



E-Mail Newsletter

8 March 2023

Volume 142, Number 2

Meeting Dates

March 12th

6pm ~ BMIA

6pm ~ City Council

March 14th

6pm ~ Planning Comm

March 18th

6pm ~ Tourism

All You Can Eat Breakfast

The Blanchard Masonic Lodge will host the March AYCE Breakfast on Saturday, March 16th from 7am to 11am.

Proceeds go to a selected youth organization as a fundraiser.

Daylite Saving Time



SPRING FORWARD SUNDAY, March 10th, Daylight Saving Time begins at **2 a.m.** when clocks will “spring forward” one-hour. The exceptions are Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

Credit for Daylite 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 This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers [cows don’t pay attention to clocks].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.

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

*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

Special Events

10th ~ Daylite Saving

Time: 2am

16th ~ St Patty's Day Parade

17th ~ St Patrick's Day

19^h ~ Spring Begins

24th ~ Palm Sunday

29th ~ Good Friday

31st ~ Easter Sunday

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

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>

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.

Special Events

MARCH

10 - Daylite Saving Time: 2am

17 - St. Patrick's Day

19 - Spring Begins

24 - Palm Sunday

29 - Good Friday

31 - Easter Sunday

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, December 8th**.

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.

On the BMIA Agenda

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, March 12th beginning at 6pm, Municipal Court House, 300 North Main.

The Agenda Packet will be available on Monday (11th) online at www.cityofblanchard.us.



On the Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council will meet in regular session on Tuesday, March 12th beginning immediately following the BMIA meeting at 6pm, Municipal Court House, 300 North Main.

The Agenda Packet is available Monday (11th) online at www.cityofblanchard.us.



On the PC Agenda

The Blanchard Planning Commission will meet in regular session on Thursday, March 14th at 6pm, Municipal Court House, 300 North Main.

The Agenda Packet will be available Monday (11th) online at www.cityofblanchard.us.



Park Events

3/16/24 ~ St Patti's Day Parade

4/27/24 ~ Bark in the Park

5/5/24 ~ Cinco D' Mayo

5/17/24 ~ May Daze

5/18/24 ~ May Daze

March/October ~ Pop Up Parties (Food Trucks & Live Music)

6/7/24 ~ Concert in the Park

Movies Under the Stars

6/14/24 ~ Concert in the Park

6/15/24 ~ Fishing Derby

6/21/24 ~ Concert in the Park

Movies Under the Stars

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.

7. Locally owned

- 6/28/24 ~ Concert in the Park
- 7/02/24 ~ Independence Day Celebration
- 8/16/24 ~ Bluegrass Festival
- 8/17/24 ~ Bluegrass Festival
- 9/28/24 ~ Mufflers On Main
- 10/31/24 ~ PumpkinFest
- 11/09/24 ~ Veterans Day Parade
- 12/14/24 ~ Christmas Parade of Lights
- 12/14/24 ~ Christmas on Main

Police Blotter

1/20/24 ~ FREIE, Matthew arrested on Domestic Violence.

2/04/24 ~ DeMANGE, Jean arrested on Assault and Battery on a Peace Officer.

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of March is (-7.045) less than the collections from one (1) year ago (the same time): Sales taxes overall is 10.44% higher than the budgeted amount for the first 9 months of the fiscal year. The collected amount is based on five (5%) of \$7,793,934 retail sales in Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '23	464,658.68	36.09
Aug '23	596,217.70	37.60
Sep '23	464,184.72	-5.86
Oct '23	543,597.76	19.73
Nov '23	499,693.71	9.32
Dec '23	435,504.94	-4.73
Jan '24	477,017.05	11.45
Feb '24	438,490.54	4.75
Mar '24	389,696.68	-12.42
Apr '24	0	0.00
May '24	0	0.00
Jun '24	0	0.00
Totals	4,309,061.78	10.44

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).

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.

MENU:

(December 25th - December 29th)

Monday ~ Frito Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Chips, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chicken & Noodles, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Enchiladas, Rice, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Pinto Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Spinach, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Salmon Patty, Blackeyed Peas, Cabbage, Cornbread, 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.

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.

SPRING BREAK

The Blanchard Public School District will be on Spring Break beginning **Monday, March 18th** thru **Friday, March 22nd**. NO class for students.



We're on the Web!

www.cityofblanchard.us

ST PATTY'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) "madness and mayhem."



St Patty's Parade

The 13th annual Saint Patrick's Day parade will be held on Saturday, **March 16th** beginning at **4:30pm** with activities starting at 3:30pm with the Celtic dancers and music on Main Street.

Over fourteen (14) entries to date to include car clubs, jeeps and businesses.

A food truck on Main Street will be available serving corn dogs, funnel cakes, fries and drinks.



Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of March is more than 56.40% higher than the same time last year (March 2023). The collection amount is based on five (5%) of \$2,890,845 retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '23	140,366.68	39.16
Aug '23	132,514.92	40.90
Sep '23	161,802.84	17.66
Oct '23	168,818.86	41.14
Nov '23	159,179.60	54.86
Dec '23	146,458.17	1.22
Jan '24	229,082.13	39.36
Feb '24	255,360.29	44.58
Mar '24	144,542.27	56.40
Apr '24	0	0.00
May '24	0	0.00
Jun '24	0	0.00
Totals	1,540,106.47	35.70

Vernal Equinox

Spring will begin on **Tuesday, March 19th** at **10:06p.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.



Water Improvements

City crews are making two (2) vital water improvements to our system:



1. In coordination with Wee Construction, we are remodeling the pump station with new plumbing and booster pumps to provide higher pressure and volume during peak seasons during the summertime.



2. Updated and replaced the City's meter with OKC at the Point of Entry.