



# Love is Found

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This week my column is of course about love. What else could it be about? February does that to us. Doesn't it?

You always hear the love stories that start in college, through a friend, on vacation, at work or maybe even at the local recreation center. What!? You never thought that you could improve your health and possibly find love at the same time. Not likely you say? Remember people, love sometimes finds you in the most unlikely places. Just ask Floyd and Sonia Wright, a couple who met and fell in love right here at the Bonita Springs Recreation Center.

It's Wednesday morning and the music pumps through the gym at the Bonita Recreation Center. Fitness instructor Nancy Ranke stands on what appears to be a large table in the middle of the gym. All around her are smiling faces of various gender and age. As the music pulses, Nancy kicks and turns to the beat. The music is something you'd expect to hear in Spain, possibly at a fiesta. Instead we are hearing it at Nancy Rankes' Shape and Tone class. The class is the most successful class offered at the Bonita Springs Recreation Center. At eight a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday people of all ages fill up the gym eagerly awaiting their favorite morning workout. Patrons love their instructor, the class and in this case each other. This class a few years earlier is where it all started for Floyd and Sonia.

"If you want a real story talk to Floyd and Sonia," Nancy says and points to a couple. Floyd (86) and Sonia (87) met in this very class five years ago. When I question them about the meeting, he jokes that she started working out on one side of the gym then slowly edged closer to where he worked out each class. She laughs and says it is not true. "I've always worked out in the same spot," she says firmly with a sparkle in her eye. Sonia claims he would always look over at her during the workouts. However it started, they both agree that they got to know each other during the group get togethers outside of the class and fell in love. As unique as their love started, they made their wedding even more so by have having aerobics during their wedding ceremony. Nancy and their classmates came to their beach wedding June 4, 2003 and before they said I do they warmed up with a work out. Just goes to show when love is involved anything can happen. This month is a great month to get out and about whether you are looking for love or just a way to be social. The Recreation Center has a lot going on. What are you waiting for? -L.T.