

BLANCHARD E~NEWSLETTER

11 JUNE 2021

VOLUMN 108, ISSUE 2

After Hours

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, sewer backups, low-water pressure, no water, etc.) please call 405.485.9391. The City's Central Dispatch is manned 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

BETA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Economic Trust Authority (BETA) met in regular session on **Monday, June 7th** and discussed, considered and took action, including, but not limited to, approval, denial, amendment, revision or conditional approval, in whole or in part of the following agenda items:

- * Discussed Economic Development issues for Blanchard;
- * Discussed an Incubator Facility;
- * Received status of the first Farmers Market for this season;
- * Approved Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget;
- * Approved Consent Agenda.

The next regular meeting will be **Monday, August 2nd**.

Farmers Market



The new Blanchard Farmers Market will be opened **tomorrow (Saturday), June 5th** from **8am - Noon** located at 316 E. Veterans Memorial (in the former campground site adjacent to the Blanchard Trinity Holiness Church). We had six (6) vendors on the opening date last Saturday and expect several more tomorrow.

Please support our local market!

Father's Day



Like Mother's Day, Father's Day has a modern origin. The idea came to Mrs. John Dodd

as she sat listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Her father, William Smart, had raised his children alone on his Washington farm after his wife died giving birth to their sixth child. Mrs. Dodd proposed to the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA that they celebrate a "father's day" on June 5, her father's birthday. The idea received strong support, but the good ministers of Spokane asked that the day be changed to give them extra time to prepare sermons on the unexplored subject of fathers. The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910, in Spokane, Washington, and soon other towns had their own celebrations. In spite of widespread support, Father's Day did not become a permanent national holiday until 1972, when President Richard Nixon signed a law declaring that it be celebrated annually on the third Sunday in June (16th).

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.

Flag Day



People across the United States celebrate Flag Day on **June 14** each year to honor the United States flag and to

commemorate the flag's adoption. On the same day, the United States Army celebrates its birthday.

Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

Many people in the United States honor this day by displaying the American flag at homes and public buildings. Other popular ways of observing this holiday include: flag-raising ceremonies; Flag Day services; school quizzes and essay competitions about the American flag; musical salutes; street parades; and awards for special recognition.

Organizations such as The National Flag Day Foundation are actively involved in coordinating activities centered on the event and keeping the flag's traditions alive. Following Flag Day is Honor America Days, a 21-day period through to Independence Day (July 4) to honor America. During this period, people hold public gatherings and activities to celebrate and honor the nation.

Although Flag Day is a nationwide observance, it is not a public holiday in many parts of the United States. It is a

legal holiday in a few areas in the USA, such as Montour County in Pennsylvania. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand Union flag with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes - one for each state. Although it is not certain, this flag may have been made by the Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross, who was an official flag maker for the Pennsylvania Navy. The number of stars increased as the new states entered the Union, but the number of stripes stopped at 15 and was later returned to 13.

In June 1886 Bernard Cigrand made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "The Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper. Cigrand's effort to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916. However, Flag Day did not become official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day. In 1966, Congress also requested that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week.

The President issues a proclamation each year to call on government officials in the USA to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on Flag Day; and to urge US residents to observe Flag Day as the anniversary of the adoption on June 14, 1777, by the Continental Congress of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.

Vendors (Non-Food) May now submit application for Blanchard's Independence Celebration. The night sky will become illuminated with dazzling fireworks sponsored by OEC and the City of Blanchard.

The events and fireworks display are FREE with FREE parking.

For more information, please visit the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us or Facebook Page.

Independence Celebration

Plans are underway for the City's Annual Independence Celebration which will be held on **Friday, July 2nd** from **6pm to 10pm**. **BRING YOUR LAWNCHAIR!**

June Meeting Calendar

- 15th ~ BOA [6pm]
- 17th ~ Code/Juvenile Court [4pm]
- 22nd ~ Traffic Court [2pm]
- 22nd ~ City Council [6 pm]
- 22nd ~ BMIA Board of Trustees [6 pm]

Blanchard's INDEPENDENCE Celebration

Friday, July 2nd
6 PM - 10 PM Fireworks - Kid Zone - Food
(10TH & HYW 62) Fun for the whole Family!

Featuring the music of: **STARS & THE OKLAHOMA CITY SYMPHONIC BAND**

FIREWORKS PRESENTED BY: OEC
 OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
 Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

SPONSORS

- KNIPPELMIER CHEVROLET
- PROUDLY LOCAL ACE ACE HARDWARE & GARDEN CENTER
- Blanchard Parks & Recreation
- RESTORE JOE Outside is fun again.
- SONIC
- Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
- Restore Christian Church

KIDS FISHING DERBY

Hosted by Blanchard Parks & Recreation

LOCATED AT CRYSTAL LAKE PARK
DERBY BEGINS AT 9AM
LUNCH STARTS AT 11AM

LUNCH PROVIDED BY OUR FRIENDS AT PIONEER

SATURDAY JUNE 19th

FIRST 150 KIDS REGISTERED GET A FISHING BAG

BAIT WILL be provided

FREE FAMILY EVENT

EVENT SPONSORS

- Blanchard DRUG + GIFT Prescriptions with a Smile
- focus FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
- Pioneer

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR POLE!

don't miss it

1647 S TYLER BLANCHARD, OK

Hey kids! Father's Day weekend is your

time to shine your fishing skills for First Annual Kid's Fishing Derby will be held on **Saturday, June 19th**.

Registration begins at 8am and the Fishing Derby will begin at 9AM with door prizes given out every 10 minutes and trophies handed out at the end of the day in three (3) different age divisions: 0 - 5 years of age group; 6 - 10 years of age group; and 11 to 16 years of age group, with the grand prize going to the top angler.

So grab you rods and reels, and come on down to Crystal Lake Park (south of South Park) on Tyler Avenue on Saturday, June 19th for Blanchard's First Annual Father's Day Youth Fishing Derby.

Bait will be provided for you ... so bring out the family and lawn chairs to have some fun, and stay for a free lunch provided by Pioneer Telephone.

For more information, contact Chris Wittenbach, Parks Director at 405.248.6521.



City offices will be closed **Monday, July 5th** in observance of Independence 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 services will run as usual.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **June 4th** that NO oil wells were completed or permitted within the municipal limits of the City of Blanchard.

OCC Hearing

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission hearing regarding the Wildcat Saltwater Disposal Well 1 LLC has been re-scheduled to be heard on **Wednesday, June 23rd**, at **8:30 am**, with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

Planning Commission Action

The Blanchard Planning Commission met in regular session last nite (**Thursday, June 10th**) and discussed, considered and took action, including, but not limited to, approval, denial, amendment, revision or conditional approval, in whole or in part of the following agenda items:

- * **Held Public Hearing** to reclassify property from S-1 to R-E;
- * **Adopted Resolution** recommending approval or denial of reclassifying property;
- * **Approved Lot Split** of approximately 4.63 acres into 3 tracts;

- * **Approved Lot Split** of approximately 5.06 acres into 2 tracts;
 - * **Adopted Resolution** recommending approval or denial of reclassifying property for PUD Overlay;
 - * **Approved Preliminary Plat** for proposed The Preserve PUD;
 - * **Approved Preliminary Plat** for the Blanchard U-Haul Storages;
 - * **Approved Final Plat** for the Blanchard U-Haul Storages;
 - * **Approved Consent Agenda.**
- The next regular meeting will be **Thursday, July 8th.**

budgeted amount based on \$7,920,607.25 retail sales in Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '20	271,270.11	13.70
Aug '20	281,592.81	26.26
Sep '20	284,896.09	-13.80
Oct '20	271,522.76	5.08
Nov '20	287,045.45	23.19
Dec '20	262,001.98	8.29
Jan '21	279,911.94	28.74
Feb '21	267,185.09	26.81
Mar '21	288,683.32	25.09
Apr '21	252,845.77	10.75
May '21	366,426.56	34.36
Jun '21	316,824.29	22.26
Totals	3,432,206.07	16.58

Police Blotter

No arrests made since May 30th.

Request for Proposals

The City of Blanchard is inviting qualified firms to submit a RFP for roadway base, sub-base and aggregate base core sampling of approximately 43 miles of Section Line roads in Blanchard.

Proposals are due NOT LATER THAN 2 p.m. on **Friday, June 25th** for the Road Ad Hoc Committee's review and recommendation to the City Council.

Sales Tax Collections

The Sales Tax collections for the month of June was more than thirty-eight percent (38.25%) than the monthly

Senior Nutrition



If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. A suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested. Citizens

under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

See the Blanchard News for next week's menu.

Please call 485-9260, if you would like to be considered for a home delivered meal. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day. However, the Center is still delivering lunches daily.

Shelter In-Place

The season of unstable, severe weather is upon us. FEMA recommends that families create a plan of their own to implement in order to shelter in-place at home.

Special Events

- 12th ~ Farmer's Market
- 14th ~ Flag Day
- 19th ~ Farmer's Market
- 19th ~ Kid's Fishing Derby
- 20th ~ Father's Day
- 20th ~ Summer Begins
- 26th ~ Farmer's Market

Summer Solstice



The summer solstice heralds the beginning of summer! The timing of the summer solstice depends on when the Sun reaches its

farthest point north of the equator. This occurs annually sometime between June 20 and 22, depending on the time zone. This year, the event occurs at 10:32am (CDT) on **Sunday, June 20th**.

The word *solstice* is from the Latin *solstitium*, from *sol* (sun) and *stitium* (to stop), reflecting the fact that the Sun appears to stop at this time (and again

at the winter solstice). In temperate regions, we notice that the Sun is higher in the sky throughout the day, and its rays strike Earth at a more direct angle, causing the efficient warming we call summer. In the winter, just the opposite occurs: The Sun is at its southernmost point and is low in the sky. Its rays hit the Northern Hemisphere at an oblique angle, creating the feeble winter sunlight.

Summer Concert Series

City of Blanchard
SUMMER
Concert Series
 Free + Music + Movie

June 4th	Killin Time Band	Classic Country
June 11th	Middle of Nowhere Band	Classic Rock
June 18th	Edgar Cruz	Classic Guitar
June 25th	Mystery Date	60's 70's & 80's

Each Friday in June - Stay for the Movie!!

June 4th	the Croods	A new Age
June 11th	Raya and the last Dagon	
June 18th	TBD	
June 25th	TBD	

Lions Park
Fridays @ 7pm

*Tonight's showing of *Raya and The Last Dragon* will be postponed due to incoming

weather. We are sorry for the inconvenience!

Tax Payment Deadline

Oklahomans now have until **June 15, 2021** to pay their 2020 individual and business income taxes, and their first quarter 2021 estimated income tax payments. As a result of the recent disaster declaration issued by FEMA, the IRS announced the tax deadline extension for all individuals who reside or own a business in all of Oklahoma's 77 counties to provide relief for those affected by February's historic winter storms. Following the announcement from the IRS, the Oklahoma Tax Commission ordered the payment deadline extension to provide further relief to Oklahoma taxpayers. The Oklahoma Tax Commissioners elected to adjust the payment deadline extension from April 15 to June 15 for all individuals that reside or own a business in Oklahoma.

Due dates for other tax types, including sales and withholding, remain the same. For more information, visit the Oklahoma Tax Commission website.

Think, Shop, Live Blanchard!

Please keep in mind that Blanchard's quality of life and local economy rely upon 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), facilities (city hall, etc.), projects (water & sewer and street improvements), programs (4th of July Celebration) and services (senior citizens nutrition).

Shopping locally keeps businesses here in Blanchard, providing jobs and benefiting public 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 the City!

Tornado Safety



In Oklahoma, tornadoes are most frequent in the spring and summer months. An average of 800 tornadoes 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.
- Tornadoes 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.

Use Tax Collections

The Use Tax collections for the month of June was more than ten percent (10.07%) less than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$2,248,215.50 retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '20	93,410.49	-12.51
Aug '20	77,952.78	-30.94
Sep '20	78,265.11	-35.56
Oct '20	85,472.26	-66.16
Nov '20	73,911.74	-50.96
Dec '20	82,342.61	45.69
Jan '21	111,705.76	74.15
Feb '21	124,258.01	24.26
Mar '21	126,933.57	300.00
Apr '21	73,408.57	-15.10
May '21	113,166.90	16.51
Jun '21	89,928.62	55.63
Totals	1,130,756.36	-8.28