



E-Mail Newsletter

7 October 2022

Volume 124, Number 1

MEETINGS

October 10th

2pm - Traffic Court

October 11th

5:30pm - Sp BOA

October 11th

6pm - Sp City Council

October 13th

6pm - Planning Commission

October 18th

6pm - Board of Adjustment

October 20th

4pm - Juvenile/Code Court

October 25th

6pm - BMIA Board of Trustees

October 25th

6pm - City Council

*All City Boards, Commissions, & Authority meets at the Municipal Court House unless otherwise noted.

Columbus Day

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus landed on a small island in the Bahamas, convinced that he had reached the East Indies. Now, by federal law, Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October which is **Monday, October 10th**. City offices will be open for business.

DST Ends

FALL BACK **SUNDAY, November 6th**, when Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Clocks will "fall back" one-hour.

Credit for Daylight Saving Time belongs to Benjamin Franklin, who first suggested the idea in 1784. The idea was revised in 1907, when William Willett, an Englishman, proposed a similar system in the pamphlet 'The Waste of Daylight'.

The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War 1. The British switched one year later, and the United States followed in 1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established our time zones. This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers [cows don't pay attention to clocks]. During World War II, Daylight Saving Time was imposed once again [this time year around] to save fuel.

SO REMEMBER! When you change the clocks, change your batteries in your smoke and CO² detectors.

SPECIAL EVENTS

October 10th

– COLUMBUS DAY

October 9th - 15th

– Fire Prevention
Week

October 13th

– Fall Break

October 14th

– Fall Break

October 17th

– BOSS'S DAY

October 31st

– HALLOWEEN

– PUMPKINFEST

For Blanchard

City events:

*Please visit our
website at*

www.cityofblanchard.us

Library Events:

*Please visit their
website at*

www.pioneer.lib.org

Employment Opportunities

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

- ☐ **Police Officers** (full-benefits).
- ☐ **Reserve Police Officers** (no benefits).
- ☐ **Volunteer Firefighters** (pension and stipend per call).
- ☐ **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).
- ☐ **Volunteer Firefighters** (full-benefits).

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

- Medical benefits paid on behalf of employee.
- Nationwide Retirement Solutions Plan (City/BMIA employees only).
 - OK Police Pension and Retirement System (police officers).
 - 10 paid vacation days per year.
 - 10 paid sick days per year.
 - 9 paid holidays per year.
 - 1-floating holiday.
 - Life Insurance (paid by the City).
 - Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For more information, please contact the Human Resources Officer at 405.485.9392 or download an application from www.cityofblanchard.us.

Fall Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be out of classes on **Thursday, October 13th** and **Friday, October 14th** for Fall Break. NO SCHOOL!

Fire Prevention Week

A Proclamation designating the week of **October 9th** thru **15th** was proclaimed by the Mayor at the September Blanchard City Council meeting.

The City urges all the people of Blanchard to plan and practice a home fire escape and to support the many public

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We're on the Web!
www.cityofblanchard.us

safety activities and efforts of the City of Blanchard Fire and Emergency Services during Fire Prevention Week 2022.

Halloween

'Trick or Treat' nite in Blanchard will be **Monday, October 31st** from **6 pm to 9 pm**.

Please drive carefully with caution and watch out for little ghosts and goblins!

For Halloween safety tips for your kids, pets, etc. please go to <https://nnw.org/halloween-safety-tips>.

Household Hazardous Waste

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) has approved the City's Household Hazardous Waste Event for **Saturday, October 29th, 2022**.

Items that will be accepted will include tires, batteries, oil, paints, etc.

More information was sent to all citizens in the October utility billing.

Memorial Poker Ride



The 3rd Annual Veterans Memorial Poker Chip Run will be held in Blanchard, OK on **October 22nd**. Flexible registration times are between **7 - 10 AM** at City Hall located at 122 N Main St. The \$30.00 individual registration fee includes a free sit down "All You Can Eat" breakfast, cooked and served by the local Masonic lodge, of eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, juice and coffee before you leave.

The 175 mile, 5 stop route will take you through some beautiful back roads to and thru the Arbuckle Mountains. At

AFTER HOURS

For Public Works after-hour incidents:

- *water leaks
 - *waterline breaks
 - *sewer backups
 - *sewer line breaks
 - *lift station alarms
 - *manholes overflowing
 - *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.

each stop, you will draw a poker chip and the color will be recorded on your player card. No one knows the point value of the colors until you arrive at the final stop by 4 PM. The highest score will win \$500 cash and the lowest score will win \$200 cash plus there will be many additional door prizes handed out at the last stop. Any ties will be broken by drawing an additional poker chip.

You can ride individually, with a group or set a time and plan for your club to meet between 7 and 10 AM. After registering, you will go eat breakfast and can plan your KSU as a group at the Masonic lodge after eating. Each entry will receive a free annual rocker patch for the event. We have a colorful event patch available, you may purchase, for your vest, showing your support of the Veterans Memorial. Register on site that morning or you will be able to pre-register online at www.cityofblanchard.us under the Veterans Memorial Park link to skip the waiting line. Rain date will be the following Saturday, October 29th.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **September 30th** that NO (0) oil wells was permitted within the City limits of Blanchard.

On The PC Agenda

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold their October meeting on **Thursday, October 13th** beginning at 6pm to discuss, consider and take possible action re:

- Open, conduct and close Public Hearing to receive public comments on a Zoning Application from:

Applicant: Corey Deskin

Location: 189 Parkland Ranch

Current Zoning: S-1 Suburban District

Proposed Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District

Legal: A tract of land located in Section 6-T8N-R4W of the Indian Meridian, McClain County, Oklahoma.

- A Resolution No. 2022-12 recommending approval or denial to the City Council regarding the Zoning application (Corey Deskin).
- An Ordinance of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma amending Section 21- 401, Article 4, of Chapter 21, Section 21-702, Article 7, of Chapter 21, Section 21-712, Article 7, Division 2 of Chapter 21, Section 21-722, Article 7, Division 3 of Chapter 21, Section 21-732, Article 7, Division 4 of Chapter 21, of The Blanchard Municipal Code pertaining to farmers market; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.
- A Resolution No. 2022-13 recommending approval or denial to the City Council in regards to an ordinance pertaining to farmers markets.
- Consent Agenda.

The November Planning Commission meeting will be Thursday, November

Park Events

The upcoming **2022** events are:

- **October 22nd** ~ Memorial Poker Ride.
- **October 31st** ~ PumpkinFest.
- **November 12th** ~ Veterans Day Parade.
- **December 10th** ~ Christmas Events
- **December 10th** ~ Christmas Parade of Lites.

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

Police Blotter

10.04.22 ~ DANIELS, Ashley arrested for Obstructing an Officer, Domestic in the presence of a Minor, and Resisting Arrest.

Public Hearing

A proposed Ordinance of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma,

amending Section 21-401, Article 4 of Chapter 21, Section 21-702 of Article 7 of Chapter 21, Section 21-712 of Article 7, Division 2 of Chapter 21, Section 21-722 of Article 7, Division 3 of Chapter 21, and Section 21-732 of Article 7, Division 4 of Chapter 21 of the Blanchard Municipal Code pertaining to Farmers Markets.

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold a "Public Hearing" on said proposed Ordinance at 6 p.m. on **October 13th, 2022**, at the Blanchard Municipal Courthouse, 300 N. Main, Blanchard, Oklahoma, at its regular schedule meeting.

The Blanchard City Council will also conduct a "Public Hearing" on said recommendation from the Planning Commission for the proposed Ordinance at 6 p.m. on **October 25th, 2022**, at the Blanchard Municipal Courthouse, 300 N. Main, Blanchard, Oklahoma, at its regular schedule meeting.

PumpkinFest

Are you ready for a real SPOOKY GOOD TIME?

The City's annual PumpkinFest will be held on **Monday, October 31st** from 6pm to 9pm on Main Street.

Activities include:

- Costume Contest (Ages 0-10) (11-18) & (19-over)
- Pet Costume Contest (all pets must be on a leash)
- Face Painting
- Free Candy & Refreshments
- Games and Trunk or Treats
- Safe Candy Walk & Music

For more information, please contact Chris Wittenbach at 405.248.6521 or parks@cityofblanchard.us.

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 NOT AVAILABLE!

If you are 60 years of age or older, you are eligible to

participate free of charge. However, a 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, 101 S. Main Street, please call 1-866-THAT-BUS. The City contracts with Delta Transit to provide bus services.

For more information regarding the Senior Center, please call 405.485.9260.

Shop Local

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. More of your money will be kept in the Blanchard local economy: 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 embrace what makes Blanchard unique: 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. You create local jobs: 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. You help the environment: Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. You nurture community: 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. You conserve your tax dollars: 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. You create more choice: Locally owned businesses pick the

items and products they sell bases 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 take advantage of their expertise: 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. You invested in entrepreneurship: Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You made Blanchard a destination: The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This **BENEFITS EVERYONE!**

* Source: Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

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.

2022 Election

November 8th ~ General Election.

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ~ POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am - 7pm.