



# E-Mail Newsletter

24 November 2023

Volume 137, Number 4

## Meeting Dates

- December 4<sup>th</sup>**  
8am - TEAM Blanchard
- December 5<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm - BOA
- December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm - Planning Commission
- December 11<sup>th</sup>**  
2pm - Traffic Court
- December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm - BMIA  
6pm - City Council
- December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm - Tourism
- December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
4pm - Juvenile/Code Court

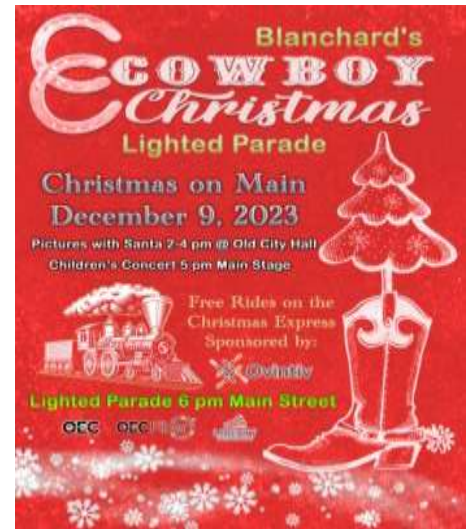
\*All City Boards, Commissions, & Authority meets at the Municipal Court House unless otherwise noted.

City of Blanchard  
P.O. Box 480  
122 N. Main Street  
Blanchard, OK 73010  
Phone: (405) 485-9392  
Fax: (405) 485-3199

## Christmas on Main

- Pictures with Santa @ 2pm-4pm
- Shop Blanchard Giveaways @ 4:30pm
- Children's Christmas Concert
- Lighted Christmas Parade
- Free rides on the Christmas Express sponsored by OVINTIV
- Parade starts at 6 PM

Come on down and enjoy Christmas on Main starting with pictures with Santa at the Old City Hall, then step onto Main Street for a Christmas concert followed by a lighted parade.



## Christmas Parade

The annual Blanchard Christmas Parade will be **Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**.

The lighted parade steps off at **6pm**. The theme of the parade is a "Cowboy Christmas." Come dressed as your favorite cowboy.

For more information, please visit the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us). The Parade Entry Form is on the site for downloading.



# Special Events

## NOVEMBER

23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Thanksgiving Day

24<sup>th</sup> ~ Thanksgiving After

## DECEMBER

6<sup>th</sup> ~ City Hall Open House

7<sup>th</sup> ~ Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

9<sup>th</sup> ~ Run Run Rudolph 5K

9<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas on Main

9<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Lited Parade

24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve

25<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Day

31<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Eve

## JANUARY

1<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Day

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page regarding City sponsored events

For Blanchard City events: Please visit our website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

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

## F.O.G.

The holiday season is upon us, with lots of delicious holiday meals filled with fats, oils and grease, known as FOG.

The City reminds residents to “prevent clogs” do NOT toss these fats, oils and grease down the drain. If tossed down the sink, FOG can clog sewer lines and cause costly repairs not only to the homeowner, but to the City as well.

To prevent clogs, pour your liquid fats, oil and grease such as turkey grease, gravy, cooking oil or melted butter into a lid container, place it in the freezer until it becomes solid. You can safely toss the container in the trash.

## Holiday Closing

City offices will be closed for the observance of Christmas and New Year's on:

- Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> (Xmas Eve)
- Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> (Xmas)
- Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day)

## House Numbering

In an emergency, first responders (fire, police and ambulance) and utility service technicians depend on clearly marked addresses to find the right home as quickly as possible. Finding a residence can be challenging if street addresses (house numbers) are unreadable, hidden, unlit or missing. You can help emergency responders and service technicians locate your home by following these tips:

- Replace aging or faded numbers;
- Clear all obstructions (hanging plants, bushes, flags, etc.) from blocking your house number;
- Post large numbers to allow visibility from the street;
- Place your numbers near the street or on the curb, with a reflective coating and contrasting background;
- Allow numbers to be seen from all directions (if your home is on a corner, have numbers posted on all sides).

The BMC §4-402 requires all building and houses to be numbered. The even numbers (2,4,6, etc.) shall be on the east side of the streets extending north and south, and on the south side of the streets extending east and west; the odd numbers (1,3,5, etc.) shall be on the opposite side of streets.

## 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.

## Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**.

## Oklahoma's Growing Adventure

Whether you've been blasting Christmas music for weeks or you are patiently waiting until Thanksgiving to pull out the decorations, it is not too early to start planning where to get your Christmas tree.

Central Oklahoma is home to seven (7) Christmas tree farms where you can cut your own tree or purchase beautiful pre-cut evergreen trees and wreaths. The following is a list of Christmas tree farms within a close proximity to Blanchard:

- November 24 ~ All Pine Christmas Tree Farm (Yukon)
- November 24 ~ Cross Timbers Christmas Tree Farm & Pumpkin Patch (Harrah)
- November 24 ~ Martinbird Tree Farm (Tuttle)
- November 24 ~ Silver Bells Christmas Tree Farm (Tuttle)
- November 18 ~ Sorghum Mill Christmas Tree & Blackberry Farm (Edmond)
- November 24 ~ Wells Christmas Tree Farm (Norman)
- November 25 ~ Wonderland Farms (Harrah)

## Open House

The City will host an open house for the new City Hall, 2008 N. Council Avenue, on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

## Police Blotter

**11/18/23** ~ CANARY, Deric arrested on Grady County Warrants.

## Run Run Rudolph 5K

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event will take place on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

# 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 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.

The run begins at 10 a.m. Register by December 1<sup>st</sup> to get a t-shirt.

## Senior Nutrition Center

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** (except City Observed Holiday).

### MENU:

(November 27<sup>th</sup> - December 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Monday** ~ Goulash, Carrots, Peas, Dessert, Cinnamon Rolls.

**Tuesday** ~ Taco Salad, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Tetrizzini, Sweet Potato, Peas, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Stew, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Fish, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Bun, 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.

## Small Business Saturday

**Saturday, November 25, 2023** is Small Business Saturday - a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities. This year, we know that small businesses need our support now more than ever as they navigate, retool and pivot from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. Please join SBA and organizations across the country in supporting your local small businesses by shopping at a small business.

Founded by American Express in 2010 and officially cosponsored by SBA since 2011, Small Business Saturday has become an important part of small businesses' busiest shopping season. Historically, reported projected spending among U.S. consumers who shopped at independent retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday reached an

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.

estimated \$17.9 billion according to the [2022 Small Business Saturday Consumer Insights Survey](#) commissioned by American Express.

The highly successful team of SBA, Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP), and American Express will be kicking off the 2023 holiday season by encouraging consumers to support our nation's nearly 32 million independent businesses this Small Business Saturday and all holiday season long.

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## *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.

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## *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 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:27 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.

We're on the Web!

[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

