

Tribune celebrates Walton's best

Newspaper holds annual Visions banquet on Monday

Stephen Milligan
MANAGING EDITOR

For 30 years, *The Walton Tribune* has celebrated local heroes in the community with the annual release of its



progress edition, *Visions*.

Patrick Graham, proprietor and publisher of *The Tribune*, said they're just getting started.

"I can't tell you how pleased and proud I am that all of you could join us as we make history tonight with the newspaper celebrating 30 years of honoring the good — not just good, the great — people of

Check out this year's Visions magazine inside today's paper.

Walton County," Graham said Monday evening at the newspaper's annual Visions banquet. "Through three decades now we have had the privilege of honoring literally hundreds, if not thousands, of the county's best and brightest."

Each year, the Visions banquet honors the paper's choice for its Community Spirit Award, as well as a selection of Unsung Heroes, a Youth of the Year and an Employer of the Year.

"Starting with our very first Community Spirit Award winner, Charles Sanders, in 1996 to this year's wor-

thy recipient, to be announced shortly, and all the ones in between, we have had the privilege of recognizing so many of the community's best and brightest over the years," Graham said. "All of them are part of the community's history, and we've been recording that history for in the newspaper for 126 years now."

History was the topic at hand Monday as the 2026 Visions magazine is titled "Making History," and Graham said they were set to do just that with the latest slate of winners for this year's publication. See **Visions** » Page A7



Doug Blevins receives the Community Spirit Award from Tribune proprietor and publisher Patrick Graham. Deborah Stewart | Special to the Tribune

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The Walton Tribune



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Sports » B1



Lady'Canes to host Sweet 16 game after first round road win

Monroe girls find success on the pitch with shutout victory over Long County

The Word

"God has chosen you to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ."
— Colossians 1:27-28

Monroe

P&Z says 'no' to QuikTrip

Council to decide final fate of gas station project

Jim Thompson
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Proposed zoning actions that could clear the way for a 6,445-square-foot QuikTrip convenience store and its planned 14-pump gas station at 1110 North Broad Street, at the intersection of Charlotte Rowell Boulevard, will be in front of the Monroe City Council at its May 12 meeting, set for 6 p.m. at City Hall.

QuikTrip will be coming to the city council with two requests. One of those requests seeks approval of conditional use on approximately two heavily wooded acres of the 15-acre tract, zoned for highway business use, to allow the installation of fuel pumps.

See **QuickTrip** » Page A3

Walton County GOP BBQ



The Walton County GOP held the annual Roy Nunnally Roberts Sr. BBQ Thursday, and people came out in droves for good food and music before hearing from a number of elected officials and office seekers in next month's primary election. Gov. Brian Kemp led the slate, alongside local officials like state Rep. Bruce Williamson and candidates for office like Houston Gaines, among many others. Deborah Stewart | Special to the Tribune



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Social Circle Spring Festival

Downtown saw surge of visitors for city's April celebration Saturday — C6



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