



# E~Mail Newsletter

25 October 2024

Volume 149, Number 4

## Meeting Dates

**November 4<sup>th</sup>**

8am ~ TEAM Blanchard

**November 5<sup>th</sup>**

6pm ~ BOA

**November 11<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am ~ CBD

**November 12<sup>th</sup>**

6pm ~ BMIA

6pm ~ City Council

**November 14<sup>th</sup>**

6pm ~ Planning  
Commission

**November 18<sup>th</sup>**

6pm ~ Tourism

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

City of Blanchard  
P.O. Box 480  
122 N. Main Street  
Blanchard, OK 73010  
Phone: (405) 485-9392  
Fax: (405) 485-3199

## Agriculture

### Oklahoma's Growing Adventure

Fall festivities are ramping up here in Oklahoma. Make sure you visit a Maze or Pumpkin Patch for all the fun!

#### CENTRAL OKLAHOMA:

- Canadian River Vineyards and Winery ~ Lexington
- Chester's Party Barn & Farm ~ Piedmont
- Cross Timbers Christmas Tree Farm & Pumpkin Patch ~ Harrah
- Daze in a Maze ~ Marshall
- Lakeview Market
- Oh My Gourd Pumpkin Patch ~ Glencoe
- Orr Family Farm ~ Moore
- Parkhurst Ranch ~ Arcadia
- Rustic Acres ~ Mason
- Silver Bells Christmas Tree Farm ~ Tuttle
- Sunshine Shelly's Pumpkin Patch ~ Shawnee
- The Barn at Country Club ~ Newcastle
- The Twelves ~ Stillwater
- Walnut Woods ~ Edmond

## Ballot Questions

Voters will consider the following two (2) state questions on the upcoming General Election Ballot on **Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**. They are as follows:

#### **STATE QUESTION NO. 833:**

This measure adds a new section 9E to Article 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution. This new section will permit the

# Special Events

## OCTOBER

31<sup>st</sup> ~ Halloween

31<sup>st</sup> ~ PumpkinFest

## NOVEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> ~ All Saints' Day

3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Daylite Saving  
Time Ends

5<sup>th</sup> ~ Election Day

11<sup>th</sup> ~ Veterans Day

15<sup>th</sup> ~ Nat'l Recycling  
Day

28<sup>th</sup> ~ Thanksgiving  
Day

29<sup>th</sup> ~ Thanksgiving  
After

## DECEMBER

7<sup>th</sup> ~ Pearl Harbor Day

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas on  
Main

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Lited  
Parade

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Winter Begins

24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve

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

31<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Eve

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

creation of public infrastructure districts to provide support, organization, operation, and maintenance of services. To create such a district, proponents for creating the district must file a petition with the municipality. The petition must include the signatures of one-hundred (100) percent of all surface property owners falling within the District's proposed boundaries. The municipality possesses the right to impose limitations on the district's powers prior to approving the district. Once approved, the district will be governed by a board of trustees.

Through the board, the district may issue bonds to pay for all or part of all public improvements implemented by and for the public infrastructure district. The district will be limited to issuing bonds issued for such improvements not exceeding ten (10) mills. For repayment of the bonds, the district, acting through its board of trustees, will levy and assess a special assessment on all property benefiting from the improvements in the district. Section 9E also authorizes the Legislature to enact laws necessary for the implementation of public infrastructure districts.

### STATE QUESTION NO. 834:

This measure amends Section 1 of Article 3 of the Oklahoma Constitution. It clarifies that only citizens of the United States are qualified to vote in this state.

## Daylite Saving Time

**FALL BACK SUNDAY, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**, when Daylight Saving Time ends at **2 a.m.** Clocks will "fall back" one-hour.

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



# After Hours

For Public Works  
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.

save fuel.

**REMEMBER!** When you change the clocks, change your batteries in your smoke and CO<sup>2</sup> detectors.

## Halloween

Trick or Treat Nite will be **Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>** in Blanchard from **6 pm to 9 pm**.

Please drive with caution and watch out for little ghosts and goblins!

For Halloween safety tips for your kids, pets, etc. please go to [www.halloween-safety.com](http://www.halloween-safety.com).



## Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day, observed **November 11<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Thanksgiving Day, **November 28<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Day After Thanksgiving, **November 29<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Trash service will **NOT** run on Thanksgiving (**Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**) and Christmas Day (**Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**).

## National Recycling Day

**Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** is National Recycling Day. Only 31% of items that customers put in their recycling cart cannot be recycled and must be sent to a landfill. Reduce contamination in recycling carts with these tips:



- Do empty, clean and dry jars and bottles;
- Don't bag recyclables. Put all items loose in your cart. Plastic

Bags are considered contamination and delay the recycling process;

- Don't use your recycling cart for household, yard waste or construction trash.

## 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.

## Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**.

## Oklahoma Heritage Week

The signing of the Statehood Proclamation on November 16, 1907, was the most significant action in the history of the State of Oklahoma. The week of November 10th through the 16th has been declared 'OKLAHOMA HERITAGE WEEK' in the State of Oklahoma.

All Oklahomans should pause during this time and reflect on our Oklahoma heritage, as well as our national heritage. Blanchard has the obligation and privilege to play an important role in the observance of this great week! So the Blanchard City Council issued a proclamation declaring the week of November 10th thru the 16th to be 'Oklahoma Heritage Week' in Blanchard and encourages all citizens, families, clubs, churches, business organizations and schools in Blanchard to give personal attention to all special Statehood Day observances, to fly the State Flag and the National Colors, to participate in and help sponsor programs, projects, and activities emphasizing the heritage of our great State.

## Park Events

**10/31/24** ~ PumpkinFest

**11/09/24** ~ Veterans Day Parade

**12/14/24** ~ Christmas Parade of Lights

**12/14/24** ~ Christmas on Main

## Planning Action

The Planning Commission met in special session on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following:

- **Opened, conducted and closed** public hearing to receive public comments on a zoning application submitted by:

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.

**Applicant: C & C Portable Equipment Rental, LLC, Dillon Taylor**

**Current Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District**

**Proposed Zoning: C-5 Automotive and Commercial Recreation zoning district**

**Address: 620 west Veterans Memorial Highway**

- **Adopted** Resolution 2024-24 recommending approval to the City Council of an ordinance amending the zoning district from Agricultural District (A-1) to Automotive and Commercial Recreation zoning district (C-5) on a tract of approximately 5.10 acres located within the West half of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (W ½ SE ¼ SW¼) of Section 30-T8N-R4W, McClain County, Oklahoma.

The next regular schedule meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission is scheduled for **Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**.

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## P olice B lotter

**10/21/24 ~ COKER, Kari** arrested for outstanding Warrants out of Pittsburg County and Payne County.

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## P rayer at the F lagpole

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.

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## PumpkinFest



Get ready for a  
**SPOOKY** good time!

The City's annual event will be held on **Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>** from **6pm** to **9pm** on Main Street.

### Activities include:

- Costume Contest (Ages 0-10) (11-18) & (19-over)
- Pet Costume Contest (all pets must be on a leash)
- Face Painting
- Free Candy & Refreshments
- Games and Trunk or Treats
- Safe Candy Walk & Music

For more information, please contact Chris Wittenbach at 248.6521 or [parks@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:parks@cityofblanchard.us).

## Quick Facts

Blanchard is rated the Best Places in Oklahoma City Area to:

- **Raise a Family** #6 of 23
- **Buy a House** #7 of 27
- **Best Public Schools** #8 of 24
- **Best Places to Live** #9 of 24

## 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:

(October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Monday** ~ Spaghetti, Mixed Veggies, Bread, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Hot Dog with Bun, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Pinto Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Ham Salad, Tomato Soup, Green 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.

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.

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## 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.

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## Tall Weeds & Grass



The City is committed to adopted regulations concerning the abatement of tall grass, weeds and trash.

The Blanchard Municipal Code concerning public nuisances and property enhancement requires that owners or responsible persons of property located within the municipal city limits are prohibited from allowing debris, junk, waste or trash to accumulate, or weeds or tall grass over twelve (12") inches in height, dead trees, bushes, and shrubs to grow or stand upon the premises. This regulation is based upon the Oklahoma State Law Title 11, Section 22-111 which sets forth the procedure and definitions for the cleaning and mowing of property. Property that abuts against public property (ie: alleys, streets, etc.) are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of mowing of tall weeds and grass, trees, etc.)

For more information, contact the Code Enforcement Officer at 405.485.9392 or file an anonymous complaint on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## 2024 Election Date

**November 5<sup>th</sup>** ~ General Election

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE! POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am - 7pm.



## Veterans Day

Originally Armistice Day, commemorating the signing of the agreement that ended World War I at 11:00am, on November 11, 1918, this federal holiday was changed to Veterans Day in 1954 by Congress. At that time, it became a day to honor all the men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States. Each year, special ceremonies are held around the nation honoring our veterans. Please consider spending some time on-line learning more about our nation's true HEROES [the American Veteran] who have served our country in time of peace and war.



City Hall offices will be closed for observance of Veterans Day on **Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**. Offices will reopen on **Tuesday, November 12**, at 8am.

## Veterans Day Parade



Plans are under way for the annual Blanchard Veterans Day Parade to be held on **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**.

The Parade Marshal will be announced at a later date.

Parade Entry Forms will be available on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## 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).

## Water Rationing

The City of Blanchard reminds citizens that the City receives 100% of our water from the City of Oklahoma City. As a result, we maintain a year-round, mandatory odd/even lawn watering schedule to facilitate the conservation of its ground water supply from OKC.

Addresses ending in an even number such as the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> may water on even-numbered days of the month.

If your address ends in an odd number, then you can legally water on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> of each month.

The City also encourages citizens to water before 10 a.m. and after 7 p.m. throughout the year.

Please call City Hall or email us complaints of possible violations anonymously at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://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 your home.

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