



The Waldo Phoenix



FREE - TAKE ONE!

Volume Six - Issue 11, January, 2016

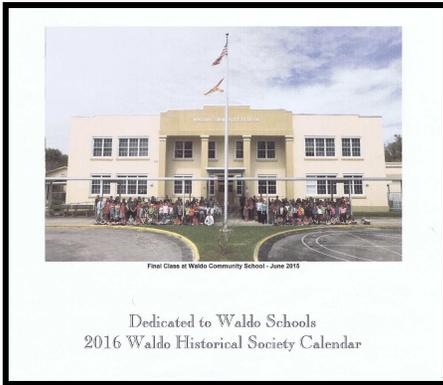
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History of Waldo Schools 2016 Calendar by Penny Dodd



was in 2006. The more we discussed this calendar idea, the more we thought it might be well received by the people who were so hurt by the closing of our school. It would also be an historic document.

We had no idea at that time, how little information had previously been gathered. The Waldo Community School, the Alachua County School Board, the Alachua County Library and the Matheson Museum had absolutely no collections regarding Waldo's schools. There were no photos of the Principals and teachers. No lists of school buildings, dates of attendance. Nothing. We wondered why the School Board, at least, had no record of any Principals, or history of any schools. Our work was cut out for us.

We then realized that the Waldo Historical Society, had gathered more information about the Waldo schools than any other organization. We had documents and photos in our files that apparently no one else had. But what we had was minimal, and we realized we had no where near enough to fill a twelve month calendar.

A few members of the WHS, who we refer to as the "busy bees," because we are the few who actually work on our projects, meet for breakfast every Friday morning at different restaurants in Starke, Melrose and Gainesville. I think these meetings are what

make us so successful as a club, as this is when we discuss and "show and tell" our projects in the works. We have such a talented, diverse group. Everyone has a talent that adds to our success.

We wracked our brains, trying to think of some place that might have more information. We thought we might find photos in yearbooks, so went to the Alachua County library, but found they had none. We contacted Mrs. Holly Burton, the last Principal of the Waldo school, who was now Principal at Shell Elementary School in Hawthorne, to see if she had any yearbooks there. She did.

So, we took a field trip to the Hawthorne School to see what they had. They were very helpful, showing us all the Waldo yearbooks they had. We were lucky to gather a few photos.

This project was a giant jigsaw puzzle. The pieces of the puzzle were scattered everywhere. But they weren't even on the table yet, to be put together. We first had to find the pieces, and then figure out where they went.

We searched a copy of "East Side of Eden" a book written by Bettie V. DeSha about Waldo, which I had typed into my computer years ago, with the intent of re-publishing it. I found names of many early Principals, and some history of the early schools.

Secretary Linda Hall Vlacos grew up in Waldo, and attended Waldo Community School, so she

When the Alachua County School Board voted to close the last school in Waldo this year, the people were devastated. Drove of Waldo citizens had attended every School Board meeting for months, begging to save our school, which had been in use since 1923. But they closed it anyway.

Waldo's children would now be bussed to Shell Elementary School in Hawthorne. A long ride every morning and back again after school. Children would be required to leave earlier and arrive home later, leaving little time for local activities as was previously enjoyed.

As a member of the Waldo Historical Society, and basically the only member who is computer-oriented, I suggested that we might create a calendar for 2016 to include the history of all of Waldo's schools.

We hadn't done a calendar since 2013, as we'd run out of ideas for a "theme." The first one

had inside information regarding Principals. She searched the library in Gainesville, and having no luck there, she then searched the records at the School Board, with member, Mary Ann Rich, who knew someone there who knew someone who could help. Linda contacted the families of past Principals for photos and information. She was the drive behind this project, and kept us on schedule.

Mary Ann Rich was helpful in furnishing information about the Colored school in Waldo. She furnished photos of Principals and the actual school, which was burned in the 1998 fires in Waldo.

President Vera Mauldin is excellent at "fixing" photos that would otherwise be less than perfect. If not for Vera, one of our Principal's photo would have fingers on his neck and no right shoulder.

Board member Millie Keirnan is an excellent fund-raiser. She contacted most of the businesses who agreed to place an advertisement in the calendar, which substantially reduced our bottom line cost.

Board member Lucy Roe Cook has an eye for design and knew when the calendar pages "looked" right. Or not. She suggested moving some pieces of the puzzle to be more visually appealing.

This project took over six months of research, proof-reading, discussion and argument, finally determining how it would all go together. It obsessed us. And it upset us. The calendar project was always our top priority. Other projects were still being done, (the Waldo Phoenix, the Caboose, the meetings), as they needed to be

done, but the calendar took precedence.

Now it is finished. Finally. Everyone who worked on it is satisfied with it. It looks fantastic with a color cover - first time for that. It was a lot of hard work, but historically, it really needed to be done.

We need to give a huge Thank You to the UPS Store on NW 13th Street in Gainesville for the professional job they did putting the calendar together for us. We've never had a better-looking calendar. Thank you, UPS Store.

The Waldo Historical Society needs someone who has experience as a brick mason (to set engraved bricks). If you are interested and qualified, please call 352-468-1910 or send an email to: historicwaldo@gmail.com.

What Business Would You Like To See In Waldo?

By Bill Bryson

As a more recent member of the Waldo community, having moved here in 2009, I have taken interest in the town and its progress or deterioration as the case may be.

With the recent closing of the school and the dissolution of the police department, the trend seems to be leaning toward the latter. This doesn't have to be the case if the citizens of Waldo wish for our community to move forward with progress and prosperity.

But wishes won't manifest without direct action. Waldo has a lot to offer with available housing, close proximity to Gainesville, affordable land prices, commercial opportunities with the two highways running through town, available commercial properties, and our human resources.

At the same time it is lacking some essentials, including a grocery with fresh foods available, services like dry cleaning, barber/hair stylist, daycare, quality restaurants, among other small businesses.

We have a small population so it is difficult to operate a successful business relying solely on the population of Waldo. Perhaps it is time for some collective visioning to see what people may imagine Waldo becoming, what it might take to make that a reality, and the resources and personnel necessary to make that happen.

The mayor, city council and city manager are all committed to making Waldo a better place to live. Most of the pieces are in place to see this through.



I recently bought the building at 14650 NE Waldo Rd (formerly Casa Las Brujas) at auction, with no set plan for what to do with it. I'd like to put it to the people of Waldo to let me know what you might like to see in this space. Think about what the community needs, what you desire, and I'll be happy to listen to all suggestions.

I am seeking a tenant who has a like-minded perspective on using our resources to serve the community in a way that contributes towards building a thriving community in Waldo, not one in decline.

I realize one building and one business cannot accomplish this on its own, but I think that it would be a good exercise to see what possibilities may exist for further progress.

People can contact me at bryson66@gmail.com

**Excerpt from the
December issue of
"Elementary School
Parents Newsletter" from
Shell Elementary School
Submitted by
Holly Burton**

Are you helping your child learn family history? Many people exchange gifts over the holiday season. While kids enjoy receiving gifts, they also enjoy being able to give gifts. Giving gifts can give your child a sense of pride. Does your child know that the most meaningful gifts don't have to cost money? They take time and come straight from the heart.

**The Editor of the
Waldo Phoenix would love
to include any family
histories written by Waldo
students.**

Share a few of the many ways your child can give gifts this holiday season. He can:

- Offer to do chores for an elderly neighbor.

- Record himself reading a book for a younger sibling to read along with.
- Make a list, such as "My 10 Best Memories With Grandpa."
- Do a chore for an entire month without whining.
- Play a favorite game with a family member or a neighbor who is home-bound.
- Record an audio or video message for a loved one who is far away.
- Bake cookies and deliver them to someone who may not receive many homemade gifts.
- Create a calendar for 2016 and decorate it with personalized artwork, one drawing for each month.

Source: B. Taylor, *What Kids Really Want that Money Can't Buy: Tips for Parenting in a Commercial World*, Warner Books. Learning about family roots is a great way to ignite a child's curiosity and bring history to life.

Answer yes or no to the questions below to see if you are helping your child learn more about your family:

- ___1. Do you share old family photos and family stories with your child?
- ___2. Do you prepare family recipes together? Preparing and sharing food is a great way to build traditions.
- ___3. Do you encourage your child to ask older family members about their memories of childhood?
- ___4. Have you looked on a map with your child to see the country or countries that her ancestors came from? Check out books about those countries when you go to the library.
- ___5. Are you keeping a scrapbook to preserve your

family's history? Keep photos and letters from older generations.

How well are you doing? More yes answers mean you are giving your child roots in family history. For no answers, try those ideas.

**A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME
by Lucy Roe Cook**

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Happy New Year.

With all the chaos in today's world try to find within yourself a calm time. Spend an hour and plan a trip on a train. Close



your eyes and listen to the rhythm of the rails. Walk the aisles to the club car. Enjoy others and enjoy a meal in the dining car and sit and enjoy the scenery along the way.

No expectations. Just relax and discover unexpected treasures. If you cannot go away for a time. read about places you would enjoy going to or write memories for your family. Have a friend over for coffee and dessert. Do not talk of problems but laugh and enjoy the time together. Let a new year be enjoyable, not a chore. Take time to relax. Turn off the clock in your mind even if just for a half hour.

Take advantage of the good things Waldo has to offer. Such as city park and the basketball court and the soon to be Waldo Historical Society Railroad Museum, the City Hall that is more than paying bills. Our library and community center. The churches and the many good people. We have a wonderful post

office where we meet more people than anywhere in town. The sign man says not to worry for he still has a bucket of paint.

Martin Luther King Day on January 15. He was only 39 when he died. He will be forever and always 39. Hard to believe all the good he did in such a short time.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with each of us toward one another.

OBITUARIES



CHALINE, EVA JANE



Mrs. Eva Jane Chaline, 83, longtime resident of Alachua, Florida, died Saturday, December 5,

2015, in the E.T. York Care Center, following a long illness.

Mrs. Chaline was born on November 3, 1932 in Gainesville, Florida, to the late Spencer and Rita Nail Dority. She grew up in Alachua, graduated from Alachua High School Class of 1951. Mrs. Chaline lived most of her adult life in Houston, Texas, and was married to the late Clarence Chaline, to whom she was wed for 55 years, prior to his death in 2009. She moved back to Alachua in 1988, and began a career with the Alachua County Clerk of the Court, until her retirement in 2008. She was a member of the Blackwelder Free Will Baptist Church, in Worthington Springs. Mrs. Chaline was an active woman, who loved to paint and even had her pilot's license.

She is survived by her 'adopted' son, Danny (Jill-Renay)

Bennett, and her grandchildren, Catie and Sara Bennett, all of Cocoa, FL; two brothers, Ernest (Helen) Dority, of Waldo and Winston (Angie) Dority, of Alachua; two sisters, Rita (Joe) Tillis, of Graham and Lorena Witt, of Alachua; along with a host of nieces and nephews.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**www.williamsthomas
funeralhome.com
352-376-7556**

JOHANNESSEN, HELEN



Helen Johannesen was born to Bill and Violet Richburg on November 27, 1927, joining her big sister Armie Lee

known as Lee Richburg. They lived their lives between Cedar Key, Florida and Ft. Pierce, Florida. Having a great childhood with lots of Cousins, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Friends and outdoor activities.

Helen met and married Leif Johannesen, who took her on many great adventures including raising three children, Pam (Ted) Alexander, William (Teresa) Johannesen, and Kim (Malcolm) Worley.

She had many grandchildren and great grands that were the light of her life. Helen also had lots of nieces, nephews and cousins to round out her family life. Family was very important to her, you did not have to be blood related, if she bonded with you then you became family! Besides being a Mom, Sister, Daughter, Nanny, Grandma, Aunt and friend Helen's other favorite job was owning and running

Helen's Place on the Big Dock in Cedar Key Florida, where we think the mullet burger, shrimp burger, clam burger and crab burger were all invented. She also had great hamburgers, fries, onion rings, fish squares, ice cream and shakes. She was well known for her style and her positive disposition. People from all over loved her. She had true beauty, grace and glamour.

She was a special lady. She was loved dearly and will be missed greatly by all who ever knew her. We know the Angels sang when she entered those pearly gates and that we will see her again one day!! Ms. Helen was laid to rest in Cedar Key, Florida on Monday December 14, 2015.

Be Happy or Be Gone by Ben Campen



When I was in high school at P.K. Yonge, I loved playing football. It was my game! In the fall, I lived, breathed and ate football! But, since my father had past, I spent my summers working whatever jobs I could find to help make my way. Before my senior year, my mother remarried, and she let me stay in the Campen homestead on my own. That summer I worked at the W. T. Grant store and had a second job working construction of the new Post Office and Federal Building in Gainesville. After my construction job ended at 3:30, I would drive back home to Waldo, shower, put on slacks, and drive back to

Gainesville where I would clock-in at 5 and work till closing.

Because there was no money for this luxury of living alone from my mother, I needed those jobs to pay bills and have enough money to take my girlfriend to the movies. And when school started in the fall, I decided to give up my beloved football and keep working at W.T. Grant. Practices and games just didn't mesh with my work schedule.

The night of our school's first football game, I was able to get off work and attended the game. It about ate me up watching my friends out there playing the game I loved! Sitting there in the stands, I knew I just had to give up the job and get back on the team.

The next morning, I went to the store manager and gave him two week notice so I could play football my senior year. His immediate reply was, "Go ahead and clock out now." Surprised, I replied, "I'm happy to give you two weeks' notice. I don't want to leave you in the lurch!" To that he said, "Never forget this young man. When someone wants to leave, they need to leave immediately! If you aren't happy somewhere – you need to be gone!" And he was right. It's doubtful that my job would have been very much on my mind because I really wanted to be elsewhere. My happy place was the football field, not W.T. Grant.

In my 30 years of owning markets and malls, I've had hundreds of employees, thousands of vendors, along with thousands upon thousands of customers. "Be Happy or Be Gone" is the cornerstone in my business philosophy. I believe that if anyone

is unhappy at our facility, they should not be there. Of course, we do our best to see if there is some reasonable way to make the person "be happy," but if that doesn't work, they should "be gone."

An unhappy employee is a cancer to the culture and productivity of a business. Their negative energy eats away at other employees and very likely makes them unhappy too. For certain, you are not doing an unhappy employee any favors by keeping them in your business. If they are unhappy working for you, give them the opportunity to find a place to work that they enjoy and find fulfilling!

And you may not know this, but you can "fire" an unhappy customer. We do everything we can to make our customers happy, but every once in a while, a customer will come into one of my businesses that is just not happy and there is no way to make them happy. In particular, if a customer is disruptive or verbally abusive, we will escort them to the door and tell them not to return. It is not worth any amount of money to let the poison of a person like that be inside your business.

Be Happy or Be Gone ensures a happy environment for our wonderful employees and customers who are glad to be there!

To take this one step further, the same is true in our daily lives.

When difficulty comes my way, I see if I can do something to transform unhappiness into happiness. If you recall in last week's article, we talked about navigating the roadblocks in life by finding another path. If I can find

a path from difficulty to happiness in a situation, I'm all about it.

But, if there is no happy resolution to the problem, then I, and I alone, need to be responsible enough to make a change. The truth is, the only person who really controls my happiness is me. I am the one that can either change my thoughts to see something differently or remove myself from an unhappy situation. It's the right thing to do and is beneficial to all concerned. Truly, we all can be happier by making the decision to either become happy with where we are or become happy by removing ourselves from an unhappy situation. It's our choice.

Be happy or be gone. By doing so, you can live a life of JOY.

Three Letter Word By Lois Nevins

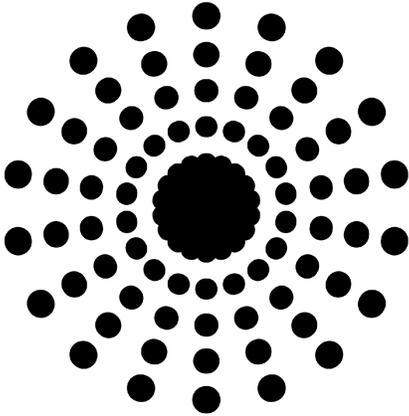
It's just a three letter word. Nothing banned on TV, radio or otherwise.

It's fun to kick around. You'll find it in the worlds of music, business, fashion, landscape, communication and foreigners as a starter. Mainly a noun, it also appears at times as an adjective and a verb.

So what is it and what do I mean? I have to chuckle over one of the classic skits in "Monty Python's Flyer circus." Michael Palin is a newscaster analyzing interpretation of a word. "What do I mean by word? What do I mean by what do I mean?"

Okay, the word is dot. Old English, a speck; Scottish "dottle," a small lump, says the dictionary. Further defined in Dutch as a small bundle; a small point or spot make with a pen; a precise point.

In Morse Code, a sound shorter than a dash. In music, a point marked after a note to indicate a measure of time value. Marked under or over a note



means to play staccato. A field is dotted with clumps of trees.

When a person arrives on time, he gets there on the dot. A dot on the map is a tiny town. Dorothy's nickname is Dot. Dotted Swiss is a cotton fabric with ornamental raised dots. Then in modern times, there are dot com, dot org and dot edu. To close a deal, the sign the dotted line. Curious foreigners utter, "Vot's dot?"

So, what my point – or what's my dot — to all this?

One day, while not wearing my glasses, I discovered a tiny black dot on the kitchen floor. My cats, Cutie and Smoochie, were batting it around. I pondered. Was it a little felt pad from the bottom of the Scotch tape dispenser? A chunk of dirt? Marilyn Monroe's mole?

I put on my glasses and the plot thickened. It appeared to be a gadget with curious inscription. Finally, with the aid of a magnifying glass, I determined it was a squashed raisin.

Many years ago, I pinch hit for my buddy journalist Bill on a

business newspaper. I was assigned to writing headlines for local news stories. There was an important item about a greatly beneficial emerging program under way with the Department of Transportation.

I couldn't resist the temptation. I wrote "DOT's Nice."

Now, I'll start a sentence, and you can fill in the final word. Ready?

Connect the

Old bikes become new gifts

Hampton Veterans Memorial Fund has teamed up with the Bradford County Sheriff's Office to collect old bikes in good or bad shape to be repaired and donated to a local child. Donors can call Rusty or Joan Suco at 904-612-8001 or 904-772-4021 to arrange for pickup.

RANDOM FACTS

Since this is the first month of a new year, how about a little calendar trivia today? Here are a few things about the calendar I bet you didn't know...

January: named after Janus, the god of doors and gates

February: named after Februalia, a time period when sacrifices were made to atone for sins

March: named after Mars, the god of war

April: from aperire, Latin for "to open" (buds)

May: named after Maia, the goddess of growth of plants

June: from junius, Latin for the goddess Juno

July: named after Julius Caesar in 44 B.C.

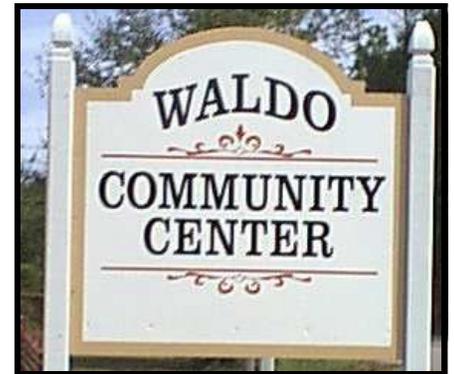
August: named after Augustus Caesar in 8 B.C.

September: from septem, Latin for "seven"

October: from octo, Latin for "eight"

November: from novem, Latin for "nine"

December: from decem, Latin for "ten"



Community Center News by Thelma Bay

As the old year closes out, all of us involved with the Community Center look forward to the new year.

We are grateful we have a place to come together, have a cup of coffee, a hot meal, play some games and just visit with each other.

Many thanks go to Kim Worley and all of the City Hall employees for their support of us in all ways and any way we need them.

During the new year, we hope to have several informative programs, a sewing class and some exercise programs. Be sure to read our column in the Waldo Phoenix for more details.

From all of us at the Center, we wish you and yours a Happy Holiday season and a Happy New Year.

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
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
Police or Fire Emergencies	911
Sheriff's Dept. 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 Historical Society	468-3503
Waldo Phoenix	468-1910
Windstream Phone repair	1-800-347-1991

January Birthdays

1 Marie Ankney	13 Javier Gutierriz
1 Jeremy Scott	14 Warren Cawley, Jr
2 Morgan Thurston	16 Bobby P. Hill
2 Mary Sue Rister	16 Malcolm Worley
5 Dylan Graham	17 Annie M. Mitchell
6 Bob Williams	17 Caleb Jacobs
7 Rebecca Burnsed	20 Evon Mauldin
7 Javanis Ross	21 Brianna Bedford
7 Mark Baun	21 Holly Burton
8 Shatisha Wilson	25 Kristen Brannon
8 Zylphia Walker	26 Susan Juszak
11 Donna Durden	28 John Henry Taylor
29 L'il P.J. Bedford	



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Rev. James W. Ramsey - Pastor
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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

5:45 - 6:15 pm Dinner

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

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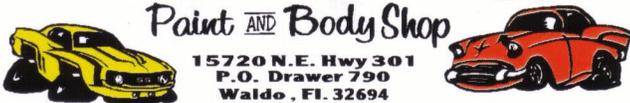
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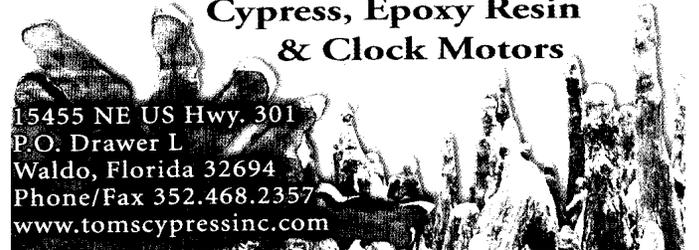
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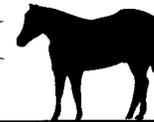
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