

BETTER WITH Brew

OCONEE COUNTY'S FIRST COMMERCIAL CRAFT BEER BUSINESS

Great craft beers served up in a community gathering place is the emphasis at South Main Brewing. The Walton Gas customer opened last October, becoming the first commercial craft beer brewery in Oconee County.

Dutch and Mary Beth Guest, Brock Toole and Nic Farley are co-owners of the new brew company. It was an idea that grew from their shared love of craft beers and a desire to improve the community.

"We saw a need for a local place of gathering here in Watkinsville, and we thought a craft brewery would be a great piece to glue the community together," said Dutch Guest.

South Main Brewing is among the first businesses to open in Wire Park, a mixed-use complex that is the reimagining of an industrial property. The 4,000-square-foot interior highlights the original rafters and floors in a section of the wire manufacturing plant built there in 1957.

PERFECTING THE PRODUCT

Nic Farley was working as a graphic artist when he began making homecrafted beer 16 years ago. Now he's the head brewer at South Main.

While his partners were busy overseeing facility renovations and other details for opening the brewery, Farley focused on perfecting the product. The result is a draft menu of 15 beers all made on the premises.

Natural gas supplied by Walton Gas plays a crucial role in brewing South Main's signature beer, Guest said.

"We're a gas-fired brewhouse," he said, explaining that precision heat control is one of the cornerstones of developing distinctive beer flavor.

A PLACE FOR ALL

Though making a good draft is essential, South Main's owners are also intent on remaining true to their motto: Community Fueled.

"We want this to be a good gathering place for people to come and bring their families — and their pets, too," Guest said. "So far, we've had great response from the community."

Along with locally produced beer, town favorites like New Creation Soda Works nonalcoholic beverages and Satisfied Food Co. pimento cheese are offered. The brewery also has multiple TV screens and a heated patio area for added entertainment.



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*— Dutch Guest, co-owner
South Main Brewing*

gas up the stove

My Mission Baked Beans



Try garnishing with jalapeno peppers!

INGREDIENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 can chili beans | 1 can baked beans | 1 can green chili peppers |
| 1 can enchilada sauce | 1 tablespoon flour | 3/4 cup onion, finely chopped |
| 1 can pork and beans | 1 can salsa | 2 teaspoons chili powder |
| 1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese | 8 slices cooked bacon, crumbled | 1/8 teaspoon garlic powder |

INSTRUCTIONS

Mix all ingredients except the cheese. Bake in a casserole dish for 30-40 minutes at 350 degrees. Remove from oven and top with cheese. Bake until cheese is bubbly and edges are light golden brown.

Submitted by Janice Harris of Flowery Branch. Featured recipes are not independently tested, so we must depend on the accuracy of the cooks sending them. Always use safe food handling, preparation and cooking procedures from the recognized experts.

SEND US YOUR RECIPES! The best entry each month will appear in the *Gazette* and receive a FREE cookbook with over 650 recipes.

Send recipe, name, address to:

Walton Gas; Attn: Recipe
P.O. Box 260
Monroe, GA 30655
or gazette@walgongas.com



Recipes can also be submitted at walgongas.com/recipe-submissions.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

Georgia On My Mind

How well do you know our state? Georgia is known for its rocky attractions, Southern hospitality and being the birthplace of Coca-Cola. In honor of National Trivia Day on Jan. 4, here's a quiz to help you learn what else our state is famous for. Play along – and no peeking at the answers until you're finished.

FACT OR FICTION: GEORGIA IS...

- The largest state in land area east of the Mississippi River.
- The nation's leading producer of peaches.
- Home to the nation's oldest state park.

CLAIM TO FAME

- On April 15, every Major League Baseball player wears #42 in honor of what Georgia-born athlete?
- What town claims to be the fruitcake capital of the U.S.?
- What college was the world's first chartered to grant degrees to women?

BY THE NUMBERS

- How many counties does Georgia have?
- How many Academy Awards did Georgia-set movie "Gone with the Wind" win?
- Vidalia onions are grown exclusively in how many Georgia counties?

WHERE IS IT?

- World's largest college campus.
- State's tallest cascading waterfall.
- North America's largest blackwater swamp.
- America's oldest public university.
- Georgia's highest mountain.

EXTRA CREDIT

- What TV comedy, airing on CBS from 1986 to 1993, featured "Georgia on my Mind" as its theme song?

Read the Walton Wise blog (walgongas.com/walton-wise) for more Georgia trivia.

KEY: 1. Fact 2. Fiction 3. Fact 4. Jackie Robinson 5. Claxton 6. Wesleyan College (Macon) 7. 159 8. Eight 9. 20 10. Berry College (Rome) 11. Amicalola Falls (Dawsonville) 12. Okefenokee 13. University of Georgia 14. Brasstown Bald 15. "Designing Women"



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