



## *After Hours*

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, sewer backups, low-water pressure, no water, etc.) please call 405.485.9391. The City's Central Dispatch is manned 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

## *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>.

## *Annual Fall Bazaar*

The women of the First United Methodist Church of Blanchard are pleased to announce their 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Bazaar to be held on **Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

There will be all kinds of goodies to shop for ranging from homemade items, gift items, clothing, jewelry, accessories, and homemade baked goods and more. Lunch will be provided for \$5. The Bazaar will run from **9am to 4pm**.

Please call the FUMC at 485-3579 or the Bazaar Chairwoman Patsy Wehrer at 405-823-4396 for more information.

## *Autumnal Equinox*

Fall begins **Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **8:31p.m.**



**CST.** The Autumnal Equinox is defined as the point at which the

Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from north to south. The celestial equator is the circle in the celestial sphere halfway between the celestial poles. Another definition of fall is nites of below-freezing temperatures combined with day of temperatures below 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The word equinox means "equal nite"; nite and day are the same length of time. The equinoxes are times when the Sun's apparent motion undergoes the most rapid change. Around the time of the equinoxes, variations in the position on the horizon when the Sun rises and sets can be noticed from one day to the next by alert observers.

## Citizen Collection Center

The Center is operating under new hours as follows:

- Sunday CLOSED
- Monday ~ 3pm to 7pm
- Tuesday ~ 8am to 10am  
3pm to 7pm
- Wednesday ~ 3pm to 7pm
- Thursday ~ 8am to 10am  
3pm to 7pm
- Friday ~ 3pm to 7pm
- Saturday ~ 7am to 12Noon

These temporary hours will remain in effect until **November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please visit the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us) to see what is accepted and what is not.

## Code Enforcement

Help beautify Blanchard! The City of Blanchard issues citations that are heard in Municipal Court monthly for violations of any of the following:

- \* Trash and/or debris on your property.
- \* Tall weeds or grass (including edging along the street and sidewalk).
- \* Inoperable and/or junk vehicles.
- \* Trailers and autos in alleyways.
- \* Tree limbs over hanging the street with less than 8 foot clearance.
- \* Failure to trim trees, grass and weeds in alleys.

- \* Leaving grass in the street after mowing.



The City is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

- \* Full-Time CLEET Certified Police Officer or obtain CLEET Certification within one-year of hire; must be 21 years of age or older.

- \* Full-Time Street Maintenance Laborer.  
An application can be downloaded from the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us). Please return to City Hall, 122 North Main, Blanchard, OK 73010 or mail to City Hall, P.O. Box 480, Blanchard, OK 73010.

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## Fire Prevention Week



NFPA announces "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" as theme for Fire Prevention Week 2020,

October 4-10, as cooking remains the leading cause of home fires!

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 95 years, has announced "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2020. NFPA's focus on cooking fire safety comes in response to home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires.

"Cooking continues to be a major contributor to the home fire problem," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "The good news is that the vast majority of these fires are highly preventable. This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign works to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist and basic but critical ways to prevent them."

Carli notes that this year's focus on cooking safety is particularly timely. "As the public may continue to avoid restaurants for some time and opt instead to do more cooking and entertaining at home, the potential for home cooking fires will likely increase as well."

Key messages around this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" will include the following:

- Keep a close eye on what you're cooking; never leave cooking unattended
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — at least three feet away from your stovetop.
- Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen," along with a wealth of resources to help promote the campaign locally, visit [fpw.org](http://fpw.org).

## *Golf Tournament*

The Blanchard Chamber of Commerce's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be held on **Friday, October 2, 2020** at Winter Creek Golf & Country Club.

For more information contact the Blanchard Chamber at 485-8787 or email at [chamber@blanchardchamber.com](mailto:chamber@blanchardchamber.com).

## *Hazardous Waste*

Plans are underway for the approval by the BMIA Board of Trustees to schedule a Hazardous Waste Collection event and

E-Waste Collection event during October. Details have been worked out with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and will be presented to the Trust on September 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Board's formal approval.

Items that will be accepted will include tires, batteries, oil, paints, old electronics, etc.

After the Authority's approval, final information will be sent to all citizens in the October utility billing.

## Health Testing

The Health Department located on North Main Street in Blanchard provides COVID testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 10am and every other Fridays.

## Hotel-Motel Tax

A question for or against a proposed hotel-motel tax for Blanchard will be on the General Election on **Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

### HOW IS THIS TAX DIFFERENT FROM THE CITY AND COUNTY TAXES?

It is very similar to sales and use taxes already being paid for other goods and services with the exception of the exemptions outlined above. Some establishments exempt from sales and use taxes may be required to pay the lodging tax.

### WHEN WILL THIS TAX START?

If approved on the upcoming ballot, collections will begin on January 1, 2021, at Midnite.

The City is recruiting hotels and motels to locate in Blanchard. Part of the pro forma calculations is the amount of lodging tax charged in a community. This determines the feasibility of a hotel-motel, rates and the number of rooms.

## Meeting Calendar

September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Traffic Court

September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ City Council

September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ BMIA

## Mufflers On Main



The City's annual car and truck

show will be held on **Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>** from **10am to 2pm**, on Main Street. There will be live music and food vendors. Some of the best classic cars & trucks in the area, with over 40 trophies awarded and \$500 awarded to the Grand Champion, Join as we take a look into the past and the future!

For more information, contact Chris Wittenbach at 485-9392 or [parks@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:parks@cityofblanchard.us).

## *On the BMIA Agenda*

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, 22 September to discuss, consider and take appropriate action of the following agenda items:

- \* Approval of a Hazardous Waste Collection Event;
- \* Creation of Joint Public Trust for municipal utilities with other communities;
- \* Acknowledgement of the receipt of a Construction Permit for water improvements to serve Oasis Ranch Addition Section 4;
- \* Acknowledgement of the receipt of a Construction Permit for sewer improvements to serve Oasis Ranch Addition Section 4; and
- \* Approval of the Consent Agenda.

You can access the complete Agenda with backup on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## *On the Council Agenda*

The City Council will meet in regular session on Tuesday, 22 September to

discuss, consider and take appropriate action of the following agenda items:

- \* Open, conduct and close Public Hearing on the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny a Conditional Use Permit application filed for a Medical Marijuana Growing Facility (Home Occupation);
- \* Adopting a Resolution denying said Conditional Use Permit application;
- \* Open, conduct and close Public Hearing on the Planning Commission's recommendation to reclassify property from A-1 District to C-5 District;
- \* Adopting a Zoning Ordinance approving said reclassification;
- \* Adopting an Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance;
- \* Open, conduct and close Public Hearing on the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a Conditional Use Permit Application for wrecker service impound yard;
- \* Adopting a Resolution approving Conditional Use Permit;
- \* Adopting a Resolution programming federal funds for the improvements to NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street 1-mile from US62 to OK76;
- \* Adopting a Resolution programming federal/city funds for phase 1 for the replacement of regulatory signs;
- \* Accepting roofing bids and awarding a contract to Bohon Roofing of Moore for submitting the lowest and best bid;



- \* Approving five (2) Special Event Permit applications to be held in October;
- \* Adopting an Ordinance approving changes to the Oil and Gas Regulations;
- \* Adopting an Emergency Clause for the Oil and Gas Ordinance;
- \* Adopting a Resolution pertaining to CARES Act reimbursements;
- \* Adopting a Resolution approving signs and locations in Hidden Acres Addition;
- \* Approving debt write-offs from municipal court in the amount of \$2,784 due to the death of defendants;
- \* Approving Consent Agenda;
- \* Conduct an Executive Session on Economic Development and confidential communications with City Attorney on pending investigation.

You can access the complete Agenda with backup on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Permits Required

Residents may experience an increase in door-to-door sales associates. If you do encounter a solicitor at your door, they are required to have a permit from the City of Blanchard. These permits are required because they allow the City to perform background checks on applicants, which then allows the City to approve or deny the permit request. Not only are

solicitors required to carry the permit on them at all times, they are also restricted to go door-to-door from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Residents who wish to have no interaction with solicitors are asked to display "No Solicitation Allowed" or "No Peddlers Allowed" sign that can be easily visible. If you suspect that a person in your neighborhood is soliciting without a permit, please call the Blanchard Police Department at 405.485.9391.

## Police Blotter

Jail activity:

9.12 ~ PAINE, Laurie arrested on local Warrants.

9.13 ~ ADKINS, Lance arrested on local Warrants.

9.14 ~ SOUTHWORTH, Seth arrested on Possession of Stolen Property.

## Public Hearing



The Blanchard City Council will hold Public Hearings on the

Planning Commission's recommendations to:

1. Deny Conditional Use Permit (Home Occupation) for medical marijuana growing facility;

2. Approve an application to rezone property from the A-1, Agricultural District to C-5, Automotive & Commercial Recreation District; and
3. Approval of an application for "Conditional Use Permit" allowing a wrecking service business to be located at 7801 N. Council Avenue (Hwy 76 and H.E. Bailey Spur. Hearings will be held on Tuesday, **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **6:00 p.m.**

## Senior Citizens Notice

The Blanchard Senior Citizens is still cooking carryout meals daily (5-days a week less holidays).

### LUNCH MENU

(Sep 21 - Sep 25)

**Monday** ~ Chicken Dumplings, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Sausage Gravy, Potatoes, Biscuits, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Blackeyed Peas, Cabbage, Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Tuna Salad, Three Bean Salad, Jello Salad, Bread, Dessert.

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge in the City's daily nutrition program. 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.

## September Events

**22<sup>nd</sup>** ~ Fall Begins

**26<sup>th</sup>** ~ Main Street Car Show

## Shop Local

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. More of your money will be kept in the Blanchard economy: For every \$100 you spend at a locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in Blanchard. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community.\*

2. You embrace what makes Blanchard unique: 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. You create local jobs: Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.

4. You help the environment: Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. You nurture community: 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. You conserve your tax dollars: 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. You create more choice: 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 take advantage of their expertise: 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. You invested in entrepreneurship: Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon.

Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You made Blanchard a destination: The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!

*\*Source: Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.*

## Tall Grass & Weeds

The City of Blanchard is committed to maintaining clean and attractive residential neighborhoods. To help accomplish this goal, the City of Blanchard has adopted regulations concerning the abatement of tall grass, weeds and trash.

The City of Blanchard Municipal Code concerning public nuisances and property enhancement requires that owners or responsible persons of property located within the municipal city limits are prohibited from allowing debris, junk, waste or trash to accumulate, or weeds or tall grass over twelve (12") inches in height, dead trees, bushes, and shrubs to grow or stand upon the premises. This regulation is based upon the Oklahoma State Law Title 11, Section 22-111 which sets forth the procedure and definitions for the cleaning and mowing of property.



## 2020 Election



November 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ General Election



United States  
**Census  
2020**

This month is the last chance to be counted in the federal census!

Therefore, we need your help!!! The 2020 Census response rate is drastically low! To date, only 67% of Blanchard citizens have responded. Many of you may have not have replied due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Critical community services, such as the school district, police, fire and other related funding, will be drastically cut if we do not get a more accurate head count. At the current response rate, we stand to lose as much as over four million dollars annually for the next 10 years, if we do not get a more accurate census count.

However, you can still go online today to the 2020 U.S. Census. Then Click on the "RESPOND" button and simply follow the questions to complete the report electronically. The national deadline is scheduled for the end of this month

(September 30<sup>th</sup>), so please complete your census ASAP!

## Walk to School Day



Join the Celebration on October 7<sup>th</sup>! Join students, families, school

leaders, community partners and government officials around the country to celebrate the benefits of walking to school during International Walk to School Day.

## Water Restrictions

Due to our water usage, the City of Blanchard is under mandatory odd/even watering (Stage 1) is in effect until further notice as required under the contract with the City of Oklahoma City.