



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

Congratulations to Branson Police Officer Darold Donathan for being named the winner of a state-wide Local Government Hero Award. He was selected from 23 nominees from all over the state by the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS) for making a difference in the Branson community and exemplifying the LAGERS values of dedication, respect, teamwork, integrity, excellence, communication and accountability. Well done Officer Donathan!

I hope everyone is excited to see all of the Veterans coming into town this week to participate in Veterans Homecoming Week 2020. The festivities run from November 5-11. You can find all the planned events on the [Branson Chamber of Commerce website](#). While honoring veterans is a year-round cultural value in Branson, it is nice to place additional focus on these great citizens during the Veterans Day period.

It was so good to see the Branson Community Tree Lighting this week next to the Ferris Wheel that marks the start of our Christmas Season. In case you had not heard, we have a 7,200 square foot ice skating rink coming to Branson in mid-November right next to the Ferris Wheel. At nearly 72 feet x 100 feet, it is the same size as the Rink at Rockefeller Center in New York City. The rink is scheduled to be open from about mid-November through New Year's. This will be another fun Christmas Season option for our citizens and guests. For more Christmas Season activities, see the [Chamber's excellent website](#).

Speaking of the Christmas Season, our Public Works team conducted its "Snow Exercise" this week to prepare for winter weather on our local roads. City plow drivers practiced driving snow routes and safety procedures during this training event. You can read more about how the Public Works Department prepares for winter weather, salts our roads, and keeps our streets clear during snow and ice events on the [City's website](#). Thank you Public Works team for all you do to help us navigate the winter weather.

If you want to hang onto summer activities a bit longer, head out to the Branson RecPlex to watch the [Triple Crown Fastpitch](#) competition, November 7-8. You can find a schedule and more information on the Chamber's website.

Prayers are needed for our Nation, State, and our community of public servants. Please stay positive and be thankful for living in the best city in America. Thank you for letting me serve you,

Mayor Edd Akers