



# The Waldo Phoenix



☞ FREE - TAKE ONE!

Volume Five - Issue 12, February, 2015

Published by Waldo Historical Society, Inc.

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## Library Relocation: Camara Casson

For years the Waldo Public Library has wished to relocate to a building that



would offer more space to hold larger amounts of reading material and public computers. However, the proprietors of the Waldo library have been hard pressed to find a finished building that would accommodate enough space for the wanted expansion of the library.

As of late, the library administration has made headway in the long awaited relocation of the Waldo branch library. As all Waldo citizens must know, the Dollar General on US Highway 301 switched locations to a building out by the Waldo Flea Market.

That being said, the library administration has bought the building and they plan to remodel it and make it the new Waldo Public Library.

However, the project will, in time, prove to be a lengthy and costly one. Unfortunately for proponents of the Waldo Public Library, the plans for the new library were made after the budget for the current fiscal year was made. Because of this, the reconstruction of the library will not begin until after this fiscal year has ended on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and the budget for this project has been made. Even so, the remodel

will take a long while and will not be completed until sometime in 2016.

However, Waldo Public Library manager, Bruce Stewart, said that he is "hopeful that the library plans will be confirmed to be put into motion within the next fiscal year." And since the remodel will not be completed for at least another year and a half from now, the current library will remain open and functioning.

## The Truth about Romance by Teddy Pruett

At first glance, Romeo and Juliet may seem to be the pinnacle of romantic love, but c'mon – think about it! Juliet was thirteen, for Pete's sake, and while Romeo's age is not specified, he's but a few years older. That isn't romance, it's raging hormones! Let me tell you about real romance.

THE MOST ROMANTIC LOVE STORY ISN'T ROMEO AND JULIET WHO DIED TOGETHER...



BUT GRANDPA AND GRANDMA WHO GREW OLD TOGETHER.

True romance is love that lasts through the vows: sickness and health, richer and poorer, screaming babies, rebellious teenagers, sleepless nights, perhaps a bit of jealousy here and there, and in-laws.

It's a wife who in 40 years has cooked 43,800 meals and averaging 30 pots, pans, utensils and plates a meal, has washed over 1,314,000 dirty dishes for hubby. It's a husband who in 40 years has put in 83,200 hours of

40 hour weeks to support that wife and if he is self employed or a farmer those hours are just the beginning.

Romance is falling in love with someone who has a fantastic body, velvety skin, and a head full of hair, and loving them just as much when the body is misshapen, frail and stooped, the skin wrinkled and full of age spots, and the hair white or gone altogether.

True romance means never winning an argument. When you realize that love, respect, honor, and the other person's feelings are more important than winning an argument, romance thrives.

For example, just last week, I was cleaning out my husband's closet, and there was an old bowling bag with a ball and pair of shoes that I wanted to donate.

Me: I'm going to put this in the donate pile.

He: Don't even think about it.

Me: It's junk. It's in the way, it takes up valuable space.

He: It's my junk. If you want to get rid of stuff, clean your own closet.

Me: But I'm the one who has to clean around all this crap. You had this bowling bag before we got married in 1981. You bowled one game in 1994. It's outta here!!

He: I'd rethink that if I were you.

So I did. Oh, I'll admit I was hot – M-A-D! We both knew the situation had all the earmarks of an explosive battle that would lead

nowhere, so we both simply walked away from it and it was over.

It wasn't long before he brought me a cup of hot chocolate. We've done that for our entire marriage, the result being we've had no "fights" that had a winner. We care so deeply for each other that neither feels the need to win, neither feels the need to ever say anything that will hurt the other, and we guard against saying things that we can't unsay.

The result? Romance – the true, sweet, honest to goodness real thing. We've enjoyed the fairy tale romance of trips to Paris, Madrid, Acapulco, Morocco, and other legendary destinations around the world. That same romance has carried us through unbelievably hard times such as the loss of two of our children and the times we've sat vigil beside each other's hospital beds. It was one of those times, as he hovered near death, that I realized he'd turned into an old man when I wasn't looking.

When you see through the eyes of love, you often don't even notice those things.

Young people, take this to heart: Say please and thank you. Don't win arguments. When you look back on a long married life and realize you are still tickled to death when your husband or wife walks into the room, you will know what true romance is, and it isn't a box of candy on Valentine's Day.



## Sports Update: Camara Casson

Recently, Waldo Area Recreation's fall sports season has come to an end. However, the end of this sports season has brought great joy to the teams and their players.



In flag football, both of the teams made it into the playoffs. Flag Football Waldo Team 1 won the championship in their bracket.

The coaches, brother-in-laws James Powell III (head coach) and Martin Reaves (assistant coach) are both ecstatic about the season turnout, and say that they are especially proud because that the majority of the players on their team were family members. Waldo Team 2, came out of their bracket with a third place win.

As impressive as all that is, we cannot forget about the unstoppable cheer squad that showed up to every game. Head coach Jenny Rotella, transformed this year's cheer squad into loud and proud machines, and all the girls looked splendid in their white and blue uniforms while representing Waldo Area Recreation pride.

However, this year was important for more than just competition turnouts. For cheer, 14 girls between the ages of 6 and 12 showed up and cheered for both flag teams. Also, flag football numbers are up. This year, 22 boys AND girls signed up for flag football and 21 played. Considering it is only the second year since the

flag football division of W.A.R. was recreated since its last season back in the '90s, the sport seems to be on the up and up, and it shows great promise for future seasons to come.

While the cheer and flag football teams flourished this fall season, our tackle football division fell a little short. But, even with so few people signed up, Coach Madison Hilgendorf offered to teach kids needed skills in a tackle football camp.

So as the fall sports season comes to an end, Waldo Area Recreation looks forward to its spring tryouts for softball, baseball, and tee ball in mid to late January. As they always say, it's about changing lives one child at a time.

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### Thrifty Tips

#### Give a dead battery a jolt.

Storing your batteries in the fridge can make them last up to 90 percent longer, and popping a dead battery in the freezer overnight can temporarily revive it. Even laptop batteries. Just put them in a sealed bag to protect them from moisture.

#### Get markers flowing again.

If a washable marker has run dry, dip the tip into a cup of water. Hold it there until you see ink start to flow again, then recap it for 15 minutes. The moisture from the water rejuvenates the marker's pigments. Got a dry permanent marker? Repeat the same process using rubbing alcohol!

#### Boost your bar soap's shelf life.

It may sound strange, but simply storing your bar soap unwrapped will give you more suds. The reason? Exposure to air dries out the soap, so it doesn't dissolve as quickly when it comes into contact with water. To get the benefit, unwrap any bars and let them dry out for at least a week.



### Attention!

**W**3C's (Waldo Concerned Citizens for the Community) celebrate African American Heritage.

Saturday, February 28, 2015

This will be an all day event, starting at 10:00 a.m. There will be

1. Many Exhibits
2. Lots of Activities
3. Food Tasting

This will be a day you won't want to miss. This event will take place at the Waldo Community Center, 13550 NE 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Waldo.

Make plans to stay all day because you might miss something.

For more information you can contact:

- Larry O'Neal - 352-3001-2005
- Barbara Lee - 352-222-6685
- Chris Jackson - 352-468-3447
- Joe Lipsey - 352-682-1140
- Mary Ann Rich - 352-226-9610

### Toby's All In One: Camara Casson



Since new stores in Waldo don't pop up that often, buzz has been high surrounding

the new store in town. Owned by formerly retired businessman Toby Durden and his corporation Toby Durden Co., this new store is a mass distributor for massive companies such as Nutrena and Bass Pro Shops. After many citizens begged him to put a store in town, he happily came out of retirement and bought the old thrift store building across from the Waldo Hardware and Feed Store.

In this store, patrons can buy boots, clothes, bait, hardware, produce, swine feed, rabbit feed, horse feed, chicken feed, and dog feed. As time progresses, more products will become available with the addition of a grocery store that spans into the adjoining lot and into the buildings across the street that should be coming in sometime within the year. In addition to these new installments, Toby's All In One will be adding more community events to Waldo's calendar. Once a month, Toby Durden plans to hold an old school fishing tournament with nothing but rods and bait. Also, he will be holding monthly farmer's markets

where all Waldo citizens are welcome to come and sell their wares for a profit. Furthermore, to add to the owner's generosity, all of his proceeds from said farmer's market will be given to the Waldo Community School Safety Patrols. However, since all of these future tasks may prove to be daunting ones, the owner is seeking out additional employees to accomplish these events. To add to the complex coverage of items this store sells, starting the first week of January, there will be a fresh produce stand outside the store front.

Even though Toby's All In One may in time prove to be beneficial for Waldo's local economy, questions about the store's location were prompted due to the Waldo Hardware and Feed store being catty-corner from him. When questioned about such rumors, Toby Durden responded light-heartedly saying that "we feel there is room for everybody here!"

If you see a Burger King and look across the street, you will see a McDonald's. If you see a CVS and you look across the street you'll see a Walgreens. We are here to earn an honest dollar for an honest day's work, we are not trying to run anybody out of business."

That being said Toby's All in One official grand opening is January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015, but they are open now every day (Monday through Sunday), 8 AM to 6 PM.

All feed, clothing and hardware, even their famous boiled peanuts come with a money back guarantee.

**Line Dancing is Back!**

**M**ary Sue Rister is now offering Line Dancing lessons at the Waldo Community Center from 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm on Tuesdays beginning February 10.

Call her at 352-475-6278 for details.



## Letter to the Editor



It was so nice to see the interest of so many people on Veteran's Day. It is great that you had such a good response from your readers. It was also good to be reminded of how the day has changed. The more people are made aware of the sacrifices that were made for freedom, the better nation we will have.

My family went to see *Unbroken* and it was very good. It kept more or less to the true story, although much of the torture was left out. The harsh working conditions were portrayed, though.

We watched the Rose Bowl Parade today, and as you know Zamperini was to be the Grand Marshall. They showed several pictures of him, had a riderless horse and mentioned him a number of times.

The new year is starting off great for me. It is an honor to be included in your publication.

– **Nick, OHIO**

I had forgotten the "Attitude" story.....thanks for reminding me. I just LOVE a great attitude, though I don't always have one

– **MSR, Melrose**

Another wonderful issue.

– **Ann - Gainesville**

## Christmas at the Caboose:

**Camara Casson**

**O**n Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, the city of Waldo put on their annual Christmas at the Caboose party.

The fun was present for people of all ages. At the caboose, children ages up to twelve year olds were allowed to meet Santa and some of his elves, then they were each given a gift bag full of presents and a bag of candy.

This year, there were over 250 men, women, and children who arrived to partake in this event, 100 of whom were children. This was one of the best turnouts of Waldo citizens within the past few years.

At the caboose, everyone was allowed to participate in trivia questions about Christmas for select prizes. Also, at the end of the night, the city raffled off toys such as princess castles, bikes, and skateboards.



## A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME by Lucy Roe Cook

**H**ere we are in the month of February, the month of love. This little bird was told by Lucy Roe Cook, "I remember when my Mum would bring out lovely paper she had saved through the year. I would, with her advice, make valentines for special ones in my life.



I made one for my grandmother with crepe paper that would, when folded like an accordion, not only look beautiful but would spring open and delight the recipient.



I remember the special box wrapped in valentine paper that she kept, a special Christmas Card, and wrapping paper. Sometimes groceries would have special paper wrapping. This was a very special time for me in my life."

WHS member Melanie Aultman contacted Penny Dodd and Lucy Roe Cook about a New York couple who were looking for information about their Sparkman roots in Waldo. They enjoyed showing where their family lived long ago and a cemetery where some of their loved ones were located. This is one of the rewarding aspects of the Waldo Historical Society.





## OBITUARIES

### **DESHA KRAMA FAY, 88**

Krama Fay DeSha passed away 1/5/2015.



B o r n 4/5/1926 in Waldo, FL, reared by his father's sister & husband, Arthur and Mae DeSha Stevens

whom he regarded as his parents.

Survived by his beloved wife of 70 years Rosamond; son, Larry; two daughters, Sandra Wilde and Brenda Freeman; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

DeSha served as a radioman (RM2C) in the US Navy in WWII on the USS Lavaca in the South Pacific. He graduated from Stetson University, Southern Seminary, & received his Doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary.

He was a faithful servant of God with a pastoral heart. He began preaching in 1945, ordained as a minister 6/12/1949, & retired in 1989 after a 23 year ministry in FBC, WG.

### **HARLAN, MADGE OVERSTREET, 90**

Mrs. Madge Overstreet Harlan of Gainesville passed away Friday, January 2, 2015. She was born September 23, 1924, at Otter Creek, Florida to John E. and



N a o m i R o b i n s o n Overstreet, and grew up in Waldo where her father was employed by

Seaboard Railroad. The family moved to Gainesville in 1940. Madge graduated from Gainesville High in 1942 and from Florida State College for Women in 1946, one of the last three classes before men were admitted there.

Madge married William E. Harlan in August, 1946, and they lived in Gainesville the rest of their lives. She was a member of First Baptist Church, and she taught preschool at Three Bears House Nursery School and its successor, Gainesville Country Day School, for over 20 years.

Madge was predeceased by her husband, Bill, in 2004. She is survived by two sons, Bill Jr. (Betty) of Micanopy, and John (Kati) of Orange Lake, and four grandchildren, Jay Daniel, Samuel Martin, Elizabeth Estelle and Katherine Natalie, all of Gainesville.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in her memory to the Gainesville Country Day School Preschool Library Fund, 6801 SW 24th Avenue, Gainesville 32607, or the Bill Harlan Scholarship Endowment at the University of Florida Foundation, Inc., PO Box 14425, Gainesville 32604

### **LEWIS, ALICE, 88**

Mrs. Alice Lewis, age 88, passed away December 31, 2014 at

North Florida Regional Medical Center. She was a member of Simmon Grove Bethelite



Baptist Church where she served as Sunday School Teacher for over fifty years; she was a member of the Mothers' Board, Choir member, and Church Announcer.

She was also a member of the Community Choir, The Sunday Morning Band, and Order of Eastern Star. Mrs. Lewis worked at Sunland Training Center (now Tacachale), for several years.

After leaving Sunland, she was a Foster Grandparent at Waldo Elementary School where she received an award for her Teaching.

She is survived by her nephew; Willie Williams (Marie), and

god-son, Anthony Williams, Hawthorne, FL.

### **MERCER, KENNETH E., 82**

Kenneth E. Mercer, age 82 of Gainesville, passed away Thursday, January 1, 2015.

He was born February 7, 1932 in Moultrie, Georgia to Arthur David and Tessie Lee Plymel Mercer.

He was owner of Ken Mercer used cars in Fairbanks for years. He was a U.S. Army Veteran. He loved Nascar, hunting and fishing.

He is survived by his children, Dan Mercer (Marilynn), Dwayne Mercer (Darla), Doug Mercer (Robin, Diane Lewis-Douglas (Joe); sisters, Carol Weldon, Wannaruth Walker; twelve grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations maybe made to Haven Hospice of North Central Florida, 4200 NW 90<sup>th</sup> Boulevard, Gainesville, FL 32606.

### **PONS, ATICHIE PEARL**

Mrs. Atichie Pearl Pons, 96, longtime resident of Gainesville, Florida, died Tuesday, January 6, 2015, in the E.T. York Hospice Care Center, following a long illness. Mrs. Pons was born on August 26, 1918, in Raiford, Florida, to the late Thomas and Hattie Dowling, and had lived in Gainesville, her entire life. She was a homemaker and a member of the Waldo Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Nell Pons in 1978, and by three children, Mary Louise Gillan, Fred Pons, Jr., and James Benny Pons.

Survivors include; four daughters, Joyce P. Stevens, Martha P. Buxton, Maybell P. Bryant, and Mamie P. Johns; two sons, Wm. 'Pete' Pons, and Richard Pons, all of Gainesville; one sister, Ida McClendon, of Jacksonville. Twenty-five grandchildren and numerous great and great-great grandchildren also survive.

# 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

## February Birthdays

1 Sarah Edmondson	11 Dominic Bryne
1 Helen Knupp	11 Benjamin Burnsed
1 Dala Andrijanoff	12 Tracy Cawley
3 Brandon Freeman	12 Destiny Harrison
3 Linda Wise	15 Annalee Tidwell
4 Cindy Woolwine	15 Anthony Mauldin
6 Bill Fellingner	15 Kymberly Brannon
7 Shirley Ford	22 Luella Roberts
9 Jucas Armitage	22 Helen Dority
10 Tom Combs	23 Sandra Fellingner
	27 Bill Dees



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Mid-week service  
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taught by Minister Bernard Carter  
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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 4<sup>th</sup> 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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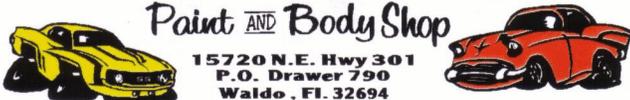


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Size	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
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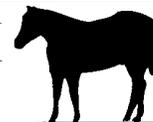
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