



Branson Briefs

A monthly e-Newsletter for the community providing information about activities, projects and events in the City of Branson

Volume 3, Issue 11

November 2011

Old Taneycomo Bridge to open November 16

The old Taneycomo Bridge project that has been under construction for the past two years will be open to traffic Wednesday, November 16. A ribbon cutting and ceremonial motorcade across the bridge will begin at 11 a.m. on November 16th at the Branson Convention Center. A "stroll-about," where the public can stroll on and view the revamped bridge and visit with contractors and city officials, will be Tuesday, November 15 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Peddlers must submit to background checks

Peddlers wishing to sell their wares and services must now go through a background check and police review prior to being issued a license to sell items door to door. The applicant would also pay fees associated with the background checks. Non-profit 501(c)3 applicants would be exempt from the fee and criminal history check if they provide non-profit documentation and letter from the organization supporting the applicant.

Citywide fall cleanup week of Nov 14



The Branson Public Works Department will be conducting its annual fall cleanup November 14 - 18 to help residents properly dispose of large unwanted items at no cost. This is a semi-annual event which is part of an ongoing effort to keep Branson clean and attractive. Ward I pick-up is on Monday, November 14, Ward II is on Tuesday, November 15, and Ward III is Wednesday, November 16. Brush and limbs will be picked up in all three wards on Thursday, November 17.

Branson welcomes veterans

From November 5 through November 11, Branson continues its tradition of honoring veterans who have served our country with the largest homecoming celebration in the nation. With more than 40 special events leading up to the Veterans Day Parade, thousands of veterans, active duty personnel and their families are welcomed by a grateful community.



City officials and citizens walk Highway 76

City staff along with property and business owners conducted another walking tour of Highway 76 Country Music Boulevard to discuss future plans and ideas for the famous corridor. This was the second of four areas of 76 that the city hopes to tour before the end of the year. The concerns and thoughts expressed by citizens during the walks included burying utility lines, assisting businesses with improvements to their properties and filling in vacant businesses. The next 76 walk is November 17.

City's information director retiring



The city of Branson's first public information director, Jerry Adams, has announced his retirement effective January 1, 2012 after 17 ½ years in that position. Adams first came to work as a contract media consultant for the city in February 1994 during a period of explosive growth in Branson and national as well as international media attention. He was hired full-time as the public information director in June 1994.

Change your clocks, change your batteries

With daylight savings time ending November 6, the Branson Fire Department would like to remind residents to make another change that could save their lives – changing the batteries in their smoke alarms. Firefighters find that almost a third of smoke alarms don't work because of dead or missing batteries.

City Hall
110 W. Maddux
Branson, MO 65616
417-334-3345
417-334-6095 fax
www.bransonmo.gov

Hours
8-a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Mayor
Raeanne Presley

Board of Aldermen
Cris Bohinc
Mike Booth
Rick Davis
Patrick Parnell
Bob Simmons
Rick Todd

City Administrator
Dean Kruithof

Board of Aldermen
meeting schedule
2nd & 4th Tuesday
of each month
7 p.m.
Council Chambers



Ozark Mountain
Christmas now
through
January 2



Sean (at left in photo) was presented the award by Branson Alderman Mike Booth.

City Employee of the Month

Sean Barnwell, detective sergeant in the police department, received the honor of being the October Employee of the Month. Sean implemented a new system of communication and record keeping in the police department. He worked diligently to get grant funding of over \$1.4 million to upgrade systems and other equipment, not just for Branson, but the surrounding law enforcement agencies as well. As a result, officers are working more efficiently and safer, and the department is able to share data with other agencies. The department can also track an officer's location using GPS when an officer is unresponsive.

Citizens' Service Request Line

If you need a question answered about the city, or need to report a problem or express a concern, contact the Citizens' Service Request line at 337-8502. The line is open 24/7 and the city will respond to your request within five working days.

You can also e-mail a request from the city of Branson website www.bransonmo.gov.

Energy savings at City Hall

Branson City Hall has been undergoing lighting change outs which will result in monetary savings of 13.2% with a KWH reduction of 13.9%. Workers installed new light bulbs plus movement and sound sensors to ensure that lights will turn off within 10 minutes after people leave a room. New thermostats have been installed and the heating/air conditioning system reconditioned.



City engineer also a distinguished alumni

Longtime Branson City Engineer and Public Works Director David Miller has been selected for membership in the University of Missouri's Civil Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni. Election to the Academy recognizes outstanding achievement, excellence and leadership in engineering and civic affairs. Miller has been Branson's city engineer for the past 21 years.

City auctioning property on Internet

The city of Branson is conducting another auction of surplus property on the Internet. The Internet auction, which includes more than 50 items, runs through November 8. All items are listed on www.purplewave.com. Instructions on how to register to bid are located on Purple Wave's website. Additional questions can be directed to 785-537-5057.

Branson Recycle Center 601 Compton Dr

Hours

Mon- Sat 7:30 am to 1pm

Thur. 7:30 am to 6 pm



Used motor oil heats building

The city will be saving some money while providing heat this winter for the first time at its recycle center. A household chemical collections facility located inside the recycle center accepts used motor oil and other household chemicals from citizens in Taney County. Previously, the used motor oil had to be disposed of through incineration provided by a licensed contractor at an average cost of \$700 a year. Now a new waste-oil heater will burn the oil onsite and provide heat for the recycle center workers.

City looking at law regarding cold medicine sales

The Board of Aldermen is considering an ordinance that would require a prescription for the purchase of any products containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, key ingredients in making methamphetamine. The purpose is make it more difficult for meth dealers to manufacture the illegal drug in the Branson area.

New Year's in Branson

Don't forget the week after Christmas when numerous Branson shows and area attractions are open. This is a great time to share the season with family and friends. Many theaters will offer festive New Year's Eve shows complete with food, beverages, party favors, balloon drops and special music to ring in the new year!



Water rates to increase slightly in 2012

Residents connected to the city's water system will see a 3% increase in rates starting January 1, 2012. However, there will be no increase in sewer rates. It was previously anticipated water rates could increase 11% in 2012, but a meter change-out program started in 2010 along Highway 76 brought in an additional \$168,000 in water revenue this year, which has kept water rate increases at only 3%.



Branson city offices will be closed

November 11
Veterans' Day

November 24-25
Thanksgiving Holiday