



E-Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

21 February 2025

Volume 153, Number 3

Meeting Dates

February 27th
6pm - Planning Comm

Bond Election

The Blanchard Board of Education has called a special election for the first Tuesday in April.

Please exercise your constitutional right to VOTE!

TUESDAY, APRIL 1st

POLLS OPEN 7am ~ 7pm

Carbon-Monoxide Warning

Due to extreme cold and power outages, please be aware of the hazards of the following types of heating:



- ◆ Never use gas grills, propane grills, charcoal grills in a house, garage or enclosed area;
- ◆ All gas fire heaters **MUST** be vented to the outside to remove carbon monoxide from an enclosed area; and

◆ Please read and follow all manufacturer instructions for any heater. Also, be careful with your heaters, fireplaces and candles.

Home and apartment fires are more common during the winter because of improperly used heating equipment, fireplaces and candles. Be sure anything that can burn is at least three (3) feet away from fireplaces or space heaters. Fireplaces should be inspected by a professional every year and cleaned when necessary, and make sure fires are fully extinguished before you go to bed.

It's important your home has working smoke alarms and your family knows how to escape a fire safely.

*All City Boards, Commissions, & Authority meets at the Municipal Court House unless otherwise noted.

City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
2008 N. Council Avenue
Blanchard, OK 73010
Phone: (405) 485-9392
Fax: (405) 485-3199

Special Events

MARCH

9th ~ Daylite Saving Time Begins

15th ~ St Patrick's Day Parade

17th ~ St Patrick's Day

17th ~ Spring Break

18th ~ Spring Break

19th ~ Spring Break

20th ~ Spring Break

20th ~ Spring Begins

21st ~ Spring Break

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page or the City's website regarding City sponsored events.

Code Enforcement

Help beautify Blanchard! It is a violation of the Municipal Code of any of the following:

- * Allow the accumulation of trash and/or debris and our junk on your property.
- * Allow tall weeds or grass (including edges along the street and sidewalk) to exceed 12-inches or higher.
- * Accumulation of inoperable and/or junk vehicles and parts on your property.
- * Parking of trailers, boats, and RVs in alleyways or in front of the building line.
- * Allowing tree limbs over hang the street with less than 8-foot clearance.
- * Failure to trim trees, grass and weeds in alleys or between sidewalk and pavement.
- * Leaving grass in the street after mowing.
- * Watering lawn every day or out of odd/even sequence.

Any questions, please contact Mike Henning, Code Enforcement Officer at City Hall, 405.485.9392 or file a complaint on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Daylite Saving Time Begins



SPRING FORWARD SUNDAY, March 9th, Daylight Saving Time begins at **2 a.m.** when clocks will "spring forward" one-hour. The exceptions are Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. Credit for Daylite Saving Time belongs to Benjamin

Franklin, who first suggested the idea in 1784. The idea was revised in 1907, when William Willett, an Englishman, proposed a similar system in the pamphlet 'The Waste of Daylight'. The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War 1. The British switched one year later, and the United States followed in 1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established our time zones. This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers [cows don't pay attention to clocks]. During World War II, Daylight Saving Time was imposed once again [this time year around] to save fuel.

REMEMBER! When you change the clocks, change your

After Hours

For Public Works/Streets after-hour incidents:

- *water leaks
- *waterline breaks
- *sewer backups
- *sewer line breaks
- *lift station alarms
- *manholes overflowing
- *low-water pressure
- *no water
- *potholes
- *road repairs
- *signs missing
- *signs down
- *roadway flooding
- *debris in road
- *street lite out

Please call
405.485.9391.

The Blanchard Emergency Communications Center is 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

batteries in your smoke and CO² detectors.

Heart Health Month



February is Heart Health Month! Are you at risk for diabetes? If so, you may also be at risk for heart disease. The American Heart Association says 65 percent of people with diabetes die from some form of heart disease or stroke. Do you have diabetes? Some symptoms of diabetes to look for include frequent urination, frequent hunger and thirst, blurry vision, feeling very tired, bruises and cuts that heal very slowly, unexplained weight loss, and numbness/tingling in the hands and feet. You may take the diabetes risk test at www.diabetes.org/are-you-at-risk/ by answering some basic health questions and your risk for diabetes will be calculated.

For more information about diabetes prevention and education, you may contact the American Diabetes Association.

Municipal Election

The City of Blanchard will hold a municipal election to elect a new councilman for Ward Three:

- Brandon Allee.
- Justin Lowe.

Please exercise your constitutional right to VOTE!

TUESDAY, APRIL 1st

POLLS OPEN 7am ~ 7pm

National Anthem Day



Celebrated on **Monday, March 3rd** ... You don't need to know all the words to the national anthem to appreciate its history. On this day in 1931, 'The Star Spangled Banner' was adopted as America's national anthem. The lyrics of the song were taken from Francis Scott Key's poem about the battle at Fort McHenry in the war of 1812 and set to the melody of a popular British drinking song. Today 'The Star Spangled Banner' is played to

Shop Local

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. For every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 stays in Blanchard. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community*.

2. You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the U.S. So why would you want your community to look that way?

3. Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.

4. Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. Local business owners know you, and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.

6. Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify the community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong - in Blanchard.

kick off large public events and sports games.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, February 14th**.

On the PC Agenda

The Planning Commission will meet in regular session on **Thursday, February 27th** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

🌀 To conduct a public hearing in consideration of a zoning reclassification from the A-1 Agricultural zoning district to the R-E Residential Estates zoning district on a property of 2.50 acres, located at 268 NE 70th St, within Section 3-T9N-R4W, McClain County, Oklahoma.

🌀 Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-04, recommending approval or denial of a zoning reclassification from the A-1 Agricultural zoning district to the R-E Residential Estates zoning district on a property of 2.50 acres, located at 268 NE 70th St, within Section 31-T9N-R4W, McClain County, Oklahoma.

🌀 To conduct a public hearing in consideration of a zoning reclassification from the PUD Planned Unit Development zoning district, to the R-2 Combined Residential zoning district on a property of 1.83 acres, located at 117 S Jefferson Avenue, within Section 30-T8N-R4W, McClain County, Oklahoma.

🌀 Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-05, recommending approval or denial of a zoning reclassification from the PUD, Planned Unit Development zoning district, to the R-2 Combined Residential zoning district on a property of 1.83 acres, located at 117 S Jefferson Avenue, within Section 30-T8N-R4W, McClain County, Oklahoma.

🌀 To conduct a public hearing in consideration of Resolution 2025-03, recommending approval or denial of an ordinance amending Section 21-732 of the Zoning Code of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, concerning permitted land uses in the commercial districts.

🌀 Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-06, recommending approval or denial of an ordinance amending Section 21-732 of the Zoning Code of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, concerning

7. Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

8. You are their friends and neighbors, and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of it?

9. Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This **BENEFITS EVERYONE!**

* Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

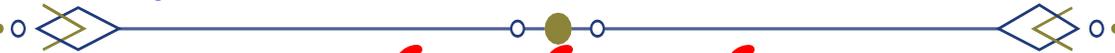
permitted land uses in the commercial districts.

🌀 Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-01, recommending an ordinance to the City Council amending Sections 4-309 and 4-310 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, concerning sign regulations.

🌀 Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-02, recommending an ordinance to the City Council adding new Section 22-206 to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, establishing regulations for Simplified Plats.

🌀 Discussion, and consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution 2025-03 recommending and ordinance to the City Council adding new Sections 16-214 and 16-307, and amending Section 22-327 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, concerning installation of utility infrastructure.

The full agenda packet is available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.



Prayer at the Flagpole

The American Legion Commander welcomes all Veterans and citizens to "Pray at the Flagpole" every Monday morning.

Prayers have been inside the Post due to some of the citizens' inability to stand for long periods of time. The Post is located next door South of the Senior Citizens Center at 103 South Main. After prayer at 8:45am, the Post has a social with coffee and donuts.



Senior Nutrition Center



The Blanchard Senior Nutrition Center serves a fully balanced lunch (entrees, sides, desserts, tea and coffee) for all senior citizens five (5) days a week beginning at **11:30am, Monday thru Friday** (except City Observed Holidays).

MENU (Feb 24 ~ 28)

- February 24th** ~ Stroganoff, Broccoli, Corn, Dessert
- February 25th** ~ Smoked Sausage, Cabbage, Black-Eye Peas, Cornbread, Dessert
- February 26th** ~ Chicken & Dumplings, Pea/Carrot, Dessert
- February 27th** ~ Pinto Beans, Relish, Potato, Cornbread, Dessert
- February 28th** ~ Fish, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Dessert

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of

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charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested to insure the continuance in meeting the nutritional needs of our elderly citizens.

Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

If you need a ride to the Center located at 101 S. Main Street, the City contracts with Delta Transit to provide bus service. Rides are available by calling 1-866-THAT-BUS. For more information, please call (405) 485-9260.

Spring Equinox

Spring will begin on **Thursday, March 20th** at **4:01a.m.** CDT. The word equinox is derived from the Latin words meaning “equal nite.” The Vernal, or spring, equinox is the point at which the Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from south to north, signaling the beginning of nature’s renewal in the Northern Hemisphere.

St Patty’s Day

If you’re inclined toward legend, lore and festivities of the Saint and how the Irish honor him, then check out this St. Patrick’s Day site at www.st-patricks-day.com, where you’ll find everything from parades to recipes. In Dublin Ireland, the St. Patrick’s Day Festival at www.stpatricksdays.ie is described as four (4) days of “madness and mayhem.” St. Patrick’s Day will be **Monday, March 17th**.

So... Think Shop Live Blanchard

Please keep in mind that Blanchard’s quality of life and the local economy relies on where residents spend their money and do their shopping. Sales tax is a direct and vital lifeline to essential services like public safety (police, fire, 911 services), public facilities, projects, programs and services. Shopping locally keeps businesses here in Blanchard, providing jobs and benefiting community schools and non-profits.

If there’s one thing we can all do to make our dollars work for this community, it’s to shop local! Grab dinner in Blanchard on your way home. You’d be surprised what a difference that can make. Shopping locally benefits the entire community. Make your tax dollars work for you and our community.

Spring Break

The Blanchard Public School District will be on Spring Break beginning

Monday, March 17th thru Friday, March 21st. NO classes for students.



Veterans Memorial

There are more than 500 individual bricks still available for purchase and to be show-cased at this incredible Memorial. Individual bricks are \$125 apiece or 3 bricks for \$300. An Order Form can be found on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Weatherization Assistance

PSO offers to its customers a 'Home Weatherization Assistance Program'.

Homeowners and renters with an annual household income of \$55,000 or less in a home less than 2,200 square feet and built prior to 2010 may be eligible for FREE home upgrades such as attic insulation, air and duct sealing, and more.

PSO's service provider, Titan ES, will perform an energy assessment at your home. If your home qualifies, Titan will schedule and complete the necessary home upgrades.

The services are completed at NO cost to you. PSO pays Titan ES for any approved upgrades completed on you home.

For more information, contact the PSO Customer Services Account Representative at 405.222.7615.
