Teeing up for a good cause

THE JOURNAL STAFF

SENECA — Participants will take cover as dozens of golf balls drop from the sky at Oconee Memorial Hospital this week.

The ever-popular Golf Ball Drop will kick off the Golf Classic on Wednesday at noon.

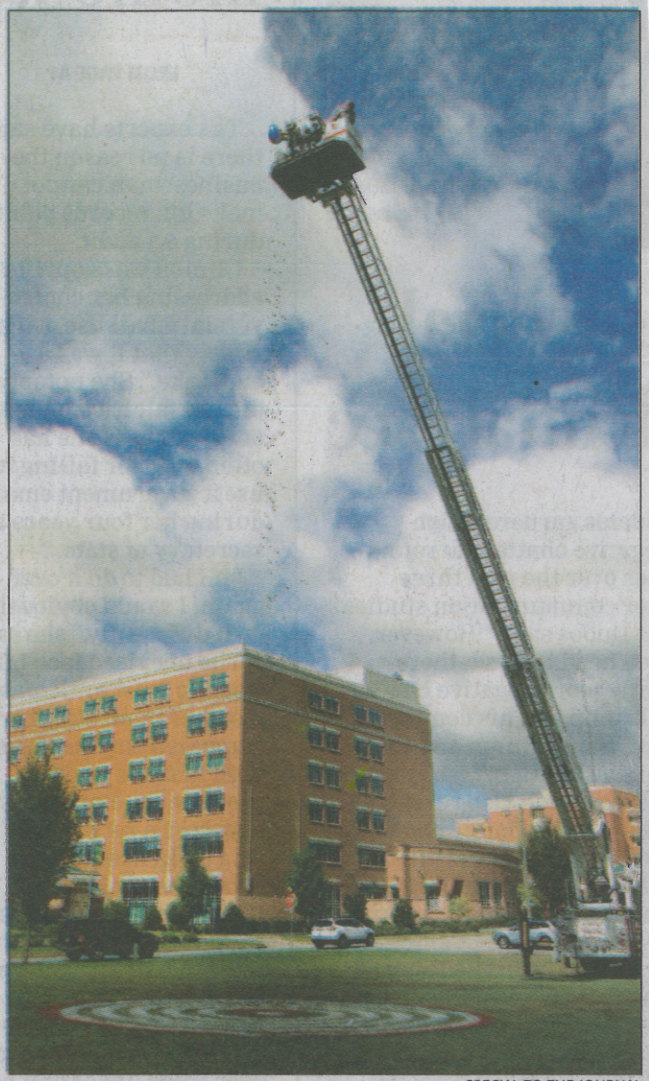
Oconee Memorial Hospital Foundation will partner with the Seneca Fire Department to drop up to 200 numbered balls from a ladder truck.

The three balls landing closest to the pin onto a painted bull's-eye will win up to $2,500 in cash. Balls can be purchased for $50 each. Proceeds benefit Lila Doyle Nursing Facility, Safe Kids Upstate (Oconee services) and Access-Health Dental Clinic. All purchases are tax-deductible. Entry forms are available in the OMH Foundation Office.

Then, hundreds of golfers will tee up on Thursday to support the health services of GHS Oconee Memorial Hospital. In its ninth year, the charity tournament will be played at both Cross Creek Plantation and Keowee Key golf courses.

This year's event benefits Safe Kids Upstate (Oconee), Lila Doyle Nursing Care Facility and AccessHealth Community Dental Clinic.

"We are pleased to support these very important health care services. These three programs are having a tremendous impact on our community, and we hope to raise needed funds to help continue their good work," OMH Foundation chairman Dr. Teddy Martin said. "We are grateful to Oconee Federal Charitable Foundation, our title sponsor and all of the area businesses and individuals who are participating in this event."



SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Up to 200 golf balls will drop at Oconee Memorial Hospital on Wednesday. The ever-popular Golf Ball Drop will kick off the Golf Classic, which includes a golf tournament and dinner reception on Thursday.

Since the tournament began in 2008, it has become one of the largest charity tournaments in the mountain lakes area. More than $538,000 has been raised to support local health care services. Following the tournament, an evening dinner reception and auction will be held at The Club at Keowee Key. Reception tickets are $30 and the public is invited to purchase tickets.

"This event includes something for everyone. From the Golf Ball Drop to the tournament to the reception and auction following the tournament, there are many ways to get involved and show your support of our hospital services," OMH Foundation manager Cortni Nations said. "These services touch the lives of many in our community — the young, the elderly and those less fortunate. We are thankful to everyone for coming out and making a difference in the health of Oconee County."

For more information about the Golf Ball Drop, the golf tournament or the evening reception, call (864) 885-7912.