

THE HR NEWSLETTER

CITY OF VALDOSTA

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SAFETY MATTERS!

One of the biggest tasks faced by the Safety Committee is ensuring good health and safety practices in the City of Valdosta workplace.

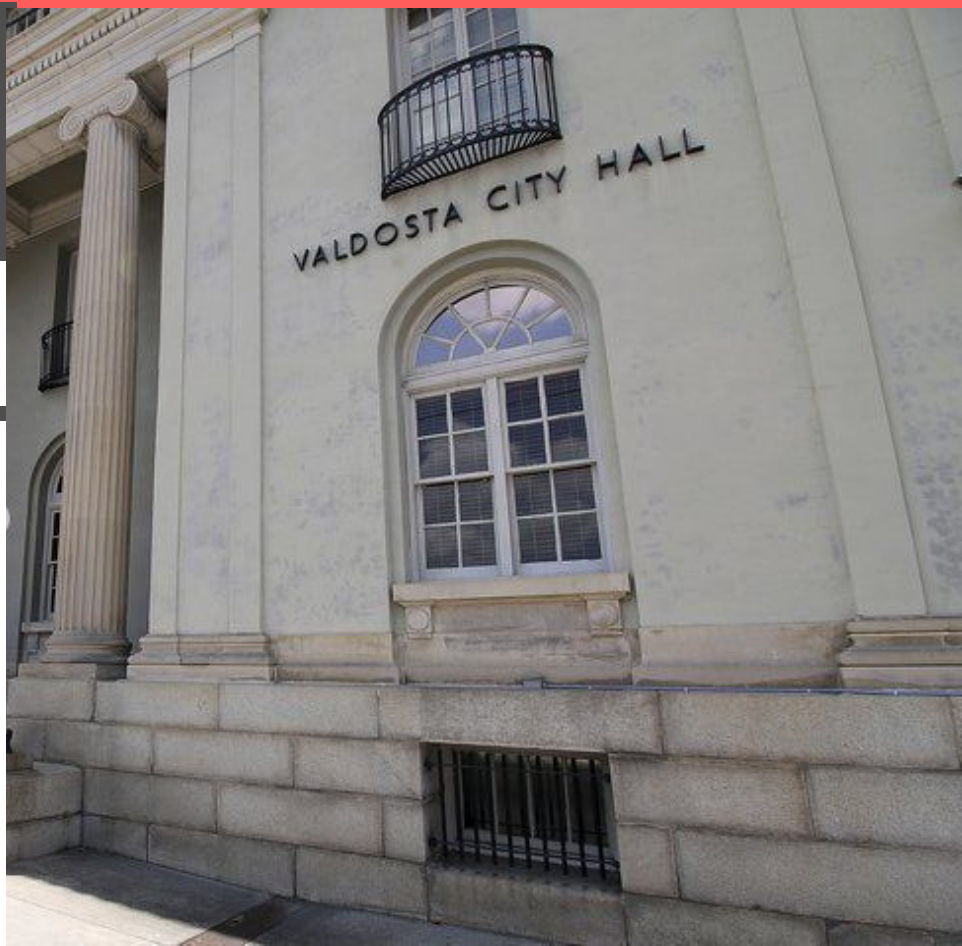
Safety First signs help employees stay mindful of safe working procedures. It is vital that everyone understands risks and how to prevent injuries.

For this reason, the proper signage in a workplace is essential, as it is one of the main points of reference. These signs should be found anywhere in which a potential hazard might be found, and the aim is to clearly indicate the danger so that it may be avoided. Other signs actually explain the precautions to take in order to avoid the hazard.

February Birthdays



- Faith Bordelon, 2/1
- Randy Folsom, 2/2
- Patricia Knipper, 2/2
- William Wheeler, 2/2
- Jordan Washington, 2/3
- Walter Williams, 2/5
- James Horton, 2/6
- Jason louie, 2/6
- Shawn Massey, 2/8
- Stephen Thompson, 2/9
- Kyle Stephenson, 2/10
- Kaitlyn Hardy, 2/11
- Chad Roe, 2/11
- Jason Rowan, 2/11
- Victoria Schenk, 2/11
- Abel Braswell, 2/12
- Willie Jones Jr., 2/14
- Ryan Strickland, 2/14
- Alphonso Stoney, 2/15
- William Carter, 2/16
- Christopher Boone, 2/17
- Barrett Moore, 2/17
- Max Ahner III, 2/18
- Carlton Couch, 2/18
- Brian Wood, 2/18
- Christopher Hicks, 2/19
- Randal Herndon, 2/20
- Marc Holmes, 2/21
- George Simpson Jr., 2/21
- Roger Weaver Jr., 2/22
- Gloria White, 2/22
- Roger Chastain, 2/23
- Andrew Williams, 2/23
- Lloyd Cummings, 2/24
- David Fawcett, 2/24
- Monica Nelson, 2/24
- David Frost, 2/25
- Robert Renfroe, 2/25
- Richard Copeland Jr., 2/26
- Bryce Finley, 2/26
- Lawrence Goddard, 2/26
- Starr Page, 2/26
- Willie Sims, 2/26
- Kari Williams, 2/26
- Donnie Heirs, 2/27
- Troy Cribbs Jr., 2/28
- Vanessa Fluca, 2/28



Employee Anniversaries

- Bobbi McGraw, 23
- Brian Boutwell, 23
- Robert Clark, 23
- Michael Knighton, 22
- Carolyn Sampson-Burgess, 19
- Cynthia Hill, 18
- Curtis Wade, 18
- Stephen Chammoun, 16
- Douglas Stevenson II, 15
- Anthony Drake, 14
- Adam Bembry, 14
- Jimmie Bacon, 13
- Margaret Hill, 12
- James Byrd Jr., 12
- Brenda Schunhoff, 10
- Deonna James, 6
- David Frost, 5
- Barbara Adams, 4
- Cedric Saunders, 4
- James Horton, 4
- Larry Spencer, 4
- Edward Black Jr., 3
- Victor Anderson, 3
- Terrance Brown, 3
- Kylan Stevenson, 3
- Ashley Murray, 2
- Donnie Heirs, 1
- Anthony McGriff Jr., 1
- Cooper Brice Cooper, 1

January Employee of the Month

Tom Pierce began his employment with the City of Valdosta in January of 2015 and currently holds the position of Supervisor in our Residential Trash Division. Tom is responsible for supervising the Department's residential yard trash functions as assigned. He plans and organizes daily work assignments along with coordinating collection routes and maintenance schedules. He inspects collection and maintenance routes to ensure that work is completed as assigned. He ensures employee compliance with safety procedures. Tom also trains, assigns, schedules, supervises, evaluates and disciplines personnel.

Mr. Pierce is a role model and an Ambassador as he represents the City daily during his interactions with the citizens. The Public Works Department has received numerous calls naming him while complimenting on the outstanding service received. Me. Pierce's actions display great dedication and a "Service-Before-Self" attitude, both which are superb qualities and says a lot about his commitment.

After Hurricane Michael blew through the City of Valdosta, it was now time to clean up the debris left behind. This is when Tom Pierce showcased his dedication and leadership skills immensely. He led a team of 28 city employees removing over 8,217 tons of debris from City-right-of-ways. Taking the lead, he identified several crew leaders, outlined 24-hour shift coverage that provided the best use of equipment and manpower to place his plan in action. Mr. Pierce was given 15 days to rid the City of the debris generated by the storm. Mr. Pierce worked tirelessly for 15 consecutive days (each day was a minimum 12-hour shift) coordinating with his team to complete this task. He met this timeline clearing up the City's right-of-ways of debris and his efforts placed his division back on schedule with its normal daily route clearing.



Photos from Recent Events



Thomas Goodin, Michael Rice, William Smith, George Tatum, and John Wicker are the newest members of Valdosta's police force.

Chief Brian Boutwell completed the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy's (NFA) "Executive Fire Officer Program" (EFO) Program. Chief Boutwell is the first member of the Valdosta Fire Department to complete the EFO program.



Safety Committee Sites Self-Inspection

The Safety Committee Representatives will be conducting site self-inspections monthly to ensure buildings are in compliance and safe for employees and the public. Please work with your department's Safety Committee Representative in keeping your workplace safe at all times to prevent injuries and eliminate potential hazards.

City of Valdosta Safety Committee

Julie Grantham – Chairman

Stanley Keith Martin – Co-Chairman

Representatives Department

Tony Drake – Community Development

Larry Ogden – Engineering

Taylor Marzell – Executive Office

Michael McIrvin – Finance

Berna Hepburn – Human Resources

Amanda Hendricks – Human Resources

Kimberly Fulford – Municipal Court

Brandon Corbitt – Neighborhood Development

Joseph Gosseck – Police Patrol

Julie Grantham – Police Crime Lab

Steven Jolly – Public Works Mathis

Michael Weldon – Public Works Maintenance Center

Tom Pierce – Sanitation

Steve Webb – Utilities Withlacoochee

Max Ahner – Utilities Mud Creek

Russell McBride – Utilities Water Plant

Stanley Keith Martin – Utilities

Tyshon Reed – Fire Training

Johnny Henry – Fire Operations

Marcus Haynes – Fire Professional Standards

BIRD SUPPER 2019

**The date for the 2019 Bird Supper has changed to February 13.*

The 2019 Bird Supper has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at the historic Georgia Railroad Depot in Atlanta. The traditional event brings together hundreds of state officials and local business, professional and government personnel for a dinner of quail and important conversations.

Since the 1950s, the Bird Supper has been providing a venue for local professionals to be a catalyst for impacting legislative issues by keeping Valdosta and Lowndes County in the minds of the state officials during a half-way point of the legislative session.

Lowndes County Bird Supper



**Make an
Impact on
YOUR
Community**

*\$50 Per
Ticket - on
sale through
Jan. 21*

*Wednesday,
January 30,
2019
5:00 - 7:00
p.m.*

*Georgia
Railroad Depot
in Atlanta,
Georgia*

Contact :
 *BirdSupper@lowndescounty.com*
 *229-671-2400 or 229-259-3548*

