



Oconee County Connections Employee Newsletter

Volume 5, No. 4

April 2023

Save the Date: Home Run to Health!

A poster for the 2023 Wellness Fair. The title "2023 WELLNESS FAIR" is at the top, followed by "HOMERUN to Health" in large red and blue letters. Two baseball bats are crossed behind the text. Below the title, a red starburst contains "WEDNESDAY MAY 24" and another red starburst contains "9:00 AM TO NOON". A baseball is positioned between the starbursts. At the bottom, it says "FREE GIFTS" and "DOOR PRIZES" with a small Oconee County seal. The location "HERMAN C. MICHAEL PARK GYM" is listed with "EMPLOYEES ONLY" underneath. A large red "SAVE THE DATE" is at the bottom. The background is a textured beige.

The annual Oconee County Employee Wellness Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Herman C. Michael Park Gym.

Come out for a great morning of health info, gifts, and door prizes! We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Upcoming HR Events:

April 21st – Spring Employee Appreciation Cookout

May 24th - Wellness Fair at Herman C Michael Park Gym

May 31st – last day to earn your 450 Wellness points

May/June – Open Enrollment (details and dates to come)

June – Biometrics

Dec 8th – Employee Holiday Luncheon at Oconee County Civic Center

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!

Animal Services

Evelyn King 04/25/2022

Fleet

Blake Bryant 04/04/2022

GIS

Matt Beal 04/20/2020

Jail

Kyle Davis 04/09/2017
Jon Holden 04/13/2015

Law Enforcement

Charity Bell 04/21/2003
Sam Smith 04/27/2015
Zac Eaton 04/23/2018
Patrick Holl 04/26/2021

Parks & Recreation

Joan Postero 04/10/2017
Jake Thornton 04/05/2021

Planning & Code Enforcement

Guy Herring 04/26/2018

Public Safety

Heath Paul 04/06/2020

Public Works

Dennis Chaney 04/23/2001
Vernon Craft 04/04/2003
Lee Hicks 04/04/2005

Senior Center

Pam Morris 04/04/2022

Tax Commissioner

Brittany Uankum 04/11/2022

Water Resources

John Jackson 04/24/2017
Kevin Hart 04/13/2018

Welcome!

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

Planning

Kam Doster
Nhi Hylton
Ethan Perry

Sheriff

William Reynolds

Water

Stephen Tedder

Public Works

Don Bradshaw

Around the County

Community Shred Day Scheduled for April 21

Back by popular demand, the next Drive-Thru Community Shred Day is scheduled for Friday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Oconee Veterans Park.

Community Shred Day will take place rain or shine. All shredded paper from this event, sponsored by the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission, Oconee County Parks & Recreation, and the North Oconee Rotary Club, will be recycled. Each participant may drop off up to six boxes of papers.

A Tire Amnesty Day is also planned for the month of October.



Notes From IT

Social Engineering Attacks

Social engineering attacks are a type of cyber-attack that relies on psychological manipulation rather than technical means to gain access to sensitive information or systems. These attacks can be difficult to spot and can have devastating consequences for individuals and organizations. Here are some tips to help you recognize and prevent social engineering attacks.

1. Be skeptical of unsolicited requests

Social engineering attacks often begin with an unsolicited request, such as a phone call or email from someone claiming to be from a legitimate organization. Be skeptical of any request for sensitive information or access to your computer or network, especially if it comes from an unknown or unexpected source.

2. Verify the identity of the requester

Before providing any sensitive information or access, verify the identity of the requester. Legitimate organizations typically have a process for verifying the identity of their employees or representatives. For example, if you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from your bank, ask for their name and phone number, then call the bank directly to confirm their identity.

3. Watch for urgency or fear tactics

Social engineering attackers often use urgency or fear tactics to try and pressure you into providing information or taking action. For example, they may claim that your account has been compromised and that you need to provide your login credentials to fix the problem. Be wary of any message that tries to create a sense of urgency or fear.

4. Keep your personal information private

Be cautious about sharing personal information online or over the phone. Social engineering attackers often use information that they find online, such as your birthdate or the names of family members, to try and gain your trust or access to your accounts.

5. Educate yourself and your colleagues

Social engineering attacks can be very convincing, and even tech-savvy users can fall victim. Educate yourself and your colleagues about the risks of social engineering attacks and how to recognize and prevent them.

By staying vigilant and following these tips, you can help protect yourself and your organization from social engineering attacks. Remember, if something seems suspicious or too good to be true, it's always better to err on the side of caution.

Fire Extinguisher Training

Thanks to EMA Director C.J. Worden and A1 Fire Extinguisher instructor Jason Gantt for an exhilarating hands-on training in fire extinguisher use.



Hopefully, we'll never need these skills in an emergency situation.



But, we also know it's best to be prepared!

Meet Our New Planners!



Nhi Hylton is a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and previously worked as a Senior Probation Officer. When she's not at the office, Nhi enjoys working out, hiking, camping, and being in the great outdoors!

Ethan Perry holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Georgia and currently lives in Winder. He enjoys video games, eSports, web design, and music.

His favorite part of the job so far is interacting with the people of Oconee County and helping them through the process of finalizing their applications.



Kam Doster holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication from Georgia College in Milledgeville. He and his wife Tasha live in Winder. When he's not working, Kam enjoys taking his dog Henry for walks, being outdoors, and finding great local restaurants. He loves all sports, but is particularly passionate about baseball and the Atlanta Braves (his dog is named after Hank Aaron!).

Kam's favorite part of being a planner is working with local contractors, developers, architects, and property owners to understand their vision for projects.

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!

James Schuster	04/01	Denise Dickson	04/20
Marissa Rice	04/02	Douglas Mattocks Jr.	04/20
Hannah Meadow	04/08	Walker McNiff	04/20
Lisa Jackson	04/13	Lex Ogan	04/20
Sydney Lawrence	04/13	Clint Kitchens	04/22
Kaitlyn Rainey	04/14	Justin Milligan	04/22
Gloria Batson	04/15	Jamie Howe	04/25
Kenji Dorsey	04/17	Kelsey McDonough	04/25
Blake Bryant	04/19	William Shields	04/27
Jonah Doyle	04/19	David Sweat	04/28
Carrie Hayes	04/19	Hannah Redford	04/29



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.