida 32935



WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear J. D.:

How nice it was to meet you when I visited the Creel Elementary School. Your warm welcome made me feel right at home, and I deeply appreciated the lovely red rose you presented. Many thanks for your friendship!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

J. D. Lance
Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School
1566 Palmwood Drive
Melbourne, Florida 32935



HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Mrs. Peoples:

How nice it was to visit the Sarasota Shrine Hall when I was in Florida recently, and I want to thank you for the lovely Sweetheart pin that you presented. It was kind of you to think of me in this way, and your gift will serve as a constant reminder of your friendship. Many thanks!

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. William Peoples
2500 Wilkinson Road
Sarasota, Florida 33581



TE HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Mrs. Banzhaf:

Many thanks for your warm welcome when I arrived in Sarasota. The corsage of white orchids that you pinned on my shoulder was lovely, and I certainly enjoyed chatting with you. This visit was one of the highlights of my trip to Florida, and being greeted by you, Mrs. Berkel, and Mrs. Clay at the airport got it off to a good start!

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. Parker C. Banzhaf
3435 Seagrape Drive
Sarasota, Florida 33581



Florida Thank you
letters

HOUSE

March 8, 1976

Dear Stacy:

How nice it was to meet you and
your sister, Stephanie, when I visited
Jacksonville. The bouquet of carnations
you presented at the airport was so pretty,
and your friendly greeting made me feel
right at home. Many thanks!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought
you might like to have.

With warmest wishes to you and your
parents.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Miss Stacy Hester
611 Custer Circle
Orange Park, Florida 32073



HOUSE

ch 8, 1976

Dear Cathy:

How nice it was to meet you when I visited the Creel Elementary School. Your warm welcome made me feel right at home, and I deeply appreciated the lovely eagle pendant you presented after singing the splendid song "I Am Somebody." Many thanks for your friendship!

I am enclosing a booklet I thought you might like to have.

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Miss Cathy Boyett
Doctor W. J. Creel Elementary School
1566 Palmwood Drive
Melbourne, Florida 32935



Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.



Mrs. Ford Charms Elderly

Demonstrators At Airport 1B

By BILL SLOAT

News-Press Staff Writer

First Lady Betty Ford, petite and smiling, charmed a warm, bipartisan crowd of mostly senior citizens welcoming her Wednesday to Port Charlotte.

Mrs. Ford was met by an estimated 3,000 persons as she toured a cultural center, spoke briefly at a cancer seminar and posed for dozens of souvenir snapshots. Democrats and Republican alike joined to greet her.

IN RED, WHITE, BLUE WAY

First Lady Greeted

By ELAINE KENT

Times-Union Staff Writer

Whether her critics would agree, First Lady Betty Ford proved Tuesday she is a conservative Republican. She arrived in Jacksonville wearing the same dress she wore for her first visit here last Nov. 2.

STACY AND STEPHANIE Hester, age 5, thought perhaps they were going to greet the wife of the second President of the United States. "They knew George Washington was the first," said their mother, Mrs. William Hester of Orange Park, as she and the blonde-haired twins awaited the arrival of Mrs. Ford at Air Kaman part of Jacksonville International Airport.

The two daughters of Hester, who was co-chairman of



—TIMES-UNION PHOTOS BY DAN McCORMACK

Brevard's Betty Meets Namesake

By RITA RUBIN
TODAY Writer

Mrs. Betty Ford met Mrs. Betty Ford at the Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School in Melbourne on Wednesday.

And the First Lady wasn't looking at her reflection in a mirror, because the "Second Lady" was Mrs. Betty Ford of Titusville, a first-grade teacher at Whispering Hills Elementary School.

"She said with a name like



Ford Friends' ✓ Florida Stumping Wraps Up Here

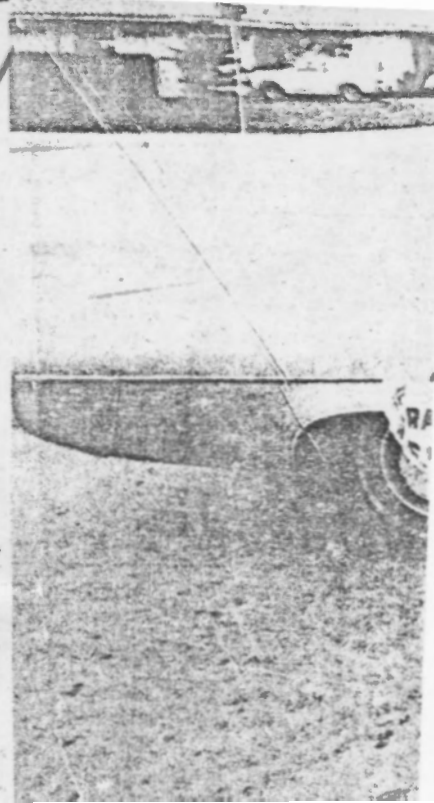
By BUD NEWMAN
Post Staff Writer

A two-day, three-city trip to Florida by 91 Michigan friends of President Ford ended in West Palm Beach yesterday as the high-spirited group drank fresh orange juice, soaked up what little sun broke through the clouds, gathered coconuts and tossed week-old snowballs brought down from the North.

But a late arrival and an early departure kept them from doing much of what they had come here to do in

he eventually became an All-America college center at Michigan.

Tom Ford, who joined the rest of the party at the airport just before the 2 p.m. departure back to Michigan, said that after his weekend trip to Florida he was "very optimistic" about his brother's chances in the March 9 primary. He said the President, though behind Reagan early on, was "coming on very rapidly" in Florida.



Mrs. Ford, Officials Avoid Politics

By **RON THORNBURG**
TODAY Staff Writer

Despite her husband's slim victory in the New
Shire primary Tuesday, politics wasn't a topic of
conversation when Betty Ford met briefly with
Ford officials Wednesday.

The First Lady was introduced to representatives of
state, county and city government at a VIP recep-
tion minutes before she spoke at ceremonies
at the Grace Elementary School in Melbourne.



Betty Ford

Visits Brevard

be available for questions in Melbourne.

Councilman Ed Keller said he greeted Mrs. Ford
on behalf of Melbourne and told her it didn't wait for

Rogers called Mrs. Ford a "very gracious lady."
"She put us all at ease," he said.

"She is a very warm and gracious person who
wasn't staging an act for the children. She was truly
enjoying herself," Rogers said of Mrs. Ford's tour
of the classrooms.

He said the two-hour visit came off without a
hitch because of the planning of Principal Kathryn
Eward, Asst. Supt. for Instruction John Forbes and
South Area Supt. G. J. Wheeler.

Red Tape Sidetracks Letter

Brevard

Red tape prevented Mrs. Betty Ford from learning about Matt Johnson, the Merritt Island youth who has been paralyzed since July following

livery to Mrs. Ford during her visit to Brevard.

But according to Frey's Washington office, the packet missed the security clearance



Secretary Job 'Communication'



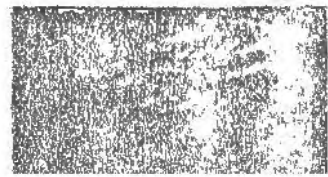
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By AMY CLARK
 Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld was surrounded by several press members during all of First Lady Betty Ford's visit to Melbourne Wednesday.


MR. WEIDENFELD had been with Mrs. Ford since her husband took office nearly two years ago. She acts as liaison between the First Lady and the press corps. "I'm the com-

position or the power it holds. She seemed down to earth and genuinely caring. In trying to explain why Mrs. Ford chose Creel Elementary School to visit during

enjoy campaigning? "She doesn't really consider this campaigning," said Ms. Weidenfeld. "Of course, her husband is running in the primary here, you can't ignore



SPECIALS TODAY



SHEILA WEIDENFELD, press secretary to First Lady Betty, said Wednesday at Creel Elementary School that her job is one of 'communication' and that her boss is an 'extraordinary person to work with.' ID:

WEIDENFELD

Beward

1

TODAY

Datebook.....2B

Help.....3B

Names and Notes2B

Florida TODAY . . . 6B

Additional Beward News on 2B

Creel's Founder Would Love Betty

By JOHN BARTOSEK
TODAY Staff Writer

Dr. W. J. Creel would have enjoyed all the fuss Wednesday.

There was more: the salty humor, the even-handed decisions with "what is best for the student" uppermost. The care and concern for patients



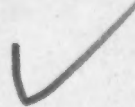
Betty Ford

his remains. Henegar was closed last year by the school board.

Before Creel Elementary was on Palmwood, it was on

was renamed to honor Dr. Creel.

He would have been proud, too, of the determination of his



Reagan Woos

By JAMES NOLAN

Herald Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Ronald Reagan, counting on a strong showing in Florida to offset his narrow loss in New Hampshire's presidential primary, told 10,000 people in Republican-rich Pinellas County Thursday that he wants to "remake the government."

Reagan. Let me speak."

Reagan's speech was politely received by the crowd, but Reagan was nearly mobbed when he plunged into the crowd on a half-hour hand-shaking tour of the park.

Reagan staff aides attributed the crowd estimates of 10,000 to St. Petersburg Police Chief Nat Vines who, two weeks ago, said President Ford had drawn 12,000 to 15,000

Unfair Jab At Mr. Ford

If the President's press conference generated, as your editorial of Feb. 18 states, into a campaign speech, it was the fault of the questioning press representatives and not the fault of the President.

He concluded his reform proposals without a single reference to politics or the campaign. Then, in the ques-

J. CHARLES ZIMMERMAN

Kids Note to the Waltz, the Press Corp

Colca 227-76

By JOHN BARTOSER

TODAY Staff Writer

Betty Ford's smile and yellow dress, the short waltz with a sixth grade student and

and dedicating the four-year-old buildings.

While all the children were awed by actually seeing or meeting the President's wife,



Betty Ford

good," wrote Sheryl Foulk.

"I think Mrs. Ford is a good dancer. I wonder if Mr. Ford is a good dancer too," mused Brett Perkins.

like that for public someone who does it political reasons and themselves."

One boy wrote th

Security for First Lady

By **DAVE HEATH**
TODAY Staff Writer

Security seemed relaxed yet alert Wednesday when Mrs. Betty Ford came to dedicate Melbourne's Creel Elementary School.

Secret Service agents wouldn't comment on the precautions that had been made for the First Lady's visit, but a Brevard School Board official said about 12 agents were involved in preparations with



Betty Ford

Visits Brevard

when the President was the target of two assassination attempts last year, and the press reported he had started wearing a bullet-proof vest at appearances. It made "every-

ant superintendent for instructional services, said the report from the secret service was that all went well at Creel.

"One of the secret service guys told me that this was as

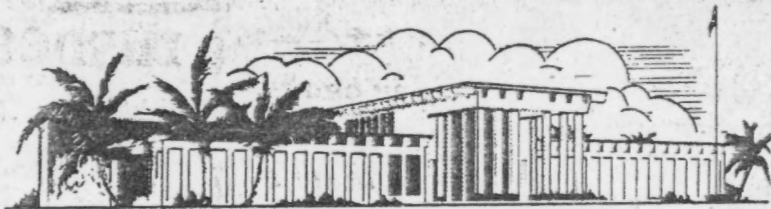
TODAY, Thursday, February 26, 1976

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Naples Daily News



TIMOTHY A. O'CONNOR
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THOMAS E. HAYER
Executive Editor

W. MARSHALL WYATT
Advertising Director

J.C. FREEMAN
Circulation Director

1075 Central Ave. Naples, Fla. 33940

Fri., Feb. 27, 1976

Phone: 813-649-3161

Nation's First Lady Has The Common Touch

Mrs. Betty Ford, wife of the President of the United States, is a very busy woman. She's a full-time wife and mother who manages to have a lot of time left over to help her husband in his bid for reelection.

unusual woman and a worthy partner to a man who must carry the presidential burden.

How typical, we thought, was Mrs. Ford's quick visit to Naples and Marco. In this instance, she was not out to win more votes for

TODAY



Florida's Space Age Newspaper

A Gannett newspaper published in Brevard County, Fla.



TODAY Staff Photo by Red Morgan

A HAPPY BETTY FORD DEDICATES CREEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
... before ceremony she joined children in festive Bicentennial presentation

Y



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— A since January, 1947. Ford said
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COOL

We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities.
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VIGOR

The First Lady Charms Pupils At Dedication

By **GLENN SINGER**
TODAY Staff Writer

The wife of a President visited Brevard on Wednesday charming well-wishers, singing "Yankee Doodle" and dancing a waltz.

Betty Ford, on the second day of her premier solo campaign trip as the wife of an incumbent president, addressed a crowd of more than 2,000 at the dedication of the Dr. W. J. Creel Elementary School in Melbourne.

Before her brief remarks,



Betty Ford

Visits Brevard

- Full page of stories, pictures, 3A
- Mrs. Ford dances with 'George Washington,' 1B
- Betty Ford meets Betty Ford, 3B
- Mrs. Ford is calm and composed, 1D

said, "isn't something I saw, but the enthusiasm I felt when I walked around."

the last weeks before the state's March 9 primary, Mrs. Ford did not mention politics.

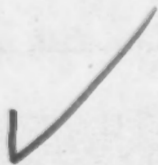
She Saw Chiefs Of Past

By **BONNIE ANDERSON**

TODAY Writer

Sitting in her lawn chair calmly observing the Creel Elementary School dedication ceremony, 89-year-old Elvie Reuthebeck smiled as she reminisced over past presidents, first ladies and administrations.

"I haven't always sat down when presidents and such were around," said Mrs. Reuthebeck, 2767 S. Breeze Road. "I was living in Washington all during the war. I was at the White House gates when Roosevelt declared war, and I was there when Truman came out and said the war was over," she said.



MRS. FORD AT DEDICATION

Fondness, Curiosity Draw Crowd

By **BONNIE ANDERSON**
TODAY Writer

Mrs. Edwin Hicks fought the Brevard School Board for two months to get a fence put up between her home at 1522 Palm Wood Way and Creel Elementary School in Melbourne.

And because of that fence and the shrubbery the school board put next to it, Mrs. Hicks had to stand on a step ladder to see First Lady Betty Ford dedicate the school Wednesday.

But the Melbourne house-



Betty Ford

Visits Brevard

But for students from Palm Bay Elementary School, Mrs. Ford's visit caused some concern for her health and well-being.

"Nobody is thinking about how Mrs. Ford feels," said Doug Williams. "I just hope she has a good time in Mel-

cationer from Toledo, Ohio. "I never saw a president or his lady friend. We missed the President in Clearwater last week—or was it two weeks ago?"

"I was kind of hoping to let my kids see her and get back to school," said Mrs.

said Teresa Karnes, from Ascension. "And it's not every day that you get to see the First Lady anywhere, much less Melbourne."

"I'm the first one in my family to see Mrs. Ford," said Palm Bay Elementary School student Frank Vaccarelli. "That's why I'm so excited."

Eight cadets from Florida Air Academy, two from each grade, also attended the dedication. "I don't know why we were chosen to come but I'm sure glad of it. But, I was wondering why she would come to



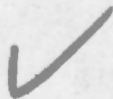
Youth Meets The Fords

By **JOHN BARTOSEK**

TODAY Staff Writer

A 9-year-old Melbourne boy met, shook hands and chatted with both the President and the First Lady—all within two weeks.

Tim Bunce, son of Clarence and Phyllis Bunce of 1414 Hillcrest Drive, was one of two students who went to Orlando Feb. 13 and shook hands with Jerry Ford. They Wednesday



Momentum to Win, Ford Says in Florida

By Fred Barnes

Washington Star Staff Writer

TAMPA, Fla. — The word from President Ford as he campaigned in Florida over the weekend was that "momentum" is going his way.

In West Palm Beach: "We've got

"momentum" might have been a bit inflated, it was clear that he sees himself as the front-runner in the race to win the crucial Florida primary on March 9. "I am absolutely certain that we are going to win," he declared.

There was some reason besides

Lauderdale Is Stumping Ground For Ford's Hometown Boosters

By ROBERT RETCHKO
Staff Writer

Armed with campaign literature and snowballs, a group from President Gerald Ford's hometown of Grand Rapids flew out of a Michigan blizzard and into sunny Fort Lauderdale yesterday to stump for

Grand Rapids, 11 students from Ottawa High School in Grand Rapids and hometown supporters.

Everyone chipped in \$200 to charter the plane and brought along 3,000 "Michigan Delicious" apples and a freezer of snowballs to pass out.

everyone met at the Southport Shopping Center on SE 17th Street before stopping for the night.

Some will stay at Bahia Mar, the Four Seasons Hotel, but most will sleep in sleeping bags at a hotel along Federal Highway.

"It's a working trip," said Miss Dreyer. "It's important to listen to your constituents, no matter who they're for."

They will fly back to Michigan this afternoon.

Carolyn - note for picture ✓



TODAY Staff Photos by John Dickerson

Betty Ford Is Charmed With Youngsters in Melbourne

Buzz
**Boy Dances With First Lady
After 3-Day Waltz Lesson**

By **JOHN BARTOSEK**
TODAY Staff Writer

Pat Mondor learned the waltz in three days and practiced at night during the television commercials.

And when it was time Wednesday to invite Betty Ford to dance at a "Boston Tea Party," at Creel Elementary School here, he was ready. He calmly offered his hand to the First Lady, escorted her to the stage and sedately stepped through a few bars of music.



Betty Rates Press Praise

By NITA RUBIN
Today's News

While some Americans criticize their outstanding First Lady for her often controversial views, the press of the Washington press corps in Meigs yesterday praised Betty Ford for her warm personality.

"She's the most open and free spirit in the White House," said Jane Whitmore, a Newsweek correspondent. "If you can get through to her and ask her questions, she'll answer. She's her own person."

REAGAN WOOES

State's GOP Stronghold

"When individual freedom has been restored to the Caribbean islands," Reagan again touched on his plan to transfer \$90 billion in federal government programs back to the states as a way of turning government back to the people.

The scheduled appearance of the two former Hollywood colleagues and the campaigning of his wife Nancy in the same area underscored the importance of Pinellas

win 2-1 isn't being very realistic," Hart said. "That talk's a lot of malarkey. It's close."

Reagan's state manager, however, claimed that the candidate's narrow loss in New Hampshire Tuesday wasn't discouraging Pinellas voters who were contacted by a telephone canvass Wednesday morning.

"The calls were running 2-1 in our favor," said Tom Thomas, Reagan's

In Washington, meanwhile, Reagan's campaign manager, John Sears, said that Reagan will spend five days in Florida and six in Illinois over the next two weeks.

He said Reagan will hold more news conferences in Florida than he did in New Hampshire because he needs to reach more people. And he added that he will talk about different issues — including foreign

Principal Praised for Program

By AMY CLARK
TODAY Women's Editor

As the First Lady's motorcade pulled away from Dr. W.J. Creel Elementary School in Melbourne and the crowd began to disperse Wednesday, Principal Kathryn Eward accepted the accolades of her co-workers, her teachers, the PTA members and her supervisors.

It was a job well done, was the consensus.



'Mrs. Ford was enthusiastic about everything. She said she was thrilled by the spirit and dignity of the children.'

—Kathryn Eward
Principal of Creel

Ford was impressed with what seemed to be very good race relations at Creel.

"She said she had a better feeling in this school than any other school she's been in," the principal said.

"She also like our emphasis on the three Rs in the ultra-modern open space school," said Mrs. Eward. "She liked mixing the traditional with the modern."

Like the school's founder,