



And the Winner Is . . .

Oconee County Fire Rescue!!

Congratulations to our winners and thank you to everyone who participated in the Senior Center's pumpkin decorating contest - the entries were all amazing and fantastically creative!



**First Place
Fire Rescue**



**Second Place
Public Works**



**Third Place
Probate Court**



Employment Anniversaries

Congratulations to everyone on our team celebrating another year of service to the residents of Oconee County! Thank you for making our organization an outstanding place to work and for your dedication to our community! We appreciate all that you do!

Jail

Joan White	11/13/2006
Kit Mann	11/10/2009

Joint Governmental Programs

Marge McKee	11/15/2007
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Law Enforcement

Vic Green	11/19/2007
Mike McKeel	11/09/2015

Parks & Recreation

Ethan Harkins	11/18/2017
Tony Lathrup	11/06/2000
Cindy Hardigree	11/28/2005
Tom Little	11/17/2008
Walker Sosbee	11/27/2018

Planning/Code Enforcement

Mark Bowman	11/13/2017
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Property Appraisal

Brian Bray	11/14/2011
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Public Safety

Lee Hiland	11/06/2006
Tiffany Taylor	11/21/2016

Probate

Debbie Turner	11/05/2001
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Superior Court

Delores Russell	11/01/1991
Lawton Stephens	11/01/1991

Water Resources

Ginger Thrasher	11/22/2004
Greg Long	11/12/2007
Tracy Metcalf	11/24/2014
Tyler Perry	11/05/2018

Notes from IT

Can Your Smart Phone Be Hacked?

Your SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card is that tiny card inside your smart phone which stores your mobile phone number, the phone provider that you use, and your billing information. SIM swapping is a cybercrime in which a hacker steals your phone number and uses it to break into your email, social media accounts, and your mobile payment accounts. The hacker calls your provider, pretends to be you, and convinces your provider to move your cell phone number to their device. Once that happens, they can reset your passwords to all of your accounts that are linked to your phone without knowing your user name or password. Over \$50 million dollars has been reported lost by victims.

Steps to follow in case you are hacked:

- Disconnect the stolen phone number
- Change your passwords to accounts linked to your phone number
- Report the hack to your phone provider
- Don't link your phone number to personal accounts

Employee Birthdays

Happy Birthday to everyone in the Oconee County Government Family celebrating a birthday this month! You have our best wishes for a wonderful day, and we hope it's the start of a fantastic year!

Jean Saint-Preux	11/01
Cindy Hardigree	11/03
Lee Weems	11/04
Kalee Kitchens	11/05
Ryan Payne	11/05
Tyler Perry	11/05
Lisa Davol	11/06
Tate Partain	11/06
Jessica Dewberry	11/07
Annessa Glenn	11/07
Alan Hawkins	11/08
Sam Smith	11/08
Amy Gayer	11/09
Henry Hansen	11/09
Jonathan Holden	11/10
Edward Brumby	11/11
Mary Ann Hall	11/11
Nicole Gueth	11/13
Vickie Hammond	11/13
Artie Kerns	11/14
Fran Leathers	11/14
Lawton Stephens	11/14
Kayla Houseman	11/15
Tyler Lewis	11/15
Madeleine Curlew	11/22
Alexis Biondi	11/27
Ed Carson	11/27
Jessica Dudley	11/29



Welcome!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest colleagues - we are so glad you have joined us!

Jail

Danial White
Devan Blair
Samuel Masters

Law Enforcement

Justin Baldwin

Public Works

James Farley

Parks & Recreation

Henry Hansen
Joshua Miller

Faces of Oconee County Government



Nick Hensley

Nick Hensley is a Distribution Technician for Oconee County Water Resources. Nick joined the county in 2012 as an Animal Control Officer, and he began working in the Water Resources Department in 2016. Nick attended the University of West Georgia, and is currently a resident of Clarke County. When he is not at work, Nick enjoys being in the great outdoors and watching UGA football.

“Nick always gets the job done,” says Water Resources Director Tim Durham. “When a project needs immediate attention, he is our go-to guy. Nick is an invaluable member of our team and he consistently demonstrates an outstanding work ethic.”

Thank you, Nick, for all you do for Oconee County!

Shayne Stone

Shayne Stone is a Distribution Technician for Oconee County Water Resources. Shayne joined Oconee County in June 2012. He is a graduate of Oconee County High School and currently lives in Morgan County with his wife, Jennifer Stone, who is the Assistant Director of the Oconee County Board of Elections & Registration. When he is not working, Shayne enjoys hunting, playing golf, and watching football. Shayne says the constant variety of his work keeps his job interesting and that he enjoys being able to work outside.

“Shayne is a valuable member of our team,” says Oconee County Water Resources Director Tim Durham. “He is always willing to go the extra mile to see a project through. His efforts in strengthening our positive culture do not go unnoticed. Everyone enjoys working with Shayne and that is a testament to his work ethic and leadership!”

Thank you, Shayne, for all you do for Oconee County!



Awards & Recognitions

Congratulations to Clerk of Courts Angie Elder-Johnson, who was recently awarded the F. Barry Wilkes ECLAT Award, for her leadership within Oconee County, as well as in the greater clerk community, and for her ongoing commitment to quality training for clerks. The ECLAT Award is presented annually to an actively serving clerk who has demonstrated Exceptional Commitment, Leadership, Accomplishment, and Teamwork.

Congratulations to Sheriff Scott Berry, who received the Allied Partnership Award from ACC-SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) at the group's second annual Survive to Thrive luncheon. ACC-SANE provides forensic examinations at the Family Protection Center and works collaboratively with law enforcement, prosecutors' offices, advocacy organizations, and the Division of Family and Children Services.

Notes from HR



Mark your calendars! The annual Employee Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Oconee County Civic Center, and we want to see you there. Don't forget to come dressed in your best holiday sweater to enter the Ugliest Christmas Sweater Contest - last year's competition was fierce!

The Mobile Mammography Unit will be onsite Tuesday, December 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the back parking lot of the Oconee County Courthouse. Watch for an email from HR regarding signup information.



Oconee Connections Employee Newsletter is published monthly by the Office of Communications. We want to hear from you! Please e-mail us with your department news, as well as employee announcements of births, engagements, weddings, and retirements. Please submit news items to dbaggett@oconee.ga.us by the 15th of the month prior to publication for inclusion in the newsletter. The Office of Communications reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity and length.