



# Branson Briefs

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

Volume 3, Issue 9

September 2011

## City Hall

110 W. Maddux  
Branson, MO 65616

417-334-3345

417-334-6095 fax

[www.bransonmo.gov](http://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

**On Sep. 22 at 6 p.m., Aldermen and city staff will do an orientation walk along Hwy 76 to identify attributes as well as needs. Public invited. Meet at 3215 W. Hwy 76.**



## Drop off established for old medications

Residents of Branson and Taney County now have a permanent place to safely get rid of expired or unwanted medications. A drop box has been placed in the lobby of the Branson Police Department located on the lower level of Branson City Hall. Drugs can be dropped off anytime. There's no paperwork required, just place the medications in the drop box. Things accepted include prescription and over-the-counter medications, vitamins, drug samples, pet medicines, ointments and lotions.

## City redrawing Aldermen districts.

As a result of Branson's burgeoning population from 6,000 in 2000 to 10,000 in 2010, city officials are working to balance the growth in the three aldermanic wards for equal representation. The main criteria are population followed by registered voters, active voters and keeping a 10 percent or less deviation between the city's wards. The redistricting proposal is still in the development phase, and it will most likely be November before it goes before Aldermen for public hearing and approval. The current ward map and the proposed updated ward map are available for viewing on this website. Go to the home page, click on Agendas and Minutes, then click on Agenda 8/18/11 Study Session.

## City sets property tax levy

The Board of Aldermen has set the city's 2011 property tax levy at .5394 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. The 2010 rate was .5186 cents. The new rate is about 4% more. On a \$150,000 home in Branson, homeowners can expect to pay \$153.75 in city property tax next year compared to \$147.80 this year.

## City looking at ban on medicines with meth ingredients

Board of Aldermen are considering a city law that would ban the sale of medicines containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine without a prescription. These ingredients are used in the production of methamphetamine, an illegal drug. The city of Hollister has already passed an ordinance banning sale of medicines with these ingredients.



## Branson recycle kiosk tops in the nation

Recycling on the go has become so popular here that the recycle kiosk at the Country Mart store on Highway 248 took first place in volume competition during the last two weeks in August compared to other recycle kiosks around the nation. These kiosks for beverage containers make it easy to recycle while grocery shopping.

## Public meeting set for lake watershed plan

A public meeting will be held on September 13, 5:30 p.m. at the Branson RecPlex to develop a watershed plan for Lake Taneycomo. According to Table Rock Lake Water Quality, developing a watershed management plan greatly increases the chances for state and federal funding to address specific water quality problems

## Back to school bash helps fill backpacks

The Branson RecPlex hosted the annual Back to School Bash in August that provided over 1,250 backpacks filled with school supplies for local needy children and youth. The event was hosted by Branson First Baptist Church with several other community sponsors. Over 5,000 family members and friends enjoyed a day full of activities including giant inflatables, games and free swimming in the AquaPlex.



Marsha Fulton with Alderman Rick Todd

## City Employee of the Month

**Marsha Fulton**, office specialist in the Parks & Recreation Department, received the honor of being the August Employee of the Month. Marsha was recognized for her extra efforts during the orientation of seasonal employees earlier this summer. Her department hires 80 part-time employees, and all of these new employees must go through a hiring process, which can take a considerable amount of time. Marsha studied the orientation process and found ways to streamline by acquiring as much paperwork as possible ahead of time and always keeping the communication lines open. She saved parks and recreation many hours of work trying to get all of the required information.

## 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](http://www.bransonmo.gov).

## Branson Recycle Center 601 Compton Dr

### Hours

Mon- Sat 7:30 am to 1pm

Thur. 7:30 am to 6 pm

## September 16-17 Autumn Daze In Downtown Branson



## Granny basketball

The Granny National Basketball Tournament was held last month at the Branson RecPlex with ladies from four Midwestern states participating. They played by many of the same rules set up when the league was formed such as: no running, no jumping, only two dribbles allowed and no skin showing below the waist. Most of the uniforms included bloomers with socks covering legs.

## Firefighters do safety checks for local school

The Branson Fire Department conducted fire safety training for Branson School District bus drivers. The program focused on bus evacuation, student accountability, fire prevention and the use of portable fire extinguishers.

Also, firefighters did fire and life safety inspections at all Branson schools before the start of classes to identify and eliminate potential fire hazards.



## Architects to evaluate old high school

On September 15 and 16, representatives from a Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) will be in Branson to meet with city staff and residents to discuss future opportunities for the old high school at College and 6<sup>th</sup>. The building was recently purchased by the city, and the SDAT is being provided through a grant received by the city. This will be the first of two visits by SDAT comprised of architects, planners, and other design professionals. Their goal is to create a sustainable vision for the property that will become a catalyst for similar development throughout the neighborhood.



## Water plants set new records

Branson's two water treatment plants set a new record for daily gallons produced on August 7, 2011. (6.633 million gallons). The old record was 6.585 million gallons produced on August 11, 2007.

Meadows Water Treatment Plant also broke two daily records with 5.030 million gallons on July 31 and then broke it again on August 7, 2011 with 5.110 million gallons. The old record for Meadows was 4.730 million gallons previously done 3 times.

## Ironman 70.3 in Branson

Branson welcomes the Second Annual K-Swiss Ironman 70.3 Triathlon to the picturesque Ozark Mountains on Sunday, September 18. The day starts off with a 1.2 mile swim in Table Rock Lake. The athletes then take on a challenging and fast 56-mile bike course before ending the contest with a 13.1-mile run. More than 1,000 athletes from around the world compete in this triathlon.

## Firemen grow own vegetables

For the past five years, Branson firefighters at Station 2 have been practicing sustainability, and in the process saving money by growing their own vegetables. The firefighters plant, water and weed the garden, and then enjoy the vegetables of their labor. "It brings us together as a crew," said Brien Reinke, fire engineer. "It feels good to be able to plan our fire department dinners based around what's ripe in our garden. It forces us to eat healthier, eat fresher and eat locally sustainable produce. Nothing tastes better than a sun ripened heirloom tomato you grew and harvested yourself."

