



E-Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

18 April 2025

Volume 155, Number 3

Meeting Dates

April 21st

6pm - Tourism

April 24th

6pm - Planning Commission

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

All You Can Eat Breakfast

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

Proceeds will benefit the Blanchard Girl Scouts Troop 496.

For more information, please contact Melisha Swindell at 405.412.0394.

*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

APRIL

19th ~ Egg Hunt

20th ~ Easter Sunday

21st ~ Easter Monday

25th ~ Arbor Day

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

Arbor Day

Arbor Day is a national holiday that recognizes the importance of trees. The most common way people celebrate Arbor Day is to get together in groups to plant trees.

The next National Arbor Day is Friday, April 25, 2025. However many states observe Arbor Day on different days, based on the best tree planting times in their area.

BMIA~Council Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority and the Blanchard City Council met in joint special session on Tuesday, April 15th and discussed, considered and took appropriate action as follows:

- Administered the Oath of Office to Brandon Allee, Councilor for Ward 3, Chuck Kemper, Councilor for Ward 4 and Christina Short for Councilor At-large;
- Nominated and appointed Michael Scalf as Mayor for 2-year term and Chuck Kemper as Vice Mayor for a 2-year term;
- Nominated and appointed Ben Whitt as Delegate to the ACOG MPO Committee and Delegate to the 911 ACOG Board with Brandon Allee and Chuck Kemper as alternates;
- Nominated and appointed Christina Short as Chairperson and Chuck Kemper as Vice Chairman of the Central Business District committee.
- Received status on capital projects March.
- Tabled water and sewer rates.
- Adopted Resolution accepting the Hux Grove water line serving Lots 1-167.
- Tabled Resolution accepting Allsup's water line.
- Authorized GSA to solicit bids on water line replacement.
- Approved Consent Agenda.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 13th.

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

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.

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.



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. 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

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.

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 20th**.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual city-wide Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will be held at the old BHS Football Field tomorrow (**Saturday, April 19th**) at 11am

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

For more information please call 405-485-3584 or see their website at 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 from the Office of the City Clerk.

Farmers Market

The City's Farmers Market opens on **Saturday, May 3rd** at 8am. It will be at the same location on US-62 across from Ten Arrows.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, April 11th**.

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

On the Planning Agenda

The Planning Commission will hold their regular April meeting on Thursday, April 24th to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

- Discussion and consideration regarding a proposed Planned Unit Development Design Statement entitled the Bridgesong Master Planned Mixed Use Development and Golf Course on a parcel of approximately 933.43 acres located north of US-62 between S Mustang Rd & S Morgan Ave., within Section 27-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, Oklahoma.
- Discussion and consideration regarding the comprehensive plans, the Blanchard Vision 2035 Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map, and progress on the goals, objectives, and policies stated in the Vision 2035 Comprehensive Plan.
- Consent Agenda.

On the Tourism Agenda

The Tourism Board will be held on Monday, April 21st to discuss and consider the following:

- Discussion, updates and possible action if necessary for May Daze 2025.
- Discussion, updates by Mary Beth McKane and possible Action if necessary, regarding meeting with Chickasha Chamber of Commerce and Chickasha Economic Development Council.
- Discussion, updates and possible action if necessary, regarding the Tourism Website to change the name of the website and hiring OH 18 for website promotion.
- Discussion and possible action, if necessary, to request \$5000.00 from the City Council for marketing purposes
- Consent Agenda.

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'

BLANCHARD together
today & tomorrow

inability to stand for long periods. The Post is located next door, South of the Senior Citizens Center at 103 South Main. After prayer at 8:45 am, 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 (April 21 ~ April 25)

April 21st ~ Chef Salad, Fruit, Crackers, Dessert

April 22nd ~ Ribbett, Potato Salad, Green beans, Dessert

April 16th ~ Tetrizzini, Carrots/Peas, Dessert

April 17th ~ Chili Beans, Salad, Corn, Cornbread, Dessert

April 18th ~ Pigs-in-a-Blanket, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Dessert



SENIORS

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested to ensure 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.

So... Think Shop Live Blanchard

Please keep in mind that Blanchard's quality of life and the local economy rely 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.

Strawberry season is here!

Oklahoma's u-pick strawberry farms are opening soon! Grab your friends and family, bring your baskets, and make sweet memories picking the freshest berries right from the farm. Perfect for family fun, homemade treats, and that fresh from the farm flavor! 🍓🍓🍓

Below is a list of all u-pick strawberry farms in the state. Be sure to check each farm's socials or websites for appointments or opening dates.

[Buffalo Creek Berry Farm](#) | Mustang, OK

[Growing Paynes](#) | Mustang, OK

[Whitewater Hollow Farms](#) | Jay, OK

Veterans Memorial

There are more than 500 individual bricks still available for purchase and to be showcased 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.