



Oconee County Connections Employee Newsletter

Volume 3, No. 1

January 2021

Best Wishes for
the New Year
Oconee County!

Happy 2021

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!

Board of Commissioners

John Daniell	01/01/2009
Mark Saxon	01/01/2013
Mark Thomas	01/24/2017

Board of Elections

John Hanley III	01/01/2014
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Clerk of Courts

Angela Elder-Johnson	01/01/2001
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Coroner

Ed Carson	01/01/2009
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Facilities/Operations

Gail Burgess	01/05/2015
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Internal Services

Nicole Brooks	01/25/2011
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Jail

Todd Gabriel	01/11/2008
Matthew Towe	01/13/2020

Law Enforcement

Mark Smith	01/25/2010
Kenji Dorsey	01/01/2017
Joshua Warren	01/28/2019

Parks & Recreation

Chris Cotton	01/10/2011
Brent Sexton	01/02/2018
Daniel Clark	01/21/2020

Property Appraisal

Chris Neal	01/14/2013
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Public Safety

Karla Hulsey	01/24/2005
Yashica West	01/19/2016

Public Works

Michael Sutton	01/17/1995
Samuel Crespo-Montes	01/19/2018
Richard Moore	01/31/2020

Senior Center

Shirley Finch	01/28/2013
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Superior Court

David Sweat	01/01/2003
Clarence Browning	01/01/2010
John Donnelly	01/01/2011
Jennifer Givan Parker	01/03/2017
Mandi Ellis	01/01/2019
Kelli Bardner	01/01/2019
Lisa Lott	01/01/2019

Tax Commissioner

Jennifer Riddle	01/01/2006
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Tourism & Visitors Bureau

Joann Hubert	01/21/2020
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Water Resources

Jeffrey Sheffield	01/03/2011
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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!

Mickey Baughcum	01/02	Dwayne Collins	01/14
Stephen Wilson	01/02	Melissa Braswell	01/16
Joseph Tilller	01/03	Ginger Thrasher	01/16
Hannah Weissinger	01/04	Bruce Thaxton	01/17
Branden Newton	01/05	Ramon Funes	01/18
DonL Bearden	01/06	Don Oliver	01/18
Anne Kanavage	01/06	Alex Davis	01/20
Walker Sosbee	01/06	Sara Donalson	01/20
Shaina Knight	01/07	Ally Holloway	01/20
Chris Neal	01/07	Allison Burns	01/21
Raymond Gilbert	01/08	Jordan Silvey	01/22
Adam Layfield	01/09	Julie Jackson	01/23
Charles Arlt	01/10	Matthew Blanton	01/24
Randy Dillard	01/10	Jeremy Wasdin	01/24
Joshua Dudley	01/10	Michael Downs	01/27
Holly John	01/10	Migdai Marin	01/27
Patricia Anderson	01/11	Eric Norris	01/28
Samuel Crespo-Montes	01/11	Scott Underwood	01/30
Jackie Rowell	01/12	Jessica Ellis	01/30



Notes from IT



As the new year begins and we trickle back to normalcy, we need to continue to be mindful of the computer security threats that exist in the wild. As we look back at 2020, the efforts of many to cause havoc on computer systems haven't stopped. It continues to be rampant, and we need to be careful when we use computers on a daily basis, whether at work or for personal use. The Oconee County IT department will continue to look at any potential threats and inform employees on how to stay safe.

As always, if you encounter an interesting, but odd email, or see something that is out of the ordinary on your county computer system, please don't hesitate in contacting us as soon as possible so that we can prevent any possible threat from affecting county computer systems.

Welcome!

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

Jail

Michael Solomon Jr.

Parks & Recreation

Emily Goelz

Kathryn Swartz

Nathan Webb

Public Safety

Shaina Knight



Departmental News

Congratulations to **GIS Specialist, Tyren Brooks**, who earned a Masters in Information Technology from Middle Georgia State University on December 10.



The **Oconee County Water Resources Department** earned the 2020 Georgia Association of Water Professionals Wastewater Collection System Gold Award for meeting industry standards for capacity, management, operation, and maintenance following a system-wide audit. Georgia Association of Water Professionals representative Jeff Callaway presented the award at the December 1 meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners. The dedication to ongoing excellence and outstanding customer service of the Water Resources staff was reflected in the department's inspection score of 98.3 out of a possible 100 points.

Congrats to the **Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission** on receiving a 2019/2020 Governor's Circle Award in recognition of the Commission's exemplary work in litter reduction, waste minimization, and community greening. KOCBC was also recognized by the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation for a variety of accomplishments, including decreasing litter for the third consecutive year, increasing beautification projects, and providing middle and high school students in public, private, and home schools with the opportunity to take an active role in local environmental issues through Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission's Youth Advisory Council.



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.