



NEWSLETTER

OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI

9200 PIGEON ROOST - OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654 - 662 892-9220 - www.obms.us
ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST LIVABLE COMMUNITIES
AND THE FASTEST GROWING CITY IN THE NATION

Message From The Mayor.....

This is my first opportunity to address the citizens of the City of Olive Branch since being elected Mayor. I am honored to have been selected to lead this great City. I begin my term with a great sense of humility and respect for the office and I pledge to you to do my best to live up to the high standards established by my predecessor. To those of you who supported me, thank you. To those who supported one of my opponents, thank God we live in a country where you are free to do that. We must now put our differences aside and all pull together to build Olive Branch into the City we want it to be. I welcome and appreciate your support.



SCOTT B. PHILLIPS, Jr.
Mayor, City of Olive Branch

I have lived in Olive Branch all my life and I have seen it grow from less than a thousand people to where we are today. I do not support blind growth just for growth's sake, but I do support intelligent growth when it benefits those who have chosen Olive Branch as a place to live, raise their families and conduct their businesses. Olive Branch has made outstanding progress and taken giant strides over the past decade and I want to see that progress continue. I am a firm believer that Olive Branch's best days are ahead of her and I intend to dedicate my time as your Mayor to lead this City to achieve things that we do not even think we are capable of achieving. Just being "good enough" is not acceptable. We must be the very best at everything we do. Working together, there is no limit to what we can achieve. ●

SEE NEW METHODIST HOSPITAL STORY ON PAGE 7



FIVE SELECTED FOR 2013 INDUCTION INTO OLIVE BRANCH HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME



GEORGE PRESTON GILLESPIE
3/24/1942



ERLEND R. NICHOLS
5/2/1933 - 10/22/2012



LESLIE POOL
3/10/1948



WALTON T. WOODS
9/30/1894 - 4/11/1974



ALMA YOUNG
11/23/1909 - 10/31/1994

**2013-14
Calendar of Events**
In and around Olive Branch
Oct. 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014

EVENTS IN OLD TOWNE

Olive Branch Old Towne Association
 Hootenannies, Thursday 7pm - 9pm.....Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 FallFest on the Roost 9am - 4pm.....Sat Oct. 26
 Trick or Treat Old Towne 1pm - 4pm.....Sat Oct. 26
 Old Towne Holiday Open House 10am - 3pm.....Sat Nov. 9
 Santa Claus in Old Towne 4:30pm - 8:00pm.....Dec. 2, 3, 4, 5
 Old Towne Christmas 6pm - 9pm.....Thur Dec. 5

WESSON HOUSE OPEN HOUSE

Olive Branch City Beautiful
 Thursday, 5:30pm - 7pm.....Dec. 5

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Olive Branch City Hall
 Thursday, 7pm.....Dec. 5

CHRISTMAS PARADE (Chamber of Commerce)

Saturday, 2pm.....Dec. 7

MAYOR/BOARD of ALDERMEN

Regular Meetings, Courthouse, 6900 Highland St.
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Oct. 1
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Oct. 15
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Nov. 5
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Nov. 19
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Dec. 3
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Dec. 17
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Jan. 7
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Jan. 21
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Feb. 4
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Feb. 18
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Mar. 4
 Tuesday, 6:30pm.....Mar. 18

PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meetings, Courthouse, 6900 Highland St.
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Oct. 8
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Nov. 12
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Dec. 10
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Jan. 14
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Feb. 11
 Tuesday, 6pm.....Mar. 11

BOARD of ADJUSTMENT

Regular Meetings, Courthouse, 6900 Highland St.
 Thursday, 6pm.....Oct. 10
 Thursday, 6pm.....Nov. 14
 Thursday, 6pm.....Dec. 12
 Thursday, 6pm.....Jan. 9
 Thursday, 6pm.....Feb. 13
 Thursday, 6pm.....Mar. 13

OLIVE BRANCH SALES TAX....7%

MEMPHIS SALES TAX.....9.25%

Please

Patronize our Local Businesses

MONEY SPENT IN OLIVE BRANCH
Benefits Everyone in Olive Branch

From the Roost, the City of Olive Branch Newsletter, is published bi-annually, in-house, by the City of Olive Branch as a means of keeping our citizens aware and informed. We welcome any critique and suggestions regarding articles and content at 662-892-9382 or bcru@ohbrms.us.

FIRE/EMS PERSONNEL CROSS-TRAIN WITH "THE WING"



Olive Branch Fire Chief, Johnny Eason, recently arranged for the Hospital Wing operating out of Memphis to give the City Fire/EMS personnel an informational seminar on their equipment and procedures and discuss how our EMS people can better coordinate with them when they are needed in an emergency situation. Chief Eason said that anytime we can cross-train with these people it benefits the citizens of our community by giving our emergency personnel valuable information on preparing and stabilizing a trauma patient in readiness for transportation by the Wing to a medical facility in the least possible amount of time, especially in situations where minutes and seconds can be the difference between life and death. The Fire/EMS personnel are trained and instructed on when to call for Wing transport and how to prepare the helicopter landing zone.

The Hospital Wing is a non-profit air medical transport service which provides inter-hospital transfers as well as emergency scene calls within a 150 mile radius of Memphis. The helicopter is equipped with trauma and advanced life support equipment, two trauma nurses and a pilot. When a person is involved in a life-threatening accident, suffering from gun shot trauma or any medical emergency where time is of the essence, the Wing is capable of getting them to the MED Level 1 hospital in the least amount of time. They are a vital link in the 911 call system for saving someone's life. ☺

CRUSADERS VISIT WITH MAYOR PHILLIPS AT CITY HALL



Recently, the Crusader group from Pleasant Hill Baptist Church toured City Hall and the Wesson House and stopped by for a visit with Mayor Phillips. Those in the group are: Bill Young, Donna Gilliam, Pat and David Bumpus, Lillian Sneed, Sara Crouch, Betty Norris, Joyce Stewart, Sue McCrary, Guilda Drysdale, Marie Shelton, Ed Williams, Bettie LaBuda, Nelle Earthman and Eleanor Coffey. ☺

HALL OF FAME SELECTS FIVE FOR 2013

The balloting has been completed and five Olive Branch citizens (three living and two deceased) have been chosen for induction into the Olive Branch Hall of Fame for the year 2013. Induction into the Hall of Fame is the highest honor the City can bestow upon one of its' citizens. Following are the names and a brief biography of those selected:

GEORGE PRESTON (G. P.) GILLESPIE - G. P. served three terms as an Olive Branch Alderman from 1977 until 1989. For the past twenty-nine years, he has owned and operated Gillespie Funeral Home, the longest running black-owned business in Olive Branch, and served as a community leader.

ERLEND NICHOLS (5/2/1933 - 10/22/2012) - Erlend was a life-long educator. His career took him from being a School Bus Driver to becoming a Teacher, a High School Principal, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of the DeSoto County School District, the largest in the State.

LESLIE POOL - Leslie Pool was a Coach and Athletic Director at Olive Branch High School for twenty-four years. His record as Coach of the Conquistador football team is legendary. The Olive Branch High School football field is named Pool Field in his honor.

WALTON T. WOODS (9/30/1894 - 4/11/1974) - W. T. (as he was known) owned and operated Woods Pharmacy, the oldest store on the Olive Branch square, and the first pharmacy in the area. He was one of the founders of Bank of Olive Branch which merged with Bank of Mississippi and is now Bancorp South.

ALMA YOUNG (11/23/1909 - 10/31/1994) - Alma Young was a Realtor, owned the City's first florist shop and was a member of the City Beautiful Commission. She was active in community affairs, especially in volunteering her time and service to the Meals on Wheels program.

The following named individuals received votes in the 2013 Hall of Fame balloting which means their names will be carried forward in nomination to next year:

JAMES H. ACREE
J. N. BROWN
JULIA HARRIS
WILL MAXWELL

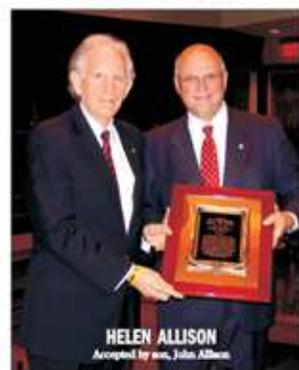
BILL G. ALLEN
WALTER CARTER
WAYNE HOLLOWELL
T. H. NORVELL

J. E. BIRMINGHAM
THOMAS DODDRIDGE
JAMES "Cricket" HUNT
RITA SCHELLY

SALLIE MAE BOGGAN
RUTH GADD
MARTHA PEARL LANGSTON
SAM WATSON

PERRY LEE BOWLAN
McNEIL "Mac" HARAWAY
Dr. C. L. MAPLES
G. E. WILLIAMS

FIVE INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME FOR 2012



HELEN ALLISON
Accepted by son, John Allison



DRUE BIRMINGHAM



Dr. ELTON HARRIS, DDS



JOYCE HASLIP



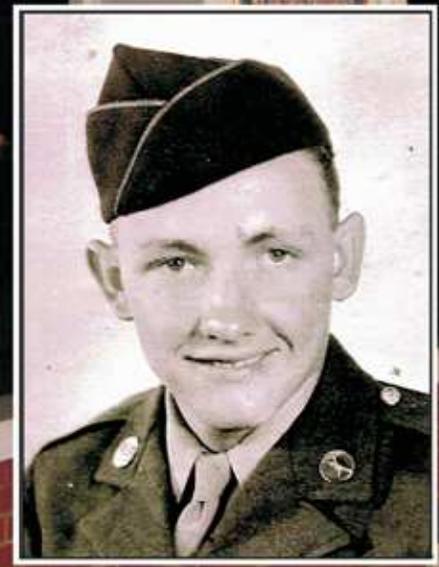
Dr. P. J. SCOTT

Drue Birmingham, Dr. Elton Harris, Joyce Haslip, and Dr. P. J. Scott, along with deceased Inductee, Helen Allison, were inducted into the Hall of Fame for the year 2012 in ceremonies this past April at the City Courthouse. All of the Inductees, including Helen Allison's son John, were presented with Hall of Fame Plaques. ●



TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED

LAWRENCE W. CURBO was drafted into the *U. S. Army* on December 23, 1943. He went through basic training in the *Army Specialized Training Program* at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He was then transferred to the *398th Infantry Regiment* of the *100th Infantry Division* and stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. In the fall of 1944 his unit was shipped to Marcelle, France in the *European Theatre of WW-II*. The *100th Division* participated in the *Battle of the Vosges*, both *Battles of Bitche* and the *Battle of Goetzenbruck* as Patton's *3rd Army* and Patch's *7th Army* breached the *Maginot Line* and moved into southern Germany. He was honorably discharged on April 15, 1946 after being awarded the *Combat Infantry Badge*, the *Purple Heart* and a *Bronze Star*.



T/Sgt. LAWRENCE W. CURBO
8/31/1925 - 4/11/2010

To Whom We Owe So Much

B. J. CHAIN, OLIVE BRANCH'S



BILL CRUTHIRDS, SR.
Curator - Olive Branch Museum

Bela J. Chain was born in Mt. Olive, Mississippi on August 13, 1906, the youngest of ten children. He attended the one room Johnson Grade School, named for his grandfather, then Mt. Olive High School through the eleventh grade, and then finished his senior year at Simpson County High School where he lettered in football, baseball and basketball. He and his brother, Bura, attended Mississippi College in the late 1920s, where both participated in sports. Bura was two years older but waited to start college until B. J. got out of high school so they could go together. During the 1926 season, in a football game against Mississippi A & M (now Mississippi State) in Starkville, Bura was injured and had to be carried from the field. He managed to ride the train back to the campus after the game but was in such pain later that evening that he was taken to a hospital in Jackson where he died three days later of a ruptured spleen. Despite that tragedy, B. J. continued playing sports and in 1927/28, was a member of the Mississippi College football team that went undefeated and Captain of the basketball team that won the National SIAA Championship (which is comparable to today's NCAA National Championship). The 1928 Mississippi College year book lists him as "Most Popular" and "Best All-Around". He graduated in 1928 with a degree in Chemistry. He briefly attended the University of Mississippi where he earned his MA degree in School Administration.

Upon graduation, B. J. applied for a math/science teacher/football coach position at Olive Branch High School (then it was DeSoto County Agricultural High School). After being hired, he packed his suitcase and headed north in time to get "settled in" before the start of classes in the fall of 1928.

On a hot August afternoon that year, a twenty-two year old B. J. Chain got off the train in Olive Branch and after pausing for a few minutes to take in his new surroundings, picked up his suitcase and walked up the graveled road to Wood's Drug Store at the top of the hill on the corner of Pigeon Roost and Depot Street. There were several young ladies at the soda counter who had a hard time controlling their nervous giggling when the tall handsome newcomer walked in asking for directions and where he could call a taxi. He would later date several of those young ladies but most of his attention was given to a fellow teacher, a red haired beauty from French Camp, Mississippi who was also in her first year at Olive Branch High School. B. J. and Ruby Almirah Black dated for two years before they were married in 1930. It was a love affair that would last until their deaths, 69 years later, within three months of each other in 1999. B. J. and Ruby had two children, Betty Carolyn (Shumake) and B. J. Chain, Jr.

When school started in early September, the first student B. J. registered was Jack Bell, a stout young sophomore. B. J. said, "Young man, you're going to be the fullback on my football team this year". Jack told him that he couldn't play football because of a crippled leg from an accident early in his childhood. Undeterred, B. J. made him the team's assistant trainer that year, the trainer the next year, and as a result of B. J.'s encouragement, a player on the team in his senior year. For the rest of his life, Jack Bell, father of Jackie Samsel (Jackibel's) and grandfather of Scott Samsel (Olive Branch High School's football coach), gave B. J. Chain credit for much of the success he enjoyed in his life by instilling in him the courage to do things that he didn't think he could do. It would be a continuing thread that ran through B. J. Chain's life as he interacted with the youth of his adopted City.

Many of his students came from rural areas outside of Olive Branch and had to work on the family farms at the expense of attending school regularly or doing homework. It was during the Great Depression and B. J. worked especially hard with those kids from families who were struggling just to survive. He always had a group of students that he called his "strugglers" who just couldn't keep up in class. He tutored



BELA J. CHAIN, SR.
August 13, 1906 - March 29, 1999

PHOTO CIRCA 1960

those kids at his home in the evenings and refused to let them "fall through the crack". He hammered into them the value of an education, of staying in school and getting a high school diploma to qualify them for college or for the business world and for a better chance to succeed in life. Many would, and many would later credit B. J. Chain with being the guiding influence in their lives.

Lest we put him on too high a pedestal, B. J. also had his human side such as the time he was holding a team meeting with his football team. Many of the older players had their minds on girls and that was all they could think and talk about. Some were even talking of quitting school and getting married. B. J. was in the middle of a speech hammering home the point

MAN OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

that girls and sports don't mix and telling them they could never be successful in sports if they fooled around with girls. His sermon was approaching evangelical fervor when David Vanderburg quietly spoke up and said, "But Coach, you are married". B. J. didn't miss a beat when he replied, "Hell yes, but think of what I could have been if I wasn't". His players knew how much he loved his wife and family and could only grin and chuckle as he continued, but his speech had somehow lost its zing.

After several years at Olive Branch High School, B. J. was promoted to Principal which required him to give up his regular teaching job, but he remained the football and baseball coach until 1936 when he became the Superintendent of the Olive Branch Consolidated Schools. He would serve in that capacity for nineteen years. In 1951, the Olive Branch High School football coach, Walter Carter, resigned before the start of the season and moved out of town. B. J., who had not coached in several years, appointed himself to fill the vacancy and coached the 1951 football team to an undefeated season with a 9 - 0 record (back then, they did not have a state championship game). His son B. J. Chain, Jr. (Buddy) was a member of that undefeated team.

In 1955, he returned as Principal of Olive Branch High School where he would remain for sixteen years until he retired in 1971.

B. J. was the Principal in 1970, the year that the high schools in Olive Branch were integrated. His was a major influence, along with that of Police Chief Frank Brown and other responsible community leaders, in guiding the City through that time of upheaval without the demonstrations and violence that tore so many communities apart during that era. B. J. tried to reason with those who opposed integration by telling them it was something that needed to happen and something that was going to happen. Those he could not reason with, he ignored. There was even talk of bussing Olive Branch black students to Southaven and Southaven white students to Olive Branch which B. J. firmly vetoed by saying, "We don't need to do that; we can work it out", and they did. The white Olive Branch High School was then known as the Eagles and the black East Side High School was known as the Red Dragons. Someone suggested setting up a committee to decide what to call the athletic teams of the newly integrated high school. B. J. discarded the suggestion and with a tone of finality said, "They are going to be called the *Conquistadors*", and they were, and still are.

Titles and positions never meant a whole lot to B. J., although along the way he was President of the DeSoto County Teachers Association, President of the Northwest Region Mississippi High School Literacy and Athletic Association, President of the DeSoto Retired Teachers Association and President of the Lions Club. He never ran for public office.

B. J. was an avid golfer and spent many hours participating in tournaments locally and around the state with family members and friends. He enjoyed working in his garden. He loved music and enjoyed listening to Ruby play the piano. Family vacations usually involved a trip to visit relatives in Mt. Olive, Mississippi where B. J. was from. On several occasions B. J. and Ruby accompanied the Clay Herringtons and the Johnny Vaughnts (of Ole Miss coaching fame) on golfing vacations out west.

B. J. was a champion of the common man and of those who could not help themselves. He believed that those on the bottom rung of society's ladder could be productive citizens if only given

the opportunity. He was a life-long Democrat and abhorred Republican elitism, and didn't mince words if someone wanted to debate it with him. His hero was Franklin Roosevelt whom he thought was our greatest president because of the programs he put in place to help the common man and the have-nots of this nation. Throughout his life, B. J. Chain's door was always open to the under-privileged and minority citizens of the community. He helped them with legal and financial advice and with anything with which they were confronted that they didn't understand. He refused to charge for his help and services. He was even known for preparing dozens of income tax returns every year for those who couldn't.

His passion was educating the youth of this community and for the forty-three years that he was a Superintendent, a Principal, a teacher and a coach, and later in his twenty-eight years of retirement, he never missed an opportunity to reach out to teach, tutor, mentor and to educate the children of Olive Branch.

In 1978, Olive Branch's new library was named the B. J. Chain Public Library, a fitting honor to a man who dedicated his life to promoting knowledge and education. That same year he was also inducted into the Mississippi College Sports Hall of Fame.

B. J. Chain died on March 29, 1999 at the age of ninety-two.

In 2007, B. J. Chain was posthumously inducted into the Olive Branch Hall of Fame as one of its charter members by the largest percentage vote of any inductee to date.

Too young for WWI and too old for WWII, he nevertheless was outspoken in his patriotic love for this country. B. J. Chain exemplified all that is good in America and was arguably:

Olive Branch's Outstanding Man of the 20th Century.

The author acknowledges and thanks B. J. Chain Jr. for much of the information used in this story.



B. J. Chain's daughter, Carolyn and son, B. J. Jr. accept his Hall of Fame honor from Olive Branch Mayor, Sam Rikard

OLIVE BRANCH OLD TOWNE
Presents
Fall/Christmas OPEN HOUSE
Start the Holiday Season by visiting the shops and businesses of Old Towne
Sunday, November 11
1:00 until 5:00 pm

Santa Claus in Old Towne
at City Hall this year
December 2nd-3rd-4th-5th
4:30 until 8:00 pm
Kids have photo taken with Santa

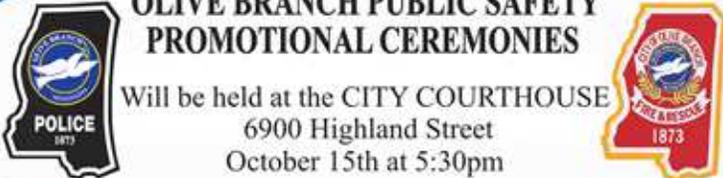
36th Annual **OLIVE BRANCH**
Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 7th - 2 pm
This year's Parade is limited to 100 entries.
Call 662-895-2600 to register or on line at www.olivebranchga.com

Happenings Around Town

On Thursday evening, December 5th, at 7pm, the City will have its Christmas Tree Lighting at City Hall immediately following the City Beautiful's Holiday Open House at the Wesson House. It will be followed by Christmas in Old Towne. Other holiday events this year in Olive Branch are shown at left and in Calendar of Events on page 2.

OLIVE BRANCH PUBLIC SAFETY PROMOTIONAL CEREMONIES

Will be held at the CITY COURTHOUSE
6900 Highland Street
October 15th at 5:30pm
PUBLIC IS INVITED



Aldermen's Corner

This area of the Newsletter is open to all of Olive Branch's Aldermen for any comments or messages they wish to make.



Alderman
GEORGE COLLINS
At Large

First, I want to thank the voters of this City for electing me to a seventh term as your At-large Alderman. It would have been hard to imagine when I first ran for office back in 1989, that I would still be in office a quarter of a century later, and I am deeply grateful.

During my time in office, we have gone through both good times and bad times and I think everyone is aware that the City has just endured several years of one of the most difficult economic periods in its history. I do not want to be overly optimistic, but everything seems to be trending upward and I think Olive Branch is on the verge of a complete recovery.

We have a new Mayor and a new Board of Aldermen and I am pleased to see that everyone seems to be dedicated to working together to achieve great things for our City. The future looks great and the sky is the limit for Olive Branch and I look forward to being a part of it.

gcollins@obms.us
662 895-3308



Alderman
GIL EARHART
Ward 1

This being my first Alderman's Corner report, let me begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to those who voted and gave me your support to represent the City of Olive Branch and Ward 1 as your Alderman. As I said during my campaign, I pledge to approach all of your concerns and comments with an open mind and to keep those issues on the "radar screen" until the City has addressed them properly.

As we have just completed the last quarter of our 2012 fiscal year, many exciting things are upon us. We have opened our new Methodist Hospital, passed a balanced budget with no tax increase for the fiscal year 2013, allocated \$500,000 for paving City streets and have several sound economic opportunities before us.

It is my honor and privilege to serve my fellow citizens. My goal is to work cohesively with my fellow board members and the Mayor in order to guide Olive Branch to being one of the most livable and enjoyable cities in America.

gilearhart@obms.us
662 892-9218



Alderwoman
PAT HAMILTON
Ward 2

I thank you for your strong support in the last election and look forward to serving you for another four years.

Ward 2 continues to experience ongoing commercial development along Goodman Road. This development overall is good for the City; in that it brings additional retail opportunities and needed sales tax revenues. One of our challenges is to make sure that the area sees quality development that takes into consideration the character of the neighborhood and our need for comprehensive planning. The Board has recently approved an Aldi's Grocery as well as the Malco Theater outparcels which are anticipated to be used as restaurants. The new Malco Theater will tentatively be open by the end of the year.

I will continue to strive for the best outcome for Ward 2. If you are interested in receiving the Board of Alderman Agenda, please send me your e-mail address.

As always, I appreciate your questions and concerns.

pahamilton@obms.us
662 895-5765



Alderman
HAROLD HENDERSON
Ward 3

After several years of using my space in this newsletter to tell you how difficult things were because of the economy and how we in government were having to ration resources to deal with it, it gives me great pleasure to report that, while not totally back to normal, we are well on our way to emerging from the storm, and that Olive Branch's future has never looked brighter. We have a new Mayor, a new Board of Aldermen, a new hospital and we have just passed a balanced budget that allows us to get back to doing things around town that have been on hold for the past several years. One thing of interest is the allocation of funds to start overlaying some of our residential streets that are overdue for repaving. It will not all happen this year, but it is a start and over the next several years, you will begin to see some real progress.

It is a great time to live in Olive Branch. Let's all buy into Mayor Phillips' motto that "together we can achieve things that we do not even think we are capable of achieving".

hhenderson@obms.us
662 895-5653



Alderman
DAVID WALLACE
Ward 4

First I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve as your Alderman; it is truly an honor.

We have been able to maintain a high level of city services in a shaky economy and now, as we enter into a new fiscal year, our financial outlook is sound. It's an exciting time for our City. The Methodist Hospital is now open and will make an immediate difference in our City and will save lives. A sincere "thank you" to those whose hard work made it happen.

We have two major priorities to address this year: our streets and our parks. The Hwy 305 project is well under way, but we have many streets in dire need of repair. The park has some major issues that need immediate attention and we are working diligently to address both areas.

I would also like to thank OBHS Principal Kyle Brigrance for his dedication and service to our schools, community and our youth.

If you have concerns, please email or call me.

dwallace@obms.us
901 619-6992



Alderman
MARK ALDRIDGE
Ward 5

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the citizens of Ward 5 for their support, and their confidence in electing me to serve as their Alderman.

With the opening of the long awaited Methodist Hospital Olive Branch, and the passing of our 2013/2014 City budget (which is balanced with no tax increase), my first two months have been exciting and busy. Becoming familiar with the interworkings of City government has been quite a learning experience and I have acquired an appreciation of what it takes to manage a growing city such as Olive Branch.

I have total confidence in our present Board and Mayor, and believe the next four years will be a great period in our City's history.

My contact information is shown below and on the City's website.

Again, Thank you. I will try to live up to the confidence you have shown me.

mark.aldridge@obms.us
901 831-8442



Alderman
DALE DICKERSON
Ward 6

We recently passed our 2013-2014 budget. It is a balanced budget with NO tax increase - again this year. We have been able to retain our tax millage rate of 34.5 mills. You might be interested to know that Olive Branch's millage rate is lower than both Southaven's millage rate of 43.7 and Horn Lake's millage rate of 46.0.

For the first time in several years, we have budgeted dollars for some street paving which has been sorely lacking. Please be patient with us as we begin to catch up on needed paving projects. We will not be able to do everything that is needed in one budget year but I will continue to push every available dollar toward this need.

Our new Board has settled in and gotten down to work and I think we will be able to do some good things for Olive Branch.

I look forward to seeing many of you around town at our upcoming holiday events. I can be reached at the below e-mail address and phone number if any of you need my help or wish to talk to me.

ddickerson@obms.us
662 895-2543



MethodistSM
Healthcare **Olive Branch Hospital**



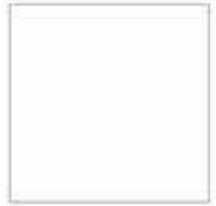
IT'S OPEN



Long time Olive Branch residents Linda McCauley, Rita Schelly and Mel Cruthirds (lower left) were part of the more than 1,000 people present on August 21st to hear former Mayor Sam Rikard (above left), Senator Roger Wicker (above right), current Mayor Scott Phillips (lower right) and others, speak at the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of Olive Branch's new Methodist Hospital. The hospital is the result of a fifteen year quest and the untiring efforts of former Mayor Rikard, former State Senator Merle Flowers, former State Representative Tommy Woods, State Representative Forrest Hamilton and the team from Methodist Healthcare in Memphis. Month after month, year after year, when the approval to build the hospital was repeatedly turned down by the political process in Jackson, these men refused to take no for an answer. When one door closed, they found another one to beat upon, and their persistence finally paid off. And when they finally got approval, Methodist Healthcare stepped up and built it. A grateful City of Olive Branch says; Thank You.☺



9200 PIGEON ROOST - OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654



FROM THE ROOST BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

FROM THE ROOST Fall/Winter 2013



FOOTBALL TEAM - October, 1944

Top row, L to R: Guy Wayne Lowry, Drue Birmingham, Sidney Vanderburg, Richard Shelton, R.P. Youngblood
Bottom Row, L to R: Monty Hudspeth, John Clark Hudson, Robert Butler, David Vanderburg, Buddy Chain, Lemoyne Brigance, Jack Lowry