



FREE - TAKE ONE!

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Veterans Day Celebration Waldo Community Center

Our Mayor, City Manager, City Commissioners, City Attorney, Waldo Concerned Citizen for the Community, Waldo Historical Society, Mr. Martin C Whitley from the Office of Veteran Services, Gainesville, Florida, our M.C. Mr. Joe Lipsey, and the Citizens of Waldo, would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone for coming out on Tuesday November 11, 2014 to honor our Veterans.



A full article of recognition and pictures will be in the January 2015 of The Waldo Phoenix.

If anyone has pictures that were taken on that day, please send them in to The Waldo Phoenix Editor, Penny Dodd, (historicwaldo@windstream.net).

Martin C. Whitley Veteran Service Counselor

Alachua County Florida

It is always an honor to be able to be a part of the Waldo Community in any way. I would like to extend the gratitude of the Board of Alachua County Commissioners, as well as our offices in Veteran Services for the inclusion in your event. We look forward to any future events and or need for presentation that Waldo should deem appropriate. Please pay our deepest respects to the Mayor and Commissioners in attendance.

Bob Haines (Speaker)

Now I would like to say a few words about Veterans Day

Approximately 25 million of our fellow citizens once carried the title of Marine, soldier, airman, sailor, Coast Guardsman, National Guardsman, Merchant Mariner, and now carry the title of veteran. We know them as our neighbors, friends, colleagues, and family members. They make us proud to be Americans.

Veterans understand profoundly the meaning of service and sacrifice – so they are not the kind of people who take life for granted.

Many of you here today once swore to uphold the security of our country and I thank you for that service.

On this Veterans Day, we give thanks for the millions of Americans who strengthened our nation with their example of service and sacrifice. Our veterans

are drawn from many generations and from many backgrounds. Some charged across great battlefields. Some fought on the high seas. Some patrolled the open skies. All contributed to the character and to the greatness of America.

On this Veterans Day, we also honor a new generation of men and women who are defending our freedom. Since September the 11th, 2001, our Armed Forces have engaged the enemy, the terrorists, on many fronts.

Veterans Day is an American holiday honoring military veterans – **ALL veterans**, men, women, combat and non-combat, overseas and stateside of all ranks and occupations – **all LIVING veterans**.

Today we honor, not only the infantry in the field, the special forces and recon troops behind the lines of combat, but the **mail clerk, the cook, the humvee and jeep drivers, the engineers, the medics and corpsman, and, yes, even the chaplain, lawyers, doctors** – we honor ALL veterans who have served, stateside, as well as overseas, on the seas, and in the air.

Simply put, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank *LIVING* veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our nation's national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served have sacrificed in many ways to have done their duty.

By the way, if you are a bit confused about why we have two days each year to pay homage to military people, Memorial Day in May honors service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle. Deceased veterans might also be remembered on Veterans Day but the day is set aside to thank and honor *living* veterans who served honorably in the military – in wartime or peacetime. Again, thanks, vets for your service.

As we show our flag and our pride today, we remember that the men and women of America's Armed Forces serve a great cause. They follow in a great tradition, handed down to them by America's veterans. And in public ceremonies and in private prayer, we give thanks for the freedom we enjoy because of their willingness to serve.

Well over two centuries have passed since George Washington first took command of the Continental Army. Yet we can see in today's military the same virtues that won this nation our independence, and which have safeguarded our country despite all the challenges of history. The men and women who wear the uniform in the year 2014 follow in a long, honorable, and unbroken tradition of service passed down to them by our veterans. To every veteran, this nation owes a debt we cannot possibly discharge but we will always acknowledge. And so on this day of reflection and appreciation, I offer our esteem gratitude to all the veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

To all our veterans we have a simple yet heartfelt message – thank you – all of you, for your

service. We want you to know that your example serves to inspire others who follow in your footsteps. Thank you for your selfless-service in peacetime and war, here in this nation and throughout the world. For all veterans, regardless of their service and the era in which they have served, have paid a price for the freedom we enjoy.

A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME
by Lucy Roe Cook

This Little Bird is down with a bad cold. It is difficult to Christmas shop when you are coughing your feathers off.



This is the time for joy. Knowing that this will pass is a good thing.

The Waldo Baptist Church had their yearly Thanksgiving dinner. It is such a nice thing to do for the Communiy.

Come on down to the Waldo Baptist Church and join in with the Christmas celebration of the birthday of Christ.

This cold is making me want to fly these little feathers south to Florida. It is nice for football and hot apple cider. Nice to fly over Waldo and smell the fireplaces burning. Thank you for the feed in the bird feeders about town.

The members of the Waldo Historical Society are still in pursuit of a museum to house all of the donations the wonderful people of Waldo have contributed. The Caboose Railroad Museum is getting closer. The WHS needs volunteers for so many things.

Come and be a part of Waldo's rich past.

Thanks to all who help with this paper from the Editor Penny Dodd to the writers and to our advertisers. To those who deliver and those who proof read. Thanks to all who read and enjoy. Thank you all.

Keep the wonder of Christmas in your heart all through the year. Merry Christmas to all. See you in the New Year.

Waldo Commodities

Call for Day and Time
Waldo Community Center
13558 NE 148th Ave
Phone:(352) 468-2336

Waldo Community School Safety Patrols Need Your Help
Brooke Huguley

The school year is in full swing and our 5th graders have finally reached the milestone of becoming Safety Patrols. AAA has sponsored Safety Patrols for more than 95 years and more than 50,000 schools around the country have their own squad of these special students.

Our Waldo patrols have morning and afternoon posts that they must report to everyday. Some examples are raising and lowering the American and Florida flag, helping direct traffic at parent pickup, delivering the news on the morning announcements, and many more. Currently, we have a squad of 30 Safety Patrols that have been participating in fundraisers to earn money to pay

for their Washington DC trip this summer. Every June, all Alachua County 5th grade students have the opportunity to visit our nations' capital in a 4 day trip. Parents are



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responsible for paying their child's \$200 deposit by December 4th, with all of the money that is fundraised counting towards the remaining \$424 balance that is due March 13th.

We are inviting the community of Waldo to come to two of our events. On December 6th, from 8am – 11am, we will be serving a pancake breakfast at the First Baptist Church. For \$5, you can purchase a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, eggs, and orange juice/coffee.

On January 23rd, we will be hosting another spaghetti dinner at the First Baptist Church. From 4:30-7:30 and for \$5, you can purchase spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread, a drink and a dessert. We hope to see all of the Waldo community come out to support these deserving children. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please call the school at 468-1451.

History of Church of God High Springs, Florida Submitted by Oscar White

In 1927, Elder Nathaniel Scippio came to High Springs and pitched his tent at about the location of where the old church stands today. He

ran a revival and several people were saved. Shortly after the revival in 1927, Elder Scippio built the first Church of God by Faith in High Springs Florida. Elder Walter Jones was appointed pastor of the new church.

In 1936, Elder Scippio saw the need to build a larger edifice in High Springs. After building the second church, the first church was used as a parsonage. For several years the new church was the largest church on the Gainesville District and became the main location for all the district's Fifth Sunday meetings.

In 1968 Elder Walter Camps ran a tent revival in High Springs. Some of the above members begin their walk with the Lord. The entire community was blessed through this revival.

After Elder James Williams' appointment as Pastor of High Spring Church of God by Faith in 1990 and reviewing the conditions of the church building, he and his wife along with his family, joined in with the members' vision and desire for a new edifice. After many years of fasting, praying and hard work, the third sanctuary was built and dedicated Saturday, November 9, 2002, under the leadership and guidance of our pastor, Elder James Williams.

The mission of the church, as it was when the church first began is to (1) reach out to those that are lost; (2) encourage those that are saved to hold onto God's unchanging hand while building their hopes on things eternal which lead to the adopted Motto: "Restoring God's Plan for His People."

LITTLE MAN Mary Sue Holton

Being raised in

Waldo, Florida, and more specifically on and around Cracker Hill, afforded me the opportunity to experience life simply and without fear. We were free to play in the yard and fields and to explore the many interests of the creek which ran alongside our house. The boys roamed the woods and we often played on the dirt roads which wound down and around the backwoods. It never occurred to us to be afraid of being outside and "technically" unsupervised. We felt safe there in the midst of our simple and secure world.

We also had GREAT neighbors. I learned to ride a bike in the Smith's front driveway. We were occasionally allowed to enjoy dipping our feet into the cool waters of one of the several artesian wells on their property. The Matthews were wonderful folks who had given us the best dog EVER. And of course Mrs Matthews was one of the resident lunchroom ladies at the school.

Mama and Daddy were close friends with the Danas. They were a family of Railroad men. All



of the sons had followed in their father's footsteps working for Seaboard Coastline in

Jacksonville. Arthur was the oldest of the boys and he had never married. His sister Hazel never

married either. They continued living in the spooky old 2 story house where they had been born, until Arthur died. Hazel stayed there until she was no longer able to live alone and then went into a nursing home where she spent her last several years.



Dana House

We often heard Hazel speaking about the "ghosts" who lived there in the house with them and this was the biggest factor in my decision to spend as little time there as possible. It was cold and dark and creepy feeling inside and I much preferred that Hazel and Arthur visit us at OUR house.

For as long as I can remember, I watched Arthur Dana walk the dirt road from his house at the top of Cracker Hill to the property he owned just across from us on the other side of the Creek. He had bought my grandfather's place when they sold it to move into Gainesville. Several years later the house burned down and Arthur began building a house at the back of the property where he wanted to live after he retired. He worked on the house on a "pay as you go" process so that he wouldn't have a mortgage. And he was in no hurry. For years and years and years he worked, a little at a time, on the way to his goal and customizing the house to his liking. But he NEVER lived in that house. He died before it was completed.

When I returned to Waldo after I had married, we put a

mobile home on the corner of Mama's 13 acres. It sat at the front of Arthurs's property and the driveway down to his place butted up to ours. Kim was 2 ½ years old and Michael 1 when we moved there. And just as he had for many, many years, Mr. Dana still walked the road going to work on "The Place".

He began stopping by to visit with "the babies". He called Kim "Little sister" and Michael was "Little man". Later on when Tommy was born, Mr. Dana called him Tom Thumb.

It didn't take long for Mr. Dana to become twisted around Kim and Michael's tiny fingers. Soon he began bringing bags of candy for them. He ALWAYS came with a bag of sugar peppermint sticks. Not those hard, sticky ones but the kind that melt in your mouth. And by the time he was 2 years old, Michael could easily recognize Mr. Dana from a long distance down the dirt road. He would toddle his way down the dusty trail to meet him and immediately ask for his "nan nan". Mr. Dana thought he was about the cutest fella ever and nothing pleased him more than handing over that bag of candy.



"Nan nan" became a highly anticipated treat for my two oldest babies, and Mr. Dana never let them down. They both grew to love him and looked forward to the

few minutes he spent with them each week when he was home from working on the railroad. But it was Michael who became his constant sidekick. As he grew older he tagged along behind as Mr. Dana worked in his pecan grove, grafting trees and checking them all for any sign of disease. He let Michael feed the huge bass which lived in his private pond behind the not-yet completed house. He showed him around the long barn in which he stored building materials and all manner of other things which made a little boy's eyes grow big. He let Michael drink from the hand pump which was housed in a small shed. It was the purest, coolest, freshest tasting water EVER, and we often helped ourselves to a drink on hot summer days.

I didn't know for many years that during a period of time when my husband worked in Clearwater during the week, Mr. Dana would slip into the yard after dark and sleep in the front seat of an old car which was parked in the lot next door. He worried about "Mary Tu" being there alone at night with "the babies". It meant A LOT to me when I learned of the many nights he had been there looking out for us. He was one of those men with a very strong protective instinct, and I feel blessed that he loved us so much he was willing to watch over us.

Mr. Dana had a dog named Smokey who walked the roads with him for years and years. Smokey was a tiny brown mixed mutt, but he was the closest thing to a child that Arthur Dana ever had and he was very much loved, and very much spoiled. When Smokey began to get old and unable to get around well, Mr.

Dana carried him in his arms on his walks to "The Place".

Mr. Dana died when Michael was about 11 years old. We had never even known he was sick and I never found out many of the details. I only know that it was a problem with his heart. I do know that Smokey grieved himself to death pretty soon afterwards. Hazel continued to care for him after Arthur's death, but he just seemed to have no interest in living without his buddy.

Hazel stopped by our home one day several weeks later and gave Michael Mr. Dana's pocket knife. She said "I know he'd want you to have this." It's one of the cherished treasures which Michael keeps locked in his "grey box". Along with a number of various other items all of which are very dear to him.

There were a couple of very interesting things about Mr. Dana which always fascinated me. He had been born a twin and his mother told the story of how his twin sister became sick and for several days ate hardly anything. Mrs Dana took her to the local doctor who didn't find anything wrong and simply said "She'll eat when she gets hungry." A few days later, the baby died and Arthur's mama never got over it. She lived the rest of her life believing she had starved her baby to death.

Another story Arthur told was that he and his brother had been given the same name. Just backwards. He was Arthur Theodore, and his youngest brother was Theodore Arthur. He got a kick telling that story and we all laughed but scratched our heads at what a peculiar thing for his mother to do. It wasn't until

very recently I found out that story was nothing more than another of Arthur's shenanigans. Theodore's middle name was Andrew. And Arthur's??? I have NO idea because I've spent the entirety of my life thinking it was Theodore. I couldn't help but smile when I learned the truth about the "name exchange." It brought back a memory that I haven't visited in a very long time. I could almost swear I heard his munchkin of a laugh stretching out across the years and searching for my soul just one more time. Yes indeed. Arthur got the last laugh there!

Arthur was a rather small man, but in his young years when Waldo was a thriving "megalopolis" he had been a rather popular local boxer. He said they often held bouts at one of the Hotels and drew in quite a crowd. Someone recently said there had been boxing matches at the old Opera house. If I'm not mistaken, I recall being told Arthur Dana retired undefeated. That may or may not be the "truth" according to who is telling the story.

I passed by that big old empty "Dana" house the other day and noticed that it's for sale. My friend Denise lives across the dirt road from it and I often tease her that the ghosts are going to get lonely over there and start crossing the street soon. I don't know about the ghosts that lived there before, but I know for certain if it's Arthur's ghost who lives there now, then he is completely harmless. AND, he's got a pocket FULL of "Nan nan"

Waldo Community School News

Holly Burton - Principal

Our Lost and Found is crammed full of coats, sweaters, mittens, and other various items. If your child is missing a clothing item, please remind them to stop by the clinic to look in lost and found. Parents are also welcome to come by and look for their child's misplaced things. All items remaining in the lost and found on 12/17 will be donated to a local charity.



Principal Holly Burton

Patrols and Pickle Fridays!!

Our Patrols will be selling pickles each Friday at dismissal in the car circle. Pickles only cost \$1!

We need your input!

Alachua County Public Schools is holding a public forum here in Waldo to gather input from parents, teachers, community and business leaders and other citizens about the schools that serve Waldo's children. The forum will be hosted by the new Superintendent, Dr. Owen Roberts and will include small- and large-group discussions for residents to share their ideas for improving education and helping all our students succeed. The forum will be held on Monday, December 8 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Waldo Community School cafeteria.

Please plan on joining us for the forum and sharing your ideas. For more information, contact Jackie Johnson at Alachua County Public Schools at (352) 955-7545 or through email at jackie.johnson@gm.sbac.edu.

Please note that you can access our school's SPAR (School Public Accountability Report) on our school webpage under 'about us.'

Calling All Volunteers

Who: Parents, Family, Friends, Community Members

What: Volunteer Day – Helping teachers with cutting, creating, organizing, and laminating projects!

When: Tuesday, Dec. 9th from 9-11:00 A.M. Lunch will be provided as a thank you for your help!

Where: Waldo Community School's Media Center

Why: To support our teachers and students

dancing, such memories, simple but significant.

Missed at least two people I was hoping to see who were definitely planning on coming, but due to unforeseen circumstances didn't make it. That's life, as they say, and hoping to see them next time.

As has been happening for the past few years, both on these get togethers and my bike trips, since creating this group of old friends, I saw two more people I had not seen since back in the day -- Bob Jarvis & wife and Terry Diduonni & husband. Nice to renew friendship, refresh memories, talk about old times and discover latest situations and goings on. Nice to meet a few new comers to Waldo.

Always nice to see members of the Waldo Hysterical -- uhh, Historical Society. JK you know me, Penny. Love sitting next to you at lunch and seeing you at the evening event. So happy that all you guys are carrying on the FB group, an important medium to keep all up-to-date.

A couple of us discussed the possible future of such events, what to do, when to do it, what type of event, etc -- reunion, mini reunion, dance, whatever.

There are some of us nostalgic types that enjoy getting together periodically. We recognize that after the initial excitement and enthusiasm of events such as long-awaited reunions, things tend to die down and people lose interest, and yes, sometimes even personalities and human frailties deter things.

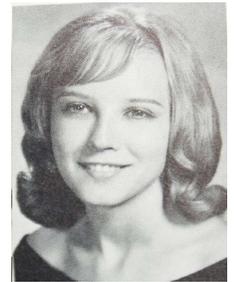
But we will continue to reflect and think of ways to bring people together in the future, perhaps expanding future events

to include a larger geographical area so that small groups of friends from all the areas surrounding Waldo can hold small mini-reunions with each other in conjunction with a larger group.

So, if you like 50s and 60s music, meeting up for a few hours to dance or watch others dance, meet new friends and see old ones, and in general just yakety yak, stand by. who knows what lurks in the hearts of men??? LOL. ciao for now.

Waldo Birthday Celebration by Linda Vlacos

My brother, Charles Hall, his wife Becky, Becky's mother, Connie, surprised my mother, Allie Mae Hall on Oct. 19th for her 85th birthday, which was Oct 21.



Everyone was there to greet them and we went to Cedar River in Starke for a birthday celebration.

Charles was here for a week. We had two other birthdays in the family that week, my sister Virginia Hunter and my grandson, Jacob Grady.

We gathered at my house that Wednesday for everyone to see Charles and have some of Jerry's smoked ribs.

John Savant came to see Charles and we had a nice visit with him. Charles didn't make it to the Waldo Reunion because of additional company, but it was nice seeing him all week. Can't wait for the next visit.



Joel David Cress Quincy Sparkman

If you know Waldo citizens who have passed, please call Millie Keirnan 352-468-1378.

Waldo Reunion Update Bob Haines

Another GREAT EVENT in the small town of my coming of age/teenage years. a BIG THANK YOU to Mary Ellen Haines Johnson and Linda Hall Vlacos for their HARD WORK at planning and carrying out the event. HUGE SUCCESS, thank you.

It was not a humongous crowd but very meaningful to those who attended. It reminded me of many nights at the old Rec Center, friends sitting or standing about talking, 50s and 60s music playing in the corner, a few people

Information Please!

Waldo Phone Numbers You Might Need (Cut Out and Place By Your Phone)

City Hall	468-1001
After Hours Water Emergency	258-3110
Fire Emergencies	911
Police Non-Emergencies	955-1818
Power Outages	1-800-468-8243
Waldo Library	468-3298
Waldo Community Center	468-2336
Waldo Post Office	468-1970
Waldo Community School	468-1451
Waldo Phoenix	468-1910

December Birthdays

3 P.J. Bedford	17 Margaret Cannon
4 Louie Davis	18 William Jackson
5 Leanna Fricks	20 Bernard Carter
6 Denise Burnham Baun	20 Alex Mauldin
7 Carson Piemons	23 Donna K. Smart
8 Mary Ann Rich	24 Mac Cawley
16 Eugene Wilson	26 Lisa Hill
17 Rayford English	30 Kimberly Harrison
17 Kevin Mauldin	



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& Sis. Monique Taylor for the children.
Men's Day service will be held
on the 4th Sunday in July at 11:00 am

Always remember that
Man is Mighty but God is Almighty

First Baptist Church, Waldo Hwy 24

352-468-1721

Sunday Schedule



9:15 - 9:45 Refreshments

9:45 Bible Study (all ages)

11:00 am & 6 pm Worship

11:00 am & 6 pm Children's Worship

6 pm Youth Praise and Worship

Wednesday Schedule

5:45 - 6:15 pm Dinner

6:30 pm Children's, Youth, Adult
Programs

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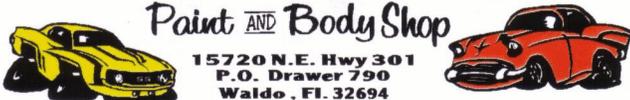


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Advertising Rate Sheet**
(effective date: March 1, 2010)

Size	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
Business Card	\$60.00	\$90.00	\$120.00
Quarter Page	\$120.00	\$180.00	\$240.00
Half Page	\$240.00	\$360.00	\$480.00
Full Page	\$480.00	\$720.00	\$960.00

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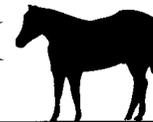


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