



City News

12 May 2017

Volume 58 Issue 2

MEETINGS

May 16th

6pm – Bd of Adj

May 18th

4pm – Juvenile -
Code Court

May 23rd

2:30pm – Traffic
Court

6pm – City Council

6pm – BMIA

*All City Boards, Commissions, & Authorities meet at Blanchard Municipal Courthouse unless otherwise noted

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will receive separate sealed bids for construction of the Canadian River Water Line Crossing. Bids will be received at City Hall, located at 122 N. Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010, until 11:00AM, on **Thursday, May 18th, 2017**. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud, at that time at City Hall.

Project to include approximately 3,700 LF of directional drill with 14" HDPE and appurtenances.

All work shall be performed and all construction and material used and furnished shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents prepared by Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc., and on file in the office of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority, located at City Hall.

The Notice to Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans & Specs, Form of Bid Bond, Performance and Statutory Payment Bond, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following:

1. City Hall
122 North Main Street
Blanchard, OK 73010
(405) 485-9392
2. Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc.
103 N. Mercedes Drive, Suite A
Norman, OK 73069
(405) 321-7232

A complete set of Plans & Specs to prospective bidders may be obtained at the office of Glenn Sullivan and Associates, Inc., (405) 321-7232 upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00.

AYCE Breakfast

The Blanchard Masonic Lodge No. 395, A.F. & A.M 2017 Charity Breakfast schedule:

EVENTS

May 13th

◆ Local Food Drive

May 14th

◆ Mother's Day

6p ◆ Baccalaureate

May 15th

7p ◆ High School
Graduation

May 16th

11a ◆ Food Truck
Tuesday

May 17th

◆ Last Day of
School

May 19th

10a ◆ May Daze

May 20th

10a ◆ May Daze

May 23rd

11a ◆ Food Truck
Tuesday

May 27th

7a ◆ AYCE
Breakfast

May 29th

◆ Memorial Day

May 30th

11a ◆ Food Truck
Tuesday

*For Blanchard
Library Events:
Please visit their
website at
pioneer.lib.ok.us/home*



May 27th – Blanchard Junior High Cheer

June 24th – Pom Pom Squad

July 22nd - Blanchard High School Cheer

August 26th - Blanchard softball

September 23rd – Blanchard Band
Booster Club

Baccalaureate & Graduation



The BHS Baccalaureate will be **Sunday, May 14th**.

Ceremonies begin at **6 p.m.** at the Blanchard
First Baptist Church. The BHS graduation will be

Monday, May 15th. Ceremonies begin at **7 p.m.** at
the Blanchard H.S. Gym.

Dedication

Memorial Day in 2017 will be celebrated on Monday, the 29th of May. This year, Main Street will come alive with the sights and sounds of military honors as the Blanchard VFW will host a ceremony beginning at 10am. Main Street from US-62 to N. 3rd street will be closed to traffic as we dedicate a portion of US-62 from OK-76 to OK-9 as the *SFC Tony K. Burris Memorial Highway*. The public is invited to attend this event which will include VFW members, American Legion members, veterans, decorated military personnel and other dignitaries.

*"We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies"*

Tony Kenneth Burris of Blanchard was a soldier in the United States Army during the Korean War. He posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his actions on October 8–9, 1951. He is buried in Blanchard Cemetery, Blanchard, Oklahoma.

Born: May 30, 1929, Blanchard, OK

Died: October 9, 1951, Korea

Battles and wars: Korean War

Years of service: to 1951

Rank: Sergeant First Class

Awards: Medal of Honor, Purple Heart Recipient

Units: 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division

SFC Burris, a member of Company L, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and outstanding courage above and beyond the call of duty. On October 8th when his company encountered intense

CITY NOTES

Everbridge System

Please go to www.mcclain-co-ok.us to sign up for the McClain County Mass Notification System.

This free service is only available to residents of McClain County and allows citizens to receive general and emergency information that may affect you and your family as well as automated weather alerts specific to addresses you enter to include notices of water shut-off due to leaks, road closures, and other emergency notices from the City of Blanchard.

Since alert emails are sent as mass-mailings, your email filter may send it to your SPAM Folder. Be sure to allow emails from @everbridge.net into your email in-box.

See more at: <http://mcclain-co-ok.us/everbridge-the-new-notification-system/#sthash.FDJKUVoF.dpuf>

Meetings

All City regular meetings are held at the new Blanchard Municipal Courthouse located at 300 N. Main Street.

Odd-Even Watering

Central Oklahoma is still in a dry to moderate drought. As a result, OKC has implemented Progressive Water Conservation Stages which requires the surrounding communities to adopt

fire from an entrenched hostile force, SFC Burris charged forward alone, throwing grenades into the position and destroying approximately 15 of the enemy. On the following day, spearheading a renewed assault on enemy positions on the next ridge, he was wounded by machine gun fire but continued the assault, reaching the crest of the ridge ahead of his unit and sustaining a second wound. Calling for a 57mm recoilless rifle team, he deliberately exposed himself to draw hostile fire and reveal the enemy position. SFC. Burris, refusing evacuation and submitting only to emergency treatment, joined the unit in its renewed attack but fire from hostile emplacement halted the advance. SFC Burris rose to his feet, charged forward and destroyed the first emplacement with its heavy machine gun and crew of 6 men. Moving out to the next emplacement, and throwing his last grenade which destroyed this position, he fell mortally wounded by enemy fire. Inspired by his consummate gallantry, his comrades renewed a spirited assault which overran enemy positions and secured Hill 605, a strategic position in the battle for "Heartbreak Ridge", SFC Burris' indomitable fighting spirit, outstanding heroism, and gallant self-sacrifice reflect the highest glory upon himself, the infantry and the U.S. Army.

"The City of Blanchard is excited to get to honor one of Blanchard's own citizen, it's not every day you get the chance to pay tribute to a true American hero".

So please join us on **Monday**, the **29th** at **10am** in front of the Tony K. Burris Statue at US62 and Main Street.

Food Truck Schedule

The **May** schedule is listed below:



16th – The Fried Taco

23rd – Big Creek Burgers

30th – Phil Me Up Cheesesteak

Holiday Observance

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 29th** in observance of Memorial Day. If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911. If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391. Trash service will run as usual.

the same. Therefore, a mandatory odd/even watering (Stage 1) is permanently in effect in Blanchard. How does odd/even watering work? It's simple!

If your address ends in an even number, you can water on even-numbered calendar days.

If your address ends in an odd number, you can water on odd-numbered calendar days.

For example: If your address is 1400, you can water on the 2nd, 4th, 6th of the month and so on. If your address is 1401, you can water on the 1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.



All watering shall be supervised in person to limit unproductive runoff. Water running in drainage ditches or streets shall be determined to be in violation of this restriction.

Although the outdoor watering ban is lifted, we still encourage residents to conserve water.

Citizens who may have questions regarding the water rationing schedule may contact City Hall during normal business hours.

Recycling The City's Citizen Collection Center is opened to receive recyclables Monday thru Friday from 6:30am to 8:30am and from 4pm to 6:30pm. Also on Saturday from 8am to 12Noon. Visit our website for more information.

Local Food Drive

The Blanchard Rural Letter Carriers are gearing up for the 51st annual Letter Carriers Food Drive. Blanchard Postmaster Leslie Dodd, Blanchard Superintendent Dr. Jim Beckham, Kevin Roark with the local Food Bank, Julie Carter, Executive Director of the Blanchard Chamber of Commerce and Mayor Eddie Odle are working together behind the scenes to coordinate some of the activities to make this year's food drive the best it can be! The food drive will be held this year on **Saturday, May 13th**. While the food drive is the largest one-day event, we are asking businesses to place a container at their establishment during March and April in hopes of collecting food from as many people as possible. If you are interested in having a container at your business, please contact Julie Carter at 485-8787 or Eddie Odle at 806-535-9024 and they will see that you get one.



The food drive is sponsored and coordinated by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Rural carriers are not required to participate. It is absolutely wonderful that the Blanchard Rural Carriers are selflessly giving of their time and energy participating in this event. Please take the time to show your appreciation to your rural carrier.

May Daze Festival

The 23rd annual May Daze Festival will be **Friday, May 19th** and **Saturday, May 20th** from 10am to 8pm. General vendor booths and non-profit booths are available. The non-profit/informational booths are available at NO charge to chamber members as part of your membership.



The Chamber offers 2 hour shifts in the Chamber booth for any chamber member. Both of these are great opportunities to promote your business during the festival. Please call the Chamber office at 485.8787 for more information.

CONTACT THE CITY

City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
122 N. Main Street
Blanchard, OK 73010

Phone:
(405) 485-9392

Fax:
(405) 485-3199

We're on the Web!
www.cityofblanchard.us

FEEDBACK

Please mail your
comments to:
City Manager's Office,
P.O. Box 480,
Blanchard, OK 73010
Or, email comments to:
citymanager@cityofblanchard.us

Memorial Day

The custom of honoring our ancestors by cleaning cemeteries and decorating graves is an ancient and worldwide tradition, but the specific origin of Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it was first known, are unclear.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

In early rural America, this duty was usually performed in late summer and was an occasion for family reunions and picnics.

After the Civil War, America's need for a secular, patriotic ceremony to honor our military dead became prominent, as monuments to fallen soldiers were erected and dedicated, and ceremonies centering on the decorations of soldier's graves were held in cities and towns thru-out the nation.

No less than 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, and for many years, states observed the holiday on different dates. However, by federal law, Memorial Day is now celebrated on the last Monday in May which will be **Monday, May 29th**.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14th will be Mother's Day. Although the custom of setting aside a day to honor mothers has ancient roots, our observance of Mother's Day originated in 1907 with the efforts of a devoted daughter, Anna M. Jarvis of Philadelphia, who conceived the idea of an annual nationwide celebration. The public and the press quickly embraced the idea, and villages, towns, cities, and states soon began unofficial Mother's Day observances. On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May Mother's Day, and within a few years, the idea gained worldwide prominence. The day is now characterized by gift giving, sending greeting cards and flowers, and giving mother a "day off" by taking the family out to eat. In the United States, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May.

Public Notices ~ Free



Occasionally someone comments, "I wish I had known that the city was going to do that!" or "I see construction is being done on SH-9, what is going on?" All of these questions and many more can be easily answered if you will just subscribe to the "Blanchard News".

The benefit of these legal notices published in the local paper are:

- They are published by an independent source;
- They cannot be electronically changed or altered after the fact;
- They can be archived for future reference; and
- They are legally provable in court.

State law requires that the city publish legal notices of all ordinances, certain resolutions, bid notices, public hearings, zoning changes, projects, etc. in the local newspaper, before any activity can proceed. Also the local paper writes news stories of all projects, progress and repairs occurring around the city. In order to stay on top of everything happening in our community, the city encourages everyone to subscribe to the "Blanchard News."

A normal annual subscription is only \$25.00 a year, which is only 50¢ per issue, (the price of a stamp) delivered to your mail box...but...they are offering a FREE introductory special to any new or expired subscriber.

Just call the news office at 405-485-2311 to receive a FREE two (2) month subscription to the newspaper. You can also mail a form to them at PO Box 60, Blanchard, OK. 73010. You will start receiving the local paper in your mail box every Thursday. This way you can enjoy a trial subscription to the paper and you will be aware of everything happening in our great town.

Sales Tax Collections

The City's May sales tax collections are \$205,490.69 and more than five (5.45%) percent higher than the budgeted amount based on March retail sales of \$5,137,267. In addition, it is more than eleven (11.51%) percent less than last month's collections in April:

Month	Collections	Prior Year Δ
July 2016	\$177,852.34	-6.31%
August 2016	\$277,206.11	44.24%
September 2016	\$182,700.78	-8.81%
October 2016	\$214,091.68	11.29%
November 2016	\$176,896.13	-8.05%
December 2016	\$171,745.18	-17.54%
January 2017	\$204,677.11	5.09%
February 2017	\$196,513.24	-10.70%
March 2017	\$195,994.31	16.86%
April 2017	\$229,136.00	27.29%
May 2017	\$205,490.69	8.78%
TOTALS	\$1,800,676.88	4.14%

Siren Testing



Regular seasonal testing of the City's storm sirens every Wednesday at Noon (weathering permitting) and continue at the same time each week throughout the storm season. Any area residents who have not registered the location of their storm shelter with City Hall are encouraged to do so as the season begins. Registration of shelters greatly enhances chances of area first responders being able to quickly locate and rescue anyone trapped in their shelters by storm debris.

Registration forms are available at Blanchard City Hall and online at www.cityofblanchard.us/document_center/storm_shelter_registration.pdf. Please return all registration forms to the Blanchard City Hall, 122 North Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010.

Tornado Safety



In Oklahoma, tornados are most frequent in the spring and summer months. An average of 800 tornados are reported each year, causing 80 deaths and over 1,500 injuries per year. These storms are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 250 mph or greater. The following guidelines will assist in keeping you safe:

Tornado Watch – means a tornado is “possible”. When the National Weather Service issues a warning, it is time to turn on a TV or radio, look out the window from time to time, and be more alert to what is happening outside.

Tornado Warning – means that a tornado has actually been spotted, or is strongly indicated on radar, and it is time to go to a safe shelter immediately.

Warning Signs -

- » A sickly greenish or greenish black color to the sky.
- » If there is a tornado warning or watch posted, then the fall of hail should be considered as a real danger.
- » A strange quiet that occurs within or shortly after the thunderstorm.
- » Clouds moving by very fast, especially in a rotating pattern or converging toward one area of the sky.
- » A sound a little like a waterfall or rushing air at first, then turning into a roar as it comes closer.
- » Tornadoes usually move from southwest to northeast.

Possible Shelters -

- » Basements.
- » Interior rooms or hallways on the lowest floor.
- » Small rooms – restrooms, closets, etc. Avoid rooms with wide span roof areas.
- » Get under a piece of sturdy furniture – heavy table, cubicle work surface, etc.
- » Stay away from exterior walls, windows, mirrors, items hanging overhead.
- » Do not stay in vehicles.
- » If no other shelter is available, lay down in a depression in the ground, such as a ditch.
- » Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

Water Conservation Tips



Thinking about redesigning your landscape? Add water-wise and Oklahoma native plants instead of cool-season grasses, like tall fescue. Drought tolerant plants are attractive and require less water and maintenance than tall fescue lawns.

Black-eyed Susans and Blanket Flowers attract butterflies to the garden. Russian Sage and Yucca provide unique texture and Catmint and Rosemary introduce fragrant foliage to the landscape.

For more Oklahoma appropriate plants go to Oklahoma City's www.squeezeverydrop.com.