



E-Mail Newsletter

10 March 2023

Volume 129, Number 2

Meeting Dates

- March 20th**
6pm ~ Blanchard
Tourism Board
- March 24th**
8am ~ TIF Review
Committee
- March 28th**
6pm ~ BMIA
6pm ~ City Council

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

Daylite Saving Time

REMEMBER! When we change our clocks ... change our smoke detector batteries when most of the United States begins Daylight Saving Time at **2:00 a.m. on Sunday (March 12th)**.

The country reverts back to standard time on the first Sunday in November. In the U.S., each time zone switches at a different time.



Three (3) bills were introduced in the Oklahoma Legislature in 2023 (SB7; SB69; HB2217), if passed, one would require daylight saving

time to be observed the year-round (Passed Committee on a 8-2 vote; the 2nd will place the measure on a ballot referendum making Daylight Saving Time permanent; and the 3rd not observing Daylight Saving Time but adhere to Standard Time year around.

Tick Tock: Daylight-saving time isn't observed in Arizona or Hawaii.

Employment Opportunities

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

- >> **Dispatcher** (full-benefits).
- >> Reserve Police Officers (no benefits).
- >> **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).

Special Events

March 11th

~ St Patty's Day Parade

March 12th

~ Daylite Saving Time Begins

March 13th-17th

~ Spring Break

March 17th

~ St Patty's Day

March 20th

~ 1st Day of Spring

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

Library Events: Please visit their website at <https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard>

- » Utility Laborers (full-benefits).
- » **Transfer Site Laborer** (full-benefits).
- » Police Officer (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).
- 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.

Fair Housing Month

APRIL is 'Fair Housing Month'. The City encourages each citizen to implement the provisions of the City's Fair Housing Ordinance and requests that any person, or group of persons, planning activities to promote fair housing to inform the City Clerk of such activities. A copy of the Ordinance may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.

Municipal Election

Registered voters will choose 1 of 2 candidates to serve on the Blanchard City Council to represent Ward 1:

- [] Joe Davis* (incumbent)
- [] Ben Whitt

The municipal election will be held on **Tuesday, April 4th, 2023.**



Oil 'n Gas

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

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.

March 3rd.

Planning Commission Action

The Blanchard Planning Commission met in regular session on **Thursday, March 9th** and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items as follows:

☑ **HELD** Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 in the W2 E2 SW4 SE4 of Section 36-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ **ADOPTED** Resolution recommending approval to the City Council.

☑ **HELD** Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 in the NW4 NE4 NW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ **ADOPTED** Resolution recommending approval to the City Council.

☑ **HELD** Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from A-1 to R-1 in the E2 SW4 NE4 of Section 19-T8N-R4W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ **TABLED.**

☑ **HELD** Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 (applicant is now requesting R-E) in the SW4 SE4 SW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ **ADOPTED** Resolution recommending approval to the City Council.

☑ **APPROVED** Lot Split Application of 10.02 acres into three (3) tracts located in the SW4 SE4 SW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian SUBJECT to rezoning and adding deed restriction for prohibition of manufactured homes.

☑ **APPROVED** Consent Agenda, as presented.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023.

Police Blotter

- 3.08.23 ~ SCOTT, Michael arrested on DUI/Alcohol.
- 3.07.23 ~ RODRIQUEZ, John arrested on Domestic A & B, Assault on a Police Officer and Obstruction.

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of January is more than twenty percent (20.95%) of the monthly budgeted amount based on five (5%) of

Shop Local

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

1. 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 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. 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. Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. 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. Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and

\$8,384,463.00 retail sales in Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '22	341,443.27	19.73
Aug '22	433,295.74	26.51
Sep '22	493,098.78	109.33
Oct '22	454,007.33	40.16
Nov '22	457,106.95	41.12
Dec '22	487,024.24	38.91
Jan '23	428,228.18	37.11
Feb '23	418,590.93	0.00
Mar '23	419,223.15	46.10
Apr '23	0	0.00
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	3,931,798.57	40.16

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, March 13th ~ Stroganoff, Broccoli, Corn, Dessert.

Tuesday, March 14th ~ Smoked Sausage, Cabbage, Blackeyed Peas, Cornbread, Dessert.

Wednesday, March 15th ~ Chicken and Dumplings, Peas, Carrots, Dessert.

Thursday, March 16th ~ Pinto Beans, Relish, Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday, March 17th ~ Fish, Baked Beans, Dessert.

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, please call 405.485.9260.

So... Think, Shop, Live Blanchard

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

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. 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 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. Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This

BENEFITS EVERYONE!

* Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

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.

SPRING BREAK 2023

The Blanchard Public School District will be on Spring Break beginning **Monday, March 13th** thru **Friday, March 17th**.
NO Classes for students.

St Patrick's Day

If you're inclined toward legend, lore and festivities of the Saint and how the Irish honor him, then check out this St. Patrick's Day site at www.st-patricks-day.com, where you'll find everything from parades to recipes.



In Dublin Ireland, the St. Patrick's Day Festival at www.stpatricksdays.ie is described as four (4) days of "madness and mayhem." St. Patrick's Day will be **Friday, March 17th**.

St Patrick's Day Parade



Plans are set for the annual St Patrick's Day Parade being held tomorrow (**Saturday, March 11th**). Parade lineup begins at **3:30pm** at Legacy

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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

Bank and the parade kicks off at **4:30pm**.

If you would like to participate, please contact Chris Wittenbach @ 485.9392 or parks@cityofblanchard.us or visit www.cityofblanchard.us.

Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of March more than thirteen percent (13.16%) less than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$1,848,115.20 of retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '22	100,869.95	22.75
Aug '22	94,050.49	-3.45
Sep '22	137,513.39	55.31
Oct '22	119,613.15	40.95
Nov '22	102,787.23	11.07
Dec '22	146,676.03	50.92
Jan '23	164,384.56	28.56
Feb '23	176,627.17	32.54
Mar '23	92,405.76	12.81
Apr '23	0	0.00
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	1,134,927.73	28.13

Vernal Equinox

Spring will begin on **Monday, March 20th** at **4:24p.m.** CDT and ends **Wednesday, June 21st** at **9:57a.m.** CDT.

The word equinox is derived from the Latin words meaning "equal nite." The Vernal, or spring, equinox is the point at which the Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from south to north, signaling the beginning of nature's renewal in the Northern Hemisphere.
