



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

As we approach Thanksgiving and look with joy and excitement to the Christmas season in Branson, the activities in town are really ramping up. Make sure you don't miss out on any of the fun by keeping up with the activity calendars and notices on the [Branson Chamber of Commerce's website](#).

This week we enjoyed the grand opening of the Ice Skating Rink near the Ferris Wheel. This is a wonderful new seasonal, and hopefully annual, tradition that included a special visit from Santa. I want to provide a special reminder for the upcoming 72nd annual Adoration Parade that will take place on December 6, 2020. We will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the lighting of the Adoration Nativity Scene on Mount Branson. Please join us to help celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by keeping Christ in Christmas.

Last week we had an enjoyable benchmarking session with eight members of the Leesville, Louisiana City Council and City Staff. Leesville Mayor, Rick Allen and his team had a wonderful time visiting Branson and seemed impressed with the customer service focus they found in a variety of activities. We enjoyed meeting with them to discuss similar city challenges and brainstorm a few ideas.

Congratulations to our emergency and first responder departments. The Skaggs Foundation awarded a grant to form a First Responder Peer Support Team. This team will help address mental health needs for our first responders and help them work through job related concerns. Not only will it help the first responders in Branson, but will serve about 600 Taney and Stone County first responders that include police, sheriff, fire, EMS, dispatchers, and jailers.

Due to the request of our local health officials to increase COVID-19 protection, we have implemented additional face covering restrictions within City of Branson Municipal Government Buildings. Effective November 16, 2020, everyone has to wear a face covering at all times, with no exceptions, to enter Branson City Hall, the Community/Senior Center, and the City of Branson Convention Center. If you are in the RecPlex, you may only take the face covering off if you are exercising, playing a sport, or are under 13-years old.

Thank you to those who continue to pray for our Country, state, County, and City. Please stay positive and be thankful for living in the best city in America.

Thank you for letting me serve you.

Mayor Edd Akers