

# BLANCHARD E-NEWSLETTER

25 DECEMBER 2020

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## *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.

## *Carbon-monoxide Warning*

Due to the upcoming extreme cold and power outages, please be aware of the hazards of the following types of heating:

- ♦ **Never** use gas grills, propane grills, charcoal grills in a house, garage or enclosed area;
- ♦ All gas fire heaters **MUST** be vented to the outside to remove carbon monoxide from an enclosed area; and
- ♦ **Please** read and follow all manufacturer instructions for any heater.

## *Debris Removal Update*

Contracts with T.F.R. Enterprises, Inc. have been executed for the storm debris pickup from the public right-of-way. **ONLY** storm debris will be picked up, **NO** household trash, **NO** construction material, and **NO** bags of leaves.

The contractor plans to mobilize on **Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

## *Free Breakfast & Lunch*

The Blanchard Public School has announced that the USDA is allowing the school district to feed breakfast and lunch to children 1-18 years of age, for **FREE!** This will last until December 31, 2020, or until funds run out.

They are working on getting everyone's accounts credited for the meals they have charged. If your child still has a balance on their account, please continue to pay this off, as the USDA will not pay for past charges.

If you would like to receive a meal, please contact Jamie Romine, [jromine@blanchard.k12.ok.us](mailto:jromine@blanchard.k12.ok.us) or by phone 405-485-3391 ext 270, please leave a message stating how many you request to pick up.

## *Holiday Closing*



City Offices will be closed on **Friday, January 1, 2021** for observance of New Year's Day.

If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911.

If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391.

Offices will reopen on **Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**, 2021.

## *Major Disaster Declaration*

President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration approving the Oklahoma's request for disaster assistance for thirteen (13) counties related to the ice storm that began on October 26.

The declaration delivers public assistance to municipalities, counties, tribes and rural electric cooperatives for debris removal, infrastructure repairs and other costs associated with responding to the storm.

The counties included in this declaration are Caddo, Canadian, Cleveland, Dewey, Grady, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Logal, Noble, Oklahoma, Payne, Pottawatomie, and Roger Mills.

The multi-storm system produced up to two (2) inches of ice in some areas, left hundreds of thousands without power and caused millions of dollars in damages. In these 13 counties alone, the storm resulted in an estimated \$27million in debris removal and other damages.

Following the governor's disaster declaration request last month, the state has continued to document damages and

will submit a request to add sixteen (16) additional counties to the declaration. Counties that will be included in the add-on request are Alfalfa, Blaine, Comanche, Custer, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Jackson, Kay, Lincoln, Major, McClain, Pawnee, Stephens, Tillman, and Washita.

## *Meeting Calendar*

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** ~ BPS Bd of Ed

**January 14<sup>th</sup>** ~ Planning Commission

**January 19<sup>th</sup>** ~ Board of Adjustment

**January 21<sup>st</sup>** ~ Juvenile/Code Court

**January 26<sup>th</sup>** ~ Traffic Court

**January 26<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Council

**January 26<sup>th</sup>** ~ BMIA

## *New Year's Day*



In Scotland, December 31st is known as Hogmanay, the word children use to ask for their traditional present of an oatmeal cake (which is why this is also called Cake Day). The first person to cross the threshold into your home, called the first footer, is an indication of the year to come. Although the tradition varies, if the first footer is tall and dark, the year will be a good one.

To celebrate, the City allows the discharge of fireworks on New Year's Eve



(Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>) from 12 Noon to 12:30 AM on New Year's Day (Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>).

## Notice of Continuance

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission gave notice that the hearing on the administrative authorization to drill and complete the Goose 1-4, as a commercial saltwater disposal well proposed to be located in the SE/4 of the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 4-T8N-R4W, McClain County (north side of NE 55<sup>th</sup> and east of Rockwell Avenue) has been continued from January 8, 2021 to February 5, 2021 @ 8:30 a.m., Corporation Commission, Jim Thorpe Office Building, First Floor, 2101 North Lincoln Blvd, OKC, OK 73105.

## Police Blotter

Jail activity for:

12/20 ~ KEMP, Hunter arrested for Public Intox;

12/20 ~ Juvenile arrested for Curfew Violation.

## Postal Rate Increase



The 2020 First Class Package rates aren't seeing as substantial an increase, but will go up an average of 2.2 percent. First Class

International rates will increase by an average of 9.9 percent, a substantial increase compared to 3.9 percent in 2019.

## Public Comments

Each year, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation proposes changes in the administrative rules that govern hunting and fishing in Oklahoma, and this year's public comment period will continue thru January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Many proposed changes are simple housekeeping matters, but some may be more substantial. For example, new aggregate bag limits for trout have been proposed, and various changes have been proposed for hunting season dates, open hours and bag limits in wildlife management areas. For a summary, go to [www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting) and click on Rule Change Proposals 2021.

Comments may be made online at that same site. Letters can be sent to P.O. Box 53465, Oklahoma City, OK 73152. People might also choose to attend a public hearing beginning at 7:00p.m., January 7<sup>th</sup> at the John D. Groendyke Wildlife Conservation Building, 1801 N. Lincoln Blvd in OKC.

Members of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission are expected to consider proposed changes at their regular meeting set for February 1, 2021.

## Senior Nutrition

Curbside pickup and home deliveries will continue for the Blanchard Senior Citizens Center. The dining area will reopen with a limited occupancy of twelve (12), so RESERVATIONS ONLY.

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 or RESERVATION. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day. The Center is still delivering lunches daily.

## Special Events

1/01<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Day (Closed)

1/18<sup>th</sup> ~ Martin Luther King Day

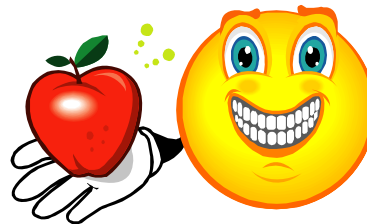
## Ways to Shop Local



- \* Connect with local owners and let them know that you support them!
- \* Buy a local gift card for use later!
- \* Shop online or by phone!
- \* Order take-out!
- \* Order food ahead of time (don't wait in line!)
- \* Utilize delivery options!
- \* Send online flowers or gifts!

## Winter Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be closed for the Christmas Break & New Year Holidays.



Students will be out of school from December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

