



# E~Mail Newsletter

28 June 2024

Volume 145, Number 4

## Meeting Dates

### JULY

1<sup>st</sup> ~ TEAM Blanchard  
1<sup>st</sup> ~ BPS School Bd  
9<sup>th</sup> ~ BMIA  
9<sup>th</sup> ~ City Council  
11<sup>th</sup> ~ Planning Comm  
15<sup>th</sup> ~ Tourism Board  
16<sup>th</sup> ~ Bd 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

## Agritourism

Strawberry season is upon us and you have the opportunity to pick your own berries. You can bring the whole family and spend the day picking fresh strawberries!

Below is a list of u-pick strawberry farms in central Oklahoma near you:

- Buffalo Creek Berry Farm | Mustang, OK
- Growing Paynes | Mustang, OK
- McRay Farms, Luther, OK

## Bids

The City received three (3) sealed bids for Section Line Road Paving Improvements - Phase 2. The low bid was disqualified because it did not comply with the bid conditions. Bids were publicly opened and read aloud, at 11:00 AM at City Hall, as follows:

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. First Water Contracting | ... \$2,095,245.00 |
| 2. Haskell Lemon Group     | ... \$2,199,959.00 |
| 3. Rudy Construction       | ... \$2,280,050.00 |

A recommendation by the City Engineer and an award will be on the July 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

## Employment Opportunities

The City of Blanchard has the following positions open:

- 2 ~ Police Officers;
- 1 ~ Water & Sewer Utilities Technician;
- 1 ~ Sanitation Worker (Transfer Center);
- 1 ~ Heavy Equipment Operator;
- 3 ~ Seasonal Street Workers;
- 4 ~ Line Install Crew;
- 1 ~ Receptionist;

# Special Events

## JUNE

29<sup>th</sup> - Farmers Mkt

## JULY

2<sup>nd</sup> - Independence Day Celebration

4<sup>th</sup> - Independence Day - City Closed

6<sup>th</sup> - Farmers Mkt

13<sup>th</sup> - Farmers Market

20<sup>th</sup> - Farmers Mkt

27<sup>th</sup> - Farmers Mkt

- 1 ~ City Planner; and
- 1 ~ Dispatcher.

Applications are available for download from the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us). Return to the HR Director at [payroll@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:payroll@cityofblanchard.us) or drop off at City Hall, 2008 N. Council Avenue. Positions are open until filled. The City is an EOE.

## Fireworks Discharge

The City of Blanchard allows the discharge of fireworks within city limits only on private property as follows:

- June 27 through July 3 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.;
- July 4 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight; and
- July 5 through July 6 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

## Holiday Observance

The City of Blanchard offices, including the Blanchard Public Library and the Transfer Site, will be closed Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day. Utility bills and court-related fines can be paid online at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us) or dropped-off in the drop box at City Hall.

Trash and recycling collection will remain on its normal schedule but the office is closed.

If you have a fire or police emergency, please call 911.



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

For Blanchard City events: Please visit our website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

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

## Independence Day Celebration



The City of Blanchard's GROOVY! Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, July 2nd beginning at 6pm and fireworks at 10pm.

We have room for four (4) more vendors, clubs, churches or businesses! Please click below to sign up: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/ParksDepartmentCityOfBlanchard/BlanchardsIndependenceCelebration>. Or for more information, please visit the City's

# 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.

website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The event is FREE to the public, please come out and have a Family Fun Nite!

We'll have FIREWORKS!, a Kid Zone, Food, Helicopter rides and live music provided by the Oklahoma Symphonic Band and the group Superfreak.

## Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**.

## Oklahoma's Growing Adventure

Are you ready to pick greatness? This is your chance to experience true farm-to-table, as you collect awesome local produce and take it home to create a jarful of sticky sweet memories.

**It's time to pick your own fruit! Central Oklahoma**

Agape House Berry Farm ~ Mustang, Blueberries & Blackberries

Buffalo Creek Berry Farm ~ Mustang, Blackberries

Easom Farms ~ Slaughterville, Blackberries

N40 Berries ~ Stillwater, Blackberries

Shawnee Berry Farms ~ Blueberries

Sorghum Mill Christmas Tree & Blackberry Farm ~ Edmond, Blackberries

Request your free Jelly Making Trails Brochure from TravelOK. Be sure to tag them in your social posts and follow them on Instagram and Facebook!

## Park Events

**7/02/24** ~ Independence Day Celebration

**8/16/24** ~ Bluegrass Festival

**8/17/24** ~ Bluegrass Festival

**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

## Police Blotter

**NO ARRESTS REPORTED.**

## 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

## 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 Holiday).

### MENU

**Monday** ~ Chicken Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies, Bread, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Taco Salad, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Fish, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Bun, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Center Closed for Independence Day.

**Friday** ~ Center Closed.

The Senior Nutrition **MENU** for the week of **July 1<sup>st</sup>** thru **July 5<sup>th</sup>** is published in the Thursday edition of the Blanchard News on **June 27<sup>th</sup>**.

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.

## Splash Pad

The City's Splash Pad located at 415 SW 7th Street just west of Main Street is temporarily closed due to water problems with the City's booster station.



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.

The Splash Pad will be reopened as soon as possible! For further information, please visit the City's facebook page or website.

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## *Veterans Memorial*

There are more than 600 individual bricks still available for purchase 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](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

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## *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.



We're on the Web!  
Please visit us at  
[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)