



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD™

Mississippi Gulf Coast Area Command

William Booth, *Founder*
André Cox, *General*
Donald Bell, *Territorial Commander*
Major Steve Morris, *Divisional Commander*
Major Gary Sturdivant, *Area Commander*
Major Beth Sturdivant, *Associate Area Commander*

Office of The Mayor
P O Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich,

Thank you for your leadership to the City of Biloxi. It looks like great things are happening since you have been given the mantle to lead us...

I've had conversation with Gerald Blessey to let him know The Salvation Army has an interest in the property south of The Salvation Army Kroc Center that is being used by Oscar Renda for staging purposes. We were unclear as to who owned that piece of property when we swapped property with the school system right before Hurricane Katrina. We received a code enforcement violation from the City of Biloxi last year and there was always discussion since I arrived here three years ago about who owned the property. Gerald Blessey explained to me that a Title Search revealed it belong to the City of Biloxi.

The Salvation Army Kroc Center has been a huge success in East Biloxi. We still hear it from time to time about the Center not being free to the children in the community. We have several programs that are free and we also offer scholarships to families who cannot afford the amenities that this wonderful Center offers to the community. We were hoping we could acquire this property south of us and build a gymnasium for children and adults to play basketball at no charge but during the months of November and December we would use it as our Salvation Army "Angel Tree" warehouse to help low income families across the county with toys and food. City Councilman Felix Gines and I have had conversations about this wonderful opportunity to the residents of East Biloxi.

We have an empty lot at 379 Howard Avenue behind the Ohr O'Keefe Museum where The Salvation Army was located for over 100 years before the storm that we would be willing to talk with the City of Biloxi as a possible swap.

Thank you and Your Team so much for ALL you do for us in the City of Biloxi...

Sincerely,

Major Gary Sturdivant
Area Commander/Sr Kroc Officer
The Salvation Army Mississippi Gulf Coast

cc: City Attorney Gerald Blessey
cc: City Councilman Felix Gines