



# E~Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

28 March 2025

Volume 154, Number 4

## Meeting Dates

### April 7<sup>th</sup>

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BETA

### April 8<sup>th</sup>

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

### April 14<sup>th</sup>

6pm - Tourism

### April 15<sup>th</sup>

6pm - BOA

### April 16<sup>th</sup>

3pm - GMC Trust

### April 24<sup>th</sup>

6pm - Planning Commission

\*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

## AgriTourism

### Pick your own tulips at an Oklahoma farm!

Bloom into Spring! Plan a dreamy day at Oklahoma's U-Pick Tulip Farm—where vibrant blooms, fresh air, and picture-perfect moments await! Grab your besties, your significant other, your family, or take a solo self-care stroll through a field of color.

Below is a list of all u-pick tulip farms in the state. Be sure to check their individual pages for opening times and dates. Happy picking!

#### Central

[Bayer's Blooms](#) | Perkins, OK

[Billingsley Blooms](#) | Lucien, OK

[Flowers Farms](#) | Oklahoma City, OK

[Oklahoma Tulips](#) | Harrah, OK

#### Northeast

[The Flower Meadow](#) | Coweta, OK

#### Northwest

[Tea & Country Estate](#) | Enid, OK

## Animal Cruelty Prevention Month



Preventing animal cruelty starts with responsible pet ownership. Cruelty may include but not limited to animal *neglect* of unreasonable deprivation of necessary food, care or shelter or *inhumane treatment* includes, but is not limited to, the following:

♦ Any physical punishment inconsistent with the health of such animal;

# Special Events

## APRIL

1<sup>st</sup> ~ Municipal Election

1<sup>st</sup> ~ School Bond Election

1<sup>st</sup> ~ April Fools Day

15<sup>th</sup> ~ Tax Day

20<sup>th</sup> ~ Easter Sunday

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Easter Monday

25<sup>th</sup> ~ Arbor Day

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

- ◆ Lack of food or water for more than a twenty-four (24) hour period;
- ◆ Knowingly permitting obvious nutritional deficiencies or other evident health problems involving any animal;
- ◆ Improper use of any collar or harness or a fixed leash for the purpose of confining any animal which results in flesh laceration, obvious pain or to cause choking to such animal;
- ◆ Depriving animal of adequate shelter; and
- ◆ Inhumane killing or attempting to kill any animal.

You can report instances of animal cruelty to the City of Blanchard to be investigated by calling 485-9392.

## April Fool's Day

**Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** or All Fool's Day, a holiday of uncertain origin, is known for practical joking and celebrated on the first of April.

Prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in 1564, the date was observed as New Year's Day by cultures as varied as the Roman and the Hindu. The holiday is considered to be related to the festival of the Vernal Equinox, which occurs on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The English gave April Fool's Day its first widespread celebration during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



## Architectural RFQ

The City of Blanchard is accepting Requests for Qualifications for architectural services for the redesign of an existing building into a new police station from interested architects and/or firms.

Proposals must be submitted to the City Clerk by 4:00 pm on Friday, May 1, 2025, at City Hall. The RFQ is available on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## AYCE Breakfast

The Blanchard Masonic Lodge will host their April "All You Can Eat" Breakfast on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7am.

Proceeds will benefit the Blanchard Girl Scouts Troop 496.

For more information, please contact Melisha Swindell at 405.412.0394.

# 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.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup>**

**POLLS OPEN 7am ~ 7pm**

## 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](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## Easter



Many Christians celebrate Easter Sunday as the day of Jesus Christ's resurrection, which is written in the New Testament of the Christian bible. According to the Gospel of John in the New Testament, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb where Jesus was buried and found it empty. An angel told her that Jesus had risen. Christians worldwide have celebrated Easter for centuries.

However, the roots of the Easter holiday's traditions and activities can be traced back to pagan celebrations. The name Easter is believed to come from *Eostara*, the goddess of rebirth.

## 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.

In early times the Feast of Eostara celebrated earth's resurrection and rebirth. Strict Puritans would have nothing to do with Easter - it was merely a human institution - in the past. Charles I, king of England, declared the day as scriptural as Sunday in 1647 but Parliament contradicted him in print and abolished it with other church festivals.

The Easter date depends on the ecclesiastical approximation of the March equinox. In 325CE the Council of Nicaea decided that the Easter date would be the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the March equinox. Easter is therefore delayed one week if the full moon is on Sunday, which lessens the likelihood of it falling on the same day as the Jewish Passover. Eastern Orthodox churches in many countries such as Greece still figure their Easter date based on the Julian calendar.

Easter eggs and the Easter Bunny are both fertility symbols, holdovers from the feast of Eostara. Other symbolic parallels include the pagan joy in the rising sun of spring, which coincides with Christians' joy in the rising Son of God, and the lighting of candles in churches, which corresponds to the pagan bonfires. The symbol of the cross and images of Jesus Christ, through paintings or statues, are remembered on Easter Day.

Easter will be **Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**.



## Easter Egg Hunt

The annual city-wide Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will be held the BHS Football Field.

Free hot dogs, drinks and desserts available beginning at 10:30 a.m.

For more information please call 405-485-3584 or see their website at [www.phbcblanchard.com](http://www.phbcblanchard.com).



## Fair Housing Month



April is 'Fair Housing Month' in Blanchard. The City encourages each citizen to implement the provisions of the City's Fair Housing Ordinance and requests that any person, or group of persons, planning activities to promote fair housing to inform the City Clerk of such activities. A copy of the Ordinance may be obtained

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.

We're on the Web!  
[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

from the Office of the City Clerk.

## *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 1<sup>st</sup>**

**POLLS OPEN 7am ~ 7pm**

## *Oil 'n Gas*

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**.

## *Planning Commission Action*

The Blanchard Planning Commission held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took appropriate action as follows:

🌀 Adopted Resolution No. 2025-04 recommending approval of a Zoning Reclassification from the A-1, Agriculture District to the R-E, Residential Estates District for 2.50 acres MOL located at 368 NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street.

🌀 HELD Public Hearing on Zoning Application from the A-1, Agricultural District to the I-2, Heavy Industrial District on 5 acres MOL located at 26115 Lazy D Drive.

🌀 ADOPTED Resolution No. 2025-07 recommending denial of a Zoning Reclassification from A-1, Agricultural District to the I-2, Heavy Industrial District on 5 acres MOL located at 26115 Lazy D Drive.

🌀 DISCUSSED training and review of the Vision 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

🌀 APPROVED Consent Agenda.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission on **Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**.

## *Police Blotter*

No arrests reported.



## *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 (March 31 ~ April 4)**

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** ~ Taco Salad, Beans, Chips, Dessert

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** ~ Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Bun, Dessert

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potato, Green Beans, Dessert

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** ~ Pinto Beans, Tomato Relish, Spinach, Cornbread, Dessert

**April 4<sup>th</sup>** ~ Ham Salad, Tomato Soup, Salad, Crackers, Dessert

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested to insure the continuance in meeting the nutritional needs of our elderly citizens.



**SENIORS**

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.

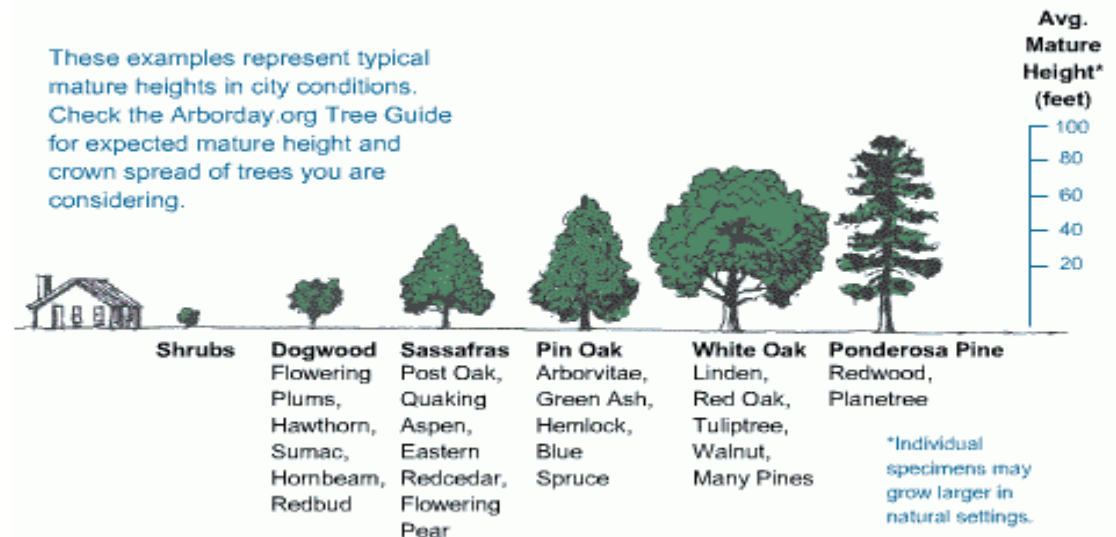
## *So... Think Shop Live Blanchard*

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.

## Tree Planting

**PLANTING FOR SPRING! BUT IN THE PERFECT SPOT.** Trees increase energy conservation for your home by providing windbreaks in the winter or shade in the summer. But when placing trees and shrubs, plant taller trees away from PSO and OEC overhead utility lines. **BENEFITS OF TREES:** Trees add value to your home, regulate the temperature of your neighborhood, and provide food for wildlife. *"To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, and to live as a people, we must have trees"* **Theodore Roosevelt, 31<sup>st</sup> President.**



## 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](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

**Don't  
FORGET!**



**To VOTE!**

On **Tuesday** [**April 1<sup>st</sup>**]

Polls are open from **7am** to **7pm**.