

# BLANCHARD E~NEWSLETTER

12 MAY 2022

VOLUMN 119, 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.

## *Armed Forces Day*

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days.

The single day celebration stemmed for the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense. **Saturday, May**

**21<sup>st</sup>** will be Armed Forces Day in the United States.

## *Farmers Market*

The 2022 Blanchard Farmers Market is open for business! The Market will run thru **Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Please visit our website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us) under RESIDENTS and make application to participate.

## *Holiday Observance*

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Memorial 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 service will run as usual.



The City of Blanchard is looking for qualified people to fill the following positions:

1. **Police Officer** (Full-time with Benefits).
2. **Reserve Officers** (No benefits).
4. **Dispatcher** (Full-time with Benefits).
5. **Volunteer Firefighters** (Pension Only).
6. **City Planner** (Full-time with Benefits).
7. **Utility (water/sewer) Laborers** (Full-time with Benefits).
8. **Park Employees** (Seasonal mowing).

Benefits for full-time employment include but not limited to:

- Health, Dental and Vision paid for by the City for the employee;
- Nationwide Retirement Solutions Plan;
- Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System (OPPRS) - Police Officers Only;
- 10 paid Vacation days per year;
- 10 paid Sick days per year;
- 9 paid Holidays per year;
- No cost Life Insurance paid by the City;
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provided by the City.

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For more information, please contact the Human Resource Officer at 405-485-9392 or

download an application at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## *Independence Day*

The City's Independence Day celebration will be **Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>**, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

We will be honoring Oklahoma's recording artists.



The City's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Father's Day Kid's Fishing Derby will be **Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**.

The Blanchard Parks Department will be teaming up with several local businesses and the Oklahoma Wildlife Department, to host this event at the ponds located in Crystal Lake Park (just south of South Park).

We will conduct our annual Kid's Fishing Derby allowing "Catch and Release" fishing for kids under the age of 16 to participate.

We encourage and invite ALL dad's to bring their kids for some bonding time and your kids can win some cool prizes for catching the largest fish and the most, etc.

Registration begins at **8:00 a.m.** and the Derby starts at **9:00 a.m.** and will end at **12 Noon**. Pioneer will be serving hot dogs

thru-out the morning FREE for all participants.

All children under the age of 16 DO NOT need a fishing license. NO FISHING for 16 years of age or older during this time.

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

## Local Food Drive

The Blanchard Rural Letter Carriers are gearing up for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Letter Carriers Food Drive.

The food drive will be held this year in May.

The food drive is sponsored and coordinated by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Rural carriers are not required to participate. It is absolutely wonderful that the Blanchard Rural Carriers are selflessly giving of their time and energy participating in this event. Please take the time to show your appreciation to your rural carrier.



## May Daze Festival



Mark your calendar for the 'unofficial' start to summer in Blanchard. The Chamber's

28th Annual May Daze Festival begins on **Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** and **Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**.

Promotional (non-profit) booths are available at no cost to Chamber members. Your business may also volunteer for a shift in the Chamber booth if you would like to promote your business at the festival, but can't commit to a booth for the whole weekend.

Call the Chamber office at 485-8787 to reserve your space!

## May Meeting Calendar

17<sup>th</sup> ~ Board of Adjustment (6pm)

24<sup>th</sup> ~ BMIA Board of Trustees (6pm)

24<sup>th</sup> ~ City Council (6pm)

## May Special Events

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Farmers Market

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Stamp Out Hunger Drive

20<sup>th</sup> ~ May Daze

21<sup>st</sup> ~ May Daze

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Armed Forces Day

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Farmers Market

28<sup>th</sup> ~ Farmers Market

30<sup>th</sup> ~ Memorial Day

# Memorial Day

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

The  
custom  
of  
honoring  
our

ancestors by cleaning cemeteries and decorating graves is an ancient and worldwide tradition, but the specific origin of Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it was first known, are unclear.

In early rural America, this duty was usually performed in late summer and was an occasion for family reunions and picnics.

After the Civil War, America's need for a secular, patriotic ceremony to honor our military dead became prominent, as monuments to fallen soldiers were erected and dedicated, and ceremonies centering on the decorations of soldier's graves were held in cities and towns thru-out the nation.

No less than 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, and for many years, states observed the holiday on different dates. However, by federal law, Memorial Day is now celebrated on the last Monday in May which will be

Monday, May 30th



## National Peace Officers' Memorial Day & Police Week

National Peace Officers' Memorial Day and Police Week **Sunday, May 14th— Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**.

Each year, our Nation recognizes **May 15th** as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15th falls as National Police Week for those who, through their courageous deeds, have either lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty. We remember and commemorate all police officers for their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, dedicated service to their communities, and their help to preserve the rights and security of all citizens.



## Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **May 6<sup>th</sup>** that NO oil or gas wells were completed or permitted within the City limits of Blanchard.

## Park Events

The upcoming 2022 events are:

- \***June 3<sup>rd</sup>** • Summer Concert Series
- \***June 10<sup>th</sup>** • Summer Concert Series
- \***June 17<sup>th</sup>** • Summer Concert Series
- \***June 24<sup>th</sup>** • Summer Concert Series
- \***July 2<sup>nd</sup>** • Independence Day Celebration
- \***August 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>** • Bluegrass Festival
- \***September 24<sup>th</sup>** • Mufflers on Main
- \***October 22<sup>nd</sup>** • Ride for the Memorial Poker Run
- \***October 31<sup>st</sup>** • Pumpkinfest
- \***November 12<sup>th</sup>** • Veterans Day Parade
- \***December 10<sup>th</sup>** • Christmas Events & Parade of Lites
- \***March - October** • Pop Up Parties (food truck & live music)

Details of each event will be posted on the City's Facebook page and the City's website.

## Planning Commission

The Blanchard Planning Commission held their May regular meeting on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

- ✓ **Held** Public Hearing on Zoning Application requesting zoning reclassification of property to the C-4, Restricted Commercial District;

✓ **Adopted** Resolution No. 2022-04 recommending approval to the City Council to approve Zoning Application reclassifying property to the C-4, Restricted Commercial District;

✓ **Tabled** the Point Pleasant Apartments LLC's application for Lot Split;

✓ **Requested** City staff to formulate new zoning regulations on the location of businesses who sell tobacco products;

✓ **Requested** City staff to formulate new zoning regulations on farmers markets;

✓ **Approved** Consent Agenda, as presented.

## Police Blotter

No arrests reported!

## Senior Dining

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:**

### MENU

**16<sup>th</sup>** ~ Goulash, carrots, peas, dessert.

**17<sup>th</sup>** ~ Tetrizzini, corn, vegetable, dessert.

**18<sup>th</sup>** ~ Pizza, salad, vegetable, dessert.

**19<sup>th</sup>** ~ Navy beans, spinach, beets, cornbread, dessert.

dessert.

**20<sup>th</sup>** ~ CLOSED (for May Daze).

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, call (405) 485-9260.

## *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.

## *Splash Pad*

The City's Parks Department plans to open the water park on **Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**.

The Splash Pad is located in Lions Park at 415 SW 7th Street just west of Main Street.

## *Summer Concert Series*

The City's Summer Concert Series kicks off every Friday night in June beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Lions Park (415 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Blanchard):

**3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Oklahoma Opry Band (Country)**

**10<sup>th</sup> ~ Middle of Nowhere Band (Classic Rock)**

**17<sup>th</sup> ~ Sully & Sisson (60s, 70s, 80s)**

**24<sup>th</sup> ~ The Road Ponies (Various)**

Restore Christian Church will provide a concession stand for each concert.

## *Think, Shop, Live Blanchard!*

Please keep in mind that Blanchard's quality of life and 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.

## *2035 Comp Plan*

The Blanchard Planning Commission set a public hearing for **Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**, to receive public comments regarding the proposed 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

The document will be available next week and will be accessible for download and/or reading on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

Public comments can be sent to the City Clerk at P.O. Box 480, Blanchard or emailed to [cityclerk@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:cityclerk@cityofblanchard.us).