



**RESOLUTION R-034-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WALKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO  
AWARD A CONTRACT FOR LOCAL MAINTENANCE ASPHALT RESURFACING  
PROJECT 2025-26**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Walker County ("Board") is the governing authority of Walker County, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 11, item 7 of the Enabling Act grants the Board the authority to repair public roads and bridges; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2025, the Board approved a list of roads to be resurfaced or paved in Resolution R-19-25 and let those roads for bid under Walker County Local Maintenance Asphalt Resurfacing Project 2025-26; and

**WHEREAS**, the project was posted on the Georgia Procurement Registry on March 18, 2025 and advertised in the Walker County Messenger on March 19, 2025, along with the County's website; and

**WHEREAS**, O.C.G.A 32-4-68 provides that where a contract has been let for bid, the county, by resolution entered in its minutes, shall award the contract to the lowest reliable bidder, provided that the county shall have the right to reject any and all such bids; and

**WHEREAS**, among the bidders who fully complied with the requirements for bidding, CW Matthews presented the lowest unit price bid;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Walker County, Georgia that that the contract for paving Project 2025-26 is hereby awarded to CW Matthews.

**SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

**WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Lisa Richardson

LISA RICHARDSON, County Clerk

Angela Teems

ANGELA TEEMS, Chairwoman/CEO



The foregoing Resolution received a motion for approval from Commissioner Hart, second by Commissioner Blakemore, and upon the question the vote is 4 ayes, 0 nays to adopt the Resolution.



LOCAL COLUMNIST ■ DAVID CARROLL

# Get the whole story

"I don't watch the news anymore," the man told me. He had just been introduced to me by a mutual friend. We were having lunch and my friend said to the man, "You've probably seen David on the news."

That launched a familiar diatribe. "I used to watch the news, but now all y'all do is talk about Trump this, Trump that. How he's turning our longtime allies against us. How prices are going up, and how the tariffs will make it even worse. How the stock market is going down and a recession is coming. How he's too friendly with the Russians. That's why I can't watch. Y'all are making our president look bad."

I could have responded in any number of ways, but I just shook his hand and said, "Nice to meet you."

Almost every day someone

complains because we have reported a story they don't agree with, or one that doesn't echo their views. They say, "The news ain't been worth a (flip) since Walter Cronkite. Y'all tell everyone how to think, but Mr. Cronkite was right down the middle!"

This is ironic because the complainer obviously wants us to tell the news only from the side he prefers, which is nowhere near the middle.

Also, this may surprise you. Cronkite, the longtime CBS news anchor, was not shy about sharing his opinion. For many people, all they know about him is that he broke the news of President Kennedy's assassination in 1963 and became quite emotional. It was a moment that was captured for eternity by CBS because the network was broadcasting live at 1:38 p.m. that Friday

afternoon, enabling Cronkite to interrupt the soap opera "As the World Turns." (NBC and ABC were not providing programs to local stations at that hour, so they were literally "out to lunch.")

The truth is, Cronkite had opinions as most humans do, and when so moved, he would share them. Most notably, he produced a prime-time documentary exposing misinformation being spread by President Lyndon Johnson's administration about the war in Vietnam.

In 1968 Cronkite went to Vietnam to get a first-hand view of what was really happening. Much to President Johnson's chagrin, Cronkite hosted an hourlong special exposing the harsh realities of American casualties that had previously been under-



Carroll

reported. At the end of the program (buckle up, folks) Cronkite expressed his views. He said, "It seems now, more certain than ever, that the bloody experience of Vietnam is to end in a stalemate."

It is increasingly clear that the only rational way out will be to negotiate, not as victors, but as an honorable people who lived up to their pledge to defend democracy, and did the best they could." Wait, what? We couldn't win the war? That was Cronkite's informed belief. Americans were not used to hearing such negative reports on our military efforts.

Although he didn't call it "fake news," President Johnson was very unhappy. A few days later Cronkite had lunch with Sen. Robert F.

Kennedy, urging him to oppose Johnson for the Democratic presidential nomination. It's true. The Most Trusted Man in America was inserting himself into presidential politics. Who in the Sean Hannity world do such a thing?

Make no mistake, Cronkite was an excellent journalist who reported from the front lines of World War II, and he was a solid news anchor. But his nightly newscasts always ended with an opinion segment. It was usually delivered by CBS newsmen Eric Sevareid and it was clearly labeled as "opinion," not news. Opinions were expressed in a dignified way, during a more dignified time. It's safe to say that if Cronkite didn't want opinions on his newscast, they wouldn't have been there.

Unfortunately, many of

today's viewers are unable to tell the difference between opinion and news. We see a video on social media, and that's "news" if it echoes our views or advances our beliefs.

Let's be honest. Call it Fox Conservative Opinion, not Fox News. Or even the Trump Network, he would love that. On the other side, Call MSNBC the Liberal News Channel. If you get all of your information from just one side, you're not getting the whole story.

David Carroll, a Chattanooga news anchor, is the author of "Hello Chattanooga: Famous People Who Have Visited the Tennessee Valley." His website is ChattanoogaRadioTV.com. You can contact him by mail at 900 Whitehall Road, Chattanooga, TN 37405, or by email at RadioTV2020@yahoo.com.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SATURDAY, MARCH 22

**Local historian Tom Bodkin, a U.S. Army veteran and anthropologist, will discuss his discoveries concerning the WWI German prisoners of war held at the Fort Oglethorpe Military Base.** He will speak Saturday, March 22, at 3 p.m. at the Walker County African American Museum and Multicultural Center at 309 N. Main St., in LaFayette. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for 18 years old and younger. Bodkin is a former researcher for the Fort Oglethorpe Welcome Center's historical exhibits. The Fort Oglethorpe Sixth Cavalry Military Base was a major contributor to both Catoosa and Walker counties' history. It held about 4,000 enemy military personnel, prisoners of war and civilian internees arrested under the Alien and Sedition Acts during WWI and WWII. After the base was deactivated in 1947, the camp's facilities formed the basis for the present-day Fort Oglethorpe.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

**The Walker County Historical Society will meet Sunday, March 23, at 3 p.m. at the Marsh House, 308 N. Main St., LaFayette.** It will be a joint meeting with the Marsh House Museum Clayton Bell Scholarship Reception. Come hear about the projects of the student interns and make a contribution to the scholarship fund or contribute by using the DONATE button on marshhouseoflafayette.org. Applications are being received for 2025-26 with an application form from high school counselors or on the Marsh House website at marshhouseoflafayette.org. The public is invited. Membership in the WCHS is open to all for \$15/year mailed to 305 S. Duke St., LaFayette, GA 30728. More information: 706-764-2801.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 25

**Chattanooga Valley Historical Society will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, March 25, at 6:30 p.m. at Flintstone Chapel and Event Center at 2503 Chattanooga Valley Road in Flintstone.** The guest speaker will be Randy Pittman with the Walker County Preservation Commission. For more information, contact Retha Nelson at 423-322-9000 or info@rethanelson.com.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 1

**Girls State, a government education program for high school juniors, will be held June 8-13 at Valdosta State.** Northwest Georgia girls can apply by April 1 for sponsorship by the American Legion Auxiliary. The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is a course of instruction and application of the fundamental principles and pro-

cedures of city, county and state government under the American system. High school girls completing their junior year with good moral character and leadership abilities and ranking in the top third of their class are eligible to apply to attend the five-day practical instruction in self-government and the duties, responsibilities, and privileges of American citizenship. The Girls State session will be held at Valdosta State University June 8-13. American Legion Auxiliary Chickamauga Memorial Unit 217 will be sponsoring girls residing in Northwest Georgia to attend this event by covering the registration fee, transportation as needed, and assisting with applications online through the Department of Georgia. **Any girls meeting the criteria may fill out a questionnaire available at their Junior Counselors' office or request one from Jennie Chandler at 423-994-8485. These must be turned in by Tuesday, April 1.** Once recommended, screened and approved, final application is made to the ALA Department of Georgia online which will send all details of preparing for the week.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 5

**American Legion will hold an open house on Saturday, April 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 414 W. 14th St., in Chickamauga.** Meet the members of Post 217 and Auxiliary Unit 217 and learn what the Legion does for the community and veterans. Learn how to join and serve in the Legion. Spouses and relatives of veterans who join the Legion can join the Auxiliary. Enjoy snacks, drinks and children's activities, for a day of community, fellowship, and fun.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 26

**Walker County Democrats offer a \$500 annual scholarship honoring Susan Darling. Seniors must submit an essay and a recommendation by Saturday, April 26.** Winners will be announced May 5. The Walker County Democratic Party has established an annual scholarship program as a memorial to honor long-time member and public servant Susan Darling. The award will be granted to Walker County High School seniors, supporting them in their efforts to improve our community through their continued education. An award of \$500 will be made to a senior from each public high school in Walker County. Any graduating senior enrolled in a public high school in Walker County (LaFayette High, Ridgeland High and Gordon Lee High) is eligible to apply. The application involves submitting an essay of at least 300 words titled, "What I plan to do

to make Walker County a better place to work, play, and live." Each applicant must also submit a letter of recommendation from a nonrelative who knows the student's activities and character. A jury of retired and active teachers will make the selection of winners. Completed applications, with contact information, for the 2024-25 school year should be sent to: Scholarship, Walker County Democrats, PO Box 1769, LaFayette, GA 30728 and should be postmarked no later than April 25, 2025. Digital copies of the completed application can be sent as an email attachment to walkercode@gmail.com and time stamped no later than 11:59 p.m., April 26, 2025. Winners will be notified by May 5, 2025. A representative of Walker Democrats will attend each school's awards day ceremony to describe the scholarship and present a certificate to the winner. For more information, call 706-764-2801.

### SATURDAY, MAY 31

**Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe High School's Class of 1975 will host its 50th reunion on Saturday, May 31, at The Barnhardt in Fort Oglethorpe from 6-10 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$65 per ticket.** The ticket will include dinner and entertainment, with many amenities. Send your check, money order or cashier check to: LFO Class of 75 Reunion, C/O Lynn Fant, 5189 Boynton Drive, Ringgold, GA 30736. Contact reunion organizers for assistance with additional payment methods. Links for hotels accommodation discounts and activities will be sent.

### GENERAL

**High Point Community Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. on Pace Road, near Ga. Highway 136, in the High Point Community.** Meetings start with a shared meal of covered dishes, desserts and drinks, followed by a business session. Activities sometimes include a guest speaker, Bingo or other games. Bring a covered dish and join the meetings. For more details, contact Tammy at 423-762-1464.

**LaFayette Quilting Club meets at 10 a.m. at the LaFayette library every first and third Wednesday each month.** Please join if you are a quilter or are interested in learning to quilt. Contact Sandra Robinson at 706-638-6060 for more information.

**Walker County African American Museum and Cultural Center, 309 N. Main St., in LaFayette, features graphic and interactive exhibits highlighting the history and culture of African Americans in the Lookout Mountain Judicial District.**

The center emphasizes Walker County but also includes Catoosa, Chattooga and Dade counties. It is open Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional times by appointment; call 706-670-1165. Email: wcaahaa@yahoo.com. Website: www.walkercountyafrikanamerican.com. Facebook: "Walker County, Georgia African American Museum and Memorial Park."

**Walker Rocks Tourism Committee holds meetings the third Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Walker County Civic Center at 10052 U.S. Highway 27 in Rock Spring.**

**Lookout Mountain CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) needs volunteers** to advocate for the best interest of the abused and neglected children of Catoosa, Dade, Walker and Chattooga counties who are in foster care. CASA volunteers serve as the eyes and ears of the juvenile court judges. For more information, visit the website at lookoutmtncasa.com or call 901-496-6164.

**American Legion Post 339 in LaFayette meets the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at 209 Chattanooga St.** This meeting is open to active and prospective members of The American Legion and their guests.

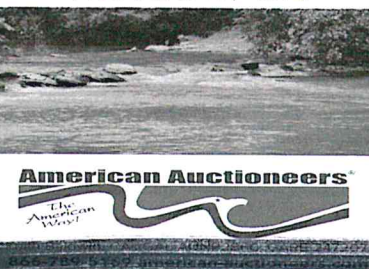
**Calvary Baptist Church, 908 Bronco Road in LaFayette, hosts a community outreach event the third Saturday of each month from 5-8 p.m.** This is a free event to the community. Come and enjoy.

**The Breast Cancer Support Group meets the first Thursday each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the conference room at Peoples Cancer Institute, 1215 Memorial Drive in Dalton.** For more information, call 706-226-8966.

Find the latest breaking news online at [catoosawalkernews.com](http://catoosawalkernews.com).

## ABSOLUTE AUCTION

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## PERSONAL GRADUATE ADS

# Congratulations

## CLASS OF 2025

For the Proud Mom & Dad, Family and Friends

Show your family and friends how proud you are of your graduate. Or spotlight their athletic, academic or extra-curricular achievements.

Send us a photo/message/payment prior to: Monday, May 5th by 3:00 PM to run in the Wednesday, May 21st Graduation Section!

### WALKER COUNTY NEWS

2x3 - B/W \$26 • Full Color \$31  
2x5 - B/W \$40 • Full Color \$55  
3x5 - B/W \$60 • Full Color \$75

For More Information Call  
Emma Golden at 706-638-1859 option 5

Walker County Messenger

Call today to honor your special graduate!



Pay Item			Talley		
Pay Item	Unit	Price		Actual	\$\$\$
9.5mm	TN	\$122.25		97905.00	\$11,968,886.25
Patching	TN	\$145.00		7500.00	\$1,087,500.00
Milling	SY	\$3.30		334300.00	\$1,103,190.00
5" Solid Wht	LM	\$1,960.00		130.00	\$254,800.00
5" Solid Yel	LM	\$2,436.00		130.00	\$316,680.00
Stop Bar	EA	\$325.00		200.00	\$65,000.00
R/R Cross	EA	\$672.00		10.00	\$6,720.00
Ped. Cross	EA	\$357.00		0.00	\$0.00
Arrow	EA	\$230.00		5.00	\$1,150.00
19mm Binder	TN	\$113.00		50000.00	\$5,650,000.00
Not Used		\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
					\$20,453,926.25

Pay Item			CWM		
Pay Item	Unit	Price		Actual	\$\$\$
9.5mm	TN	\$122.21		97905.00	\$11,964,970.05
Patching	TN	\$146.29		7500.00	\$1,097,175.00
Milling	SY	\$3.81		334300.00	\$1,273,683.00
5" Solid Wht	LM	\$1,200.00		130.00	\$156,000.00
5" Solid Yel	LM	\$1,200.00		130.00	\$156,000.00
Stop Bar	EA	\$275.00		200.00	\$55,000.00
R/R Cross	EA	\$950.00		10.00	\$9,500.00
Ped. Cross	EA	\$850.00		0.00	\$0.00
Arrow	EA	\$125.00		5.00	\$625.00
19mm Binder	TN	\$103.68		50000.00	\$5,184,000.00
Not Used		\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
					\$19,896,953.05



Pay Item			Northwest Georgia Paving		
Pay Item	Unit	Price		Actual	\$\$\$
9.5mm	TN	\$123.00		97905.00	\$12,042,315.00
Patching	TN	\$215.00		7500.00	\$1,612,500.00
Milling	SY	\$4.65		334300.00	\$1,554,495.00
5" Solid Wht	LM	\$1,500.00		130.00	\$195,000.00
5" Solid Yel	LM	\$1,500.00		130.00	\$195,000.00
Stop Bar	EA	\$200.00		200.00	\$40,000.00
R/R Cross	EA	\$250.00		10.00	\$2,500.00
Ped. Cross	EA	\$100.00		0.00	\$0.00
Arrow	EA	\$50.00		5.00	\$250.00
19mm Binder	TN	\$105.00		50000.00	\$5,250,000.00
Not Used		\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
					\$20,892,060.00

Pay Item			Vertical Earth		
Pay Item	Unit	Price		Actual	\$\$\$
9.5mm	TN	\$172.23		97905.00	\$16,862,178.15
Patching	TN	\$223.93		7500.00	\$1,679,475.00
Milling	SY	\$2.73		334300.00	\$912,639.00
5" Solid Wht	LM	\$1,320.00		130.00	\$171,600.00
5" Solid Yel	LM	\$1,320.00		130.00	\$171,600.00
Stop Bar	EA	\$302.50		200.00	\$60,500.00
R/R Cross	EA	\$1,045.00		10.00	\$10,450.00
Ped. Cross	EA	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Arrow	EA	\$137.50		5.00	\$687.50
19mm Binder	TN	\$147.10		50000.00	\$7,355,000.00
Not Used		\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
					\$27,224,129.65