



FROM THE ROOST

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI / SUMMER 2021

Greetings from the Mayor's Office

I am extremely excited and humbled that you elected me to serve you as Olive Branch's 23rd Mayor. Voter participation set record levels for each of the six wards in the City, even with the rain that we endured all day. This was resounding proof that democracy is alive and well in Olive Branch. I commit to work diligently to serve you while in the Mayor's office and thank you for the opportunity to do so. I also congratulate the Board of Aldermen/Alderswomen for their successful campaigns, and look forward to teaming up with them to serve you. We will continue to keep the best interest of all citizens at the forefront of each decision we make.

We are thankful for the progress Olive Branch has made in years past and will work to improve amenities and services provided by the City. Olive Branch has been recognized repeatedly for being one of the best cities in the U.S., one of the top cities to raise a family, and one of the best cities to begin a career. When the latest census is finalized, Olive Branch will be in the top five cities in the state, and the 2nd largest City land wise, encompassing 56 square miles and 381 miles of roadways. Also, the City Airport is the second busiest general aviation airport in the State. As we implement our operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year we will include additional police officers, firefighters and EMS professionals, the largest roadway repaving program in our history, and additional litter pick up resources and other measures to best serve you.

In order to continue our trajectory forward I believe it is vital to engage citizens who desire to make a difference and are willing to serve. As I committed during my campaign, I plan to implement advisory committees to help chart the way for Olive Branch's future. These advisory boards will consist of Young Adult, Parks and Recreation, Ministerial, Business, and City Beautification boards. I will meet on a regular basis with these boards to solicit input on goals the City needs to be pursuing. Contact will be made directly with ministers and business leaders to solicit their support. If you would like to serve on either the Young Adult, Parks and Recreation, or City Beautification board, send an email to sbrock@obms.us. Include your name, address, the board you wish to serve on, and a brief statement of the reason you wish to serve. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lastly, I hope your summer was rewarding and may God continue to bless Olive Branch, you, and your family.

Kenneth R. Adams



Kenneth R. (Ken) Adams took office as the 23rd Mayor of Olive Branch on July 1, 2021.



CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH
 9200 Pigeon Roost
 Olive Branch, MS 38654
www.OBMS.us

MAYOR | **KENNETH R. (KEN) ADAMS**
 662.892.9201

CITY CLERK | **TENA STEWART**
 662.892.9211

CITY ADMINISTRATOR | **JASON MAY**
 662.892.9200

POLICE CHIEF | **DON GAMMAGE**
 662.892.9400

FIRE CHIEF | **JOHNNY EASON**
 662.890.7376

SR. CENTER COORDINATOR | **NORMA SHAW**
 662.890.7236

PARKS DIRECTOR | **JAMES CAMPBELL**
 662.893.5219

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR | **COLE FESMIRE**
 662.893.5209

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

AT LARGE | **GEORGE COLLINS**
 662.895.3308

WARD 1 | **GIL EARHART**
 662.892.9218

WARD 2 | **PAT HAMILTON**
 662.895.5765

WARD 3 | **JOY HENDERSON**
 901.413.8361

WARD 4 | **DAVID WALLACE**
 901.619.6992

WARD 5 | **JAN ALDRIDGE**
 901.268.4119

WARD 6 | **DALE DICKERSON**
 662.895.2543

FROM THE
ROOST
 SUMMER 2021

FROM THE ROOST is published bi-annually by the City of Olive Branch, Office of Public Relations, 9200 Pigeon Roost, Olive Branch, MS 38654, telephone 662.892.9375.



SCOTT B. PHILLIPS, JR.
 22nd Mayor of Olive Branch
 2013-2021

Thank you, Mayor Scott Phillips, for eight years of dedicated leadership to the City of Olive Branch.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The State of Mississippi is responsible for the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccinations. We encourage everyone to follow the Mississippi State Department of Health on Facebook ([Facebook.com/HealthyMS](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyMS)), Twitter (twitter.com/msdh), and/or visit their web site at www.msdh.ms.gov for information regarding COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.

CITY MEETING SCHEDULES

MEETING	LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Mayor and Board of Aldermen	Courthouse 6900 Highland Street	First and Third Tuesday of Each Month	6:30 p.m.
City Planning Commission	Courthouse 6900 Highland Street	Second Tuesday of Each Month	6:00 p.m.
Board of Adjustment	Courthouse 6900 Highland Street	Second Thursday of Each Month	6:00 p.m.



Welcome to myOliveBranch

An official app of Olive Branch, Mississippi

With myOliveBranch, you can quickly and easily manage water payments, and take care of citations.

Log In

myOliveBranch Services



Pay Utilities



Enroll in Auto Payments



Find Citations

INTRODUCING myOliveBranch

The City of Olive Branch is pleased to offer a new way to pay your City utility bill. We have teamed up with Payit to provide this service. Visit the home page of www.obms.us, or access directly at myolivebranch.obms.us to view your bill, pay your utilities, enroll in auto payments, even find, link, and pay citations and/or court fees. We also offer the option of auto bank draft, with no fee. Simply print the "Bank Draft Notice" form from www.obms.us/utility-forms, complete, and return to the Utility Department with a canceled check. Of course, you may continue to pay at the service window of City Hall, or mail in your payment, but we are happy to offer these other options as well.

Easily access
the new
myOliveBranch
from the City's
home page



Olive Branch
Mississippi

Home Visitor Info Residents City Departments Business Government

MyOliveBranch Utilities

The official app of Olive Branch, Mississippi

With myOliveBranch, you can quickly and easily manage water payments, and take care of citations.

PAY MY UTILITIES

INTRODUCING



myOliveBranch

powered by payit

PAY MY UTILITIES >

AVAILABLE FROM ANY DEVICE



THURSDAY
OCTOBER 28
5-7 PM

IN

OLIVE BRANCH
OLD TOWNE





THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

CITY HALL • 5-8 PM

CARRIAGE RIDES
PICTURES WITH SANTA
WESSON HOUSE OPEN HOUSE
TREE LIGHTING @ 7 PM



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

CHRISTMAS PARADE

PARADE STARTS AT 2 PM
AT OLIVE BRANCH ELEMENTARY

Garbage and Recycling Services

Waste Connections provides residential garbage and recycle collection in the City of Olive Branch. We have added a page to our web site, www.obms.us/residents/garbage-recycle, that includes a tool where you can find your scheduled collection day, sign up for reminders and notifications regarding delayed service due to holidays, and a calendar view of your scheduled collection days. Use the Wizard for a list of recycle and/or disposable items. Links to the Google Play and Apple Stores, are available to download an app on your mobile device.



Road Repaving Projects

The City of Olive Branch continues to care about the conditions of all of our roads. Our road network has grown significantly just as our City has over the last several decades. Currently, we have over 325 miles of roads to maintain. While many of our roads continue to perform well, some roads are reaching the upper limits of the design life. Maintaining roads is expensive and it's important that we look for ways to extend the life of our road network.

The City of Olive Branch is looking to improve our street overlay program to make sure our citizens have safe, well-maintained roads. We are considering expanding on our road network evaluation program. The change in the program would add videoed ratings of every road, a maintenance plan, a treatment options plan, and a cost analysis with multi-year budgeting. Once complete, consideration for increases in our budget are planned to meet the recommended goals in maintenance, pavement preservation, and overlays of new asphalt.



Now Accepting Nominations for the 2021 Olive Branch Hall of Fame

The nominating period is now open for the 2021 Olive Branch Hall of Fame. The general public is asked to participate in the nominating process by completing the form at the bottom of this page. You may enter anyone you think that is worthy of the honor, by mailing or hand-delivering this form to City Hall by September 10, 2021 (marked “**Attention: Hall of Fame**”). Anyone receiving at least one vote from last year’s nominees has been carried forward for 2021 and, as such, **does not need to be nominated again this year**. The list of those names carried forward from 2020 are as follows:

Sallie Mae Boggan
Willie Brown
George Collins
David Haraway

Phil Lachaussee
Forest Langston
Harold Nichols

T.H. Norvell
A. Gene Phillips
Ken Reid

Jason Shifflett
Gartha Wallace, Sr.
M.H. White, Sr.

2020 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

THOMAS DYE (TOMMY) DODDRIDGE
February 4, 1929 – February 12, 2019

OSCAR FLOYD GEESLIN
August 31, 1947 –

Members of the Olive Branch Hall of Fame and the year they were inducted are:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bill G. Allen 2015 | Bill E. Cruthirds, Sr. 2008 | M. C. Herrington 2007 | Sam P. Rikard 2009 |
| Gilbert Leon Allen 2018 | Scottye C. Davidson 2008 | Wayne D. Hollowell 2014 | Don Sappington 2016 |
| Marthola Allen 2014 | Wendell W. Davis 2015 | Jan R. Johnson 2007 | Dr. P. J. Scott 2012 |
| Helen D. Allison 2012 | James A. Doddridge, Sr. 2010 | Dr. Julian F. Jones 2010 | Kenneth W. Sessom 2011 |
| Jimmy Neal Andrews 2015 | Thomas D. (Tommy) Doddridge 2020 | Bill W. Kerr 2008 | Homer D. Skelton 2007 |
| Billy W. Baldwin 2014 | Pat Dorr 2016 | Martha Pearl Langston 2018 | Lush Pun Tubby 2007 |
| Vicky Jo Baldwin 2019 | Dr. Greg Evans 2016 | Ray Magee 2016 | Benjamin F. Wesson 2008 |
| Drue D. Birmingham, Jr. 2012 | Stephen Flinn 2007 | Robert H. Marr 2011 | Dr. William T. Wilkins 2019 |
| Billie B. Blocker 2010 | Dr. D. C. Funderburk 2009 | William Malone Maxwell 2017 | G. E. (Mr. Eddie) Williams 2014 |
| Milton S. Blocker 2007 | G. P. Gillespie 2013 | John B. (Jack) McCauley, 2007 | Lawrence “Dan” Williams 2019 |
| Perry Lee Bowlen 2014 | Willie James George 2017 | D. M. Nichols 2007 | James E. Woods 2009 |
| Lemoyne Brigance 2011 | Oscar Floyd Geeslin 2020 | Erlend R. Nichols 2013 | Walton T. Woods 2013 |
| Frank J. Brown, Jr. 2008 | E. Forrest Hamilton 2009 | G. B. Payne 2007 | Maurice E. Woodson 2011 |
| Sarah J. Camp 2010 | A. Maury Haraway 2010 | Janice Payne 2016 | Alma C. Young 2013 |
| Walter S. Carter, Jr. 2015 | Dr. Elton L. Harris 2012 | H. Gene Phillips 2011 | |
| B. J. Chain, Sr. 2007 | George M. Harrison 2009 | Scott B. “Scotty” Phillips 2019 | |
| Ruby B. Chain 2015 | Joyce H. Haslip 2012 | Leslie Pool 2013 | |



HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

I would like to recommend the following person to the Hall of Fame Nominating Board for ballot nomination consideration for the 2021 Olive Branch Hall of Fame Inductee Election:

_____	_____	_____
Name for Hall of Fame Consideration	Date of Birth	Date of Death (if applicable)
_____	_____	
Your Name	Your Phone Number	
Why should this person be considered for the Hall of Fame? _____		

Please cut along the dotted line and either drop off at City Hall or mail to: **City Hall, ATTN: Hall of Fame, 9200 Pigeon Roost, Olive Branch, MS 38654**. All nominations must be dropped off at City Hall or postmarked by **September 10, 2021**.

UPDATES FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

AT LARGE	WARD 1	WARD 2	WARD 3	WARD 4	WARD 5	WARD 6
						
George Collins	Gil Earhart	Pat Hamilton	Joy Henderson	David Wallace	Jan Aldridge	Dale Dickerson
gcollins@obms.us 662.859.3308	gil.earhart@obms.us 662.892.9218	phamilton@obms.us 662.895.5765	joy.henderson@obms.us 901.413.8361	dwallace@obms.us 901.619.6992	jan.aldridge@obms.us 901.268.4119	ddickerson@obms.us 662.895.2543

■ **George Collins At Large** | It is a great honor to have been re-elected to serve another four years as Alderman at Large for Olive Branch. I am sincerely grateful for your vote. I want to welcome the new citizens of Olive Branch, whether you were affected by the recent annexation or you are new to our area. You will not find a better community of people anywhere in the mid-south. Thanks to sound fiscal stewardship, Olive Branch is a City that is financially healthy. With the new administration, responsible planning, and citizen-focused development, the future of Olive Branch for this generation and the next is going to be amazing! I'm excited to be a part of making that a reality.

■ **Gil Earhart Ward 1** | The dawn of a new era is upon us! Ken Adams is our new Mayor after a landslide victory in the general election. Many thanks to outgoing Mayor Scott Phillips for his excellent leadership over the past eight years and for the smooth transition in getting Mayor Adams up and running. With the installation of a new Mayor and a seasoned returning Board of Alderman we are poised for some exciting times in Olive Branch. We have new development coming to Old Towne. Developer Cliff McLemore is reworking the Old Cotton Gin location for some much-needed commerce in downtown. The Cascade "town center" will be underway soon and there is no let up in sight for continued growth and development. As we welcome 6,600 new residents to the City through our recent annexation, this current administration is committed to deliver needed services of expanded fire and police protection, a comprehensive street improvement plan, and strategic business development so that all of our citizens, young and old, can enjoy the quality of life they expect. In closing I wish to thank all my constituents in Ward 1 who braved a stormy day to get out, vote, and state your level of confidence in me as your representative for the next four years.

■ **Pat Hamilton Ward 2** | The election has come and gone. We have heard your voice! It was an exciting time for me personally to get to visit with both old and new friends during the campaign. It is an honor for me to be re-elected as your alderwoman and I am looking forward to continuing to serve Ward 2. I strive to be available by both email and phone. Your Board of Aldermen, Mayor, and City departments are all at your disposal to assist you in every way we can. During the campaign, the condition of our roads was the number one complaint. I will be diligently searching for ways to address this issue without raising taxes. With the annexation we now have close to 50,000 residents and Olive Branch is, once again, looking forward to being the fastest growing City in the United States and one of the best places to live.

■ **Joy Henderson Ward 3** | I want to thank everyone in Ward 3 who came out to vote. I am so grateful for all of your support. While knocking on doors, I heard your concerns for our City that we all love. For parents, remember that little league football will start soon, as well as little league cheerleaders and fall soccer. We are so proud of our City sports leagues. Not only are these great recreational opportunities, they also help provide valuable learning experiences that help develop our young people into tomorrow's leaders. Our new Mayor and Board members have been sworn in and we are hard at work, planning for the future of Olive Branch.

■ **David Wallace Ward 4** | I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to continue to serve as your alderman. I would also like to thank Mayor Phillips for his 30+ years of service to our City for a job well done. Best wishes! I would also like to congratulate our new Mayor and look forward to working with him and other Board members together to serve the citizens of our City with love, honor, and respect. The City street repair project for 2021 is now underway and will be addressing the worst areas of each ward. The streets conditions are rated on a 0-5 scale, with 0 being the worst and more than likely will have a complete repavement. In Ward 4, Rebekah Drive and West Sandidge were the worst and will be repaired.

■ **Jan Aldridge Ward 5** | I'm very thankful to be able to continue to serve as an Alderwoman for Olive Branch. I want to thank everyone for their support. I will always be available for everyone. The Board of Aldermen has authorized the City Engineer to move forward with a project to address drainage in the Fox Run Subdivision. The plan is to provide improved drainage for a 100-year storm event. Preparation of plans, specifications, property acquisition (where necessary), and construction may take several months. This action represents substantial forward progress in addressing drainage concerns in this area. I hope everyone was able to see the Memorial Day Tribute in May and the 4th of July fireworks display. They both were amazing.

■ **Dale Dickerson Ward 6** | A lot has happened already this year. We have a new Mayor. I look forward to working with him. Our annexation is complete. Welcome to all of our new citizens! Thank you to the citizens of Ward 6 for your trust in me. I vow to work just as hard this term as I did the first term. We found out that a company is moving their corporate headquarters here from California. We have several large projects that will be starting soon in our City. A large shopping and dining area and a new project in the heart of Old Town promises great things for our City. I will be asking for as many paving dollars as can be found to work on our street issues. Besides public safety, that seems to be the number one issue on our citizen's mind these days. If you need me, please contact me. This also applies especially to our new citizens in our eastern area that were just annexed and do not have an alderman yet.

AREA DIRECTORY

Airports

Olive Branch.....	662.895.2978
Memphis International.....	901.922.8000

Arts Council Olive Branch 662.404.2787 or 901.619.0261

Birth and Death Certificates

Mississippi Bureau of Vital Statistics.....	601.206.8200
---	--------------

Chamber of Commerce Olive Branch 662.895.2600

City of Olive Branch

Ambulance (Olive Branch Fire Department).....	662.895.4111
Emergency.....	911
Building Permits.....	662.892.9331
Business License.....	662.892.9238
City Court Clerk.....	662.892.9500
City Engineer.....	662.892.9351
City Hall.....	662.892.9200
Fire Department Dispatcher (Fire or Ambulance).....	662.895.4111
Fire Department Station 1.....	662.895.9611
Fire Department Station 2.....	662.895.9612
Fire Department Station 3.....	662.895.9613
Fire Department Station 4.....	662.893.9614
Fire Department Station 5.....	662.893.9615
Garbage/Recycle Collection.....	662.892.9306
Mayor's Office.....	662.892.9201
Parks & Recreation.....	662.893.5219
Planning & Development.....	662.892.9334
Police Department.....	662.892.9400
Police Dispatch (Emergency, Report Crime).....	662.895.4111 or 911
Public Works — Gas.....	662.893.5209
Public Works — Streets.....	662.895.4335
Public Works — Water.....	662.893.5208
Senior Center.....	662.890.7182
Street Lights.....	662.892.9203
Rubbish Collection (Not Garbage).....	662.893.5209
Utilities.....	662.892.9305
Water & Sewer — Emergencies After Hours.....	662.895.4111

DeSoto County

Automobile Tags.....	662.469.8032
Crimestoppers.....	662.429.8477
Board of Education/Schools.....	662.429.5271
Handicap Decals.....	662.469.8032
Homestead Exemption.....	662.469.8029
Justice Court.....	662.469.8026
Marriage Licenses.....	662.469.8007
Property Tax Assessor.....	662.469.8029
Property Tax Collector.....	662.469.8032
Sheriff's Department.....	662.469.8500
Voter Registration.....	662.469.8350

Drivers License

Olive Branch.....	662.890.7211
Nesbit.....	662.429.1353

DeSoto County Tourism 662.393.8770

Electrical Service

Northcentral Electric Cooperative.....	800.325.8925
Emergencies (Nights, Weekends, & Holidays).....	866.438.2642

Golf Courses

Cherokee Valley.....	662.893.4444
Olive Branch Country Club.....	662.895.6525
Timber Truss.....	662.895.3530
Wedgewood.....	662.895.7490

Health Department Clinic

Hernando.....	662.429.9814
Olive Branch.....	662.895.3090

Internet, Telephone, and Television Services

CenturyLink.....	662.219.3345
CenturyLink (Repairs 24 Hours).....	800.824.2877
CenturyLink (Locate Underground Cables).....	800.227.6477
Comcast Business.....	855.566.6422
Xfinity/Comcast.....	800.934.6489

Library B.J. Chain Olive Branch 662.895.5900

Literacy Council Hernando 662.429.2354

Methodist Hospital Olive Branch 662.932.9000

Mississippi Department of Revenue..... 601.545.1261

Natural Gas Service

Olive Branch.....	662.893.5209
Emergencies After Hours.....	662.895.4111
Locate Underground Lines.....	800.227.6477
Billing.....	662.892.9305
Gas Leaks.....	662.893.5209

Newspaper

DeSoto Times-Tribune.....	662.429.6397
---------------------------	--------------

Northwest Community College..... 662.342.1570

Poison Control..... 800.222.1222

Post Office Olive Branch..... 662.895.5966

Social Services

Olive Branch Emergency Food Ministry.....	662.895.2913
Palmer Home for Children (Hernando).....	662.449.2400
Sacred Heart Southern Mission.....	662.893.0255
Thrift Shop/Food Pantry.....	662.895.2913
Mid-State Opportunities.....	662.895.4153
North Delta Planning Commission.....	662.561.4100
Trinity Health Center (Horn Lake).....	662.222.1007

Social Security Administration

Olive Branch.....	866.739.4771
Call Back Line.....	866.592.2675

State Representatives

Dana Criswell.....	662.278.0299
Jerry Darnell.....	901.277.1578
Dan Eubanks.....	662.374.0035
Jeff Hale.....	901.461.6673
Steve Hopkins.....	901.827.0755
Hester Jackson-McCray.....	901.410.7875
Bill Kinkade.....	901.365.4830

State Senators

Kevin Blackwell.....	901.412.0431
Michael McLendon.....	601.359.3229
David Parker.....	901.473.9760

Unemployment Commission WIN Job Center 662.342.4002

Unemployment Compensation 888.844.3577

U.S. Representative

Trent Kelly.....	662.449.3090
------------------	--------------

U.S. Senators

Cindy Hyde-Smith.....	662.236.1018
Roger Wicker.....	662.429.1002



THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH

9200 Pigeon Roost
Olive Branch, MS 38654
www.OBMS.us

According to *Money.com*, Olive Branch is one of the **TOP 50 BEST PLACES TO LIVE** in America and one of the nation's fastest growing communities.



MOVIES
UNDER THE STARS

Thursdays in October!

OCTOBER

7, 14, 21, & 28

Movies Start at 7 p.m. on the
Lawn of the Wesson House

Sponsored by the City of Olive Branch