

Oconee County Connections

Employee Newsletter



Volume 7, No. 7

July 2025

Customer Service Superstar

Congrats Carol McGarth

From the IT Workroom

Knowledge Cafe Schedule

Ice Cream Social Photos

Photos from employee event

New Pollinator Garden

Check out the new garden at the
Admin Building

Issue Index

3	Customer Service Superstar Welcome to the Team
4-5	Ice Cream Social Photos
6	From the IT Workroom
7	Tire and Battery Amnesty New Communications Assistant
8	New Pollinator Garden
9	Anniversaries
10	Birthdays

Customer Service Superstar

Congratulations to Carol McGrath, Tax Commissioner's Office, on receiving the Customer Service Excellence Award!

Carol consistently surpasses expectations in her role, and her warm and genuine smile creates a welcoming environment for both customers and colleagues. Carol is known for her reliability, cheerfulness, and professionalism, as well as her willingness to step in and help wherever needed.

Congratulations, Carol, on this well-deserved recognition of your unwavering dedication and team spirit! We appreciate all that you do!



Welcome to the Team

Welcome to Oconee County! We are glad you are joining our team.

Parks and Rec

Aiden Cramer
Charles Frierson
Bradley Milligan
Stacy Fowler

Sheriff's Office

Michael Adams
John Morris

Water Resources

Korban Davis

Ice Cream Social Photos

It was great to see everyone who came out to our ice cream social events at county facilities. We hope you enjoyed the sweet treat on a hot summer day!







From the IT Workroom

IT Class Series - Knowledge Cafe

The first Knowledge Cafe class will be held, Monday, July 14, at 10 a.m. in the North High Shoals room in the Administrative Building. **Registration closes Monday, July 7.** If you cannot attend in person you may participate via Teams. All materials and recordings of the class will be stored on the Employee Intranet on the Oconee County website.

The first class will cover General AI Usage and Guidelines. Use the QR code below to sign up!

IT Knowledge Cafe



Upcoming Knowledge Cafe Classes

Registration information for each class will be shared in this newsletter and emailed to department heads to share with staff.


August 11: Outlook like a Pro and Difference between New and Classic

September 8: Microsoft OneDrive

October 13: 365 App Exploration and Teams integration

November 10: Cyber Safety

December 8: Desk Phones and Q&A Session



Tire and Battery Amnesty

The Summer Oconee County Battery & Tire Amnesty event will run from July 2 through July 30.

Drop-off for this event is available **only at the Highway 441 Waste & Recycling Site**, located at 2721 Macon Highway/US 441 (former landfill site). Batteries and tires will be accepted during normal operating hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tire Drop-Off Rules:

- Open to Oconee County residents only
- Limit of 4 tires per vehicle
- No businesses permitted – residential use only
- Only car and light truck tires without rims will be accepted

Battery Recycling:

- Automotive and boat batteries accepted
- No quantity limit on batteries



New Communication Assistant

Beginning this month, Sarah Baird has transitioned into a new role as Communications Assistant. Sarah's contact info remains the same, but she can now be found in her new work station on the second floor near the Communications Office.

We are excited to have Sarah bring her skills and enthusiasm to the Communications Office, where she will continue to assist the county in engaging with our residents and community!

New Pollinator Garden

In celebration of National Pollinator Week, the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission has planted a new pollinator garden at the Oconee County Administrative Building!

Join us on July 16, 2025, for a welcome ceremony with pastries and juice from 7- 9 a.m. as we officially open this beautiful new space. Permanent picnic tables will be ready for you to stop by and enjoy the garden anytime.

We look forward to seeing you there!





EMPLOYEE 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!

Administration

Justin Kirouac 07/31/2017

Communications

Sarah Baird 07/10/2023

Finance

Kim Cramer 07/30/2018

Fleet

Brandy Ervin 07/16/2001

IT

Justin Milligan 07/11/2022

Jail

Sheletha Pope 07/04/2016

Steven Allen 07/17/2017

William McCarthy 07/31/2017

Scotty Bodie 07/12/2021

Law Enforcement

Andrew Henderson 07/14/2014

Wade Higginbotham 07/21/2014

Matthew Pilcher 07/05/2016

Christopher Haags 07/12/2021

Johnny Richards 07/27/2022

Parks and Rec

Tyler Hartzog 07/17/2017

Trevor Rakosnik 07/11/2023

Planning

Gaby Bryan 07/10/2000

Probate

Kayla Bennett 07/27/2015

Property Appraisal

Diane Horvath 07/10/2000

Gui Fielteau 07/31/2023

Public Works

George Kull 07/02/2007

Allen Hawkins 07/18/2011

Justin Dunaway 07/11/2022

Jeff Riddle 07/10/2023

Stephen Stuchell Jr. 07/10/2023

Jacob McCoy 07/17/2023

Tax Commissioner

Marissa Rice 07/11/2022

Water Resources

Lance Raines 07/03/2000

Jesika Stock 07/22/2024



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!

Samuel Hammond	07/01	Kristy Sweeney	07/19
David Knowles	07/01	Daniel Ellis	07/21
Leon Ogletree	07/02	Bradley Milligan	07/22
Delores Russell	07/03	Stan Swisher	07/23
Jake Thornton	07/08	Aiden Cramer	07/25
Tommy Hewell	07/12	Amrey Harden	07/26
Charles Lee	07/12	Dustin Mines	07/26
Kendra Freeman	07/13	Russell Baker	07/29
Mark Smith	07/13	Michael Hensley	07/29
Jennifer Parker	07/14	Samuel Masters	07/29
Timothy Rice	07/15	Parker Middlebrooks	07/30
John Young	07/17		

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.