



City News

11 May 2018

Volume 70 Issue 2

MEETINGS

May 15th

6p – BOA [*Cancelled*]

May 17th

3p – Juvenile/Code
Court

May 22nd

2:30p – Traffic Court

6p – City Council

6p – BMIA

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

Animal Care Needs



The City is seeking donations for dog and cat care to include, but not limited to, the following:

- ◆ Collars & leashes;
- ◆ Beds & padding;
- ◆ Igloo Dog Houses & animal traps;
- ◆ New towels & blankets;
- ◆ Animal crates;
- ◆ Dog and cat treats;
- ◆ Small cans of cat food;
- ◆ Metal water and food bowls;
- ◆ Various cleaning supplies;
- ◆ Puppy Pads;
- ◆ Grooming supplies;
- ◆ Hand sanitizer;
- ◆ Cat litter (preferably clumping);
- ◆ Water hoses;
- ◆ Syringes with needles & vaccines (can be obtained from Tractor Supply or Atwoods, etc);
- ◆ Meds (Flea, tick & heartworm);
- ◆ Various medical supplies (alcohol, peroxide, cotton swabs, cotton balls, latex gloves);
- ◆ Industrial dishwasher, clothes washer, dryer & mini-fridge;
- ◆ Rubbermaid storage tubs;
- ◆ Cat litter boxes;
- ◆ Trash cans & liners;

You can donate money directly for the purchase of Kuranda dog beds. If interested please visit www.kuranda.com donates directly to the City to include shipping, plus. For further information or questions, please contact Crystal Cannon, Animal Control Officer, at City Hall, 485.9392.



May 12th

◆ Letter Carriers Food Drive

May 13th

◆ Mother's Day

May 15th

11a – Food Truck Tuesday

May 18th

◆ May Daze Festival

◆ Garage/Yard Sale

May 19th

7a – AYCE Breakfast

◆ Armed Forces Day

◆ May Daze Festival

◆ Garage/Yard Sale

6p – Blanchard Idol

May 22nd

11a – Food Truck Tuesday

May 28th

◆ Memorial Day

May 29th

11a – Food Truck Tuesday

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

Armed Forces Day

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days.

The single day celebration stemmed for the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense.

Attention Voters!

NEW POLLING PLACE CHANGES

Blanchard First Baptist Church is NO longer a Polling Place in Blanchard as of April 9th.

Voters who voted at the 1st Baptist Church will now vote at the Blanchard Public Library, 205 NE 10th Street.

Voters who voted at the Blanchard Public Library prior to April 9th, will now vote at the Old City Hall, 114 W Broadway, Blanchard.

The McClain County Election Board Office mailed out new Voter ID Cards noting this Polling Place Change. **PLEASE TAKE YOUR VOTER ID CARD TO YOUR NEW POLLING PLACE WHEN YOU VOTE** at the next election:

- ◆ **June 26, 2018** Primary
- ◆ **August 28, 2018** Run-Off
- ◆ **November 6, 2018** General

Having your ID Card will help the voting process go smoother and quickly. If you have any questions, please call the McClain County Election Board at 405.527.3121.

AYCE Breakfast



The Blanchard Masonic Lodge No. 395, A.F. & A.M 2018 Charity Breakfast will be **SATURDAY, MAY 19th**.

The Lodge is located at 10th (OK-76) and Main Street and serves an AYCE breakfast from **7am-11am** on the above

Saturday. The cost is \$6.00 and proceeds benefit and support the Blanchard Junior High Cheer.

CONTACT THE CITY

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Blanchard, OK 73010

Phone: (405) 485-9392

Fax: (405) 485-3199

www.cityofblanchard.us

Blanchard Idol

Blanchard Parks & Recreation Dept. Presents:



Blanchard Idol

SPONSORED BY: **focus** FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Saturday May 19th May Daze Stage
Competition begins 6:00 pm
WINNER will receive \$500
in cash & prizes!!

Rounds: Each contestant must sing a song of their choice for his/her opening round. (top 2 of each round will advance to finals)

Qualifying: Upon Qualifying for the Finals the contestant is welcome to sing the same song or a different song for the judges.

Blanchard Idol is open to all ages and is a singing competition only. All music genres are welcome. From Country to Hip-Hop.

What to Sing: Each Contestant is allowed to sing any song (clean) and must provide your own background music prior to the performance via flash drive, CD etc...
You may also use your own instrument or sing acapella.
Solos, Duets, Trios & Quartets are welcome to compete (NO Bands)

For more information email: parks@cityofblanchard.us
To register online go to: www.cityofblanchard.us

Fight the Bite!

These insects kill more people in 1 day than sharks do in a century! Individuals can reduce their risk of contracting mosquito-borne diseases, such as the West Nile virus, by getting rid of standing water around houses and by using insect repellent. Here is a simple way to remember how to "Fight the Bite" using mosquito safety. Just remember 3 D's and a P!



- DRAIN stagnant water;
- DRESS wear long sleeves and pants;
- DEET repel when you're outside;
- PREVENT reduce your exposure.

Unfortunately, there is no easy solution for managing mosquitoes. Countless products on the market claim to be effective and easy to use but few have appreciable value in lessening the annoyance and incidence of bites. Unlike most insects found around homes, mosquitoes are pervasive outdoor pests and there are limits to what can be done to minimize their abundance, Nonetheless, there are measures that can afford some relief.

Food Truck Tuesdays

FOOD TRUCK TUESDAYS located at US-62 & Jackson from 11am to 2pm:



<u>DATE</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
May 15 th	Blue J's	Burgers
May 22 nd	Rolling Café	Philly Cheesesteak
May 29 th	Midway Deli	Sandwiches

Garage/Yard Sale Map

The City would like to help you make the most out of your Garage/Yard Sale during the May Daze weekend.

We are putting together a map showing all the sales going on for May 18th and 19th only.

If you would like your sale to be included on the Map, please fill out the attached form or go to the city's website at www.cityofblanchard.us and return the form to City Hall or email it by Tuesday, May 15th to the City Planner at cityplanner@cityofblanchard.us. The Map will be available at City Hall, City's Facebook and on the City's website.

Holiday Observance

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 28th** 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.

House Numbering

In an emergency, first responders (fire, police and ambulance) and utility service technicians depend on clearly marked addresses to find the right home as quickly as possible. Finding a residence can be challenging if street addresses (house numbers) are unreadable, hidden, unlit or missing. You can help emergency responders and service technicians locate your home by following these tips:

- Replace aging or faded numbers;
- Clear all obstructions (hanging plants, bushes, flags, etc.) from blocking your house number;
- Post large numbers to allow visibility from the street;
- Place your numbers near the street or on the curb, with a reflective coating and contrasting background;
- Allow numbers to be seen from all directions (if your home is on a corner, have numbers posted on all sides).

BMC §4-402 requires all building and houses to be numbered. The even numbers (2,4,6, etc.) shall be on the east side of the streets extending north and south, and on the south side of the streets extending east and west; the odd numbers (1,3,5, etc.) shall be on the opposite side of streets.

Local Food Drive

The Blanchard Rural Letter Carriers are gearing up for the 26th annual Letter Carriers Food Drive.

The food drive will be held this year on **Saturday, May 12th**.

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 25th annual May Daze Festival will be **Friday, May 18th** and **Saturday, May 19th** from 10am to 8pm. General vendor booths and non-profit booths are available. The non-profit and 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.

Memorial Day

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

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.

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 28th**.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 13th 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.

Police Blotter

4/27/18 BAND, Brandon - arrested on DUI;
4/28/18 BROOKS, Skylar - arrested on DUI;
4/28/18 PATEL, Alpesh - arrested on DUI;
4/29/18 BAKER, Devin - arrested on possession of stolen vehicle
and possession of CDS;
5/5/18 CRESSWELL, Kayla - arrested on DUI;
5/5/18 MCGILL, Bryon - arrested on warrant;
5/6/18 JOHNSTON, Savanna - arrested on DUI.

Sales Tax Collections

The City's May Sales Tax collections are more than nine (9.14%) percent higher than the budgeted amount based on the March retail sales of \$5,530,002, but it is more than six (6.98%) percent less than last month's collections in April:

Month	Collections	Prior Year Δ
July 2017	\$198,621.83	11.68%
August 2017	\$225,512.22	-18.65%
September 2017	\$205,922.04	12.71%
October 2017	\$209,018.25	-2.37%
November 2017	\$218,185.96	23.34%
December 2017	\$210,906.37	19.23%
January 2018	\$250,068.43	22.18%
February 2018	\$318,586.66	6.21%
March 2018	\$206,895.42	5.56%
April 2018	\$236,642.59	3.28%
MAY 2018	\$221,200.08	7.64%
June 2018	-0-	-0-
TOTALS	\$2,501,559.85	13.338%

Senior Dining Program

The Blanchard Senior Nutrition Center serve a fully balanced lunch (entrees, sides, desserts, tea and coffee) for all senior citizens five (5) days a week beginning at **11:30am**.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S MENU:

(May 14 - May 18)

Monday - Tuna Casserole, Sweet Potatoes, Peas, Dessert

Tuesday - Chicken Enchiladas, Beans, Corn, Chips, Dessert

Wednesday - BBQ, Potatoes, 3 Bean Salad, Buns, Dessert

Thursday - Butter Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Spinach, Cornbread,
Dessert

Friday - CLOSED

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 the Center at (405) 485-9260.

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.
- ◆ Tornados 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.

20 Safest Cities in Oklahoma

The City of Blanchard is in the top 10 of the safest cities in Oklahoma. The latest FBI report on Oklahoma crime shows our rates are well below the national average. Based on data submitted by the Blanchard Police Department, Blanchard is ranked the 8th safest City in Oklahoma for 2018:

Crime Report:

Population: 8,461

Violent crimes per 1,000: 0.71

Property crimes per 1,000: 10.28

Total crime: 6.90% violent, 93.10% property

Here's a link to the report: <https://www.safewise.com/blog/safest-cities-oklahoma/>

Use Tax

The City's May Use Tax collections are more than seven (7.91%) percent more than the budgeted amount based on the March collections of \$610,502.00. In addition, it is more than nine (9.60%) percent more than last month's collections in April:

Month	Collections	Prior Year Δ
July 2017	\$23,374.90	11.6%
August 2017	\$21,593.52	49.76%
September 2017	\$22,215.36	-56.27%
October 2017	\$43,537.97	190.62%
November 2017	\$24,771.56	-7.49%
December 2017	\$28,986.37	8.25%
January 2018	\$41,072.35	85.40%
February 2018	\$38,646.71	101.80%
March 2018	\$23,274.16	44.61%
APRIL 2018	\$22,280.77	0.21%
MAY 2018	\$24,420.08	63.51%
June 2018	-0-	-0-
TOTALS	\$314,173.55	45.602%

Work Zone Awareness Month



The month of **May** 2018 has been declared Work Zone Awareness Months in Oklahoma to encourage residents to exercise attentiveness and patience on public roadways.

Construction and maintenance of our streets, highways and utility infrastructure are critical to maintaining Oklahoma's economic vitality and keeping the state "open for business."

Accidents cause unexpected work zones along Oklahoma streets and highways, which places crews and first responders in direct contact with traffic. Preliminary 2017 statistics show 5 people were killed and 230 injured in 181 collisions in Oklahoma work zones. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) reports a total of 60 crewmembers have been killed in the line of duty, more than any other state agency; many of these fatalities and injuries were caused by inattentive driving or speeding in construction zones.

By Oklahoma law, the fines for speeding in work zones are doubled and texting while driving is prohibited. In Blanchard, the fine is \$150.

Drivers should set aside distraction, be extra courteous and give work zones their individual attention when traveling.