



May Daze, a springtime festival, used to be the biggest draw annually for the City of Blanchard. Blanchard Parks Director Chris Wittenbach said that changed in the last few years after punching up their Independence Day celebration. "Our Fourth of July this last year drew close to 10,000+," Wittenbach said. "I've been doing this job for 10 years, and I take great pride in that. When I started, we didn't even do a Fourth of July. One of the first tasks they gave me was to see if we could get citizens to come out and participate."

Wittenbach said the city's Independence Day celebration used to be rather lackluster.

"Now, we have live bands, and people come out with their lawn chairs and hang out for five or six hours. We have the Oklahoma City symphonic band that comes and plays a patriotic concert. We also have the military involved with firing of cannons, a 21-gun salute, and it's become a very cool Fourth of July celebration."

Wittenbach said the reason why the city was able to drive interest in the new favorite festival was because the City of Blanchard "increased our fireworks display, improved our ability to draw musical acts, but most importantly, we moved the date from July 4 to July 2nd. That way we're not competing with Moore and Norman, and Oklahoma City. So, people can come and enjoy our Fourth of July celebration and then go see the bigger cities do their shows."

With a population estimate of 9,187 and a 9.22% annual growth rate, the City of Blanchard is expanding rapidly. The City of Blanchard's median household income of \$70,000 combined with other quality of life attributes help boast Blanchard as the #1 safest city and 33rd ranked school district in the state (onlyyourstate.com). As part of the greater Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area, Blanchard enjoys the benefits from urban growth while also maintaining the small town charm that we've enjoyed since 1907.

While Blanchard is still listed as a small city, new Businesses are moving in. Taco Bell, the Shops at Blanchard Town Square, O'Reilly's Auto Parts, and Big B's Bottle have all recently opened, with many more businesses on the way. The Blanchard Parks & Recreation Department invites you to join them for any of their 35 events held throughout the year. There is never a reason to have to leave town to have great family fun. From a laid back summer concert in the park, a Bluegrass Festival to the OKC Symphonic band playing the Stars & Stripes as fireworks light up the sky, this city enjoys all genres of music. If its parades you like, then you're in luck. The Parks Dept hosts four parades each year:

- St. Patrick's Day
- Homecoming
- One of the state's larger Veterans Day parades
- Lighted Christmas parade.

If you like the big screen, then catch a movie under the stars, grab a bite from some awesome food trucks as you enjoy other events like Mufflers on Main Car & Truck show, Pumpkinfest and Christmas on Main.

With over 35 events held throughout the year, "You can find something you and your family can enjoy," said Parks Director Chris Wittenbach. "We are very fortunate to have such a supportive council and administration to work with, and would not be able to do all that we do without all of our donors, sponsors and volunteers."

For 2020, the City of Blanchard is currently developing a 40-acre park with new walking trails, a fishing pond, and equestrian/mountain bike trails, along with pavilions and facilities. So come on over to Blanchard some weekend where we will treat you like family.

2020 Events

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday March 14th

Cinco de Mayo

May 5th (Main Street)

Pop Up Parties

March – October *(18 events)

May Daze

May Friday 22nd & Sunday 24th

Movies under the stars

Friday's June 5th -12th -19th – 26th

Concerts in the Park

Friday's June 5th -12th -19th – 26th

Independence Day Celebration

Thursday July 2nd

Blanchard's Bluegrass Festival

August 21st & 22nd Friday & Saturday

Mufflers on Main

Saturday September 26th

PUMPKINFEST

Thursday October 31st

Veterans Day Parade

Saturday November 7th

Christmas Parade of Lights

Saturday December 12th

