



The Waldo Phoenix



FREE - TAKE ONE!
Volume Six - Issue 3, May, 2015
A 501(c)3 Corporation

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W.H.S. News by Penny Dodd

Last month we included an article in the Phoenix about the speakers that were scheduled to be at the Waldo Community Center.

I have attended the meetings every Thursday at 10 a.m. and am happy to report that these meetings are wonderful. I hope more of you will attend in the future, as you are missing a lot of great information.

I actually thought I probably wouldn't learn anything, but I was so wrong. The first speaker was Mr. John Power, Tax Collector. He took Mr. Von Fraser's position.

Mr. Power was very good at telling us what his department does, and answered lots of questions. He explained that your motor vehicle registration actually expires ON YOUR BIRTHDAY - not at the end of the month, as I, and others mistakenly thought.

He also talked about your property taxes, and how to acquire properties with unpaid taxes. Overall, a very good use of my time.

There will be a new speaker every Thursday through May, and I encourage you to attend.

Don't forget about our Birthday Party in June. We'll have lots of cake and ice cream and punch. Everyone in Waldo is welcome and children must be accompanied by an adult.

We'll have displays of projects we have completed since we incorporated in July, 2005, and people available to share what we are planning for the future of the W.H.S.

We'll have copies of our past calendars at discounted prices, so this is the time to get any that you might have missed when they were new.

Now is the time to bone up on your Waldo trivia, too. We'll have questions that even we don't know the answers to. So maybe you can help us out.

You may have noticed that we now are a 501(c)3 organization, which means that donations made to the Waldo Historical Society are tax-deductible. So all you wonderful people who have been holding off of donating a building for us to use as an historical museum, now is the time to do that.



The Waldo Concerned Citizens for the Community celebrated the Legacy of Historically Black Schools, African American Teachers and Railroad Men at the Waldo Community Center on February 28, 2015.

We wish to thank all of those who helped with this event, including Buddy Thompson (Cane

Syrup), Theresa Adams (Tea's Chirren) Randy Adams (The Wayward Potter), Jermaine Ferguson (Turpentine Production), The Robert Lee Hill Collection of Artifacts, The Samuel Sanders collection Documenting Black History through Newspaper articles and The Catherine Rivers collection documenting the life of her Grandmother who lived 106 years.



Frank Williams, Billie (Hall) Williams (last teacher at Waldo Colored School), Louie and Diana Davis

Thank you, too, to the City of Waldo Mayor, Louie Davis, who welcomed everyone to the event, Bernard Carter, for the Invocation, The Waldo Historical Society and the City of Waldo.

The menu consisted of Pig Feet (Maryann Rich), Gizzards and Rice (Larry O'Neal), Jelly Cake (Flossie Albert), Greens and Cornbread (Christine Mays), Neck Bones and Coon (Christine Mays), Biscuits (Gussie Rutledge), Chicken (Lorraine Carter), Okra and Tomatoes (Bertha Platt/Christine Mays), Cane (Catherine Hill), Blackeye Peas (Chanita Ross), Plain Rice (Christine Hill), Chicken and Rice (Martha Wilson), Potato Salad (Shirley Ford), Yams (Thelma Bay), Sweet Potato Pie (Joe Lipsey).



OBITUARIES

ROSA LEE ALSTON 81



Mrs. Rosa Lee Alston, age 81, passed away March 19th, 2015 at Signature Health Care of Gainesville.

Mrs. Alston was a member of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

She is survived by her children, Richard Alston, Herbert Alston, Ocie Mae Parker (Sidney), all of Gainesville, FL, Donald Warren (Priscilla), Dover, DE, Leonard Alston, Tampa, FL; siblings, Benjamin Cotman, (Ernestine Kellum) Tampa, FL, Cleveland Woodard (Ellen), Waldo, FL, Hubert Graham, (Pat Demps 'Slim'), Willie Mae Mays (Willie), Jacquelyn Gent (McArthur), all of Gainesville, FL, twenty grandchildren, and eighteen great grandchildren.

MARY RAULERSON COUCH 97

Mary Raulerson Couch, 97, formerly of Gainesville, Fl. Recently



residing at the Spring's in Sarasota Fla. passed away peacefully on Friday April 10, 2015.

She was born in Waldo, Florida to Hardy M. Raulerson and Anabelle Sullivan in 1918. She was a graduate of Gainesville High School. She married Charles Couch and together they raised a family

and ran the business of Couch's Electronics.

She is survived by her sons, Raymond Couch (Mary) and Henry Couch (Debbie), and her six grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

She was a beloved member of First United Methodist Church of Gainesville. Volunteered at the Alachua General Auxiliary, and was active in Eastern Star. She was an avid college football fan with the 'Gators as her number one time followed by the Gamecocks and Bulldogs. She was mom to all the kids in the neighborhood. She was known as a gracious southern lady considerate, kind, loving and thoughtful by the healthcare professionals and staff who cared for her in more recent times.

ALVIN WAYNE SMITH 69



Lake Butler - Mr. Alvin Wayne Smith, 69, was the chief of police in Waldo for 17 years, and before that he served 30 years with the Gainesville

Police Department. He was born in Beckley, West Virginia. Mr. Smith was a member of the Elks Lodge in Gainesville. He is preceded in death by his father Fred Dewey Smith.

He is survived by his loving wife of 15 years, Tammi Westfall Smith; son, Richard M. Smith of Waldo and mother, Oleda Beatrice Smith.

NEW CITY HALL HOURS
Effective June 1, 2015:

7:30am to 6:30pm Monday thru Thursday, Closed Friday.
Closed for lunch 12:00n-1:00pm

After Hours Water or Sewer Emergency 352-258-3110 or 352-258-6921

Cartoonist Wanted!

Are you a budding cartoonist? We are looking for someone to submit a Waldo-related cartoon each month for publication in the Waldo Phoenix.

Cartoon must be submitted to Waldo Phoenix, P.O. Box 459, Waldo, Florida 32694 - or - email to historicwaldo@gmail.com

This could be a great way to become a famous cartoonist.

A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME by Lucy Roe Cook

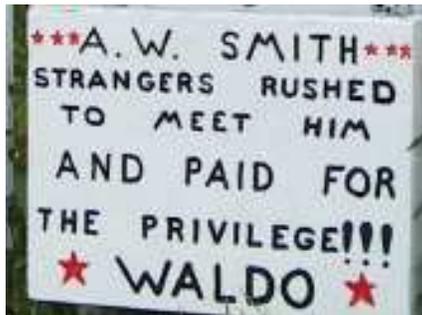


Here it is the beautiful month of May. March blew in with fury for the Mauldin family on Cracker Hill. Vera Mauldin had 20 people living in her home. If love is needed it can be found there on Cracker Hill. God leads the way.

April showers lead the way to the beautiful flowers of May. This little bird hears that Lucy Roe Cook's Grandson is now 15 and will always be a flower in her heart. Welcome all of the flowers born to the month of May.

There is also loss in any given month. A.W. Smith This Little Bird will miss him and the kindness he showed to so many.

A. W. was there when needed for the business owner The WHS was helped by him in so many ways. He had a good sense of humor. He enjoyed the signs put out by B. R. Cook at the old cigar factory.



To all of those experiencing loss may you find comfort with the love of family and friends. God bless.

The caboose is nearing completion. Mr. Tom Rigney donated his labor and he and his

wife Katherine donated the fabric for the conductor seats and the benches. They are wonderful. Thank you Tom and Kate.

The WHS is giving a 10th year celebration of the founding of the Waldo Historical Society. There will be free ice cream and cake and plenty of punch. The WHS wants to acquaint you with the accomplishments made in the past, present and those planned for the future. Look for the dates and time in the Phoenix.

SOS for the school. So many people are working to Save Our School. A community needs a school. Thanks to those who give their all to better our community.

Could be that when you meet someone on the street you need to treat them as though their hearts are breaking for chances are they are. See you around the bend.



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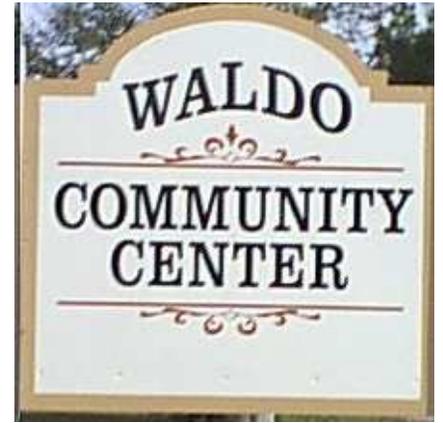
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Repossession • Other Consumer • Social Security
Food Stamps/WAGES • Unemployment Benefits
Wills • Probate • Education • Health Access
Domestic Violence & Family Safety

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For a free appointment to see if we can help, call our toll free number 1-866-256-8091

Applicants must meet Federal Poverty and TRLS Priority Guidelines



Community Center News by Thelma Bay

For those of you who came to our April programs, I say "Thank You." We had guest speakers with valuable information to share with everyone.

Coming up in May, we have an arts and craft day on Thursday, May 14 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Come join us and decorate a canvas tote bag. The tote bags are free so just bring your decorations - buttons, ribbons, lace, etc. My daughter, Paula, will come to help us and she's just great at this stuff!

On Thursday, May 21st, we will have a presentation by Riverwood Health and Rehabilitation Center, located in Starke. They are bringing in health professionals for wellness checks and to answer any health questions you might have. They are also bringing in a catered lunch so mark your calendars for 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. May 21st.

Don't forget - if 60 or older, you can sign up for a free noon meal.

There is a small amount of paperwork to fill out - no financial questions are asked. Come see me at the Center.



Don't forget to attend the final two School Board meetings at Kirby Smith: May 5 and May 19 at 6 p.m. Please plan to attend these meetings. We need to save our school.

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Following is a history of Waldo Community School. Hopefully, this will not be the end of life for our school.

- 1922 - Waldo's fourth school building erected
- 1925 - When Seaboard Coastline extended tracks to Miami and made Waldo the main junction between the east and west coasts, Waldo enlarged school to 12 room with an auditorium. First part of Waldo Community school built c1920.
- 1926 - 8/13/26 Cornerstone Ceremony 6/13/26 - Contract for School Auditorium. Cost \$13,150.
- 1929 - June, 1929 Waldo High School Graduated First Class
- 1930 - 77 Pupils in First Three Grades. One Additional Teacher Approval.
- 1932 - Marvin Birt and M. Bartley Given Transportation Contracts on "Truck Routes for Waldo District 24
- 1933 - Vester Youngblood 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Student featured in

- newspaper for agriculture Lima Bean Project.
- 1945 - Waldo High School Girls Softball Team competes in Senior High Softball League
- 1948 - Group from Waldo opposed closing High School. 389 people signed petition, but high school classes discontinued in 1955, went to GHS. (Like many communities, fought consolidation to the bitter end).
- 1949 - Blue Devils 1949 Football champs coached by Marvin Hodges
- 1954 - Concrete block cafeteria added
- 1954 - Cafeteria and Heating contracted \$50,797
- 1955 - 8/23 School Board approves transfer of Students grades 9-12 to G.H.S.
- 1967 - School integrated
- 1975 - 2/28 150 Waldo parents protest closing of the elementary school
- 1976 - Mrs. Hankin's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade featured in the newspaper for political rally
- 1981 - School Roof replaced
- 1983 - Computer hook-up
- 1985 - Head Start begins at Waldo Community School
- 1997 - Governor Lawton Chiles visits school - 254 students including head start
- 2003 - October 23 Annual Fall Festival. Principal Dewitt Lewis

## Remembering History and Looking to the Future

by Bob Haines

Recently I attended a church Homecoming and a funeral of a life-long acquaintance on the same day. Many, many memories welled up both in my mind and in my heart, while at the same time thinking that within a few short years, maybe even months the experiences and events of these people will be gone forever, remembered no more. Then, too, the artifacts and things those people loved will also be gone, many to be given away, sold, discarded, and maybe even burned.



When I think of history, some things come to mind. First, I think that history is, in some sense, personal. History is about people, who they were and what they did. It is about how they paved the way for you and I. Secondly, history is about struggle, the struggle to overcome obstacles and to make life better, not only for themselves, but for everyone. Thirdly history is full of both successes as well as mistakes and failures and we should remember and honor both and I believe it is the latter that teaches us most because it is the mistakes and failures that leads to success.

As young people, we most likely didn't pay much attention to history. I took history courses in both high school and college, but honestly I learned little to nothing. By the way, if one would say we

"studied" history, I would guess that most of us only studied in order to pass tests. We did not study to learn. Now that I am older, and my memories even increase as days go by, i now want to study to enjoy it as well as to learn from it, and maybe pass it on when I get chances to, to my children and whoever will listen.

There are two instruments today that help in both remembering the past and in sharing memories and data of the past. The first is the personal computer and the power of the internet to store and share information. Second is the social media, and for me, the use of Facebook. People use Facebook for many reasons and so do I, but one of the main uses for me is to share photographs, documents, and personal stories with family and friends while at the same time simply posting this stuff preserves it.

There are many internet sites and Facebook pages and groups dedicated to the preservation and sharing of historical information and I find these exciting. I belong to some and I have created some, primarily on Facebook. I have personally been responsible to bring hundreds of people together and reacquainted via the creation of these groups which have led to reunion events. I have seen people that I have not seen in 50 years, more or less. One old military friend gave me a hat that I had left with him while stationed in Pakistan 50 years ago.

As we chat with these old friends, our memories are made clearer and sometimes we re-remember something we had long ago forgotten and the

friendship is even stronger today than it was then. Sometimes, though, as we learn about the old friend, we find we have little or nothing in common now as we have both changed in so many ways and it is too difficult to overcome those differences in order to connect well. And, sometimes we simply have to let go of a person where the friction of the relationship is just too strong.

Finally as i think about history, i am acutely aware that there is more than one history in our local area, our state, and in our nation. Why? Because we are a diverse peoples and history has not always been kind. When discussing local history with someone, I always take the opportunity to remind him or her that that are two histories of our county -- one good, one bad; one rich, one poor; one happy, one sad; one white, one black. The national motto, E Pluribus Unum didn't apply. However, as I think about it more, there really was only one history because no matter how difficult to unite two peoples, we were, in fact one although we didn't treat one another too kindly.

Now how do we tie in history with the future. We should celebrate the past, both the bad and the good and work toward uniting the two into one. In doing so, in remembering, celebrating, and enjoying doing so, we should work together to build a better future for our children and future generations, locally, nationally, and internationally.

## **RANDOM FACTS**

By this time everybody knows that bottled water is a rip off. In our naive youth (ten years ago), we thought that bottled water was extra pure, double filtered, mountain spring goodness. Now we know that we are paying between 99 cents and \$1.50 for tap water. But there are other places where you are getting ripped off every day and you probably don't even know it.

Although it costs less than ten cents per ounce to produce, popcorn in movie theaters will typically cost you around \$5, which ounce-for-ounce is more than filet mignon! Movie theaters mark up pop corn and many other concessions over 1,000 percent

## **BONUS FACT:**

It costs a carrier about one-third of a cent to deliver a text message. Users, however, generally pay between 10 to 20 cents per text. That is a markup of over 6,500 percent!

## **Printer Ink Cartridges**

**T**hank you to all who continue to donate their empty printer ink cartridges to our collection boxes at the Waldo Library and Waldo City Hall. Your



cartridges help us cover the cost of our office supplies (ink, paper, etc.).

## Famous May Historic Events

- **May 1st** - Observed as May Day, a holiday and spring festival since ancient times, also observed in socialist countries as a workers' holiday or Labor Day.
- **May 5th** - Celebrated in Mexico as Cinco de Mayo, a national holiday in remembrance of the Battle of Puebla in 1862, in which Mexican troops under General Ignacio Zaragoza, outnumbered three to one, defeated the invading French forces of Napoleon III.
- **May 14,** 1796 - Smallpox vaccine was developed by Dr. Edward Jenner, a physician in rural England. He coined the term vaccination for the new procedure of injecting a milder form of the disease into healthy persons resulting in immunity. Within 18 months, 12,000 persons in England had been vaccinated and the number of smallpox deaths dropped by two-thirds.
- **May 14,** 1942 - During World War II, an Act of Congress allowed women to enlist for noncombat duties in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), the Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES), Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), and Semper Paratus Always Ready Service (SPARS), the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corp.
- **May 17,** 1792 - Two dozen merchants and brokers established the New York Stock Exchange. In good weather they operated under a buttonwood tree on Wall Street. In bad weather they moved inside to a coffeehouse to conduct business.

- **May 17,** 1875 - The first Kentucky Derby horse race took place at Churchill Downs in Louisville.
- **May 19,** 1930 - The 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, prohibiting Congress from giving itself pay raises.
- **May 20,** 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act opening millions of acres of government owned land in the West to "homesteaders" who could acquire up to 160 acres by living on the land and cultivating it for five years, paying just \$1.25 per acre.

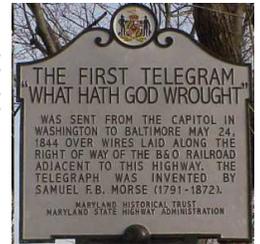


- **May 20,** 1927 - Charles Lindbergh, a 25-year-old aviator, took off at 7:52 a.m. from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, in the Spirit of St. Louis attempting to win a \$25,000 prize for the first solo nonstop flight between New York City and Paris. Thirty-three hours later, after a 3,600 mile journey, he landed at Le Bourget, Paris, earning the nickname "Lucky Lindy" and becoming an instant worldwide hero.
- **May 20,** 1932 - Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. She departed Newfoundland, Canada, at 7 p.m. and landed near Londonderry, Ireland, completing a 2,026-mile flight in about 13 hours. Five years later, along with her navigator Fred



Noonan, she disappeared while trying to fly her twin-engine plane around the equator.

- **May 21,** 1881 - The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton. The organization today provides volunteer disaster relief in the U.S. and abroad. Community services include collecting and distributing donated blood, and teaching health and safety classes.
- **May 22,** 1972 - President Richard Nixon became the first American president to visit Moscow. Four days later, Nixon and Soviet Russia's leader Leonid Brezhnev signed a pact pledging to freeze nuclear arsenals at current levels.
- **May 24,** 1844 - Telegraph inventor Samuel Morse sent the first official telegraph message, "What hath God wrought?" from the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., to Baltimore.
- **May 27,** 1937 - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.
- **May 29,** 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia the Virginia Plan was proposed calling for a new government consisting of a legislature with two houses, an executive chosen by the legislature and a judicial branch.
- **May 30,** 1783 - The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first daily newspaper published in America.



# 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       |
| Police or Fire Emergencies     | 911            |
| Police or Fire 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       |
| Windstream Phone Repair        | 1-800-347-1991 |

## May Birthdays

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Carson Andrijanoff | 3 Jordan Morris      |
| 4 Glenn Gay          | 4 Bryce Kimber       |
| 5 Lola Fraiser       | 7 Kim Worley         |
| 8 Lucy Roe Cook      | 10 Sara Bedford      |
| 11 Vic Ankney        | 12 Linda Vlacos      |
| 12 Jessica Dowling   | 12 Graig Green       |
| 13 Tim Edmondson     | 15 David Nugent      |
| 15 Vera Mauldin      | 15 Darrell McLendon  |
| 17 Mehgan McLendon   | 17 Keith Gilliam     |
| 18 Robert Hill       | 21 Greg Green        |
| 23 Jerry Keirnan     | 23 Barbara Vacchiano |
| 24 Bob Edmondson     | 28 Chenetta Ross     |
| 30 Jennifer Holcomb  |                      |



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## Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church Services

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Mid-week service  
every Wednesday 6:00 pm  
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  
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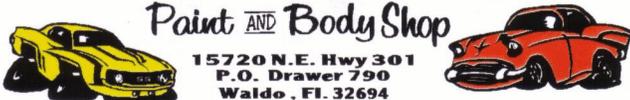


**Waldo Phoenix  
Advertising Rate Sheet**  
(effective date: March 1, 2010)

| Size          | 3 Months | 6 Months | 12 Months |
|---------------|----------|----------|-----------|
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| Quarter Page  | \$120.00 | \$180.00 | \$240.00  |
| Half Page     | \$240.00 | \$360.00 | \$480.00  |
| Full Page     | \$480.00 | \$720.00 | \$960.00  |

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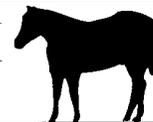
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