



THE WALDO PHOENIX



FREE - TAKE ONE!

Volume One - Issue Twelve, February, 2011

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www.WaldoHistoricalSociety.YolaSite.com

Betty Brooker's Holiday Open House

On January 9, the home of one of Waldo's most loved celebrities was filled with family, friends and others who love Betty Brooker and the way she decorates her family home during the holidays.

As we entered, we signed the guest book and picked up one of the very informative green booklets prepared for the event by Betty's sister, Sarah Sowell, which included "A Tribute To Betty," and a short history of the Brooker home.

A Tribute To Betty

"Four generations of "Brookers" with spouses and children have considered the old house as the family home place.

Betty has been the primary one in ensuring the traditions continue - Black eyed peas, rice and hog jowl for New Year's Day; Thanksgiving turkey and dressing with all the trimmings; and an exciting Christmas Eve watching the youngsters open their gifts. Many times we have received a call from Betty saying "I'm going to cook a few things so you all are welcome to come over." Most all family gatherings include food.

Betty has lived in the house from the days of a wood heater, a wood cook stove, no hot water heater or heat in the bathroom and no telephone or TV. She still only uses a cord phone and has no answering machine. She does all her house work and hires family members to maintain the yard. She also hires family members to help her with house maintenance and her projects.

Betty is the oldest child of Bob & Dossie. She is a loving and caring "Sister Betty," "Aunt Betty" or "Aunt B" as she is called by family members. She is the family counselor, always there for us in any situation, and does not hesitate to express her

approval or disapproval of family members' actions.

Since she says this will be her last Christmas Open House, we would like to take this day to pay tribute to her for maintaining the old house and continuing the traditions which are special to all of us.

Wonder what she will create next Christmas?

We all love you,
"The Brooker Clan"

THIS OLD HOUSE



The house was built in 1927 by Turner Robert "Bob" Brooker and his wife, Dossie Sullivan Brooker. Bob and Dossie lived in the house until their death - Bob in 1966 and Dossie in 1986. The children, Betty, Earl and Sarah, were born at home.

Betty has always lived in the house.

The original house had an open front porch, later screened and then windows were added to the porch. It also had a screened back porch which was changed to a bedroom and another screened porch added. Betty remodeled the house by changing a bedroom to a dining room. She (by herself) did all the remodeling of changing the bedroom to the dining room including the paneling and building a closet. Later she added windows to the back screened porch. This room is the family gathering place when Betty decides to feed us.

Since the death of our parents, Betty has continued the traditions of family gatherings at the house, including Thanksgiving & Christmas.

THE HOUSE AT CHRISTMAS

I don't understand why anyone wants to spend so much time and effort to decorate for Christmas.



But Betty enjoys it. She has a large collection of Christmas decorations mostly gleaned from after Christmas sales, yard sales and thrift stores.

She enjoys sharing her decorations with others at an annual open house. (She tells us this will be her last one, but as I recall she said the same thing last year).

Thank you for joining her in giving you a "tour" of the house.
Sarah Brooker (Sowell) Dougherty

The Magic of "11"



This year, **2011**, will be a magical year. Consider this. This year we will experience:

**1-1-11
1-11-11
11-1-11
11-11-11**

Here's more "magic." If you add the last two digits of your birth year to the age you will be this year, your total will be **111**. Go ahead, test it!

Waldo's Kids by Thelma Bay

As we begin our new year of 2011, I hope all is well in your neck of the woods. We are beginning to look down right prosperous out here on the north side of town. The new Dollar General is up and running and what a beautiful store it is!

All we need now is for somebody to take over the Classic Café and run it to our expectations AND for Café Risque to go bye-bye.

Now, on to a subject dear to my heart. We are busy making plans for the second annual Waldo Kids Camp. This is a free day camp for Waldo kids held at the Community Center during the summer months.

We could use some donations such as cookies, chips, bottled water, hot dogs, Gatorade, markers, glue, or money. Call me at 339-6956 or Lisa Hill at 642-2414 and we'll be glad to pick up anything you have to give.

I know I'm asking early and summer is a long time from now, but time does fly.

One of my New Years resolutions has been kept. I'm volunteering two hours a week in the classroom at Waldo Community School. I'm planning on increasing those hours as soon as possible because it's so much fun.

The class I'm in has three levels: Kindergarten, First and Second grades.

The teacher is amazing at keeping the students busy, but a little extra help is always needed. Could you spare an hour or two a week? You would be welcome in any classroom. The process is easy. Just fill out an application at the front office, and prepare to have a wonderful time helping our local kids learn.

Now that the days are getting longer, maybe I won't fall asleep in my chair at 7:00 pm.

When it's dark at 5:30, 7:00 pm seems like bedtime to me. Don't you dare laugh. You know you do the same thing!

Until next month, when there's more news to report.



Let's Take A Tour - Pt. 2 By Lucy Roe Cook

Continuing on along in "Miss Bellamy," the Tour Van, we visit the Waldo Canal. This part of our tour will take about 15 minutes.



Due to flooding that made travel by roads difficult, the Melrose and Waldo Canals were dredged, and travel on steamships was opened for the railroad at Waldo.

At the head of the canal, there was a bandstand with live music and horse drawn carriages to take the people into downtown Waldo to attend the opera at the Opera House in Waldo. Men purchased cigars from the Entenza Cigar Factory, which we will see later in our tour.

On your left you see the canal that once brought ships such as the F. S. Lewis that steamed from Melrose to Waldo and opened up new avenues for agriculture, commerce, and tourism in Alachua County's Northern district.

You will notice that the area is peaceful and void of trash and electric poles. It is still today very much as it was in the early 1800's.

The historic Waldo Canal helped connect the 14-mile waterway from Melrose to the railroad in Waldo, allowing vegetables and other produce to be shipped to far off places.

Looking to your right you will see Cypress trees that grow in the wet areas and the Cypress tree roots called Cypress knees.

Later in our tour we will see the home of Captain George H. Barker, the Captain of the F. S. Lewis.

Ahead, we see the lake that brought not only produce, but people, wanting to travel on the trains.

Now we are approaching the end of the canal that opens out onto Lake Alto. Lake Alto links Waldo to Melrose.

As we turn around to continue back out to Waldo Road, we pass over the tracks. We might see (ghost) Mary walking the tracks calling out to her love who never came home from the Civil War. As we turn right onto Waldo Road, we see the Dr. John Ambrose' home.

For more in depth information on the tour. Call 352 468 3453 to hold your reservation on the next tour.

W3Cs Upcoming Event Announcement

Who: Waldo Concerned Citizens For the Community, Inc. (W3C's)

What: Ninth Annual "Cultural Affair."

- Art
- Displays
- 1. Mr. Clifford Ferguson (Turpentine in Waldo, and surrounding area.
- 2. Mr. and Mrs. Adams (The Wayward Potter and Tea's Chirren
- 3. Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Thompson (How Cane Syrup is Made)
- Story Telling - Ms. Vivian Filer, of Gainesville, Florida
- Music by local groups
- Food Tasting

When: Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 11:00 am - 3:30 pm

Why: A celebration of African-American Heritage

Where: Waldo Community Center (13550 NE 148th Avenue)
Sponsored by W3C's
For more information please call 352-226-9610

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Subscribing to the Waldo Phoenix is as simple as dropping us a note with your name and mailing address and payment of \$12.00 which will cover a full year's subscription. Send your payment to:

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Waldo, Florida 32694**



ALACHUA COUNTY, FL - The Alachua County Department of Public Safety is reminding residents to be safe and use caution when heating homes. Space heaters can be very helpful, but also pose a very serious threat if not used properly. The Underwriters Laboratory, an independent product safety certification organization, has published the following safety tips:

- Keep all space heaters at least 3 feet away from household combustibles.
- Use space heaters only as a supplementary source of heat. These devices are not intended to replace the home's heating system.
- Do not use extension cords with space heaters unless absolutely necessary. Inspect the heater's cord periodically to look for frayed wire or damaged insulation. Do not use a space heater with a damaged cord.
- Check periodically for a secure plug/outlet fit. If the plug becomes very hot, the outlet may need to be replaced by a qualified technician. This could be the sign of a potential home wiring issue. Heaters should be placed on a flat, level surface. Do not place heaters on furniture since they may fall and become damaged or break parts in the heater.
- Unless the heater is designed for use outdoors or in bathrooms, do not use in damp, wet areas.
- Look for the UL Mark on your electric heater. This means representative samples of the appliance have met UL's stringent safety standards.
- If you have a liquid-fueled space heater, use only the fuel recommended by the manufacturer. The wrong fuel could burn hotter than the equipment was designed for and cause a serious fire.
- When refueling, turn off the heater and let it cool down

completely before adding fuel. Wipe away any spills promptly.

Before you buy a kerosene heater, check with your local fire department to ensure that it is legal. Additional fire safety tips for the home include...

For the best chance of surviving a fire, homes should have at least one working smoke alarm per level and outside each sleeping area. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly to have a reasonable assurance they will function properly when needed.

In addition to working smoke alarms, each family should have a home escape plan. The plan should include two ways out of each room, a meeting place, and a method to call 9-1-1 once outside the home. The plan should be practiced so everyone knows what to do before the emergency.

Common Fire Hazards include:

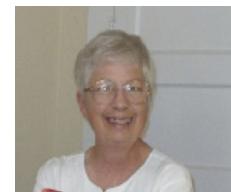
- Candles- Never leave a room with a burning candle. To keep the flame down, make sure the wick stays trimmed to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. The candle should be on a sturdy surface away from any combustible materials. It is recommended to keep a safe clear zone of 18-24 inches away from a burning candle.
- Fireplaces- Keep the chimney clean. They should be cleaned annually depending on amount of use. Always use a screen or door to keep the embers from escaping and catching combustibles on fire. Use a listed flame rated pad or non-combustible surface in front of the fireplace. Make sure the fire is completely out before going to bed. A smoldering fire can produce carbon monoxide, which is a dangerous, odorless, and colorless gas.
- Cooking- Never leave food cooking on the stove unattended. Keep dangling cloths, curtains and other combustibles away from the stove. Make sure the stove is

off before going to bed. Turn pot handles in so small children cannot grab them. Always be particularly cautious with children living in the home.

"With your attention to some of these basic fire safety tips the chances of experiencing a fire in your home can be significantly reduced," says ACDPS Fire Marshal, Mark Smith.

For more information, contact the Alachua County Department of Public Safety at 352-384-3101.

Acts of Kindness by Thelma Bay



Thelma Bay

A big shout-out and many thanks to Rodney Estes for his generous donation to the

summer camp for kids. Rodney is always ready to help and we are lucky to have him here in Waldo. He has served on the City Council for years and we hope he continues to be a presence in City business for a long time.



Marie's Country Kitchen by Marie Ankney



Love Potion #9

- 2 - Small Cans Applesauce
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Cinnamon
- Hearts
- Put above in a sauce pan on low.
- Cook until candy is dissolved
- Chill



ENJOY!



100 Years
Ago
February,
1911



February 6

Born: Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States (1981-1989), was born at 4:16 a.m. in Tampico, Illinois, to Nelle Reagan and shoe salesman John Reagan. He died on June 10, 2004.



February 7

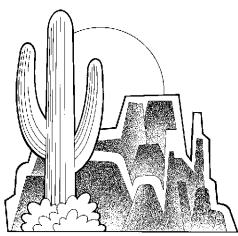


Chicago, IL - After a heated debate, an amendment passed with a vote for 42 to 20, no building built after September 1, 1911 will be over 200 feet tall.

628 Patents, Design Patents and Re-Issues were granted today from the United States Patent Office.

February 9

Phoenix, AZ - Voting on the ratification of the constitution, under which it is expected Arizona will be admitted to the Union is in progress throughout the territory to-day.



Voting on the

February 10

Oleomargarine Invented in France in 1867, oleomargarine was banned in Canada from 1886 until 1948. The spread was enriched and affordable, and it was a threat to the dairy industry.



Sacramento, CA - The Oleomargarine Bill is being debated vigorously. Dairy Products Committee claim it is losing business and the public is being deceived because "oleo" is artificially colored to look like butter. Attorney for oleo claims it is the poor man's butter and admits food coloring has been added. The discussion in the Assembly is expected to continue.

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February 14

Trenton, NJ - The Studebaker Corporation, with an authorized capital of \$45,000,000, was incorporated to-day.



February 18



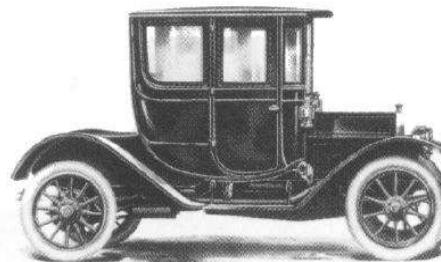
Gainesville, GA - A band of 4 robbers overpowered the agents on board the Southern Railroad train #36 and blew open the safe. Initial reports of \$100,000 being taken is denied by the authorities and states less than \$700 was taken. The passengers were unmolested.

February 24

California Market Reports :: Kerosene - 3 cents per gallon :: Gasoline - 17 cents per gallon :: 100# bag granulated sugar - \$4.70 :: Silver - 52 1/8 cents per ounce

February 27

The first electric starter for an

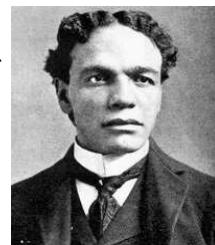


automobile was unveiled, as inventor Charles F. Kettering, started the engine of a Cadillac in a few seconds, an alternative to the crank that had been used to start engines. The innovation, which depended on a 65 pound battery, was installed on 12,000 Cadillac automobiles in its first year, and Kettering would receive U.S. Patent #1,150,523 on August 17, 1915.

"A few hours later, elated Cadillac engineers decided that since their cars were going to have a storage battery and a generator, why not operate the ignition and headlights electrically also?"

February 28

President Taft sent to the U.S. Senate the nomination of William H. Lewis, an African-American from Massachusetts, to be United States Assistant Attorney General.



A Little Bird Told Me . . .

by Lucy Roe Cook

This little yellow bird finds that even though the rain has soaked my feathers the rain is welcomed. Flying above Waldo and seeing only brown is a drag. The warm days have been a blessing.

The caboose is coming right along. A historic Waldo railroad display is near. Thank you for the hard work of the Waldo Historical Society and the help of the Waldo City Hall and the many citizens for their donations. We thank Danny Stanford for his donated labor in building steps to make the caboose more accessible.

Vera Mauldin and Mary Ann Rich are looking for items to be displayed in the Caboose for a historical display. The Waldo Historical Society will make copies of photos or other paper documents, so that you might continue to have the original. 352-468-1910.

If you are a quilter or like to see others' quilts, watch for the quilt show coming in May. For an application, call Vera Mauldin at 352-468-1554. Last year's show was a complete success. Janet Garret, who was the first place winner last year passed recently. We will miss you. God's blessings to her family.

This little bird wants to thank editor Penny Dodd of Waldo for the bird bath and the new carport which is a resting place for my little self, and her neighbors, Bob and Sarah Edmondson for the nice bird bath. I enjoy my visits with their bird, Lulu.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park is now official. It is located at the Community Center of Waldo.

This little bird hears that Mrs. Thelma Bay is, as ever, busy helping the children of Waldo. We thank you, Thelma.

This little bird wonders how it is we are living in a world where lemonade is made from artificial lemon flavoring while furniture polish is made with real lemons?

Good Service by Bobby Cook



Bobby Cook

When I was a small child, I was taught about good service. Good service was associated with honor and pride. Good employees gave their employers a little extra. They would go the "extra mile," because it was the right thing to do. There was gratitude for the job. There was a sense of pride in the employer as well as a sense of honor and duty. It was understood that the customer was always right.

Employees who exhibited such a work ethic were appreciated. They attracted customers and maintained the company reputation. There was a symbiotic relationship among the customer, employee and employer. Each benefitted by maintaining the dignity and honor of the others.

Today, good service can still be found, but it is becoming a rare commodity. Employers are being squeezed more and more. There is an ever present need to increase profit. Employees are being squeezed as never before. Low pay and inadequate training are common. Respect for employees is low and respect for employers is even lower. All is not well in paradise and the customer pays more for less. Employers pay more for advertising, designed and directed to motivate the customer to accept less service and to believe it is good service. They resort to gimmicks to get customers into the store. Bait and switch tactics are common.

A customer goes into a large department store. He waits and waits to see a pocket knife, only to discover that they are out of his first choice. They are also out of his second



choice and his third choice. The salesperson does manage to produce a knife that resembles one of the choices, but he cannot demonstrate it or answer any questions. By now, the customer can easily imagine that the salesperson does not own a pocket knife, has never used a pocket knife, and can't think of any reason why anyone would want one. The customer may or may not buy a knife, but regardless of the outcome, the customer received bad service.

A few years ago, I purchased an item and received 75 cents in change. I was surprised to receive seven dimes and a nickel. I later learned that some regular customers avoided that particular cashier to avoid having a pocketful of dimes. She could count in dimes but not in quarters.

I once read an editorial written by a man who had purchased four items priced at three for a dollar. I didn't think much about this until it happened to me. The cashier rang up one dollar for the first three and had



no idea how much to charge for the fourth item. After consulting a supervisor, she charged me 25 cents for the fourth item. The irony, that at that price, the original dollar was enough to pay for all four, was completely lost on her.

These examples serve only to point out a lack of training. All the people were friendly and courteous. The problem is that some businesses are attempting to hide poor training by hiring people who smile.

While large businesses seem to be promoting bad service, good service can still be found. There are still businesses where customers are King. Product information is available from knowledgeable people. I have no illusions about my purchases being able to change big business, but I do

enjoy good service. I want to do business with businesses where I can ask questions. Small businesses offering personal service are an endangered species and we need to support them every chance we get.

We have many small businesses in Waldo where personal service is available. We need to support these businesses as much as possible. Before driving to another city, check to see if your needs can be met by a Waldo business. I'm not going to list any Waldo businesses because there are too many. I'll just say that I have recently bought items in Gainesville, then discovered that I could have bought it cheaper in Waldo. It just makes good economic sense to shop Waldo first.

If what you need is not found in Waldo, here are a few of my favorite stores not found in Waldo.

Lighting Gallery:- A great store with excellent service for all your lighting needs.

Central Florida Office Plus - For all office needs plus art supplies. Great Christmas gift ideas for children. The best service I've ever seen in a store.

Lentz House of Time - Clocks and clock repair. Excellent service.

Book Gallery West - Huge collection of new and used books. Excellent service. This is my favorite store.

C. Crane - For all your radio needs plus many interesting gadgets. Reliable company with excellent service.

L.L. Bean - Wide selection of clothing and household items. Reliable company with excellent service. Note: If you see Waldo's Little yellow bird flying around with a smile on her face, it might be because she received a pair of pink L.L. Bean slippers for Christmas.

So, the next time you're looking to buy something, remember to check Waldo first. You might save a few miles and get better service, too.

**Watch for Wings N Thangs
scheduled to open in
Waldo in February**

Information Please!

Waldo Phone Numbers You Might Need

City Hall	468-1001
(After Hours Water Emergency)	258-3110
Fire Emergencies	Call 911
Police Department	468-1515
(Police Emergencies)	955-1818
Waldo Library	468-3298
Waldo Community Center	468-2336
Waldo Post Office	468-1970
Waldo Community School	468-1451

The Clothes Closet at Waldo First Baptist Church

Open Wednesday and Saturday
From 9 am till 12 noon
Call 468-1721 for information

February Birthdays

1 Sarah Edmondson	11 Dominic Byrne
1 Helen Knupp	11 Benjamin Burnsed
1 Dala Andrianoff	12 Destiny Harrison
3 Brandon Freeman	12 Tracy Cawley
3 Fannie O'Neal	15 Annalee Tidwell
3 Linda Wise	15 Anthony Mauldin
4 Cindy Woolwine	15 Kymberly Brannon
6 Bill Fellinger	22 Louella Roberts
7 Shirley Ford	23 Sandra Fellinger
9 Jucas Armitage	27 Bill Dees



Don't Forget!



Our Publishing **deadline** is the 21st of the month preceding the monthly issue. We endeavor to have the current issue available at our drop-off points and on the website by the 1st of each month.

All submissions **must** be received by the 21st to be included in the next issue.

Next Waldo Historical Society Meeting ~~~~~!!Special Meeting!!~~~~~

Thursday, February 24 - 7:00 pm

At the Yerkes Center

Come listen to Waldo Chief Szabo tell some interesting history of The Waldo Police Department

Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church Services



Rev. James W. Ramsey - Pastor
2nd and 4th Sundays 11:00 am

Mid-week service every Wednesday 6:00 pm
taught by Minister Bernard Carter
Awesome Sunday School every Sunday 9:45 am taught by Bro. Bobby Hill or Minister
Bernard Carter for adults
and Sis. Josie "Jackson"
& 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

Dinner

Children's, Youth, Adult

Programs

February Commodities
Call Waldo Community Center
468-2336 For Date
Time: 1 pm - 2 pm
Waldo Community Center

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Waldo Baptist Church Challenger Circle History by Jan Bivins

The Challenger Circle probably began in the 60's. In talking to some of the ladies who were part of the original circle, they said they originally were part of the Women's Missionary Union (WMU) at First Baptist.

The group wanted to meet in the evening so several ladies made the new group and they began monthly meetings at different members' homes.

The WMU was focusing their work/study on foreign missions. The group wanted to stress local missions and throughout the years have worked with many and have accomplished much for our community.

I moved to Earleton from North Carolina in 1989 and joined the Circle. I think it was about this time we adopted the name of Challenger Circle.

In fact, the most well known of our activities is the annual Senior Thanksgiving Banquet where seniors throughout our area meet in the Family Life Center on Thursday evening one week before Thanksgiving. A full course dinner is prepared by circle members. The youth of First Baptist are servers and Pastor Jim DuBois gives a devotional and prayer.

After dinner, attendees enjoy a musical period. Many have performed over the years.

D&J's A Cut Above Lawn Service "LLC"

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owner

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352-226-0825

callacutabove@aol.com

The last part of the evening is a comedy by two of the locals, "Agnes and Alma" who manage to come back each year with new dialogue. They are a favorite with attendees.

Given to our attendees as they leave is usually a craft item made by the circle.

The Circle members pay \$5/month dues that will provide the funds needed throughout the year. I became chairman of the group in late 1989 and work with many great ladies.

We now meet on the first Monday of each month at 10 am in the Family Life Center. We moved the meetings to days, as most of our members are retired. At this month's meeting, 12 were present, and we reviewed our 2010 accomplishments and began listing goals for 2011.

Some of our accomplishments:

- ◆ Made/distributed pillow cases for children who are hospitalized with cancer
- ◆ About 75 shoe boxes for Franklin Graham's organization to be delivered to children in third world countries. the boxes are filled with toiletry items, sox, underwear, pencils and crayons, hard candy and a small toy. The boxes are marked for boy/girl.
- ◆ Decorative pillows were made for shut-in/nursing home residents.
- ◆ The circle operates a food pantry for needy individuals and keeps the pantry stocked.

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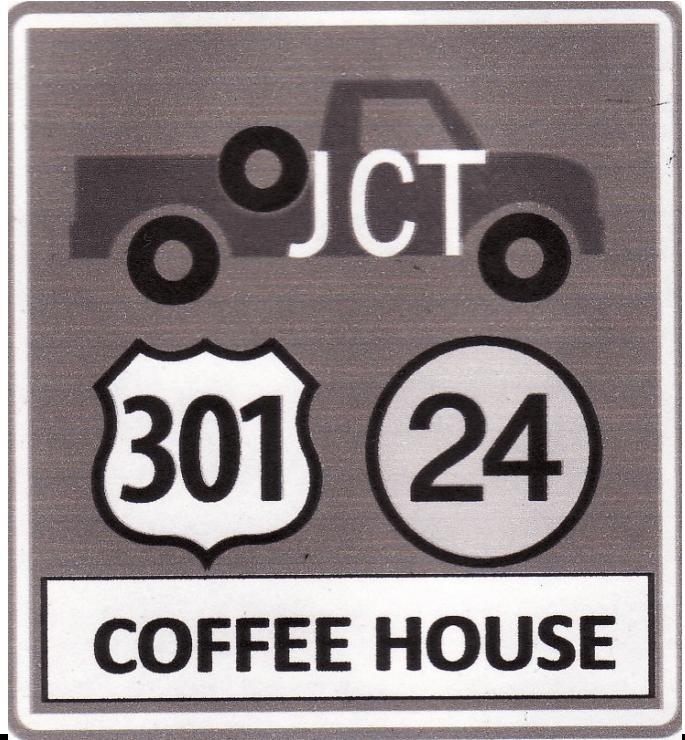
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