

BLANCHARD E-NEWSLETTER

19 JUNE 2020

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Alert System

Sign up for the City's NEW Emergency Alert System by going to the City's website [below](http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts) at <http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts>.

Events Calendar

Saturday ~ June 20th: SUMMER SOLSTICE

Sunday ~ June 21st: FATHER'S DAY

Tuesday ~ June 30th: ELECTION

Father's Day



Like Mother's Day, Father's Day has a modern origin. The idea came to Mrs. John Dodd as she sat listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Her father, William Smart, had raised his children alone on his Washington farm after his wife died giving birth to their sixth child. Mrs. Dodd proposed to the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA that they celebrate a "father's day" on June 5, her father's birthday. The idea received strong support, but the good ministers of Spokane asked that the day be changed to give them extra time to prepare

sermons on the unexplored subject of fathers. The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910, in Spokane, Washington, and soon other towns had their own celebrations. In spite of widespread support, Father's Day did not become a permanent national holiday until 1972, when President Richard Nixon signed a law declaring that it be celebrated annually on the third Sunday in June (21st).

Independence Day

PATRIOTIC SPIRITS BLAST OFF IN BLANCHARD!



Gather up the gang and head to Blanchard. Plans are underway for the City's annual Independence Day Celebration. The annual event will once again be held at the Blanchard Crossing behind the Sonic Drive-in from 6pm to 10pm on **Thursday, July 2nd**.

Our fireworks show will be called "A Night at the Movies". Join us for a fun night of live music and outstanding

fireworks display. Vendors can apply online at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Please contact Chris Wittenbach at 485.9392, ext 105 for more information.

INVEST in America Act

The U.S. House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee last last night passed a key infrastructure bill with no major increases in truck size or weight. This is an important victory for safer roads and a sound highway infrastructure. The bill, known as the "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America Act" (INVEST in America Act), is now headed to the House floor, where a vote is expected later this month.

Meeting Calendar

June 23rd ~ Traffic Court

June 23rd ~ City Council

June 23rd ~ BMIA

On the BMIA Agenda



The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6

p.m. to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Water Pressure Problems;
2. Utility Rate Comparison;
3. Resolution accepting 55th Street NE water improvements; and
4. Consent Agenda.

The next BMIA meeting will be Tuesday, July 28th.

On the Council Agenda



The Blanchard City Council will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6 p.m. to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Open, conduct, close Public Hearing on Zoning Case from S-1 to R-E;
2. Zoning Ordinance;
3. Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance;
4. Resolution approving Cook's Farm Addition;
5. Citizen's request concerning traffic on Main Street thru Oasis Ranch;
6. Audit agreement with Angel, Johnston & Blasingame, PC;
7. Mutual Cooperation Agreements with the McClain County Board of County Commissioners;
8. Interlocal Agreement with McClain County Sheriff's Office;

9. Bid award to Precision Construction & Contracting for concrete street repairs;
10. IRC §125 changes to Flexible Spending Plan;
11. Special Event Permit for Beer Garden at the Independence Day celebration;
12. Traffic & Safety Petition for Oasis Ranch "Children at Play" signs;
13. Road Repair and Maintenance Fee increase;
14. Consent Agenda; and
15. Executive Session.

The next City Council meeting will be Tuesday, July 28th.

Poker Chip Run

The first Poker Chip Run will be held tomorrow, Saturday, June 20th.

The 119 mile ride will benefit the construction of a new Veterans Memorial in Blanchard recognizing veterans, alive or deceased.

For more information, contact Chris Wittenbach at 405.248.6521.

Police Blotter

Jail activity:

6/14 - BOYD, Suzanne arrested on Warrants.

6/15 - JONES, Daniel arrested on Warrants;

6/17 - WILKINS, Houston arrested on Domestic Violence.

Senior Nutrition

The Blanchard Senior Nutrition Center will open their doors for lunch to senior citizens as soon as possible. Future announcement is forthcoming on such date. However, on opening, precautions will stay in place and will remain until the Pandemic is declared over and all restrictions for vulnerable populations are lifted. Even after restrictions are lifted, new policies for keeping everyone healthy will be in effect. Curbside pickup and home delivery will still be provided until then.

LUNCH MENU

(June 22nd ~ 26th)

Monday ~ Chicken Noodles, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Smoke Sausage with Vegetable Mix, Blackeyed Peas, Cornbread, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Cheeseburger, Black Beans, Chips, Dessert.

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

Friday ~ Chef Salad, Fruit, Crackers, Dessert.

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested. Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

Please call 485-9260, if you would like to be considered for a home delivered meal. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day. The Center is still delivering lunches daily.

Splash Pad

The City's splash pad located at Lions Park will be closed indefinitely due to water pressure problems.

Summer Solstice



The summer solstice heralds the beginning of summer! The timing of the summer solstice depends on when the Sun reaches its farthest point north of the equator. This occurs annually sometime between June 20 and 22, depending on the time zone. This year, the event occurs on Saturday, June 20, at 4:44 p.m. C.D.T.

The word *solstice* is from the Latin *solstitium*, from *sol* (sun) and *stitium* (to stop), reflecting the fact that the Sun appears to stop at this time (and again at the winter solstice). In temperate regions, we notice that the Sun is higher in the sky throughout the day, and its rays strike Earth at a more direct angle,

causing the efficient warming we call summer. In the winter, just the opposite occurs: The Sun is at its southernmost point and is low in the sky. Its rays hit the Northern Hemisphere at an oblique angle, creating the feeble winter sunlight.

2020 Election Dates



June 30th ~
Statewide
Primary Election
August 25th ~
Primary Runoff
Election
November 3rd ~
General Election



Have you filled out your 2020 Census? It's happening now. Do your part to make sure Blanchard is counted. If you misplaced your mailer, you can still complete the questionnaire at my2020census.gov or call (800)330.2020 any time between 6a.m. and 1a.m. It's important to include everyone who was living in your house on April 1, even if they are or were only temporarily living with you. The Census is the once-in-a-decade count of every living person in

America. It counts everyone, regardless of citizenship and the government is required by law to protect your personal information.

Experts estimate each person who isn't counted in the census costs our community about \$1,675 in local federal funding per person every year for ten (10) years. This means if only half of the citizens of Blanchard responded, then we stand to lose \$64,236,250 over the 10 year period. Please visit my.2020census.gov.

Water Problems

The City of Blanchard is buying water from the City of Newcastle needed to stabilize the pressure until minor repairs are made to the existing system. In the meantime, alternatives for a secondary source of water are being considered and explored.

The City implemented a mandatory odd/even outside watering schedule until further notice.

OKC requires Blanchard to follow an odd/even outdoor watering restriction as part of our agreement in purchasing water from the City of Oklahoma City.

Welcome!

A hearty welcome to the new superintendent of Blanchard Schools! Mr.

Brady Barnes was selected to head the Blanchard Schools replacing the former superintendent who retires June 30th. Welcome to Blanchard to Superintendent Barnes, wife Cara and family.

