

Walker County Messenger

LaFayette, Ga.

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FOUNDED IN 1877 — WALKER COUNTY'S OLDEST CONTINUOUS BUSINESS

Two sections ♦ 75 cents

Restaurant inspections

Inspections for Walker, Catoosa counties for April 24 to May 1

Staff reports

Walker County restaurants did well for the week of April 24 to May 1, with four perfect scores and four scores between 90 and 100. There was one Walker County establishment that scored between 70 and 80.

In Catoosa County, five restaurants earned a perfect score, while seven others earned between 90 and 99.

Walker County

Chuck Wagon Concessions

395 Dixon Springs Road, LaFayette
Inspection date: April 24

Score: 100

Key West Pool

221 West Main Street, LaFayette
Inspection date: April 24

Score: 78

Inspector notes: Observed a large damaged/dented section of the front fence allowing for a much larger gap than 4". Free chlorine level was well above 10 ppm. Too high to read accurately. Handrails were very wobbly during the inspection. Observed No Log/Record at the facility for chemical readings, even though chlorine reading was too high.

Majestic Manor

67 Pin Oak Drive, Rock Spring
Inspection date: April 24

Score: 98

Inspector notes: Observed oven door hinge still in disrepair.

Cafe 7

1400 Patten Road, Lookout Mountain
Inspection date: April 26

Score: 100

Mary and Martha's

SEE **INSPECTIONS**, A11

EXPLANATION OF GRADE/SCORE

- A: Food safety excellence with a numerical score of 90 to 100.
- B: Satisfactory compliance with a numerical score of 80 to 89.
- C: Marginal compliance with a numerical score of 70 to 79.
- U: Unsatisfactory compliance with a numerical score of 69 or less.



Joe Legge

Walker County Elections Director Danielle Montgomery looks over the district map.

County Elections Office prepares for transition to a Board of Commissioners

By Joe Legge

The first Board of Commissioners election in Walker County doesn't take place until 2020, but the staff at the Elections Office is already hard at work making sure every voter is placed in the correct district.

"We are working with the GIS for Walker County and trying to get each street in each district, so we have every street in every district, so we can put that into our system," Danielle Montgomery, director of Elections, said. "And that way, if someone looks up on their 'My Voter Page' they can see

MORE INFORMATION

Four district commissioners and an at-large chairperson will be on the ballot. Party qualifying takes place in 2020 from March 2-6, with the primary scheduled for May 19. Those wanting to run as an Independent should contact the Elections Office to learn more about that process. "It's a little bit more in-depth than running under a party system," Walker County Elections Director Danielle Montgomery said. The general election is set for Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. The inaugural group of district commissioners and board chair will take office on Jan. 1, 2021.

what district they are in. It is a long and tedious process." They can contact the Elections office for verification.

It could take several months for Montgomery and her team to complete this task. Meanwhile, voters

SEE **TRANSITION**, A11

Georgia abortion bill signed into law

By Tamara Wolk

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Gov. Brian Kemp signed into law on May 7 HB 481, the "Living Infant Fairness and Equality (LIFE) Act," popularly known as the "Heart-beat Bill." It goes into effect Jan. 1, 2020.

HB 481 defines an unborn child with a detectable heartbeat as a "natural person" with the right to life, except under certain circumstances.

Introducing the new law, HB 481 states: "The General Assembly of Georgia makes the following findings: In the founding of the United States of America, the State of Georgia and the several states affirmed that: 'We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness — that to secure



Tamara Wolk

Georgia District 53 state Sen. Jeff Mullis (left) and Gov. Brian Kemp (right) stand firmly behind HB 481, the "Heart-beat Bill" the governor signed into law on May 7, which limits abortion once a "human heartbeat" can be detected in an unborn fetus.

these Rights, Governments are instituted among men." The bill goes on to cite the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that "protects(s) the fundamental rights of particular classes of persons who had not previously been recognized under law." Quoting the amendment, HB 481 says:

READ THE FULL BILL

https://gov.georgia.gov/sites/gov.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/HB%20481.pdf

"nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

"Modern medical science, not available decades ago," says HB 481, "demonstrates that unborn children are a class of living, distinct persons and more expansive state recognition of unborn children as persons did not exist when Planned Parenthood v. Casey (1992) and Roe v. Wade (1973) established abortion related precedents; The State of Georgia, applying reasoned judgment to the full

SEE **BILL**, A11



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Tax commissioner offices to close for state-mandated system upgrade

News/A3

Walker County Messenger

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'Peter Pan' coming to LaFayette for two weekends

News/A3

Finster Fest returns to Paradise Garden in Summerville



From Paradise Garden Foundation

Howard Finster's Paradise Garden hosts its annual Finster Fest art and music extravaganza again on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 25-26, in Summerville, Ga.

Finster Fest will feature more than 60 artists, live music, barbecue and other southern fare, a children's art activity area, and, of course, the chance to tour Howard Finster's famous folk art environment.

Finster Fest will feature nationally recognized self-taught artists, including Missionary Mary Proctor (Florida), Michael Banks (Alabama), Peter Loose (Georgia), Eric Legge (Georgia), Jim Kopp (Wyoming) C.M. and Grace Kelly Laster (Kentucky).

Nationally noted artists making their Finster Fest debut this year include Marshal Bevins (Louisiana), Tony Dodson (Ohio), and Deron Braxton Harris (Alabama).

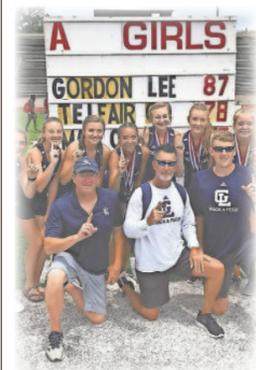
Performances will be held in various parts of Paradise Garden, featuring music by Roger

IF YOU GO

The Howard Finster Fest will be held Memorial Day weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 25-26, in Summerville, Ga. Hours for the family-friendly festival are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission is \$5, with free parking at the Walmart on U.S. 27 just north of the Garden, with complimentary shuttle provided. Handicap parking is available on site.

Alan Wade (Chattanooga), Parker Gispert of the Whigs (Nashville), Daniel Hutchens of Bloodkin (Athens, Ga.), Thayer Sarrano (Los Angeles), Robinella (Knoxville), Georgia Crackers (Atlanta), and Little Mazarn (Austin, Texas), to name a few.

Proceeds from Finster Fest benefit the non-profit Paradise Garden Foundation, which operates and continues restoration of Howard Finster's two-acre plus attraction.



Gordon Lee girls win state track championship

Sports/B1