



E-Mail Newsletter

14 April 2023

Volume 130, Number 2

Meeting Dates

April 17th

6pm ~ Tourism Board

April 18th

6pm ~ Board of Adjustment

April 20th

6pm ~ Joint Special Meeting (BETA/BMIA/City Council)

April 20th

6pm ~ Special City Council

April 25th

6pm ~ BMIA

6pm ~ City Council

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

Animal Cruelty Prevention Month



Preventing animal cruelty starts with responsible pet ownership. The month of April is Animal Cruelty Prevention Month. Cruelty may include but not limited to animal *neglect* of unreasonable deprivation of necessary food, care or shelter or *inhumane treatment* includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ◆ Any physical punishment inconsistent with the health of such animal;
- ◆ Lack of food or water for more than a twenty-four (24) hour period;
- ◆ Knowingly permitting obvious nutritional deficiencies or other evident health problems involving any animal;
- ◆ Improper use of any collar or harness or a fixed leash for the purpose of confining any animal which results in flesh laceration, obvious pain or to cause choking to such animal;
- ◆ Depriving animal of adequate shelter; and
- ◆ Inhumane killing or attempting to kill any animal.

You can report instances of animal cruelty calling the City of Blanchard at 405.485.9392 to be investigated by Animal Control Officer.

Animal Shelter

The City's Animal Shelter has been temporarily closed until further notice to prevent the spread of the following bacterial infections which can be fatal in dogs.

The H3N2, Influenza A and Strep Zoo have all been confirmed in

Special Events

April 15th

~ Purple Up! Day

April 18th

~ Tax Day

April 21st

~ San Jacinto Day

April 22nd

~ Oklahoma Day

April 26th

~ Administrative Professionals Day

April 28th

~ BPS Holiday

OKC and surrounding shelters. A few of our dogs have been showing similar symptoms. Therefore, NO further adoptions, NO drop-offs or walks-ins until this is over.

We are asking the public to refrain from taking your dogs to the Parks for the next few weeks.



Employment Opportunities

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

» **Reserve Police Officers** (no benefits).

» **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).

» **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

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>

housing to inform the City Clerk of such activities. A copy of the Ordinance may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.

Farmers Market

The 2023 Blanchard Farmers Market opens **Saturday, May 6th**.

Please visit our website under RESIDENTS and make application to participate.

May Daze Festival

The 'unofficial' start to summer in Blanchard begins with the Chamber's 29th Annual May Daze Festival starting on **Friday, May 19th** thru **Saturday, May 20th**.



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!

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, April 7th**.

On the BOA Agenda

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 18th, at 6pm, to discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on the following Agenda items:

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.

✓ Open, conduct, and close Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to allow the homeowners to operate a dog grooming business while in the R-2, Combined Residential District zoning.

Applicant: Britany & Joel Sanfacon
Address: 1048 Fox Run Lane
Legal: See Staff Report

✓ Approve or Deny by the Finding of Facts on the application as submitted.

✓ Open, conduct, and close Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to use a side yard setback of 5-10 feet for better placement of an accessory structure.

Applicant: Jason & Emily French
Address: 1273 Blackjack Circle
Legal: See Staff Report

✓ Approve or Deny by the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

✓ Consent Agenda.

The agenda will be available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

On the Tourism Agenda

The Blanchard Tourism Board will hold their regular meeting on Monday, April 17th, at 6pm to discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on the following Agenda items:

✓ Discussion, consideration and vote on a motion relating to the promotion of the Hotel/Motel Tax for Tuesday, June 13, 2023 vote.

✓ Discussion, consideration and vote on a motion relating to the planning of a Wine/Beer Festival as approved by the City Council.

✓ Discussion, consideration and vote on a motion relating to creating a brand for Tourism.

✓ Discussion, consideration and vote on a motion, as desired, relating

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

to Tourism activities to include but not limited to commercial/radio ads, website/social media and beautification.

✓ Consent Agenda.

The agenda will be available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Planning Commission Action

The Blanchard Planning Commission held their April meeting on **Thursday, April 13th** and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items:

✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-07 recommending denial to the City Council regarding the Zoning application files by the Chickasaw Nation Housing Authority c/o the owners.

✓ **APPROVED** a short form subdivision of 17.88 acres filed by Cory Miller, 502 S County Line Avenue.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing receiving public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by Stephen & Regina Boulware, 915 Bell Lane from the S-1, Suburban District to the R-E, Residential Estates District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-08 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning application filed by Stephen & Regina Boulware.

✓ **APPROVED** a short form subdivision of 4.99 acres on an application filed by Stephen & Regina Boulware SUBJECT to rezoning.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing receiving public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by Kimberly & Joe Rogers, 4933 Kitty Hawk Road from the S-1, Suburban District to the R-E, Residential Estates District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-09 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning Application filed by Kimberly & Joe Rogers.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing receiving public comments on a Zoning

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.

Application submitted by Kenny Stevens, 4615 SW 22nd Street, from the S-1, Suburban District to the A-1, Agricultural District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-10 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning Application filed by Kenny Stevens.

✓ **APPROVED** a short form subdivision of 18.67 acres on an application filed by Kenny Stevens SUBJECT to rezoning.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing receiving public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by Kenny Stevens, 1918 Bobwhite Trail from the S-1, Suburban District to the A-1, Agricultural District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-11 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning Application filed by Kenny Stevens.

✓ **APPROVED** a short form subdivision of 27.86 acres on an application filed by Kenny Stevens SUBJECT to rezoning.

✓ **DISCUSSED** creating a new zoning classification under the label of Rural Residential.

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, May 11th.

Police Blotter

- 4.12.23 ~ ANDERSON, Jerry arrested on Outstanding McClain County Warrants.
- 4.09.23 ~ FRICK, Jon arrested on Driving Under Suspension and Possession of CDS.

Purple Up! Day

Help Celebrate Military Kids on Purple Up! Day. April marks the nation's "Month of the Military Child," a time to honor our community youth impacted by deployment. It is no secret that our military children face many challenges before, during and after deployment of their loved ones. Parental separation, increased



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

responsibilities at home, and frequent moves, are just a few areas that military kids must navigate like a complicated obstacle course. However, if given enough support to get through these tough times, our military children can come through with great resilience and confidence, ever ready to face other life changing events. These kids are an inspiration and a source of pride, and it is fitting that we celebrate their spirits and commitments to our country.

In celebration, you're invited to join in showing your support by being part of "Purple Up! For Military Kids" Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear something purple on **Saturday, April 15, 2023**. This will be a visible way to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. (Did you know: Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue.) The hope is everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate these young heroes. Be creative ... the goal is for military youth to witness a sea of "purple" on that day in order to visually witness the support of their community!

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, April 17th ~ Spaghetti, Salad, Corn, Dessert.

Tuesday, April 18th ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday, April 19th ~ Tetrizzini, Green Beans, Carrots, Dessert.

Thursday, April 20th ~ Hobo Beans, Pickles and Onions, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday, April 21th ~ Chicken Patty, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Bun, 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.

Shelter Registration

Blanchard Emergency Management would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that severe storm season is fast approaching. We want to express how important it is for everyone to register their home's storm shelters and safe rooms. The City of Blanchard storm shelter



registry provides emergency services with information that allows them to locate citizens after a tornado or other natural disaster. Registration helps ensure that people in shelters affected by the storm are able to get help quickly with the potential of shelters' exits being blocked due to debris or structural damage. Registration is doubly important with the possibility of shelters flooding due to broken water lines or simply rain waters entering the shelter and drowning people trapped inside. Registration forms include your address, list of persons who would normally be present at the home and could potentially be in the shelter, the location of the shelter/safe room on the property, and contact information for yourself and an emergency contact. If you have previously registered and some part of your information has changed, feel free to submit an updated form. If you have a question as to if your shelter is registered please contact the Emergency Management Director/Fire Chief Charlie Largent at the Blanchard Fire Department at 405.485.3939.

Registration forms available at Blanchard City Hall and online www.cityofblanchard.us/document_center/storm_shelter_registration.pdf. Please return all registrations to the Blanchard City Hall, 122 North Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010.

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.

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of April is more than seventeen percent (17.09%) of the monthly budgeted amount based on five (5%) of \$7,923,544.20 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	396,177.21	-5.82
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	4,327,975.78	38.89

Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of April more than seventeen percent (17.66%) more than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$2,502,661.40 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	125,133.07	50.95
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	1,260,060.78	30.08