

BLANCHARD E~NEWSLETTER

12 NOVEMBER 2021

VOLUMN 113, ISSUE 2

After Hours

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, waterline breaks, sewer backups, sewer line breaks, lift station alarms, manhole overflowing, low-water pressure, no water, potholes, road repairs, signs missing or down, roadway flooding, debris in road, street lite out, 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.

BMIA Action

The BMIA Board of Trustees met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 9th**, to discuss, consider and take possible action including, but not limited to, the approval, denial, amendment, revision or conditional approval, in whole or in part of:

- **Approved** Resolution No. 2021-04 approving the 2022 Calendar Year Schedule of Meetings.

- **Approved** Resolution No. 2021-05 approving the 2022 Calendar Year Schedule of Holidays.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.
The next regular meeting will be **Tuesday, December 14th**.

Christmas on Main

Christmas on Main is Quickly Approaching!

The Blanchard Parks and Recreation is in the process of planning our annual Christmas on Main event for December 11th.

Each December, the City comes alive with lights and fun for the whole family. Old City Hall will be a great place to see and visit with your friends and get a FREE picture with the jolly ole elf, himself. Then step outside for more festivities:

Pics with Santa from **2 - 4pm**
Free hot chocolate from **2 - 4pm**
Blanchard Kindergarten Kids sing
at **5pm**

The Blanchard Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will step off at 6pm on **Saturday, December 11th**. The theme of the Parade is a "Cajun Christmas." Come celebrate Christmas from the deep South.

For more information, please visit the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us/events.

The Parade Entry Form is on the site for downloading.

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 edging 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.

Any questions, please contact Carol Mueller at City Hall.

Council Action

The City Council met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 9th**, to discuss, consider and take action including, but not limited to, the approval, denial, amendment, revision or conditional approval, in whole or in part of:

- **Held** Public Hearing on Zoning Application recommended for approval by the Planning Commission to reclassify property from the S-1, Suburban District to the A-1, Agricultural District.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 746 approving Zoning Reclassification from S-1 District to the A-1 District.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2021-47 accepting OMAG's recommendation to deny Tort Claim.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2021-48 approving the 2022 Calendar Year Schedule of Meetings.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2021-49 approving the 2022 Calendar Year Schedule of Holidays.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.
- **Held** Executive Session.

The next regular meeting will be **Tuesday, December 14th**.

Employment



The City of Blanchard is accepting applications for employment for the

following positions:

- Police Officer (1-vacancy) full-time
- Park Laborer (3-vacancies) - Seasonal

An application can be downloaded or filled out on line at the City's website at <https://www.cityofblanchard.us/human-resources/files/employment-application>.

Please email to the HR Director at payroll@cityofblanchard.us or deliver to City Hall, Monday thru Friday from 8am to 5pm.

The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Holiday Closing



City offices will be closed on **November**

25th & November 26th for the observance of Thanksgiving.

If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911. If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391. Trash service will be as usual.

City Offices will reopen on **Monday, November 29th**.

November Meeting Calendar

16th: Traffic Court [2pm]

16th: Board of Adjustment [6pm]

19th: Special City Council [1pm]

November Special Events

13th ~ Veterans Day Parade (10:30am)

25th ~ Thanksgiving Day (City Hall Closed)

26th ~ After Thanksgiving (City Hall Closed)

26th ~ Black Friday

OCC Hearing

The hearing regarding the Wildcat Saltwater Disposal Well 1 LLC is set for **Friday, November 19th**.

The hearing begins at **8:30 am**, Oklahoma Corporation Commission, Jim Thorpe Office Building, First Floor, 2101 North Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

ODOT Meeting

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing improvements to the I-35 and SH-9W interchange in McClain County. The existing interchange is a partial cloverleaf interchange with diamond ramps on the west side of I-35, a loop ramp and a diamond ramp in the southeast quadrant, and a free-flow ramp in the northeast quadrant. The purpose of the proposed improvements is to address increases in traffic volumes and localized congestion by improving the operation of the interchange. ODOT recently studied several alternatives to improve the I-35/SH-9W interchange while taking into consideration operation improvements, safety, construction cost, right-of-way requirements, and environmental constraints.

ODOT will host a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 18th, 2021, in the Goldsby Community Center at 164 East Center Road, Goldsby, OK. The purpose of the public meeting is to present four (4) interchange improvement alternatives, obtain the public's input regarding the alternatives, and also obtain information from the public to further assist ODOT in the identification of critical social, economic, and environmental effects that

may result from the project. Due to ongoing concerns about COVID-19, ODOT will, in addition to hosting a public meeting, post project information and a recording of the presentation at www.odot.org/publicmeetings.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since November 5th that NO oil wells were completed or permitted within the municipal limits of the City.

Oklahoma Heritage Week



The signing of the Statehood Proclamation on November 16, 1907, was the most significant

action in the history of the State of Oklahoma. The week of November 10th through the 16th has been declared 'OKLAHOMA HERITAGE WEEK' in the State of Oklahoma.

All Oklahomans should pause during this time and reflect on our Oklahoma heritage, as well as our national heritage. Blanchard has the obligation and privilege to play an important role in the observance of this great week! So the Blanchard City Council issued a proclamation declaring the week of

November 10th thru the 16th to be 'Oklahoma Heritage Week' in Blanchard and encourages all citizens, families, clubs, churches, business organizations and schools in Blanchard to give personal attention to all special Statehood Day observances, to fly the State Flag and the National Colors, to participate in and help sponsor programs, projects, and activities emphasizing the heritage of our great State.

Parade Marshal

Ulon Killmer was born October 21, 1924, in Brady OK. He grew up in the Blanchard area and attended Blanchard School until he left for California to be a welder in the shipyards at age 18. He then enlisted in the Naval Seabees (127th Naval Construction Battalion) August 2, 1943, in Williamsburg, Virginia, and served 2 years, 8 mos, and 8 days, whereupon he was honorably discharged April 3, 1946.



Ulon held the ratings of AS, SF3c (CB)(W), SF2c (CB)(W). He served at Pearl Harbor after it was bombed, and later served in the Philippines, building roads, runways, ammunition dumps, etc. After the bombing in Japan, Ulon was shipped to Japan where he served in support of the occupation forces.

On February 28, 1948, Ulon married Vivian Lee Killmer in Blanchard OK. They were married 59 years before she passed in 2007. To this union were born 2 children, Janean Killmer Lamb and Steve Killmer. Ulon has 4 grandchildren: Kenna Brooks (Greg), Derek Lamb (Chandra), Christopher Killmer (Jenn), Michael Killmer (Amy); and 9 great-grandchildren: Kaylee Brooks Williams (Sam), Chloe Brooks, Cooper Brooks, Deklyn Lamb, Emma Lamb, Vivian Killmer, Karsten Killmer, Raylee Killmer, and Madalyn Killmer.

Ulon worked as a heavy equipment operator and farmed prior to becoming a union carpenter for many years. He built houses in the Blanchard area, dormitories at OU, and numerous commercial buildings in the Oklahoma City area. He returned to farming in 1972 when he and Vivian moved to Weleetka OK. Ulon moved back to Blanchard in 2010.

Ulon volunteered with the Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief for many years, where he traveled all over the United States and to foreign countries to assist in restoring areas where disasters had occurred. He also volunteered building churches with Baptist Builders.

Ulon just celebrated his 97th birthday, on October 21st.

Police Blotter

Inmate/hold roster:

- **11-10** ~ MILES, Mitchell arrested on Charges of DUI, Eluding, Obstruction, Transporting of Open Container.

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of November was more than one percent (1.67%) more than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$7,198,457.25 retail sales in Blanchard.

| Month | \$ Amount | % +/- |
|---------|--------------|--------|
| Jul '21 | 285,497.11 | 5.12 |
| Aug '21 | 342,497.79 | 20.77 |
| Sep '21 | 235,561.39 | -17.32 |
| Oct '21 | 323,921.58 | 14.22 |
| Nov '21 | 287,938.29 | 0.31 |
| Totals | 1,475,091.37 | 4.59 |

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. MENU**

- **11/15** ~ Smoke Sausage, Cabbage, Parsley Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert.
- **11/16** ~ Chicken Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Bread, Dessert.

- **11/17** ~ Turkey and Dressing, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry, Rolls, Dessert.

- **11/18** ~ Navy Beans, Spinach, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert.

- **11/19** ~ Sloppy Joe, Tater Tots, Corn, 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 or this week's lunch menu, please call (405) 485-9260.

Shop Blanchard!

The Chamber's annual Shop Blanchard promotion will begin on November 11th and end on December 11th. Cut-off time will be 3 PM on the 11th.

The drawing will be **December 11th** around 4pm to 6pm. All receipts must be from local businesses and dated from November 11 - December 11, 2021.

All giveaways are donated by local businesses.

Thanksgiving



Our modern Turkey Day has its origins in two very different holidays; the harvest home feast and the formal day of thanksgiving proclaimed by church or government authorities in gratitude for a particular event, such as a military victory. Very few days of thanksgiving coincided with harvest celebrations. Thanksgiving Day began in Plymouth Colony in 1621, when the Pilgrims gave thanks for their survival and a good first crop.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November for a national celebration of Thanksgiving. (In 1941, the U.S. Congress decreed that Thanksgiving should fall on the fourth Thursday of each November).

Roast turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, vegetables, and pumpkin pie were the main dishes of the New England harvest home feast and became popular because of their supposed connection to the Pilgrims.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, 12-11 ~ Christmas Parade
 Saturday, 12-11 ~ Christmas on Main
 Saturday, 12-11 ~ Pictures w/Santa

Tuesday, 12-21 ~ Winter Begins

Friday, 12-24 ~ Christmas Eve

Saturday, 12-25 ~ Christmas Day

Friday, 12-31 ~ New Year's Eve

Use Tax Collections

The use taxes collected for the month of November was more than two (2.20%) percent less than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$2,313,522.75 retail sales in Blanchard.

| Month | \$ Amount | % +/- |
|---------|------------|--------|
| Jul '21 | 82,173.33 | -12.03 |
| Aug '21 | 97,410.72 | 24.96 |
| Sep '21 | 88,542.03 | 13.13 |
| Oct '21 | 84,860.61 | -0.72 |
| Nov '21 | 92,540.91 | 25.20 |
| Totals | 445,527.60 | 8.93 |

Veterans Day Parade



The annual Blanchard Veterans Day Parade will be held on **Saturday, November 13th**.