

Recreation Office:
388-7170
Donal Snyder Sr.
Community Center:
436-5191
Dr. Frank G. Gruich
Community Center:
374-2853
Acting Director
of Parks & Recreation:
Sherry Bell
Recreation Specialist:
Gwen Johnson

Mayor A.J. Holloway
and the Biloxi City Council
George Lawrence
William "Bill" Stallworth
Lucy Denton
Clark Griffith
Tom Wall
Edward "Ed" Gemmill
David Fayard

Recipe of the Month

Easy Sugar Cookies

Ingredients (4 dozen) :

- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour • 1 teaspoon baking soda • 1/2 teaspoon baking powder • 1 cup butter, softened • 1 1/2 cups white sugar • 1 egg • 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/easy-sugar-cookies/detail.aspx>

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). In a small bowl, stir together flour, baking soda, and baking powder. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in egg and vanilla. Gradually blend in the dry ingredients. Roll rounded teaspoonfuls of dough into balls, and place onto ungreased cookie sheets.
3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven, or until golden. Let stand on cookie sheet two minutes before removing to cool on wire racks.

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Top of the Hill

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF BILOXI

Parks & Recreation Department

biloxi.ms.us/pr

December 2011

Happy Birthday to all Seniors
in the month of December!



December Dates to Celebrate and Remember!

December 1st World AIDS Day
December 4th National Cookie Day
December 7th Pearl Harbor
. Remembrance Day
December 9th . Christmas Card Day
December 12th Poinsettia Day
December 20th - 28th . . Hanukkah
December 22st Winter Begins
December 24th Christmas Eve
December 25th Christmas Day
December 26th - January 1st
. Kwanzaa
December 31st New Year's Eve

December Trivia

- Which of these companies was first to use Santa Clause in an advertisement?
- Which country did the gingerbread house come from?
- What kind of Christmas does Elvis Presley sing about?
- In what year was "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens, published?
- What is the name of the Grinch's dog in the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"?

May your Christmas be wonderful
Right from the start,
May a happy year follow it, too,
These are the wishes
That comes from the heart
In this greeting especially for you.
Happy Holidays to all!!!!

December is Gift - Giving Month

Even though the roots of the Christmas presents to ancient times, the gift giving tradition we are familiar with today owes perhaps the most to Victorians, who brought a renewed warmth and spirit to Christmas after it had experienced a long period of decline, made the idea of family part of the celebration. Friendliness and charity filled many hearts during their Christmas season, so giving gifts was natural. The ultimate reason for giving a gift was as an expression of kindness, a sentiment that went nicely with the historical tradition of the holiday.

The Meaning of Christmas Tree Ornaments

The allegoric colors of Christmas are red and green. Red symbolizes the Savior's sacrifices for mankind. Green is the color of the pine tree. And other evergreen such as holly, Pine trees, with their needles pointing up to heaven, represents everlasting light and life.

*The Star: The star represents the star followed by 3 Wise men. It symbolizes the announcement of Jesus birth the shining hope of mankind.

*The Bells: Bells both call us to worship, and remind us of the joyous angelic announcement of Christ's birth to the shepherds.

*The Candy Cane: It is the symbol of the humble roots of Christianity, the shepherd's crook. The hardness of the candy cane reminds Christians that the church was founded on solid rock. The traditional peppermint flavor of the cane is tastes like hyssop, a plant in the mint family.

*Candles: The Christians, lit candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world, the light we should follow.

*Wreaths: The Christmas wreath reminds us of the never ending love of god. Christmas wreaths are traditionally circles made with evergreens, which symbolize life.

*Christmas Stockings: According to an old tale, three poor girls who were in dire need of money for their wedding dowries had hung their stockings by the fire to dry. Saint Nicholas- the first Santa Claus- upon finding out about their need, left a gift of gold coins in their stockings.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

"CHRISTMAS IS LOVE IN ACTION. EVERY TIME WE LOVE, EVERY TIME WE GIVE,
IT'S CHRISTMAS."
- DALE EVANS

Parks and Recreation Department
P.O. Box 775
Biloxi, MS 39533



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Movie & Snack!

All movies will start at 1:30p.m. (All movies are rated PG or PG-13; however there maybe some obscenities. (All movies are subject to change.)

December 1st
MAIN STREET
Starring Ellen Burstyn,
Colin Firth, Orlando
Bloom

December 15th
CHRISTMAS WITH A
CAPITAL C
Starring Nancy Stafford
and Ron Holmstrom

December 22nd
THE PERFECT GIFT
Starring Ruben Studdard
and Golden Brooks

December 29th
MONTE CARLO
Starring Selena Gomez,
Leighton Meester, Katie
Cussidy

Newsletter Volunteers
Need to help fold, tape
and label the Top of the
Hill Newsletter. Please
contact Gwen Johnson to
see when the newsletter
will be ready for folding.

Gwen Johnson
Recreation Specialist
2520 Pass Road
Biloxi, MS 39531
(228) 435-6148 Ext #12
gjohnson@biloxi.ms.us

Relax this Holiday Season!!!

Bring high spirits and good health with you wherever you go this holiday season. Keep up with exercise, make smart food choices, and plan a few fun events with loved ones. If you feel overbooked, loosen up your schedule so you can enjoy old-fashioned pleasures: go for a walk to view holiday decorations, or just curl up by a fire and listen to soothing music.

Christmas Holiday Senior Luncheon

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 11:00a.m. Dr. Frank G. Gruich Community Center. Sponsored by the City of Biloxi, Guest speakers will be Director of City of Biloxi Departments

*Mayor A. J. Holloway
* David Staehling - Director of Administration
* Richard Sullivan - Director of Public Works
*Jerry Creel - Director of Community Development
*Cheryl Bell - Acting Director of Parks & Recreation
*John Miller - Director of Public Safety
*David Roberts - Director of Fire Department
(Bring your favored Dessert and share with us at this Annual Christmas Luncheon.)

To reserve a seat, please RSVP before December 9, 2011.
(Please RSVP to the Receptionist at the Donal Snyder Community Center (228) 436-5191.) (RSVP will be limited)

December Classes and Happenings

Stretch & Strengthen Class: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2p.m. at the Donal Snyder Community Center; Tuesday, 10a.m. at the Dr. Frank G. Gruich Community Center. Class promotes joint flexibility, endurance, muscle strength, coordination and increase range of motion. Class is co-sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation (Take Control. We can Help.)
Stretch & Strengthen Class will be canceled on the following dates, Friday, December 23rd, Monday, December 26th and Friday, December 30th holiday City of Biloxi closed.

Tai Chi: Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10a.m. Tai Chi is a form of exercise for health and relaxation which originates from Ancient China. Gentle flowing movement is combined with deep breathing exercise in order to cultivate the inner energy of the body. Daily practice of Tai Chi promotes mental clarity, a healthy body, assistance with balance and helps the circulation of the blood.

Walking 55+ Program: Walking can help enhance the energy supply, decrease risk of injury, increase muscle conditioning and body shaping, reduce stress, improve sleep and eating habits, and helps you to lose weight and maintain current weight. Walking is the one exercise that almost anyone can do, regardless of age or level of physical fitness.

On cold days, dress in layers so you can shed one or more layers as you warm up while walking. Walk at whatever time is best for you, but keep up your walking program now that the time has changed. Always choose a safe, pleasant place to walk. Remember to stretch and wear a good walking shoe.

Bingo: Monday, December 5th 10a.m. Dr. Frank G. Gruich Community Center.

Bonco: Monday, December 12th at 10a.m. at Dr. Frank G. Gruich Community Center.

Upcoming Activities & Events:

*Please take time to update your mailing information at the front desk at the Donal Snyder Community Center if your mailing address has changed in the past six (6) months. To receive the "Top of The Hill Newsletter" you must update your information. You may fill out a form at the Donal Snyder Community Center front desk or email to gjohnson@biloxi.ms.us and mail to P.O. Box 775 Biloxi, Ms. 39533, please print your First and Last Name, Mailing Address, Zip Code.

*All classes and programs are subject to change and changes will be posted at the City of Biloxi's Community Centers. Prior notice will be given if possible.

Please call (228) 435-6148 ext#12 to sign up for classes. For information about senior programming contact Gwen Johnson

Calendar of Events - December 2011

Happy Holidays



SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSCC - Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center FGCC - Dr. Frank G. Gruich Community Center <small>(Classes that are not labeled either DSCC or FGCC will be held at the regular Donal Snyder location.) All classes & programs are subject to change & changes will be posted at the City of Biloxi's Community Centers. Prior notice will be given if possible.</small>			1 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC Movie & Snack - 1:30 p.m. World AIDS Day	2 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC	3
4 National Cookie Day	5 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Bingo - 10 a.m. FGCC	6 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC	7 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Pearl Harbor	8 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC Movie & Snack - 1:30 p.m.	9 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Christmas Card Day	10
11	12 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Bonco - 10 a.m. FGCC Poinsettia Day	13 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC	14 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Christmas Holiday Senior Luncheon - 11 a.m. FGCC	15 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC Movie & Snack - 1:30 p.m.	16 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC	17
18	19 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC	20 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC First Night of Hanukkah	21 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC	22 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC Movie & Snack - 1:30 p.m. Winter Begins	23 NO CLASS CITY HOLIDAY	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas	26 First Day of Kwanzaa NO CLASS CITY HOLIDAY	27 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC	28 Stretch & Strengthen Class - 2 p.m. DSCC Last Night of Hanukkah	29 Tai Chi - 10 a.m. DSCC Movie & Snack - 1:30 p.m.	30 NO CLASS CITY HOLIDAY	31 New Year's Eve

Answers to Trivia: • Coca-Cola
• Germany • Blue • 1843 • Max