



E-Mail Newsletter

18 November 2022

Volume 125, Number 3

MEETINGS

December 5th

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BETA

6pm - BPS Bd of Ed

December 8th

6pm - Planning Comm

December 12th

2pm - Traffic Court

December 13th

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

December 15th

4pm - Code/Juvenile Court

December 20th

6pm - BOA

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

BOA Action

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 15th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- **HELD** Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to have a guest house on her property in the future plans for this property.

Applicant: Janice McMann Zwart

Address: 641 Avery Drive

- **APPROVED** the Finding of Fact on the above application as submitted.

- **HELD** Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to open a commercial Dry-cleaning drop-off and tailoring in the R-2 zoning while the city is administratively rezoning the area, and in the case of the administrative rezoning being denied, allow the applicant to continue operation of the laundry service within the R-2 zoning.

Applicant: Angie Miller

Address: 301 S Main Street

- **APPROVED** the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

- **APPROVED** Consent Docket, as presented.

The Board's next meeting will be **Tuesday, December 20th**.

SPECIAL EVENTS

November 24th

– THANKSGIVING
DAY

November 25th

– THANKSGIVING

December 7th

– Pearl Harbor Day

December 21st

– WINTER BEGINS

December 23rd

– CITY OFFICES
CLOSED

December 24th

– CHRISTMAS EVE

December 25th

– CHRISTMAS

December 26th

– CITY OFFICES
CLOSED

December 31st

– NEW YEAR'S EVE

For Blanchard
City events:
Please visit our
website at
www.cityofblanchard.us

Library Events:
Please visit their
website at
www.pioneer.lib.ok.us

Christmas On Main



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
Food Trucks and Train Rides
from 2 - 4pm

Shop Blanchard Give Away at 4pm

Blanchard Kindergarten Kids performance at 5pm

The Blanchard Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will step off at 6pm on **Saturday, December 10th**. The theme of the Parade is "A Peanuts Christmas." Come dressed as your favorite character.

For more information, please visit the City's facebook. The Parade Entry Form is on the site for downloading.

Community Thanksgiving Svc

BLANCHARD MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

COMMUNITY
Thanksgiving

- SERVICE -

November 20, 2022



A MESSAGE OF HOPE,
THANKSGIVING, AND PRAISE.

BHS Gymnasium at 6pm



City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
122 N. Main Street
Blanchard, OK 73010

Phone:
(405) 485-9392

Fax:
(405) 485-3199

E-mail:
citymanager@cityofblanchard.us

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

Employment Opportunities

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

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

Holiday Closing



City offices will be closed on **Thursday, November 24th** and **Friday, November 25th**, for the observance of Thanksgiving. If you have a police or fire emergency, please

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.

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

City Offices will reopen **Monday, November 28th**.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since Friday, November 4th.

Park Events

The upcoming **2022** events are:

- **December 10th** ~ Downtown 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

- **November 13th** ~ KLEINSCHMIDT, Ricky arrested for DUI and Open Containers.

Public Hearing

The Blanchard City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regular meeting on **Tuesday, December 13th** beginning at **6pm**. The purpose of the hearing is to solicit public input regarding an application to the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation to fund certain park improvements.

The proposed application is seeking an 80-20 grant to fund approximately 5,280 L.F. of walking trails and pedestrian bridges serving Crystal Lake Park linking to Southpark. This proposal is the second of a multi-phase project of a Blanchard Master Plan for park improvements connecting city parks to

other parks, public schools, library, downtown and post office.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend said hearings.

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

Monday, November 21st ~ Chicken Noodles, Green Beans, Carrots, Dessert.

Tuesday, November 22nd ~ Hot Dogs, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Dessert.

Wednesday, November 23rd ~ Pinto Beans, Tater Tots, Spoon Relish, Cornbread, Dessert.

Thursday, November 24th ~ CENTER CLOSED.

Friday, November 25th ~ CENTER CLOSED.

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 based 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.

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 crops.

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 shall fall on the fourth Thursday of 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.



Winter Solstice

The winter solstice is one of the two times each year

that the Sun is at its farthest point from the equator and appears to stand still. It occurs on **Wednesday, December 21st** at **3:48 p.m. CST**.

The word *solstice* is derived from the Latin *sol*, or "Sun," and *stitium*, or "stoppage." The Halcyon Days also occur around this time. According to ancient legend, a grieving wife named Alcyone, or Halcyon, threw herself into the sea upon discovering the drowned body of her beloved husband, Ceyx. The gods took pity on the pair, transforming them into kingfishers with the power to still the stormy seas for 14 days around the time of the winter solstice while they built their nest and hatched their young.

Xmas Parade



The City's annual Christmas Parade will be **Saturday, December 10th** beginning at **6pm**.

Parade Entry Forms are available on the City's website at

www.cityofblanchard.us.