



# THE BRANCH ADVISOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI | SPRING 2023

A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, WORSHIP AND PLAY

# 150



YEAR  
CELEBRATION 2023



**CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH**  
 9200 PIGEON ROOST ROAD  
 OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654  
 662.892.9200  
 WWW.OBMS.US

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

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**  
 TODD ONDRA  
 662.892.9202

**CITY CLERK**  
 TENA STEWART  
 662.892.9211

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
 JASON MAY  
 662.892.9200

**POLICE CHIEF**  
 WILLIAM COX  
 662.892.9400

**FIRE CHIEF**  
 JOHNNY EASON  
 662.892.9551

**PARKS DIRECTOR**  
 JAMES CAMPBELL  
 662.893.5219

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**  
 COLE FESMIRE  
 662.893.5209

**SR. CENTER COORDINATOR**  
 NORMA SHAW  
 662.890.7236

**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

**THE BRANCH ADVISOR**

THE BRANCH ADVISOR is published bi-annually by the City of Olive Branch, Office of Communications, 9200 Pigeon Roost Rd., Olive Branch, MS 38654



The City of Olive Branch is celebrating 150 years of being a great place to live, work, worship and play this year. Join us in celebrating all year long at the events hosted throughout the City. Listed below are just a few events to look forward to!

**Children's Fishing Rodeo**

Join us for this free event for children 15 & under. Saturday, May 13 at George M. Harrison Municipal Park (HWY 305 & Church Rd). Registration will start at 8 am. The event runs from 9-11 am. There will be prizes for tagged fish and random drawings. Get your bait, rods, and reels ready... it's going to be fun!



**Bucking in the Branch**

Bucking in the Branch returns again with something bigger and better in 2023. Save the date for Saturday, May 27. M5 Productions brings professional rodeo to the City of Olive Branch at the George M. Harrison Municipal Park (Soccer Complex).



**Light the Way**

Light The Way Music Festival is a 2-Day Contemporary Christian event that's coming to the Olive Branch City Park June 16-17. To purchase tickets or view the festival lineup visit: [www.lightthewayministry.com/olive-branch](http://www.lightthewayministry.com/olive-branch)



**Independence Day Celebration**

Mayor Ken Adams and the Board of Aldermen invite you to save the date for the annual "Celebrate Your Independence" Fireworks and Festival at the Olive Branch City Park Monday, July 3rd. This event will be free and open to the public. More details to follow as we move into Summer.



SCAN THE QR CODE ON YOUR SMART DEVICE TO SEE THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH EVENT CALENDAR OR VISIT [WWW.OBMS.US/CALENDAR](http://WWW.OBMS.US/CALENDAR)



You **must** obtain a permit to put up a fence, place a detached accessory building, or pool in your yard. Permits & regulations can be found on the City's website, [www.obms.us](http://www.obms.us). Click on "Document and Forms", then open the file for "Planning and Development."

**Please contact 811 before you dig.**

## Ricky Stenhouse, Jr. returns for hometown celebration

Mon. March 20 -- Ricky Stenhouse, Jr. returned home to celebrate his Daytona 500 win, where he was honored by Mayor Ken Adams. The city painted a finish line in his honor at Pigeon Roost Road and Goodman Road, where they also erected a sign honoring Stenhouse as a champion. "It's so cool to call Olive Branch, Mississippi, my home," Stenhouse said. "...It's a place I enjoyed growing up playing sports, racing go-karts, and working in the shop with my dad." From there, Stenhouse was escorted by the Olive Branch Police Department along with a Kroger semi-truck to the Kroger store in Olive Branch where he was greeted by the DeSoto Central High School Cheer Squad and Band.



**Credit Card Payments are now accepted for Business Licenses**

Starting a business in 2023? You can now pay your business licenses via credit card. There's a 3.5% convenience fee that is paid directly to the credit card company. To learn more about starting a business in the City of Olive Branch, please visit: [tinyurl.com/5c4erdpz](https://tinyurl.com/5c4erdpz)



## U.S. Army visits Olive Branch Airport

Earlier this year, a unit of the U.S. Army from upstate New York stopped at the Olive Branch Airport upon their return from a training sortie. Pictured here are three of the nine helicopters that came through over the course of a two-day period. The Olive Branch Airport plays host to many military groups for refueling throughout the year.



## ACTIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

The City has begun the largest resurfacing project in our history. \$10.8 Million was approved for this fiscal year to address roads most traveled, with a five year plan to address other roads throughout the City. To learn more, please visit: [tinyurl.com/5xbdv5sb](https://tinyurl.com/5xbdv5sb)

## An Update from Olive Branch Fire Department



The City of Olive Branch is one of the few cities in the state to provide our own Ambulance service. In 2022, we put an additional ambulance in service at Station #1 in Old Town. This has reduced our overall emergency response time in the City. Last year, the Olive Branch Fire Department responded to 4,443 calls. 41% were Fire related and 59% were EMS related. As we look ahead to Summer, Olive Branch Fire Department will be hiring 12 Firefighters and 6 Paramedics to prepare our personnel for the new station in the Center Hill area. Hiring personnel and training them now will improve overall response performance when the station is put in service. To learn more about these opportunities, please visit [www.obms.us/jobs](http://www.obms.us/jobs). If you have any questions related to the Fire Department or Ambulance Service, please do not hesitate to contact us at 662-892-9550.



Text **olivebranch** to **888777** to opt-in!

# HALL OF FAME

## Now Accepting Nominations for the 2023 Hall of Fame

The nominating period is now open for the 2023 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 **Friday, July 28, 2023** (marked: "**Attention Hall of Fame**"). Anyone receiving at least one vote from last year's nominees has been carried forward for 2023 and, as such, **does not need to be nominated again this year**. The list of those names carried forward from 2022 are:

*Sallie Mae Boggan*  
George Collins  
Don Gammage

*David Haraway*  
*Phil Lachaussee*  
*Forest Langston*

*Harold Nichols*  
*Ken Reid*  
*Jason Shifflett*

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

*Bill G. Allen, 2015*  
*Gilbert Leon Allen, 2018*  
*Marthola Allen, 2014*  
*Helen D. Allison, 2012*  
*Jimmy Neal Andrews, 2015*  
*Billy W. Baldwin, 2014*  
*Vicky Jo Baldwin, 2019*  
*Judy Holloway Berryhill, 2021*  
*Drue D. Birmingham, Jr., 2012*  
*Billie B. Blocker, 2010*  
*Milton S. Blocker, 2007*  
*Perry Lee Bowlan, 2014*  
*Lemoyne Brigance, 2011*  
*Bill Britton, 2022*  
*Frank J. Brown, Jr., 2008*  
*Sarah J. Camp, 2010*  
*Walter S. Carter, Jr., 2008*

*B.J. Chain, Sr., 2007*  
*Ruby B. Chain, 2015*  
*Bill E. Cruthirds, Sr., 2008*  
*Scottye C. Davidson, 2008*  
*James "Jim" Paul Davis, 2021*  
*Wendell W. Davis, 2015*  
*James A. Doddridge, Sr., 2010*  
*Thomas (Tommy) D. Doddridge, 2020*  
*Pat Dorr, 2016*  
*Dr. Greg Evans, 2016*  
*Stephen Finn, 2007*  
*Dr. D.C. Funderburk, 2009*  
*G.P. Gillespie, 2013*  
*Willie James George, 2017*  
*Oscar Floyd Geeslin, 2020*  
*E.Forrest Hamilton, 2009*  
*A. Maury Haraway, 2010*

*Dr. Elton L. Harris, 2012*  
*George M. Harrison, 2009*  
*Joyce H. Haslip, 2012*  
*M.C. Herrington, 2007*  
*Wayne D. Hollowell, 2014*  
*Jan R. Johnson, 2007*  
*Dr. Julian F. Jones, 2010*  
*Bill W. Kerr, 2008*  
*Martha Pearl Langston, 2018*  
*Ray Magee, 2016*  
*Robert H. Marr, 2022*  
*William Malone Maxwell, 2017*  
*John (Jack) B. McCauley, 2007*  
*D.M. Nichols, 2007*  
*Erlend R. Nichols, 2013*  
*G.B. Payne, 2007*  
*Janice Payne, 2016*

*H. Gene Phillips, 2011*  
*Scott "Scotty" B. Phillips, 2019*  
*Leslie Pool, 2013*  
*Sam P. Rikard, 2009*  
*Don Sappington, 2016*  
*Dr. P.J. Scott, 2012*  
*Kenneth W. Sesson, 2011*  
*Homer D. Skelton, 2007*  
*Lush Pun Tubby, 2007*  
*Benjamin F. Wesson, 2008*  
*Dr. William T. Wilkins, 2019*  
*G.E. (Mr. Eddie) Williams, 2014*  
*Lawrence "Dan" Williams, 2019*  
*James E. Woods, 2009*  
*Walton T. Woods, 2013*  
*Maurice E. Woodson, 2011*  
*Alma C. Young, 2013*

CUT HERE



## HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS FORM

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 Road, Olive Branch, MS 38654. All nominations must be dropped off at City Hall or postmarked by 07/28/2023.

***I would like to recommend the following person to the Hall of Fame Nominating Board for ballot nomination consideration for the 2023 Olive Branch Hall of Fame Inductee Election:***

**Name of person being nominated**

**Date of Birth**

**Date of Death (If Deceased)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Your Name**

**Your Phone Number**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Why should this person be considered for the Hall of Fame?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 2022 Hall of Fame Inductee

# William "Bill" John Britton IV



William John Britton IV, or "Bill" as everyone knew him, was born August 10, 1959, in Mobile, Alabama, to Eukie and Jim Britton. He and his older sister were raised in Saraland, Alabama and attended Satsuma High School where Bill was recognized as the Most Improved Choral Student, Choir President, and Senior Elite in Choral Music. While leading music at a revival, on February 2, 1979, God made it clear to him that he had not truly been saved. He would tell this story often, of how Jesus saved him there. His love for ministry and music began early and would continue throughout his entire life. Bill would continue his education at Mobile College where, in 1982, he earned his BS in Mathematics. In 1992 he earned his Master of Ministry degree from Alabama Theological Seminary and a Doctorate of Ministry degree in October of 1993. While continuing his education, Bill also served on church staffs in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. February 18, 1983, Bill and Vicki Pipkins Britton were married.

A few years later they were blessed to welcome their two children, William Andrew "Andy" (Emily), and Melissa Joy. God called the Britton family to Olive Branch to serve on staff at First Baptist Olive Branch in 1994. Under Bill's leadership, the FBCOB Choir would thrive. Bill would seek out opportunities for the choir to sing and serve outside the walls of the church. He organized groups to sing at various events throughout the year in the City of Olive Branch. Many groups, and sometimes the entire choir, would sing in Old Towne, and on the lawn of Centurylink for various occasions. At FBCOB, Bill could often be found working outside his "normal" Worship Pastor responsibilities. Whether it be cleaning something, pressure washing sidewalks, painting the sanctuary, or anything else; if Bill knew that it needed to be done, he would quietly, and happily take care of it. He loved to serve his Lord, his church, and people in general. He would always say, "I just want to help." And he did just that until the Lord took him home, September 18, 2022. Being inducted into the Olive Branch Hall of Fame is the highest honor that the City can bestow upon one of its citizens. The voting body of the OBHOF selected Brother Bill for this prestigious award for 2022. We greatly appreciate the countless times Brother Bill served our community and the leadership he provided. Thank you Britton family for sharing him with us. Olive Branch is what it is today because of those, like Bill, who gave so much of themselves to make our City a great place to Live, Work, Worship, and Play!



The Britton Family was presented an honorary plaque on Bill's behalf this past November at the City of Olive Branch Hall of Fame Banquet.



# VOTE

## County & State Voting

Primary Election will be August 8, 2023.

Absentee Voting starts June 26, 2023.



Find your polling place by scanning the QR Code

## OLIVE BRANCH SENIOR CENTER

Open to anyone age 50 and up.

There are no membership/activity fees to join. This space is also available for residents of any age for civic events.

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 4:00pm  
Check out upcoming events & programming at  
[www.obms.us/calendar](http://www.obms.us/calendar)

8800 College Street  
662-890-7182  
Coordinator Norma Shaw  
[Nshawe@obms.us](mailto:Nshawe@obms.us)

## Supporting Mississippi

We were truly amazed by the outpouring of generosity and support of individuals, businesses, and nonprofits from across the City of Olive Branch, DeSoto County, and the Tri-State area, who donated to our supplies collection! Over a 3-day period, we filled a 54-ft trailer to benefit those impacted by the March 24th tornadoes that struck Rolling Fork & Armory, Mississippi. The trailer of supplies was delivered Thursday, March 30.



# UPDATES FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

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

## Garbage Changes & FAQs for 2021 Annexed Areas

The City of Olive Branch and the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors are working together to address garbage changes that affect the newly annexed areas in the City of Olive Branch. If you live in an area that was annexed in 2021, your garbage and recycling will change effective October 1, 2023 from Waste Pro to Waste Connections. All billing for garbage and recycling will come from the City Utilities Department. If you already receive services from the City (i.e. water, sewer, and/or gas), you do not have to fill out a new application. Your services will be consolidated on your billing. If you are a new customer or need to make changes to your service, please call the Utilities Department at 662-892-9305. As we approach this date, more communication will follow. Please read over these Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to learn more:

### How do I set up my utilities billing or make changes to my current service?

To prepare for this change, you must complete your utilities application for your garbage and recycling service by calling the Utilities Department at 662-892-9305.

### Is there a utilities application?

Yes. You can fill out your application in advance by scanning the QR code or visit <https://www.obms.us/225/Utility-Billing>.

### How will I be billed?

You will receive one bill for all services received from the City of Olive Branch. For example, if you already receive a bill for gas, your existing gas bill will be combined with your garbage & recycling service.

### How much is it to opt-in for recycling?

\$5 billed monthly.

### How much are additional carts?

\$10 for garbage carts. \$5 for recycling.

### What do I do with my old cart?

Carts will be collected closer to October. More information will be shared at a later date.

### When will I get my new cart?

Carts will be distributed closer to October. More information will be shared at a later date.



## Leaf, Limb, and Debris Pick up

Leaf, limb and debris is classified as rubbish and is picked up separately from trash collection (everyday household trash). The Public Works Department for the City is responsible for rubbish pickup, while Waste Connections is currently responsible for trash collecting & recycling. The City of Olive Branch will pick up residential leaves. All leaves must be bagged for pick up. Please place all in one pile behind the curb, but close enough that the City boom truck can reach it from the street side. The City of Olive Branch will not pick up trees, limbs and/or debris left on the street by commercial businesses such as tree contractors or apartment complexes.

## Acceptable and Non-acceptable recyclables:

### Acceptable recyclables:

Cardboard, metal cans, plastic bottles, and jugs. They must be clean and dry. We ask you not to bag it and ensure your cardboard is flattened.

### Non-acceptable recyclables:

Aluminum foil, plastics (#3 through #7), glass, food-soiled containers, nonferrous metals (metals that don't contain iron such as brass/copper), plastic bags, waxed cardboard, steel, pallets, styrofoam containers, tissue paper, electronics, food, batteries, yard waste, diapers, construction waste, toys, and clothes.

# AREA DIRECTORY WHO TO CALL

## AIRPORTS

OLIVE BRANCH 662.895.2978  
MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL 901.922.8000

## BIRTH & DEATH CERTIFICATES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 601.206.8200

## CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH

AMBULANCE (OBFD) 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 DISPATCH 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 662.895.4111  
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 662.592.9305  
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 662.489.9032  
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  
**Olive Branch Arts Council** 662.404.2787  
**Chamber of Commerce** 662.895.2600  
**Library (B.J. Chain)** 662.895.5900  
**Post Office** 662.895.5966

## CITY MEETING SCHEDULES

All city meetings are open to the public and are held at the Courthouse located at 6900 Highland Street

MEETING	DAY	TIME
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN	FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:30 P.M.
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION	SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:00 P.M.
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT	SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:00 P.M.

## 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/WEEKEND/HOLIDAY) 866.438.2642  
ENERGY 800.368.3749

## 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

## LITERACY COUNCIL

662.429.2354

## METHODIST HOSPITAL OLIVE BRANCH

662.932.9000

## MISSISSIPPI DEPT 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  
ATMOS CUSTOMER SERVICE 888.286.6700  
ATMOS NATURAL GAS EMERGENCY 866.322.8667

## NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

662.342.1570

## POISON CONTROL

800.222.1222

## 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

HERNANDO 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 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

## WIN JOB CENTER

662.342.4002



## CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH

9200 PIGEON ROOST ROAD  
OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654  
662.892.9200 WWW.OBMS.US



# myOliveBranch

## We've got a new look!

Easily view notifications, available bills, past payments, and more in our updated dashboard.

Download the myOliveBranch app or visit

[myolivebranch.obms.us](https://myolivebranch.obms.us)

