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CITY OF BRANSON

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News Release

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Tree Board initiates Memorial Program

Over the last year, the Branson Tree Board has become very active with tree planting projects and programs. One program especially important was the creation of a Memorial Tree and Bench Program.

Trees purchased through the program will be planted and placed in city parks, playgrounds, or along city trails and road right-of-ways. Memorial trees will be planted twice a year in the spring and fall, and a commemorative plaque installed and incorporated as part of a mural at City Hall.

Once the tree is planted, the provided contact person will receive a certificate and map showing the location of his or her tree. There are four tiers to the program, \$250, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000, depending upon the desired tree species and location of the donor. Each donation includes the purchase, planting, maintenance of a tree and plaque.

Through the bench program, benches will be purchased and installed in city parks, playgrounds, or along city trails. Memorial benches will also be installed twice a year with a commemorative plaque. Once the bench is placed, the provided contact person will receive a certificate and map showing the location the bench. The cost of the program is \$1,000, which will include a bench made from recycled plastic, installation and plaque.

Both programs allow groups and individuals to donate trees or benches to memorialize or celebrate a friend, family member or co-worker. The efforts of the Branson Tree Board and the Parks & Recreation Department to bring this program to fruition will ensure that the program will help not only celebrate our community members, but also continue efforts to beautify the community.

A separate donation account has also been created for individuals or groups that would like to donate to the city to assist with maintaining our parks, trails and city trees including the Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area. If you would like to make a donation to either this account or to the Memorial Tree and Bench Program, please contact Tara Norback, planning assistant at 337-8544.

Applications for the Memorial Tree and Bench Program may be obtained at the planning department or through the city's website on the Landscaping link.