

# BLANCHARD E~NEWSLETTER

20 MAY 2022

VOLUMN 119, ISSUE 3

## *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.

## *BMIA Agenda*

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will hold their May regular meeting on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- ✓ Public Hearing re: Zoning Application to reclassify property from A-1 to C-4;
- ✓ Zoning Ordinance approving zoning reclassification from A-1 to C-4;

## *Board of Adjustment*

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment held their May regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

- ✓ **Approved** variance request filed by Shane McMillan for relief from the BMC;
- ✓ **Approved** Consent Agenda, as presented.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Budget Hearing

The Blanchard City Council and the Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

The Public Hearing will be conducted at a Joint Special Meeting on **Tuesday, June 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

## City Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council will hold their May regular meeting on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- ✓ Public Hearing re: Zoning Application to reclassify property from A-1 to C-4;
- ✓ Zoning Ordinance approving zoning reclassification from A-1 to C-4;
- ✓ Emergency Clause on Zoning Ordinance;
- ✓ Resolution approving agreement with Crawford & Associates to provide financial consulting;
- ✓ Resolution approving agreement with HSPG & Associates to perform 2022 Audit Services;
- ✓ Resolution approving agreements with OTC for sales/use tax administration;
- ✓ Resolution approving agreement with Grady County Criminal Justice Authority for inmate housing;
- ✓ Resolution approving Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) with the State Fire

Marshal's Office for commercial/industrial plan reviews;

- ✓ Resolution approving the renewal of reservation agreement with the Blanchard Senior Citizens;
- ✓ Renovations of Police Station;
- ✓ SH-76 road improvements planned by ODOT;
- ✓ Speed reduction request on US-62 near or in-front of Four Lake Addition;
- ✓ Establishing code enforcement policy for courtesy notice;
- ✓ OMAG Municipal Property Protection Plan for city facilities;
- ✓ Consent Agenda.

## 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).

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. Plans for the event are underway.

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.

## May Special Events

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

## May Daze Festival Memorial Day



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

The

Chamber's 29th 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

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

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

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 30<sup>th</sup>**.

## Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **May 13<sup>th</sup>** that five (5) permits for oil or gas wells were permitted and zero completed 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
- \***May - 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.

## Police Blotter

**5/20/22** ~ LANCASTER, Lloyd arrested on Possession of CDS (Meth) and Trespassing.

**5/14/22** ~ TESTERMAN, Daniel arrested on Outstanding Warrants.

**5/05/22** ~ FRANKLIN, Kelly arrested on Possession of Burglary Tools.

**5/05/22** ~ HARRELL, Franklin arrested on Possession of Burglary Tools.

## Senior Dining



SENIORS

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

**23<sup>rd</sup>** ~ Chicken & Rice, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

**24<sup>th</sup>** ~ Loaded Potato, Salad, Roll, Fruit, Dessert.

**25<sup>th</sup>** ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Dessert.

**26<sup>th</sup>** ~ Pinto Beans, Spinach, Potato, Cornbread, Dessert.

**27<sup>th</sup>** ~ Fish, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Cornbread, 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, 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 is available and 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).