



E-Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

4 April 2025

Volume 155, Number 1

Meeting Dates

April 7th

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BETA

April 8th

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

April 14th

6pm - Tourism

April 15th

6pm - BOA

April 16th

3pm - GMC Trust

April 24th

6pm - Planning Commission

*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

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.

Special Events

APRIL

11th ~ Submarine Day
15th ~ Tax Day
15th ~ Purple Up! Day
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.

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 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

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.

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 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 on 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.

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.

New Councilman

Congratulations! to Brandon Allee. Brandon was elected to the Blanchard City Council representing Ward 3.

Brandon's term begins Monday, April 14th, at 12 Noon.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, March 28th**.

On the BETA Agenda

The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority will meet in regular session on Monday, April 7th to discuss, consider and take appropriate action as follows:

- Economic Development (Commercial/Industrial).
- Resolution approving Agreement for video.
- Farmers Market Rules and Regulations.
- Consent Agenda.
- Executive Session.

The full agenda is available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

On the BMIA Agenda

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, April 8th to discuss, consider and take appropriate action as follows:

- Public Hearing re: proposed FYE2026 Budget;
- Resolution adopting the FY2025-2026 budget beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.
- Water and sewer improvements.
- OWRB funded improvements.
- Capital projects March updates.
- Water and sewer rates.
- Resolution accepting the Hux Grove water line serving Lots 1-167.
- Resolution accepting Allsup's water line.
- Bid authorization for GSA to solicit bids on water line replacement.
- Consent Agenda.

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

The full agenda is available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us

On the Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council will meet in regular session on Tuesday, April 8th to discuss, consider and take appropriate action as follows:

- Public hearing re: zoning reclassification of property from the A-1, Agricultural District to the R-2, Combined Residential District.
- Ordinance reclassifying zoning districts from A-1 to R-2.
- Emergency Clause on Zoning Ordinance.
- Public hearing re: zoning reclassification of property from the A-1, Agricultural District to the I-2, Heavy Industrial District.
- Ordinance reclassifying zoning districts from A-1 to I-2.
- Emergency Clause on Zoning Ordinance.
- Public hearing re: the proposed FY2025-2026 Budget.
- Resolution adopting the fy2025-2026 Budget beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.
- Ordinance amending Section 21-732 pertaining to Permitted Land Uses in the commercial districts.
- Emergency Clause on Zoning Ordinance.
- Ordinance amending Section 13-1203 and 13-1205 pertaining to tobacco use.
- Emergency Clause on Ordinance.
- Resolution renewing the Senior Citizen's Reservation Agreement.
- Resolution selecting 2-nominees to serve on the OMAG Board.
- Emergency Management Director/Dispatch Supervisor.
- Police request to purchase 12-Brite tablets.
- Police request to purchase Flock License Plate Reader Cameras.
- Section Line Road Projects Updates.
- Local Street Improvement Projects Updates.
- Central Business District Updates.
- Capital Projects March Updates.
- Consent Agenda.
- Executive Session.

The full agenda is available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.



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' 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.

Purple Up! Day



Help Celebrate Military Kids on Purple Up! Day. April marks the nation's "Month of the Military Child," a time to honor our community youth impacted by deployment. It is no secret that our military children face many challenges before, during and after deployment of their loved ones. Parental separation, increased

responsibilities at home, and frequent moves, are just a few areas that military kids must navigate like a complicated obstacle course. However, if given enough support to get through these tough times, our military children can come through with great resilience and confidence, ever ready to face other life changing events. These kids are an inspiration and a source of pride, and it is fitting that we celebrate their spirits and commitments to our country.

In celebration, you're invited to join in showing your support by being part of "Purple Up! For Military Kids" Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear something purple on **Tuesday, April 15, 2026**. This will be a visible way to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. (Did you know: Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue.) The hope is everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate these young heroes. Be creative ... the goal is for military youth

to witness a sea of “purple” on that day in order to visually witness the support of their community!

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 7 ~ April 11)

April 7th ~ Chicken Strip, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie, Dessert

April 8th ~ Spaghetti, Green Beans, Corn, Dessert

April 9th ~ Chicken Pasta Salad, Carrot Raisin Salad, Beets, Cracker, Dessert

April 10th ~ Navy Beans, Potato, Veggie, Cornbread, Dessert

April 11th ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, 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.

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.

U.S. Submarine Force Day

The submarine force was established on April 11, 1900, when the United States Navy bought the submersible Holland VI from John Holland.

Since that historic day, submarines have been used with fortitude and creativity to sustain their superiority beneath the sea, and have become an indispensable asset that patrols and protects worldwide today.

Submarines and their underwater warfighting companions have commanded and operated by courageous men and women who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service of their country.

Oklahoma has recognized the significance of the US submarine force and their crew for their defense of our most cherished freedoms.

On **Friday, April 11, 2026**, has been proclaimed as United States Submarine Force Day in Oklahoma.



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.

