



# City News

5 October 2018

Volume 75 Issue 1

## MEETINGS

**October 11<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30p** – Planning Commission

**October 16<sup>th</sup>**

**6p** – BOA

**October 18<sup>th</sup>**

**3p** – Juvenile/Code Court

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**2p** – Traffic Court

**6p** – City Council

**6p** – BMIA

## AYCE Breakfast



The Blanchard Masonic Lodge located at 10<sup>th</sup> (OK-76) and Main Street will be hosting several All You Can Eat (AYCE) breakfasts from 7am - 11am for the remainder of the year on **Saturdays**. The cost is only

\$6 and proceeds will benefit certain youth organizations in Blanchard, Bridge Creek and Dibble. Thank you for supporting our youth! The remaining AYCE Breakfast schedule is:

**Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**

Blanchard Police Explorers

**Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Blanchard Takedown Club

## Ballot Questions



Voters will consider the following five (5) amendments to the Oklahoma Constitution in the upcoming General Election. These State Questions will appear on the **November 6<sup>th</sup>** Ballot. Pass them on to your friends to read. They are as follows:

SQ No. 793: This measure adds a new Section 3

to Article 20 of the Oklahoma Constitution. Under the new Section, no law shall infringe on optometrists' or opticians' ability to practice within a retail mercantile establishment, discriminate against optometrists or opticians based on the location of their practice, or require external entrances for optometric offices within retail mercantile establishments. No law shall infringe on retail mercantile establishments' ability to sell prescription optical goods and services.

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



## October 8<sup>th</sup>

◆ – Columbus Day

## October 12<sup>th</sup>

8a – Chamber Golf  
Tournament

## October 13<sup>th</sup>

10a – Treasures &  
Tunes

## October 16<sup>th</sup>

◆ – Boss's Day

## October 18<sup>th</sup>

◆ – Fall Break

## October 19<sup>th</sup>

◆ – Fall Break

## October 31<sup>st</sup>

6p – PumpkinFest

6p – Trick or Treat

For Blanchard Library  
Events: Please visit  
their website at  
[pioneer.lib.ok.us/home](http://pioneer.lib.ok.us/home)

The Section allows the Legislature to restrict optometrists from performing surgeries within retail mercantile establishments, limit the number of locations at which an optometrist may practice, maintain optometric licensing requirements, require optometric offices to be in a separate room of a retail mercantile establishment, and impose health and safety standards. It does not prohibit optometrists and opticians from agreeing with retail mercantile establishments to limit their practice. Laws conflicting with this Section are void. The Section defines "laws," "optometrists," "optician," "optical goods and services," and "retail mercantile establishment."

SQ No. 794: This amendment will guarantee certain rights for crime victims. These rights would not be protected in a manner equal to the defendant's rights. The measure would also make changes to victim's rights, including:

1. Expanding the court proceedings at which a victim has the right to be heard;
2. Adding a right to reasonable protection;
3. Adding a right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay;
4. Adding a right to talk with the prosecutor; and
5. Allowing victims to refuse interview requests from the defendant's attorney without a subpoena.

This measure would instead grant these rights to crime victims and those directly harmed by the crime. Victims would no longer have a constitutional right to know the defendant's location following arrest, during prosecution, and while sentenced to confinement or probation, but would have the right to be notified of the defendant's release or escape from custody.

Under this measure, victims would have these rights in both adult and juvenile proceedings. Victims would be able to assert these rights in court, and the court would be required to act promptly.

SQ No. 798: This measure will add a provision to the OK Constitution to change the manner in which the Governor and Lt Governor are elected. Currently, voters cast one vote for their preferred candidate for Governor and a separate vote for this preferred candidate for Lt Governor. Under this measure, if approved, candidates for Governor and Lt Governor from the same party will run together on a single ticket and voters will cast one vote for their preferred ticket.

This measure requires the Legislature to establish procedures for the joint nomination and election of candidate for Governor and Lt Governor. If passed, this new election format will be used beginning in the 2026 general election cycle.

SQ No. 800: This measure creates a new fund called "The Oklahoma Vision Fund" in the OK Constitution. Money could be appropriated to

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the Fund. Beginning July 1, 2020, five (5%) percent of gross production taxes on both oil and gas would be deposited into the Fund. After that fiscal year the percentage would increase by two-tenths percentage points each year! Other monies could be deposited into the Fund if provided by law. The State Treasurer would deposit four (4%) percent of the principal amount of the Fund into the State General Revenue Fund each year. The Fund would be subject to an investment standard known as the prudent investor rule. The Fund could be invested in stocks and similar securities. Not more than five (5%) percent of the monies in the Fund could be used for payment of debt obligations issued by the State of Oklahoma, state government agencies or local government entities.

**SQ No. 801:** This measure amends Section 10 of Article 10 of the OK Constitution. It expands the uses permitted for certain ad valorem taxes levied by a school district. Currently, tax revenue is placed in a building fund. The fund is changed to allow use for operations. The operations would be those deemed necessary by a school district.

Please exercise your constitutional right to vote! **Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**. More information on all State Questions can be found on the Secretary of State's website.

## *BETA Action*

The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority Board of Trustees discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items at their regular scheduled meeting on **Monday, 10/01:**

### § AGENDA §

- Approved proposed plans and building design on 5.7 acres in the Industrial Park;
- Renewed real estate listing contract with J.R. Fulton for 6-months;
- Discussed industrial prospects and commercial development; and
- Approved Consent Agenda.

The next meeting will be **Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**.



## Chamber Golf Tournament

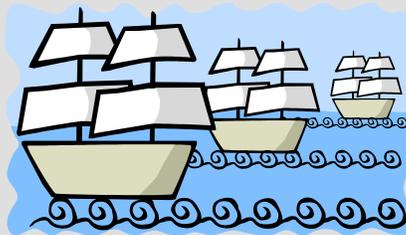
The **Blanchard Chamber 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament!** will be held on **Friday, October 12, 2018** at Winter Creek Golf & Country Club. 4 Person Scramble \$400 Team/\$100 Person. Registration & practice begins at **8:00 A.M.** Tournament starts at **9:00 A.M.** Lunch & Snacks provided.



**HOLE IN ONE:** win a 2017 pick-up courtesy of Knipplemier Chevrolet!

For more information or to register, please email: [chamber@blanchardchamber.com](mailto:chamber@blanchardchamber.com).

## Columbus Day



On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus landed on a small island in the Bahamas, convinced that he had reached the East Indies. Now, by federal law, Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October which is **Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**. However, City offices will be open for business.

## Fall Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be out of classes on **Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** and **Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** for Fall Break. **NO SCHOOL!**

## Fire Prevention Week

**October 7<sup>th</sup>** thru **October 13<sup>th</sup>** is Fire Prevention Week! As it approaches, the Blanchard Fire Department encourages residents to "Look. Listen. Learn."



**FIRE  
PREVENTION  
WEEK™**

Today's home fires burn faster than ever. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from

the time the smoke alarm sounds. Knowing how to use that time wisely takes planning and practice.

The Blanchard Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) -- the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years -- to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere," which works to educate the public about basic but essential ways to quickly and safely escape a home fire.

NFPA statistics show that the number of U.S. home fires has been steadily declining over the past few decades. However, the death rate per 1000 home fires that are reported to fire departments was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980.

"These numbers show that while we've made significant progress in teaching people how to prevent fires from happening, there's still much more work to do in terms of educating the public about how to protect themselves in the event of one," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "This is particularly critical given the increased speed at which today's home fires grow and spread."

Carli also notes that although people feel safest in their home, it is also the place people are at greatest risk to fire, with four out of five U.S. fire deaths occurring at home. That over-confidence contributes to a complacency toward home escape planning and practice.

"Working in the fire service for many years, we know that people often make choices in fire situations that jeopardize their safety or even cost them their lives," said Charlie Largent, Fire Chief, Blanchard Fire Department. "We need to do a better job of teaching people about the potentially life-saving difference escape planning and practice can make and motivating them to action."

This year's "Look. Listen. Learn." campaign highlights three steps people can take to help quickly and safely escape a fire

- Look for places fire could start.
- Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm.
- Learn 2 ways out of every room.

While NFPA and the Blanchard Fire Department are focusing on home fires, these fire safety messages apply to virtually anywhere.

"Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they go," said Chief Largent. "No matter where you are, look for



available exits. If the alarm system sounds, take it seriously and exit the building immediately.”

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).

## Halloween



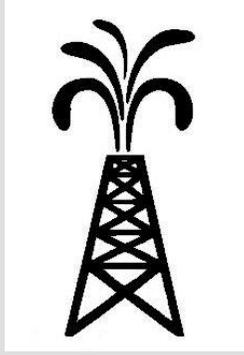
Trick or Treat Nite will be **Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>** in Blanchard from **6 pm to 9 pm**.

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).

## Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, the City Council of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma directed that pursuant to Title 11 Oklahoma Statutes, Section 21-103, Notice of a Public Hearing on a Proposed Annexation be published in the Blanchard News providing notice to the public and to all persons interested therein that at **6:00 p.m.** on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2018**, in the Blanchard Municipal Court House at 300 N. Main Street, Blanchard, Oklahoma, the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the question of annexing the West Half of the East Half (W/2 E/2) and the East Half of the Southwest Quarter (E/2 SW/4) and the East Half of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter (E/2 W/2 SW/4) and the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (SE/4 SW/4 NW/4) and the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (SE/4 NW/4) and the South Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (S/2 NE/4 NW/4) and the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 NE/4 NW/4) of Section Three (3), Township Eight (8) North, Range Four (4) West of the I.M., McClain County, Oklahoma, containing 360 acres more or less, into the municipal limits of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma, the City of Blanchard having previously obtained the Written Consent to Annexation of Territory signed by 100% of the owners of the acres to be annexed and there being no persons residing thereon and that



405.485.9392.

said described real estate is adjacent and contiguous to property currently located within the municipal limits of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend this meeting or submit a letter containing your name, address and comments to: City Clerk, City of Blanchard, P.O. Box 480, Blanchard, Oklahoma 73010. For additional information call

## *Oil n Gas Complaints*

With the increase of oil and gas drilling activities in and around Blanchard, comes an increase in complaints of trucks, noise and odor.

All drilling activities complaints are to be reported directly to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission at 580-255-0103 (Duncan Field Ofc) or 405-521-2271 (OKC).

The Oklahoma Department of Health is the official agency to investigate all noise complaints. Their number to call is 405-271-5779.

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality is the authorized agency to investigate all air quality complaints to include odor. Their complaint hot line is 1-800-522-0206.

Trucking complaints (speeding, signs, etc) are to be filed with the Blanchard Police Department at 405-485-9392.

## *On The Planning Agenda*

The Blanchard Planning Commission will discuss, consider and take appropriate action at their regular meeting on **Thursday, 11 October, 6:30** p.m. on the following agenda items:

- **RESOLUTION** approving the placement of stop signs and street signs to serve the Oasis Ranch Addition Section 2.
- **ORDINANCE AMENDMENT** regarding changes to the Commercial Zoning Regulations to provide a method of interpretation of uses not stated in the Table of Permitted Uses and to clarify definition of "short term parking for recreational vehicles" as well as set a date for public hearing.
- **ORDINANCE AMENDMENT** regarding changes to the Table of Permitted Uses and additional criteria for Permitted Uses on Review in the Commercial and Industrial Zoning Regulations.

- **CONSENT AGENDA.**

The agenda is posted on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## *Police Blotter*

**JAIL ACTIVITY REPORT** from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup>:  
10/04/18 ~ NEFF, Colton arrested for DUI.

## *Pumpkin Fest*



Get ready for a SPOOKY good time!

The City's annual event will be held on **Wednesday, 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).

## *Sales Tax Collections*

The City's October Sales Tax collections are more than twenty (20.7%) percent higher than the budgeted amount based on the August retail sales of \$6,782,604 but it is more than ten (10.72%) percent higher than last month's collections in September:

Month	Collections	Prior Year $\Delta$
July 2018	\$216,325.54	8.91%
August 2018	\$322,241.98	42.89%
September 2018	\$245,032.34	19.07%
<b>OCTOBER 2018</b>	<b>\$271,304.16</b>	<b>29.80%</b>
November 2018	\$-0-	0%
December 2018	\$-0-	0%
January 2019	\$-0-	0%
February 2019	\$-0-	0%
March 2019	\$-0-	0%
April 2019	\$-0-	0%
May 2019	\$-0-	0%
June 2019	\$-0-	0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,054,904.02</b>	<b>25.74%</b>

## *Senior Dining Program*

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**.

### SENIOR CITIZEN'S MENU:

(**October 8 - October 12**)

**Monday** - Beef Stroganoff, Broccoli, Fruit, Dessert

**Tuesday** - Creamed Chicken, Carrots, Green Beans, Rice, Dessert

**Wednesday** - Smoked Sausage with Onion and Green Pepper, Cabbage, Corn Bread, Dessert

**Thursday** - Pinto Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert

**Friday** - Ham Salad, Broccoli & Cheese Soup, Salad, Sliced Bread 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.

# Use Tax Collections

The City's October Use Tax collections are more than two-hundred eighty (281.04%) percent higher than the budgeted amount based on the August sales of \$2,643,798 but it is more than nine (9.68%) percent higher than last month's collections in September:

Month	Collections	Prior Year $\Delta$
July 2018	\$87,645	274.95%
August 2018	\$90,971.87	321.29%
September 2018	\$64,442.20	190.08%
<b>OCTOBER 2018</b>	<b>\$105,751.93</b>	<b>142.90%</b>
November 2018	\$-0-	0%
December 2018	\$-0-	0%
January 2019	\$-0-	0%
February 2019	\$-0-	0%
March 2019	\$-0-	0%
April 2019	\$-0-	0%
May 2019	\$-0-	0%
June 2019	\$-0-	0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$348,811.00</b>	<b>215.03%</b>

# Veterans Day Parade



Plans are under way for the annual Blanchard Veterans Day Parade to be held on **Saturday, November 10<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).