



THE WALDO PHOENIX



FREE - TAKE ONE!

Volume one - Issue one, March, 2010

Published by Waldo Historical Society, Inc.
Preserving Our Past

Welcome to the first issue of The Waldo Phoenix. When publication of the Waldo Crossing ceased, your Waldo Historical Society wanted to be sure we still had a way to stay informed about what's going on in Waldo. After much discussion, and lots of support from our local businesses and writers,, we are proud to say we have a new paper (newspaper?).

We will be publishing and distributing The Waldo Phoenix around Waldo and surrounding areas, and will soon also be available online.

Our reporters are geared up to keep you informed about everything you want to know about Waldo. Want the Church schedules? What's going on at the Library? City Hall updates? Community Center activities? We've got 'em. We will be serving up a regular history lesson each month, too. So - keep your latest issue nearby for handy reference.

Want to wish someone a Happy Birthday? Anniversary? Let us know about it. We'll be happy to include it for you! This is your paper. If you have news about Waldo - please let us know so we can spread the word.

You may be wondering why we chose Waldo Phoenix as the name of our new publication.

No creature symbolizes eternal life more than the Phoenix, a mythical bird known as much for its beauty as its immortality. The legend of the Phoenix appears in a variety of ancient mythologies, including Greek, Egyptian and Indian. It is usually depicted as an eagle or other bird of prey, but may also resemble a heron in its delicate majesty. In most mythologies, the Phoenix is associated with the rising of the sun and has a close relationship with the sun-god Ra. Another feature of the Phoenix is that only one can exist at a time. When it senses that its life is coming to an end - about once every thousand years - the Phoenix builds itself a funeral pyre made of cinnamon or other aromatic material and allows itself to be consumed by the flames. Then, as the old bird is reduced to ashes, a new one rises to begin its life on Earth. And thus The Waldo Phoenix was born.

YOUR POSTMASTER WANTS YOU TO KNOW.

We have recently changed our retail window hours. The new hours are Monday- Friday 9:30AM-12:30PM and 1:30PM - 4:00PM . If you need stamps and cannot make it to the post office before we close, call us and ask for a stamp request envelope. Our phone number is 468-1970. Whenever you receive your envelope, you can put your money in the envelope and drop it in our local mail slot or put it in your mailbox at home for your carrier. We will fill your order the next business day.



We also have a cell phone recycling collection box in the lobby. The old or used phones are refurbished and sent to military men and women overseas. A percentage of the proceeds also help in funding the Hampton Memorial Veterans Fund.

Here are some parting notes from your Postmaster. Forever stamps are still on sale. We have the full line of Priority Flat Rate boxes. We also have most 2009 Tax forms in the lobby open 24-7. Most importantly, THANK YOU for your business.

Your Postmaster - Jeremy Scott

Important Waldo Phone Numbers

City Hall	468-1001
(After Hours Water Emergency)	258-3110
Fire Department	468-1301
(Fire Emergencies)	Call 911
Police Department	468-1515
(Police Emergencies)	955-1818
Library	468-3298
Community Center	468-2336
Post Office	468-1170
Waldo Community School	468-1451

Historic Waldo - Bellamy Station

by Lucy Roe Cook



There was a time when Florida was young and unsettled and Waldo was called Bellamy Station. Bellamy Station was a French, American Indian settlement. English was not spoken here. As education and English speaking people came to the area Bellamy Station grew and the railroad came as the railroad did in an area young and growing. In 1853, the State General Assembly authorized a railroad to be built from Fernandina, Florida to Cedar Key, Florida that was to pass through Bellamy Station.

Mr. David Yulee built the rail through this area and commerce began. Mr. Yulee met Dr. Benjamin Waldo and the two became good friends. Mr. Yulee re-named Bellamy Station Waldo after his good friend. Now it was said that Dr. Waldo never set foot in Waldo. Dr. Waldo lived in Ocala. Possibly he passed through on the train and possibly he looked out the window to see this lovely town. But no, for then he surely would have visited Waldo.

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

March Birthdays

2	Michelle Gay
4	Jake & Emily Holcolm
5	Lena Gay
6	Peggy Dowling
7	Penny Dodd
7	Melvin Hill
9	Will Price
9	Ted Schweitzer
11	Dawn Scott
12	Dawn Summers

Waldo's Kids

Thelma Bay

I've missed you, dear readers! We've been out of circulation for a couple of months - get it? "*Out of Circulation?*"

Oh, well, it's an old newspaper joke.

Hopefully, all of you survived this extra cold weather we've had. Can you believe it? Several



mornings it was warmer in Chicago than it was in Waldo, Florida. Where is Global Warming when we need it?

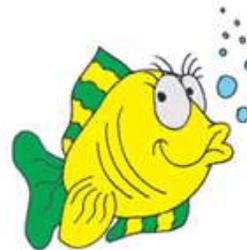
Now - for all of you who got through the cold weather, how are you doing with this virus that's going around? Everybody I know is sick, old people, children, and those of us known as spring chickens. My favorite saying is if it isn't one thing, it's two!

On February 17th, two of our local citizens were honored at a luncheon in Gainesville for their outstanding volunteer efforts at Waldo Community School. Clara Gutierrez and Betty Holton give and give and give of their time, talents and love to the students. We cannot thank them enough.

Until next month, try to stay well, be thrifty with your money and always look forward. There will be better times!

Fish Tales

by Buddy Thompson



Mr. Smith caught a 10 pound red bass while fishing at Cedar Key one weekend. When he got back home to Waldo, the fish was still alive in the live well of the boat. His

children thought the fish was so pretty, gold and a red spotted tail, they wanted to keep it and refused to let their father clean the fish.

The children put the fish into the bathtub full of water. At bath time the family took the fish out of the tub. Each week the fish could stay out of the water longer and longer. Soon, the fish could stay out of the tub all day and play in the yard with the kids. One day the family forgot and left the fish out in the yard when they went on a shopping trip to Gainesville. While they were gone, there came a very hard rain and drowned the fish.

POLICE ADVICE

Getting your Home ready for vacation

Call City Hall and advise City Hall that you are leaving so they can alert the police department (352) 468-1001. We will need a good contact number for you while you are gone in case there is an issue. Waldo Police will ride by and check the property. Chief Szabo is working on adding a form to our website.



Chief Szabo

Write up an itinerary of where you will be and the dates you will be gone. Be sure to include phone numbers you can be reached at in case of an emergency. Then make a couple copies and give them to a neighbor you know and trust. Give another copy to a family member or another friend. That way you will be doubly protected.

-Leave a house key with someone you trust, just in case they need to get in the house for you.

-If you are not taking the car, leave them a car key too. If you don't park in a garage, purchase a safety device to lock your steering wheel while you are away.

-Arrange with the post office to hold mail deliveries. They have forms you can fill out telling them when to stop deliveries and when to begin them again.

-If you have newspapers delivered to your home, make sure you call the newspaper and arrange for no deliveries on the days you are gone. Old newspapers, piled up outside of your home, are a sure sign no one is home.

-One alternative to the mail and newspaper delivery, is to have someone come over daily and bring in the mail and newspapers.

-Close your curtains so no one can look in. It is much more difficult for a possible intruder to tell if someone is actually in the house or not, if they can't look in the windows.

-Purchase a few light timers to set in a different rooms around the house. Set them to go on and off at random times. Even if your curtains are closed, light can be seen around the edges of the curtains.

-Don't waste unnecessary electricity when you aren't even there. Unplug things like microwaves with clocks, computers, and other items that are not needed while you are away.

-Double check all your windows and doors, even the smallest ones. Make sure they are locked and secure. If you do not have safety locks on your window, consider installing some. A simple and less expensive alternative is to buy doweling and cut it in pieces that fit in the window grooves,

to prevent someone from sliding them open. Consider installing deadbolt locks for outside entrance doors.

-If you have alarms for fire and burglary, make sure they are set properly and turned on. If you have a security company, notify them that you will be away.

-Turn your answering machine on so you don't miss important messages. If you have that option, make sure you retrieve them while you are gone, so the message box doesn't get filled up.

-Adjust your heater or air conditioner settings for the time you are away. If you are leaving pets in your home for someone to take care of, make sure you take them into consideration when adjusting the temperature settings. You want them to be comfortable while you are away.

-Arrange for pet care if you have pets you are leaving at home. Sometimes animals are more comfortable in their home environment, than at a kennel or someone else's home. If you are having someone come into your home to take care of pets, you might have them bring in the mail and papers, if you opt not to stop deliveries.

-Empty your garbage cans and clean out perishables from your refrigerator. You don't want to come home to rotten smells. Give anything that is still good, but won't be the by the time you get back, to a neighbor or friend.

-Keep areas around windows and entryways clear of excess plant growth. Keeping bushes and plants trimmed allows neighbors to see if any intruders are lurking near your home.

-Don't leave spare keys hidden in obvious places, like under door mats and in front door planter boxes.

-Don't talk about being gone on vacation out in public places before you leave. Anyone listening could pick up on that information.

-Consider joining a neighborhood watch program, so more eyes are looking out for your home while you are away at any time. This is a good program for all times, not just while you are away on vacation.

You want to come home to find everything safe and secure. These tips to prepare your home for vacation will help reduce your worry while you are away and help to ensure your home and belongings are protected

March Birthdays

12	Allan McCallister
12	Logan Minnix
13	Barbara Rainer Lee
14	Ed Juszak



**Waldo Community School News
by William Powell, Principal**

I am so pleased that the Historical Society has decided to create the publication of the Waldo Phoenix. This will allow us to let you know some of the great things that are taking place at Waldo Community School.

Our Running Club, sponsored by Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Schumacher, has been meeting for the past several weeks. Five of the members participated in the Kids Marathon for Life Race that was on the University of Florida Campus. It was exciting to see our young Warriors cross the finish line. They each received a beautiful medallion to wear and cherish for their efforts. We are proud of them.

The writing test (FCAT Writes!) was a few weeks ago. Our students put forth their best efforts and we are anxiously waiting for the scores to return. Chief E'lab Bor A TE' met with each student the day before the test to have individual pow-wows with them to encourage them to do their best.

The FCAT test for reading, math and science will take place March 8th – 19th. This test is for all students in grades 3-5. Teachers and all staff members have worked hard to give them the necessary skills to do the best they can on the exams.

Beginning next school year students will be coming to school in *The Waldo Wear* (school uniforms). You'll see our students wearing navy blue or khaki shorts, pants or skirts along with a navy blue or white polo shirt. Wednesday we will wear jeans and the school shirt. After taking a survey and examining the results, our SAC voted to adopt *The Waldo Wear*.

Kindergarten Round Up will be held on Wednesday, April 21st. I know this is still some time away, but it is a very important event. It affects the number of teachers that we will be able to hire. If you know of anyone who has a child entering Kindergarten next year, please inform them of this important date.

Our PBS (Positive Behavior Support) Program is doing very well. Students earn Tribe Tokens when they make good choices. The tokens can be exchanged at the Trading Post for items of interest to them. They can also save them for a special PBS event which is held about every six to nine weeks.

Last Friday we had a movie in our auditorium complete with popcorn and drinks. It was a wonderful event!

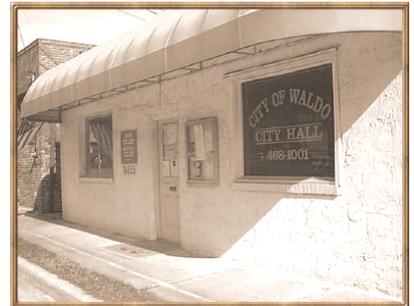
Please feel free to call or come by if you have any questions about our school. We have four rocking chairs on our front porch and welcome you to come read with a child.



Fourth Grader Jeremy Medina meets with Chief E'lab Bor A TE'

**City of Waldo News
Kim Worley
352-468-1001**

**Hours: Monday – Friday
8AM – 5PM
Closed for lunch
12:00n-1:00pm**



There is a mail slot in the door of City Hall to receive utility payments after hours.

City of Waldo holds their City Council meeting on the second Tuesday of every month. We also have the 4th Tuesday on hold if another meeting is required. There are also special meetings from time to time. Notices are posted at City Hall, The Waldo Post Office and the Waldo Library.

CENSUS

Why is it so important to the City of Waldo? The Census gives the State of Florida the population numbers for the State of Florida. Tax monies and grant opportunities are based on population. The information requested by the Census and given to the Census takers or on the forms can **ONLY** be used for the census. It is **AGAINST the LAW** for the information to be used for any other purpose. If you have not received a census form in the mail and/or need help filling out the information please feel free to come to City Hall for help.

RECREATION

Softball and Baseball sign ups are underway. If you have any recreation questions please call Recreation Director Erika Smith -352-258-3045.

FEES: TBall/Rookie Ball \$45.00, Baseball \$60.00, Softball \$60.00. Registration Forms are available at City Hall Checks need to be made out to Waldo Area Recreation.

Revved Up Humor

A school principal received a phone call. The squeaky voice said, "Thomas Bradley will not be in school today." The principal was suspicious of the voice and asked, "Who is calling?" In a lower tone, the voice said, "My father."

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The girl was having a bad day. She plopped down on the couch to do a bit of complaining and self-pitying. She griped and moaned to her brother, "Nobody loves me. No one cares. The whole world hates me . . ."

Her brother, busy playing a video game, hardly looked up and gave her this encouraging word: "That's not true. Some people don't even know you."

**A Little Bird Told Me . . .**

**Lucy Roe Cook**



**W**e have a citizen of Waldo who needs your prayers and good wishes. Marilyn Taylor, Director of the Waldo Community Center has fallen ill and is at this time home recuperating. You can reach her daughter Monique Taylor at the Waldo Community Center, 468-2336. Continue to heal Marilyn, for you are missed.

Vera Mauldin was visited by her son Keith Mauldin and Granddaughter, Evon, of two years, last week. Now is she a happy girl?

A Little Bird told me that the 301/24 Coffee Shop at the old Waldo Bank Building is hosting a Food and Chefs day for local growers and Chefs to come together to get restaurants buying more locally grown produce. It will be Saturday, March 20th, 2010. Stop on by and have a good time and enjoy homegrown produce. Call for more information: 468-1125.

The Waldo Historical Society had a meeting January 28th and this Little Bird saw Ginger Andrews pass the Presidential Gavel over to our newly elected president, Millie Keirnan. The office of Secretary also changed hands from Vera Mauldin to Marylyn Thompson. A special thank you to Millie and Marylyn for stepping in to fill the need.

It seems that membership is growing fast with the Waldo Historical Society as the new president is out there and she is an over achiever, and I can tell you that you best have your wallet open. Keep smiling.

The Waldo Historical Society's Breakfast Bunch was seen having breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, ham, biscuits, grits, oatmeal and etc. at El Molino's Mexican Restaurant. Laughter and fun was going on there.

Vic Ankney's sister, Melda Heming, of Ligonier, Pennsylvania is visiting for two weeks. Vic and his wife, Marie are having a good time remembering when.

A Little Bird told me that four ladies from Waldo were seen in Melrose last week where they joined a quilting class. Why they wanted to do this eludes this Little Bird for I have seen a Historic Quilt made by these same women. Umm? You can look forward to seeing this quilt one day hanging in the Waldo Historic Museum. Look forward also to the coming of a Railroad Museum in the Caboose.

Does Waldo know that a few more days of cold are coming back just when this Little Bird has seen people cutting out the dead from flower gardens and yards in anticipation of Springs new growth? . But don't ruffle your feathers, Spring will come I hear. It was told to this Little Bird, by the sign man at the old Cigar Factory that Global warming must be a Hoax or that it is, "Slow in Waldo."

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**March Birthdays**

- 17 Karen Keirnan
- 17 Maria McCallister
- 18 Gwendolyn Price
- 19 Rance Dortch
- 20 Amir Jackson
- 20 Christian Mauldin
- 20 Dawn Ankney
- 21 Steve Howard
- 22 Marc Howard
- 27 Julio Gutierrez
- 31 Jason Tidwell

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**Open Tuesday - Sunday**

**11:00 am - 9:00 pm**

**Closed Monday**

***Come Enjoy our Weekend Breakfast***

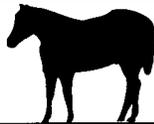
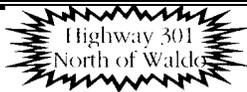
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