



E~Mail Newsletter

23 August 2024

Volume 147, Number 4

Meeting Dates

AUGUST

27th ~ Sp Council/BMIA

SEPTEMBER

10th ~ BMIA/Council

12th ~ Planning Comm

16th ~ Tourism Board

17th ~ Board of Adjustment

*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

Autumnal Equinox



Fall begins **Sunday, September 22nd** at
7:43 p.m. CST.

The Autumnal Equinox is defined as the point at which the Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from north to south. The celestial equator is the circle in the celestial sphere halfway

between the celestial poles. Another definition of fall are nites of below-freezing temperatures combined with day of temperatures below 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The word equinox means "equal nite"; nite and day are the same length of time. The equinoxes are times when the Sun's apparent motion undergoes the most rapid change. Around the time of the equinoxes, variations in the position on the horizon when the Sun rises and sets can be noticed from one day to the next by alert observers.

Bond Election

The Blanchard Public School Independent School District No. 29, McClain County, will conduct an election for the issuance of General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds in the total amount of over \$66million on **27th day of August, 2024:.**

The Bond Projects proposals to construct, equip, furnish and/or acquire the following:

- a high school saferoom/classroom addition \$22,596,266.00;
- to renovate, repair, remodel and/or acquire improvements to safety and security systems \$836,899.00;
- to acquire and install technology upgrades from the proceeds of bonds maturing within five (5) years from their date \$1,673,797.00;

Special Events

AUGUST

24th~Grady County Free Fair
24th~Farmers Market
27th~Runoff Primary Election
27th~School Bond Election
31st~Farmers Market

SEPTEMBER

2nd~LABOR DAY
3rd~McClain County Free Fair
4th~McClain County Free Fair
5th~McClain County Free Fair
5th~Cleveland County Free Fair
6th~McClain County Free Fair
6th~Cleveland County Free Fair
7th~McClain County Free Fair
7th~Cleveland County Free Fair
7th~Farmers Market
8th~Cleveland County Free Fair
14th~Farmers Market
21st~Farmers Market
22nd~FALL BEGINS
28th~Farmers Market

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page regarding City sponsored events.

For Blanchard City events: Please visit our website at www.cityofblanchard.us

Library Events: Please visit their website @ <https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual.blanchard>

- to construct, equip, furnish and/or acquire a baseball/softball complex \$18,411,772.00;
- to construct, equip, furnish and/or acquire a football/soccer fieldhouse \$20,085,570.00;
- to acquire land for additional classrooms \$2,092,247.00;
- to acquire band instruments \$418,449.00 for a total of \$66,115,000.00.

Citizenship Day

Formerly called Constitution Day, Citizenship Day will be observed on **Tuesday, September 17th**. However, September 17th marks the anniversary of the date in 1787 when the final draft of the Constitution of the United States was signed by delegates to the Constitutional Convention after months of wrangling. The framers had been arguing constantly as they met in secret, but they had leaked reports to the press indicating that all was well. The Federalists [as they were called] argued thru June and most of July and reached an agreement on July 16. After deciding to leave out a bill of rights – because everyone was worn-out and they thought there was no need for such a list – the framers completed the final draft on September 17 and made it ready for submission to the states for ratification.

Cleveland County Free Fair

The annual 2024 Cleveland County Free Fair in Norman will begin **Thursday, September 5th** and ends **Sunday, September 8th**.



Community Food Bank

Fresh and frozen food items are available to anyone in need on the second **Tuesday** of each month. Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis for the 73010 zip code area, at the First Baptist Church of Blanchard, 919 10th Street NE from **4:00 pm ~ 6:00 pm**.

After Hours

- * water leaks
- * waterline breaks
- * sewer backups
- * sewer line breaks
- * lift station alarms
- * manholes over flowing
- * 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.

Constitution Week

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is a combined event that is annually observed in the United States on September 17th. This event commemorates the formation and signing of the Constitution of the United States on September 17, 1787. It also recognizes all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become US citizens.

In addition, the week of September 15 - 21 is observed for National Constitution Week.

Great State Fair of Oklahoma



The Great State Fair of Oklahoma is a can't-miss family event. Enjoy carnival rides, concerts, handicrafts, shopping, and their famous fair food.

The Fair begins on **Thursday, September 12th** and runs thru **Sunday, September 22rd**.

Discount Days on:

Thursday, September 12th

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday; and

- College Day.

Monday, September 16th

- Tractor Bob's Military Monday.

Tuesday, September 17th

- Taste of the Fair Tuesday.

- **Wednesday, September 18th**

- Senior Day.

Thursday, September 19th

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday.

Visit <https://okstatefair.com> for more details and information.

McClain County Free Fair

The annual 2024 McClain County Fair in Purcell will begin **Tuesday, September 3rd** and ends **Saturday, September 7th**.



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.

7. Locally owned

Mufflers on Main



The City's annual car and truck show will be held on Saturday, September 25th from 10am to 2pm, on Main Street.

There will be live music and food vendors. Some of the best classic cars & trucks in the area,

with over 40 trophies awarded and \$500 awarded to the Grand Champion, Join as we take a look into the Past and the future!

For more information, contact Chris Wittenbach at 248-6521 or parks@cityofblanchard.us.

OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

City Offices will be closed on Monday,
September 2nd.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, August 16th**.

Park Events

9/28/24 ~ Mufflers On Main

10/31/24 ~ PumpkinFest

11/09/24 ~ Veterans Day Parade

12/14/24 ~ Christmas Parade of Lights

12/14/24 ~ Christmas on Main

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!
Please visit us at
www.cityofblanchard.us

Police Blotter

NO Arrests Reported.

Runoff Primary Election

Polls are open from 7am to 7pm on election day, **Tuesday, August 27th**.

To find your polling place and view a sample ballot for your precinct use the OK Voter Portal.

There is NO excuse needed to vote "early".

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:

(August 26th - August 30th)

Monday ~ Chef's Salad, Fruit, Crackers, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Tetrazzini, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Stew, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Ribbett, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Bun, Dessert.

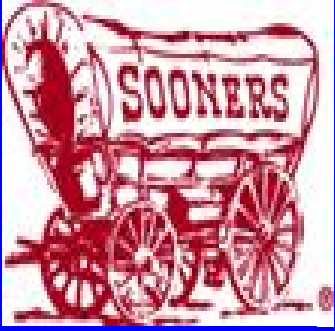
If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested to insure the continuance in meeting the nutritional needs of our elderly citizens.

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.

Special Agenda

The Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority (BMIA) and the Blanchard City Council will hold a joint special meeting on **Tuesday, August 27th**.

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be Tuesday, September 10th.



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.

Tourism Action

The Blanchard Tourism Board held their regular August meeting on **Tuesday, August 20th** at and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following:

- Approved the final draft of video for presentation at the OML Annual Conference.
- Approved additional items needed for decorating exhibit at OML Annual Conference.
- Discussed additional items for OML Conference.
- Approved Consent Agenda.

The next meeting is Monday, September 16th.

2024 Election Dates

August 27th ~ Primary Runoff Election

November 5th ~ General Election

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am – 7pm.



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.

Water Rationing

REMINDER! The City of Blanchard receives 100% of our water from the City of Oklahoma City. As a result, we are on a full-time water rationing of odd-even days, as required by our Agreement with Oklahoma City.

This means if your address ends in an even number then you can legally water on the 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th,

18th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 26th, 28th, and 30th of each month.

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

Please call City Hall or email us complaints of possible violations anonymously at 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.



to on **VOTE** on
TUESDAY,
AUGUST 27th

The Polls are open from
7am to 7pm.