



# E-Mail Newsletter

19 April 2024

Volume 143, Number 3

## Meeting Dates

### APRIL

22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Tourism Special

25<sup>th</sup> ~ Planning Comm

\*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

## 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 the Animal Control Officer.

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## Arbor Day

Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Arbor Day sprouted from the mind of a zealous tree lover named Julius Sterling Morton. A popular tradition is to plant a tree in honor or memory of a loved one.

# Special Events

## APRIL

- 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Earth Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Passover Begins
- 24<sup>th</sup> ~ Administrative Professionals Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> ~ US Submarine Force Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Arbor Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Bark in the Park
- Animal Cruelty Prevention Month
- Earth Month
- Fair Housing Month

Learn some interesting facts about this day, and learn about the power of trees, which support our well-being!

## Bark in the Park 2024

Blanchard's Annual  
**Bark In The Park**  
**DOG SHOW**

APRIL 27 2024  
Lions Park  
10 AM - 2 PM

Micro Chipping  
Dog Trainer  
Vaccines

Best in Show  
Smallest Dog  
Largest Dog  
Lightest Dog  
Best Costume

Food Trucks  
Inflatable Fun

Blanchard Animal Welfare Adoptions

FRIENDS OF THE SHELTER FOUNDATION

Free Dog Tags  
Pioneer LIBRARY SYSTEM

Dr. Howard DMV Low Cost Vaccine Clinic

APRIL 27  
10 AM

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>

## Carly's Kids Corner

Hey kids! This site is loaded with awesome games and activities that help you learn more about trees and why they're so important to our world.

There are plenty of fun and educational resources to keep the kiddo's busy while school is prematurely out. Please visit <https://www.arborday.org/kids/>.

# 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.

## CDBG Application

The City made application today to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for a matching CDBG grant. If funded, the grant will allow the City to fund Phase 2 for the waterline replacement in the original town of Blanchard.

Grant recipients will be announced in July or August of this year.

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## Employment Opportunities

The City of Blanchard has the following positions open:

- 3 ~ Police Officers;
- 1 ~ Water & Sewer Utilities Technician;
- 1 ~ Sanitation Worker (Transfer Center);
- 1 ~ Heavy Equipment Operator;
- 3 ~ Seasonal Street Workers;
- 4 ~ Line Install Crew;
- 1 ~ City Planner;

Applications available for download from the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us). Return to the HR Director at [payroll@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:payroll@cityofblanchard.us) or drop off at City Hall, 2008 N. Council Avenue. The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## 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 city clerk.

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# 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

# Farmers' Market

The annual Blanchard Farmers' Market is opened every Saturday beginning at 8am thru September

The Market is located at the same location on US-62 across from Ten Arrows Coffee and Bistro.



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# Graduation

CONGRATULATION to the 2024 BHS Seniors! Graduation will be **Monday, May 13th**. Ceremonies begin at 7 p.m. at the Blanchard Football Stadium.

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# Holiday Observance

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Memorial Day. If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911.

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

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# 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;



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.

o 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.

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## May Daze Festival



31st Annual  
**MAY DAZE**  
May 17th & 18th  
10 am-8pm  
Main Street - Blanchard

Sponsored By: **FESTIVAL**  
Blanchard Chamber of Commerce

Live Music  
100+ Vendors  
Food Trucks & Vendors  
KID'S ACTIVITIES

SERVING OKLAHOMA  
CHEVROLET  
KNIPPELMIER  
BLANCHARD  
OKLAHOMA  
405-435-3333  
SINCE 1959

For more information, call the Blanchard Chamber Office at 405.485.8787.

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## Mother's Day

**Sunday, May 12th** will be Mother's Day. Although the custom of setting aside a day to honor mothers has ancient roots, our observance of Mother's Day originated in 1907 with the efforts of a devoted daughter, Anna M. Jarvis of Philadelphia, who conceived the idea of an annual nationwide celebration.

The public and the press quickly embraced the idea, and villages, towns, cities, and states soon began unofficial Mother's Day observances. On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May Mother's Day, and within a few

We're on the Web!  
Please visit us at  
[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

years, the idea gained worldwide prominence. The day is now characterized by gift giving, sending greeting cards and flowers, and giving mother a "day off" by taking the family out to eat. In the United States, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May.

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## *Oil 'n Gas*

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**.

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## *On The Planning Comm Agenda*

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold their April meeting on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

- **Open, conduct, and close Public Hearing to receive public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by:  
Applicant: Abraham Aviles and Hanna Holsapple Aviles  
Current Zoning: R-E Residential Estates District  
Proposed Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District  
Address: SE Corner of Laura Meadows Dr. and Veterans Memorial Hwy**
- **Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution No. 2024-14, recommending approval or denial to the City Council of an ordinance amending the zoning district from Residential Estates (R-E) to Agricultural (A-1) on a tract of approximately 5 acres located at the Southeast Corner of Laura Meadows Dr. and Veterans Memorial Highway, within the Southwest Quarter of Section 36-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, Oklahoma.**
- **Open, conduct, and close Public Hearing to receive public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by:  
Applicant: Sunshine Development of Indian Ridge  
Current Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District  
Proposed Zoning: R-1 Single-Family Residential District**

**Address: Vicinity of 3730 W. Veterans Memorial Hwy**

- **Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or amendments on Resolution No. 2024-15, recommending approval or denial to the City Council of an ordinance amending the zoning district from Agricultural (A-1) to *Single-Family Residential (R-1)* approximately 0.79 acres located within the West Half of Section 35-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, Oklahoma.**

- **Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or lot split application submitted by:**

**Applicant: John Wehling**

**Address: N. Hilltop Ln.**

**Original Tract: Two (2) original tracts: 2.863 and 5.83 acres, respectively**

**Proposed Tracts: 3-tracts: 1.05, 2.373 and 5.27 acres**

- **Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or lot split application submitted by:**

**Applicant: Alliance Property Group**

**Address: 268 NE 70<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Original Tract: One (1) original tract: 8.48 acres**

**Proposed Tracts: 3-tracts: 2.5 acres, 2.5 acres, and 3.48 acres**

- **Discussion, consideration, possible action and/or lot split application submitted by:**

**Applicant: Richard Hamilton**

**Address: Between Hilltop Ln. and Harryman Rd.**

**Original Tract: One (1) original tract: 11.00 acres**

**Proposed Tracts: 3-tracts: 1.5 acres, 4.5 acres, and 5.0 acres**

- **Discussion and consideration on a potential ordinance amending the bulk requirements, including, but not limited to the setback restrictions, as established in Article Seven (7) of Chapter Twenty-One (21) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma.**

- **Consent Agenda.**

# *On the Tourism Agenda*

The Tourism Board will hold their April meeting on Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

- Discussion and vote on a motion re: ordering a tablecloth with logo or a banner with logo or both.
- Discussion and vote on a motion to request funds for giveaways at special events.
- Discussion and vote on a motion promoting the Veteran's Memorial and the Memorial Dedication in May 2024.
- Discussion and consideration for plans to consider advertising and promoting Blanchard at the 2024 OML Annual Conference, September 10-12, Tulsa and other local, regional, and state events.
- Consent Agenda.

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## *Park Events*

**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

**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

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## *Police Blotter*

**NO ARRESTS REPORTED.**

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## *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**

**Monday** ~ Chef's Salad, Fruit, Crackers, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Tetrzzini, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Pinto Beans, Potatoes, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Ribbett, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Bun, Dessert.

The Senior Nutrition **MENU** for the week of **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** thru **April 26<sup>th</sup>** is published in the Thursday edition of the Blanchard News on **April 18<sup>th</sup>**.

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, please call (405) 485-9260.

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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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## *SWODA Transportation Chat*

Blanchard will host the monthly Southwestern Oklahoma Transportation Chat Group on **Monday, May 6, 2024**, at 10:00 a.m., Old City Hall, 114 West Broadway.

The group will be talking with the community about transportation needs, concerns and strategies for improvements. This chat is important because it brings the community together to discuss and focus on transportation solutions that work for everyone. Thus ensuring that the solutions are efficient and consider the needs of citizens, businesses, agencies, and transit agencies.

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## *Tornado Safety*

In Oklahoma, tornadoes are frequent in the spring and summer months. An average of 800 tornadoes are reported each year, causing 80 deaths and over 1,500 injuries per year. These storms are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 250 mph or greater. The following guidelines will assist in keeping you safe:

**Tornado Watch** - means a tornado is "possible". When the National Weather Service issues a warning, it is time to turn on a TV or radio, look out the window from time to time, and be more alert to what is happening outside.

**Tornado Warning** - means that a tornado has actually been spotted, or is strongly indicated on radar, and it is time to go to a safe shelter immediately.

**Warning Signs** - A sickly greenish or greenish black color to the sky.

» If there is a tornado warning or watch posted, then the fall of hail should be considered as a real danger.

» A strange quiet that occurs within or shortly after the thunderstorm.

» Clouds moving by very fast, especially in a rotating pattern or converging toward one area of the sky.

» A sound a little like a waterfall or rushing air at first, then turning into a roar as it comes closer.

» Tornadoes usually move from southwest to northeast.

**Safety Tips** -

- Shelter indoors, away from flying debris.

- Go to your basement, storm cellar, safe room or lowest level of your home.

- Go to the most interior hallway or room without windows. Stay away from windows and doors.

- Avoid places/rooms with wide-span roofs (cafeterias, gymnasiums, shopping malls).

- Don't try to outrun a tornado in your car. It's one of the most unsafe places to be during a tornado.

- Don't seek shelter in drainage systems, culverts or ditches because of flash flooding.

- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

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## *Weatherization Assistance*

PSO offers to its customers a 'Home Weatherization Assistance Program'.

Homeowners and renters with an annual household income of \$55,000 or less in a home less than 2,200 square feet and built prior to 2010 may be eligible for FREE home upgrades such as attic insulation, air and duct sealing, and more.

PSO's service provider, Titan ES, will perform an energy assessment at your home. If your home qualifies, Titan will schedule and complete the necessary home upgrades.

The services are completed at NO cost to you. PSO pays Titan ES for any approved upgrades completed on your home.

For more information, contact the PSO Customer Services Account Representative at 405.222.7615.