

Storm season may see above-average number of storms

The early predictions are in: A total of 14 named storms, seven hurricanes with three major hurricanes expected for the 2018 hurricane season, but Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich reminds Biloxians of an important fact: It only takes one.

The 2018 predictions, made annually by Colorado State University Tropical Meteorology Project, are slightly above the 30-year average of 12 named storms, and follow up on last year’s disastrous hurricane season that included storms such as Harvey, Irma and Maria. One storm, Hurricane Nate,

Inside: How to prepare, Pages 9-11

Online: Storm & Flood info at biloxi.ms.us

actually struck Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through Nov. 30. Historically, August has been the prime month for hurricanes, including Katrina in 2005 and Camille in 1969.

“For all of the predictions that we see every year, and for all of the real-time information supplied by the Hurricane Hunters, we must

remember that hurricane forecasting is not an exact science,” said Gilich who was born a month after the Hurricane of ‘47. “We are asking our residents to prepare not only for storms but for the everyday risk they face from flooding.

“There are plans that you can make now and steps that you can take now so that you protect your family, your business and your home.”

Among the most important steps: Have a hurricane kit with emergency supplies and have a plan for what you or your family will do if a storm threatens.

Oscar Renda: Dry weather has meant good progress

Oscar Renda Contracting, the firm overseeing the 55 miles of infrastructure work in east Biloxi north of the CSX railway, is aiming to have Division Street paved from one end to the other in October.

Superintendent John Cowart made the announcement after noting weather and additional workers have helped the project move forward.

“This time last year, east Biloxi endured record-setting amounts of rainfall, which causes two- and three-days of catch up,” Cowart said.

“We have more than 20 crews out there – more than 185 workers – on this job every day and we’re working as quickly as we can.”

Work on parts of Division Street, which have been delayed by nine months until a gas line could be relocated, is now moving forward. In fact, Cowart said that by the end of June new sewer lines, as deep as 30 feet in some areas, will be installed and operational.

Also by the end of June, Cowart said, new water should be active across the entire project. Pressure testing and chlorinating is currently underway in the Circle Park area. Initial coats of asphalt also are expected to be applied on Couevas between Percy and Division; on Anglada, Fayard and Reynoir south of Division, Hill Street and Lee Street from Suarez to Back Bay.



With newly planted seed in the background, Hemphill construction workers replace a concrete driveway that had been in the path of the new waterline.

Hemphill: The challenging part is yet to come

Motorists along U.S. 90 can see progress being made on installing a 16-inch water line along the north side of the highway, between downtown at Seashore Methodist, but Hemphill Construction says the most challenging portions of the work are yet to come.

The work is part of an 800-day, \$23 million project to see new water, sewer and drainage installed in an area from downtown Biloxi to Seashore Methodist, south of the CSX Railway.

Workers are currently installing the water line along the north side of U.S. 90, with limited lane closures, and water and sewer lines will be installed on north and south streets connecting U.S. 90 and Irish Hill Drive. In fact, water and sewer lines are already

being installed on north-south streets on the eastern end of the project, with pipes already pre-positioned along Irish Hill Drive, signaling work along that major east-west corridor.

“Am I pleased with the progress?” declared Hemphill Superintendent Tim Murrah. “I’m never pleased. You always want more, but we’re doing this job in a different way. We’re finishing as we go, which makes it better for the residents and businesses.

“We’re trying to do the most work with the least interruption.”

However, that’s going to be difficult, Murrah admits, as the project progresses.

“On Howard Avenue and Benachi, we’re going to be laying pipe that’s 20-feet deep in a limited amount of right away,” Murrah said, “We’re asking residents to just bear with us.”

The new look at Popp's Ferry Causeway Park

City contractors are applying the finishing touches to the new Popp's Ferry Causeway Park, a 12-month, multi-million-dollar project that will see the opening of a new elevated bait shop with paved parking, a waterfront boardwalk, an open-air pavilion and nature trail, covered waterfront fishing areas, and, yes, kayak rentals and launches.

It's an idea that's been 30 years in the making, and the major portions of the work, the bait shop and amenities, were made possible by Gov. Phil Bryant, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and BP funding.

"This is an outstanding project that drives home the importance and beauty of our waterfront," Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich said. "The city has had the plans for years for this 10-acre site, but we were able to turn it into reality when Gov. Bryant stepped in."

The city is now reviewing bids from prospective vendors to operate the bait shop and kayak rentals.



West Beach boardwalk taking shape

The first phase of the West Beach boardwalk is taking shape, with contractors expecting to have the 3,000-foot long, 10-foot wide beachside attraction completed in the next several weeks.

The new boardwalk, a city-county project using more than a million dollars in Tidelands funds, will run along the beachfront, connecting the Coast Transit Authority Comfort Station near Rodenberg Avenue to Veterans Avenue. The second phase of the project will run from Veterans Avenue to Camellia Street, at Treasure Bay.

"I'm excited to see this vision become a reality," Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich said. "The boardwalk will offer residents and visitors the chance to enjoy one of our most important assets, our waterfront, and we'll be creating a synergy between the restaurants and other attractions on West Beach."

The 10-foot wide composite deck walkway will be elevated, on average, about two feet above the sand beach with a few concrete ramps at the existing grade of the sand beach for crossings by county beach equipment, says Biloxi engineer Ed Ott, noting that LED lighting will be placed at the south side of the boardwalk.



The West Beach boardwalk, as seen from the CTA Comfort Station east of Rodenberg, looking west.

The project is part of the mayor's vision to have a contiguous boardwalk – extending existing concrete boardwalks in most places – along the Biloxi waterfront, wrapping around Point Cadet and northward to the Palace Casino.

Lighthouse Pier should be back in action in July

It's been months – about eight months, in fact – since Hurricane Nate heavily damaged the Lighthouse Pier, but City Engineer Christy LeBatard says the permitting process is now complete, a repair contract has been awarded, and the pier could be open in time for the Fourth of July.

In the same time frame, federally funded repairs also are expected to be made to the Coliseum pier, the Old Ice Wharf on Back Bay and the public pier at the north end of Oak Street.

"It's quite a process to make repairs to a pier, especially the Lighthouse Pier," LeBatard said. Before we could begin, we had to work to meet guidelines of FEMA and other federal agencies."

Coast contractor J.E. Borries, a firm that specializes in marine work, will perform the \$170,000 in repairs at the four public piers.

The high-profile Lighthouse site, ironically, months ago saw the completion of a project to re-design and pave the public parking area, and remove an imposing steel guard rail in favor of visually appealing concrete bollards and landscaping. Also part of the \$68,000 in improvements: installation of a new sign for the Lighthouse Pier.

The 'new' look of downtown

It's one of those things that been talked about for years: Re-opening Howard Avenue to two-way traffic and finding a way to reinvigorate downtown Biloxi, which was the pulse of Biloxi until urban renewal gave birth to the doomed Vieux Marche in the '70s.

And now the stars appear to be aligning, with a major upgrade underway for Howard Avenue and a new streetscape in the works thanks to private investment.

It's not necessarily a "new" downtown, but more of a retro.

Community Bank has leveled the old and long-vacant federal courthouse to make way for its new Biloxi presence at Howard Avenue and MLK Boulevard, a building that will have a look reminiscent of old downtown Biloxi. No word yet on when construction would begin.

The city, meantime, is digging up the old one-way Howard Avenue between Reynoir and Lameuse to create a two-lane brick-covered roadway – the retro look – that will be lined with sidewalks and parking. The 180-day, nearly \$2 million project, is expected to be completed in October 2018.

The project will complete two lane traffic for the full length of Howard Avenue by adding a west-bound lane between Lameuse and Reynoir and converting the Howard Avenue/Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to a traditional 4-way stop.

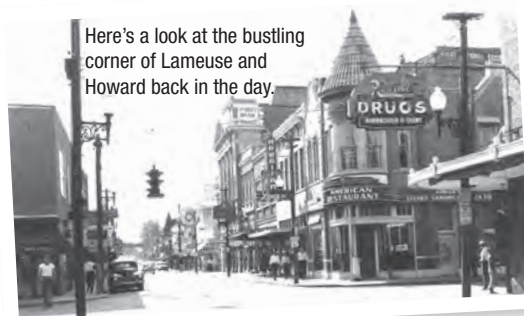
The design intent of this project, between Reynoir and Lameuse, is to closely mimic the original layout before 1970s urban renewal. Parking will be available along both sides of the street with a mixture of angled and parallel stalls. Travel lane widths will be narrower than a new roadway, which will provide an authentic downtown experience that allows for a balance of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

The street work, by the way, also will include the addition of street-side parking on Howard between Lameuse and Main, and the reconfiguration of the intersection east of Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home, making it easier for westbound motorists to venture into the downtown areas instead of being funneled onto MLK Boulevard.

And to the west end of the project, at the former Merchiston Hall site, Machado-Patano & MP Design



A parade on Howard Avenue in the 1950s. See more old photos at biloxi.ms.us/downtown



Here's a look at the bustling corner of Lameuse and Howard back in the day.



A rendering of the new Community Bank, which will face the corner of Lameuse and Howard.



The new Machado-Patano presence, at the former Merchiston Hall site, is expected to be completed in September.

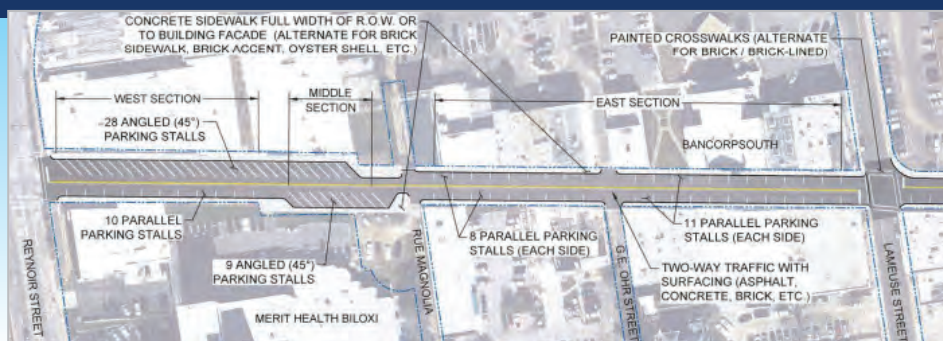
Group Engineers are transforming the long-vacant building into a two-story mixed-use showplace, with offices atop and a restaurant or retail on the ground floor. Expected completion: September 2018.

News & notes

- Edgewater Mall's new, \$8.5 million, **eight-screen digital movie theater** is expected to open in November.
- The **pedestrian overpass** at Caillavet and U.S. 90, an MDOT project is expected to be completed in December. The city, meantime, plans a **second pedestrian bridge** north of the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor.
- Serena Sablich Gilich, wife of Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich recently christened the **"Serena G.," a 33-foot fire boat** that Biloxi Fire Chief Joe Boney likens to putting a fire truck and ambulance on the water.
- The city's Parks & Recreation Department offers **swimming lessons** for infants all the way to senior citizens. For the schedule and fees, call 228-435-6205 or visit online at biloxi.ms.us.
- "Blues over Biloxi," an airshow featuring the **U.S. Navy Blue Angels**, will take place July 21-22 over the Biloxi Beach. Visit online at biloxiirshow.com for details.
- The city's **summer camp**, known officially as the Summer Playground and Enrichment Program, runs from June 4 through July 27 this year. A total of 375 campers have registered.

So will the new Howard Avenue be wide enough?

Remember, the buildings haven't moved from back in the day, so it's the same roadbed from the pre-Urban Renewal. Traffic lanes will be nine feet, slightly narrower than today's new road standards.



Keesler gate a step closer to being reality

It's official. Local, state and federal officials joined Keesler Air Force Base leaders on May 11 to formally break ground on Phase 1 of an estimated \$37 million project to locate a new main entry gate at Division Street and Forrest Avenue.

The two-and-half-year project includes an expanded and enhanced boulevard along Division from I-110 to Forrest Avenue.

The new gate will eliminate a base security concern, help alleviate traffic congestion and provide an economic development corridor for the City of Biloxi.

"The new gate was my No. 1 priority upon taking office two years ago, Gilich said, and thanks to the support from Sens. Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker, Gov. Bryant, Keesler leadership and Congressman Palazzo, and others, we're now able to move forward on a project that will advance the long-standing relationship between Biloxi and Keesler."

Phase 1 of the project involves property acquisition at Forrest Avenue, and creation of a new roadway from Division onto Keesler toward Larcher Avenue. The City of Biloxi is overseeing Phase 1 work for Keesler through a \$7.2 million Mississippi Major Economic Impact Authority Base Enhancement Program grant provided through the Mississippi Development Authority. Other confirmed funding includes \$11.7 million in federal money and \$10 million in BP settlement money appropriated by the State Legislature. Biloxi is working with federal and state partners to secure the remainder of project funding.

The triple crown of waterfront fun



The Capt. Pete sails from Margaritaville to Ship Island daily this summer.

Ship Island ferry resumes service from Biloxi

It's been 22 years since the Ship Island ferry offered regular service from Biloxi, but the boat is back - and is has plenty of company since its last trip back in 1996 before being crowded out by casino resorts.

The Capt. Pete, a 305-passenger vessel will make the 60-minute trip from Margaritaville this summer, leaving the dock daily at 10 a.m. and departing from Ship Island for the return trip at 3:30 p.m. The summer schedule began May 12 in Biloxi and runs through Aug. 12, when trips run Wednesday through Sunday.

Also, at Point Cadet Marina, you'll find the paddlewheeler Betsy Ann offering dinner cruises most Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, or sunset eco-tours most Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can enjoy the air-conditioned main deck, which accommodates 70 passenger, or ride up top in the Gulf breezes.

And of course, there's the iconic Sailfish, which offers a 70-minute trip that gives you a "peek into how the journey begins for a shrimp and how it ends up on your plate." This summer, the vessel sails daily from the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.



The Point Cadet-based Betsy Ann offers sunset dinner cruises and eco-excursions.



Lower the nets and see what you catch on the Sailfish, sailing daily from the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor.

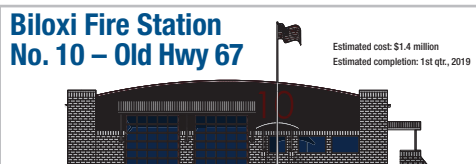
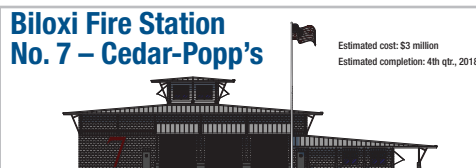
- For Ship Island info, call 228-864-1014 or visit mshipisland.com
- For Betsy Ann info, call 228-229-4270 or visit betsyannriverboat.com
- For Sailfish info, call 228-392-8645 or visit www.biloxishrimpingtrip.com

Two new fire stations coming to north of Bay

Two new fire stations are in the works for Biloxi north of the Bay and are expected to enhance fire protection, especially in the east Woolmarket area.

The first station to begin construction will be Station 7, on city property on Popp's Ferry Road, east of Cedar Lake Road. Actual construction is scheduled to begin shortly and the station is expected to be on operation this time next year.

Station 7 will be a battalion-size operation, meaning it will be larger than a typical Biloxi fire station. It will replace a mobile home firefighters have operated out of for years and will serve as the city's emergency operations center. The station is expected to cost about \$4 million.



The second station, Station 10, on old Highway 67 just east of Cedar Lake Road, is expected to dramatically increase response times in the east Woolmarket area. Currently, according to Assistant Fire Chief Mark

Dronet, the fire department has a four-minute-and-36-second average response time citywide, but the response time for Station 8 on Woolmarket Road is a minute higher, and three minutes higher when assisting in calls outside the city limits.

"A minute or even three minutes may not sound like a great deal of time," said Fire Chief Joe Boney, "but a fire can double in size in three minutes, and, of course, every minute counts when responding to medical calls, which account for two-thirds of our calls."

The three-acre site on old Highway 67, where the station is expected to cost about \$1.4 million and be completed in early 2019, also will have room for a public park to be constructed near the station.

Best Bets!

All Shuck, no jive

These 2018 Biloxi Shuckers look to be some diamond gems. The league-leading juggernaut has been in first place since the fourth game of the season, they've established a new home-game win streak, and the front office has unveiled a host of new family-flavored promotions. And get this: You can see a game at the city-owned MGM Park for as little as \$7. The Shuckers play 10 homes games in June, with seven of them against in-state rival the Mississippi Braves. See the entire June schedule and promotions on the back cover, Page 12. And, by all means, get your Shuck on.



King Master Fishing Tournament, May 31-June 3, Gorenflo's Tackle and Point Cadet Fuel in Point Cadet Marina, 119 Beach Blvd. Fishing begins Thursday 9:01 a.m.; Saturday scales open 3-6 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. awards ceremony. Viewing is free. Details: 228-432-7387.

First Friday Downtown Biloxi Art District (#artontherule), June 1, 5-8 p.m. Downtown Biloxi, Rue Magnolia Art District. Live entertainment, classic car night south of the Mardi Gras Museum, 119 Rue Magnolia. Shops and galleries stay open late and offer specials and refreshments. Details: 228-435-6339.

Annual Blessing of the Fleet Fais Do-Do, June 2, noon-10 p.m. Point Cadet Pavilion, 121 Cadet Street. Admission: Adults \$5, noon-5 p.m.; \$7, 5-10 p.m.; age 12 and under free; senior and military discounts available. "Street dance" festival features boiled shrimp, more than 75 vendors, and children's activities. Coronation of 2018 Shrimp King and Shrimp Queen at 5:30 p.m. Live entertainment: Gram Rea & Ty Tayler at noon, No Plain Jane at 3 p.m. and headliner act The Bucktown All Stars at 7 p.m. Details: 228-435-6370.

Annual Blessing of the Fleet Shrimp-N-Boots 5K and Fun GLOW Run, June 2, 5-6:45 p.m. check-in and late registration; 1-mile fun run at 7 p.m. and 5K at 7:30 p.m. Point Cadet Pavilion, 121 Cadet Street. Entry Fee: \$25. Bring your decorated shrimp boots to enter the contest immediately after the run. Details: 228-860-8290.

The 89th Annual Blessing of the Fleet, June 3, 2 p.m. Biloxi Channel. Brightly decorated boats parade along the beachfront from the Biloxi Bay Bridge to Biloxi Small Craft Harbor for the ceremonial beginning of shrimp season.

Nativity Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary "Magnolia Concert Society," June 10, 3 p.m. 870 Howard Ave. Spring Concert offering instrumental music of varied genres and styles. Free and open to the public. Details: Terry Maddox, 251-406-1454 or terrydalemaddox@gmail.com.

Annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Billfish Classic, June 4-10, Point Cadet Marina, 119 Beach Blvd. Hundreds of anglers compete for more than \$2 million in cash and prizes. Weeklong event features nightly dock parties and live entertainment. Scales open Friday 3-8 p.m.; Saturday 3-6 p.m.; awards ceremony Sunday, Golden Nugget Grand Ballroom. Details: www.mgcbc.com or 228-239-2575.



Annual South Mississippi Summer Fair, June 7-17, Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. Weekdays gates open at 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m. Free admission Sunday through Thursday; \$5 Fridays and Saturdays for ages 12 and older, with pay-one-price ride admission every day. June 12 is Camp Day; register online at www.mscoastcoliseum.com/p/south-mississippi-summer-fair/campday. Details: 800-726-2781 or 228-594-3700.

Annual Craft Beer Fest, June 9, 4-7 p.m. MGM Park, 105 Caillavet Street. Must be 21 or older to attend. Presented by Biloxi Chamber of Commerce and the City of Biloxi. Admission: Pre-sale VIP, \$60; pre-sale admission, \$25; gate admission, \$35. Details: 228-604-0014.



Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary's 175th Anniversary Year, June 14, 6 p.m. Nativity Cathedral Church, 870 Howard Ave. Stained Glass window presentation. Details: 228-374-1717.



A time-honored Biloxi tradition

To some it's akin to "Mardi Gras on the water," which is apropos given the religious significance of both events. Biloxi's 89th annual Blessing of the Fleet and Shrimp Festival bows Saturday at noon at Point Cadet Pavilion with the fais do-do, which offers plenty of boiled shrimp, live music and arts and crafts through 10 p.m. The Mass of the Blessing takes place Saturday at 4 p.m. at St. Michael's; the Shrimp-N-Boots 5K and Fun GLOW Run on Saturday. Saturday evening at 5:30 p.m. you can meet the new Shrimp King and Queen at the fais do-do, and then on Sunday at 2 p.m., the Blessing itself takes place. Whether on land or sea, be a part of a proud Biloxi tradition.

A word about Bnews Monthly

Welcome to the premiere issue of Bnews Monthly. It's a compendium of things you should know about your city: status reports on current and pending public works, and a calendar of community events covering the next 30 days.

Bnews Monthly is funded through revenue that previously had been used to produce a host of required annual city publications, including Storm & Flood Preparedness and the Annual Report on the Quality of Drinking Water.

Advertising: Bnews Monthly represents an advertising opportunity for community-minded Biloxi businesses and organizations. In your hands you are holding the only advertising medium that is delivered to every single home, business, apartment and PO Box in the city. For advertising information, email online@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6368.

Calendar: Biloxi Downtown Services is responsible for the Community Calendar, a compendium of events open to the public in Biloxi. Deadline for publication is the 10th of each month. Listing must include name of event, date, time, location, one- or two-sentence description, admission fee and public contact phone number or website address. Email to Kay Miller, downtown services manager, kmiller@biloxi.ms.us.

Bmail: The city provides a wealth of information about projects and events several times a week via email. To sign up for the free service, visit biloxi.ms.us/register.

B-Alert: For text advisories on traffic and severe weather, text BLOXI to 888777.

Website: The city's website, at biloxi.ms.us, is the comprehensive digest of city information. Find detailed information on major city projects and initiatives, including video, photographs and graphics. You'll also find schedules and agendas for all city public meetings, online bidding information and crime mapping, along with contact information for all departments.

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Saints Hall of Fame Day, June 15. This year, the New Orleans Pelicans will join Saints players, staff and Hall of Famers for a day of activities, kicking off with a golf tournament and ending with a clinic and meet and greet at MGM Park Shuckers game.

- **11 a.m., scramble Golf tournament**, Fallen Oak Golf Club, 24400 Highway 15, Saucier. Four-member teams compete with a Saints Hall of Famer, current Saints or Pelicans player. For fees and to enter call Biloxi Main Street at 228-435-6370 or mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us.
- **3-5 p.m., Kids and Parents Clinic** at MGM Park, free. Kids and Parents Football Safety Clinic and Interactive Basketball Area, at MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St. Conducted by the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans. Event is free and includes a Biloxi Shuckers ticket giveaway, while they last. Details: 228-435-6370 or mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us.
- **6:35 p.m. Saints and Pelicans Day with the Shuckers**, MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St. Saints Hall of Famers, current Saints players and Pelicans players will be introduced and throw out the first pitch during the Biloxi Shuckers game against the Mississippi Braves. Players will sign autographs and take photos. Tickets begin at \$7. Details: 228-435-6370 or mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us.

Annual Scrapin' The Coast, June 22-24, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Large premier car, truck and bike show. Admission: \$15. Details: www.scrapinthecoast.com or call 228-832-2688 or 228-832-4683.



Bike Biloxi,
June 19,
6 p.m.
Biloxi Visitors

Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Free, fun-filled ride through downtown. Bike rental available through the Zagster app or provide your own bike. Helmets and lights recommended. Details: 228-435-6339, or mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us.

**Downtown Biloxi
Community Market
Festival**, June 28, 9

a.m.-1 p.m. under the I-110 at Howard and Hopkins. Vendors offer vegetables, fruits, homemade goods, plants, arts and crafts, and more. Entertainment by Ty Taylor, hourly giveaways and kids water slide. Theme is "Grill it up" with grilled hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch. Details: 228-435-6339 or mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us.



Gallery 782 Nifty Fifty Raffle, June 29, 5:30 p.m. 773 Jackson St. Every person that purchases a raffle ticket is a winner of an artistic creation. Ticket, at \$50, are limited and include refreshments. Get tickets at Gallery 782. Details: 228-436-7782.

Annual Back Bay Biloxi Fireworks, July 1, 9 p.m. Back Bay, east of I-110 highrise. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to watch the show near or atop the IP Casino Resort Spa parking garage or Scarlet Pearl Casino Car Park. Details: 228-374-3105.

Theresa Caputo LIVE! – The Experience, June 30, 7:30 p.m. Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Tickets begin at \$39.75. Caputo is a television personality best known as a medium on the TLC reality TV series "Long Island Medium." Details: 800-745-3000.

Best Bet!

Scrapin' the Coast

Perhaps it's Cruisin' the Coast's younger cousin with an attitude, this low-riding auto extravaganza known as Scrapin' the Coast. Now in its 16th year, this Coliseum-hosted production, on June 22-24 this year, has attracted a decidedly younger demographic, as many as 20,000 enthusiasts, in fact. Yes, you can expect slow-moving, yet unique, traffic, barricades on U.S. 90, with some intersections at times, but police expect all lanes to be open through the event. Happy motoring. Visit www.scrapinthecoast.com or call 228-832-2688 or 228-832-4683.



Best Bet!

So when are the Fourth of July fireworks?

Actually, in Biloxi they begin on Sunday, July 1, when the annual Back Bay fireworks presentation takes place. The show begins at 9 p.m.



MGM Park

105 Caillavet Street, Phone: 800-745-3000 or 228-233-3465
www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t5015 • Tickets start at \$7

- **Biloxi Shuckers vs. Mississippi Braves**, May 29 - June 2
- **Biloxi Shuckers vs. Mississippi Braves**, June 13 - 17
- **Biloxi Shuckers vs. Mobile BayBears**, June 28 - July 3



Biloxi Little Theater

220 Lee St., 228-432-8543, www.4blt.org

- **Into the Woods**: June 1, 2, 8 & 9 – 7:30 p.m., June 3, 10 – 2 p.m.
- **Love Letters**: June 22 – 8 p.m., June 23 – 8 p.m.
- **The Whistler “Urge to Kill” and other amazing adventures**: July 6 & 7 – 7 p.m.
- **Evita**: Sept. 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, & 15 - TBA
- **All the King’s Men**: Oct. 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, & 20

Center Stage

2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258, centerstagebiloxi.com

- **The Last 5 Years**: June 1 & 2 – 7:30 p.m., June 3 – 2 p.m.
- **Auditions**: June 4 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Volunteer sign ups**: June 12
- **S.N.A.C.S. – WLOX Personalities**: June 30, 7 -9 p.m.

Ohr-O’Keefe Museum of Art

386 Beach Blvd., 228-374-5547, www.georgeohr.org

- **Works from the Tougaloo College Art Collections**, 1963-1967, May 29 - August 11
- **Rodrigue’s Blue Dog: Discovering Late Works on Canvas and Metal**, June 12 - August 18

Check the website for more events at OOMA!

Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Bingo Nights**: June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, Early Bird starts at 6:30 p.m., regular game 7 p.m.
- **Going Out (Steak Nights & Dances)**: June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; Live entertainment; prices vary.

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Friday Night Dinners**, June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 6 p.m.
- **Saturday Night Dance**, June 9, 7-11 p.m. with South Breeze Band, \$8 per person

Bring lawn chairs/blankets and watch from locations near either IP Casino Resort Spa or Scarlet Pearl Casino, the co-sponsors of the event. Viewing is also available on the top floor of the IP parking garage or Scarlet Pearl’s Back Bay Car Park. Yes, it’s a free show. And, yes, Biloxi’s fireworks extravaganza will be on July 4, as always. It’s a Wednesday this year.

Lagniappe

Charles R. Hegwood

Biloxi Community Market

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 a.m.-4 p.m. under the I-110 overpass on the corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. Details: Tina Cowart at 228-388-2443.

City of Biloxi Senior Program

Activities for ages 55 and older weekdays at the Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center and the East Biloxi Senior Citizen Center. Details: Gwen Johnson, 228-388-2494, seniors@biloxi.ms.us.

Biloxi Libraries

- Biloxi Library, 580 Howard Ave., 228-436-3095
- Margaret Sherry Library, 2141 Popp’s Ferry Road, 228-388-1633
- West Biloxi Library, 2047 Pass Road, 228-388-5696
- Woolmarket Library, 8455 Woolmarket Road, 228-354-9464

For more information call the Harrison County Library System at 228-436-3095.





Biloxi Main Street

Promoting, preserving, revitalizing and enhancing the economic growth of the downtown Main Street district. Details and membership: 228-435-6339, mainstreetbiloxi.com



City of Biloxi Public Meetings

- **Biloxi City Council**: Regularly scheduled meetings: first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. and the third and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.; City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: 228-435-6257.
- **Biloxi Civil Service Commission**: Regularly schedule meetings: second Thursday of the month at 4 p.m.; City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: 228-435-6259, Courtney Lamar
- **Biloxi Planning Commission**: Regularly scheduled meetings: first and third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.; Community Development, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266.
- **Architectural Review Commission**: Regularly scheduled meetings: second and fourth Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m.; Community Development, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266.
- **Tree Committee**: Regularly scheduled meetings: second Monday of each month at 4 p.m.; Gulf Coast Community Design Studio, 769 Howard Ave. Details: 228-435-6266.
- **Development Review Committee**: Regularly scheduled meetings: Wednesdays at 9 a.m.; Community Development, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28 Story Time Woolmarket Library	29 Community Market Story Time W. Biloxi  Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park	30 Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park	31 Community Market Story Time MSherry Library Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park King Master Fishing Tournament begins Point Cadet Marina	1 First Friday Downtown Biloxi Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park Into the Woods Biloxi Little Theatre The Last 5 Years Center Stage Ken Jeong IP Casino Resort Spa Jim Gaffigan Beau Rivage	2 Shrimp N Boots 5k Point Cadet Pavilion Annual Fais Do-Do Point Cadet Pavilion Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park Into the Woods Biloxi Little Theatre The Last 5 Years Center Stage Candlebox Hard Rock
3 Blessing of The Fleet Biloxi Channel King Master Fishing Tournament last day Point Cadet Marina	4 Story Time Woolmarket Library Billfish Classic begins Point Cadet Marina Auditions Center Stage	5 Community Market Story Time W. Biloxi	6	7 Community Market Story Time MSherry Library South Mississippi Summer Fair begins MS Coast Coliseum	8 Into the Woods Biloxi Little Theatre Happy Together Tour IP Casino Resort Spa	9 Craft Beer Fest MGM Park Into the Woods Biloxi Little Theatre MJ Live Hard Rock
10 Magnolia Concert Society Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Billfish Classic Last Day Point Cadet Marina	11 Story Time Woolmarket Library	12 Community Market Story Time W. Biloxi Volunteer Sign Ups Center Stage	13  Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park	14 Community Market Story Time MSherry Library Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park 175th Anniversary Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	15 Saints Hall of Fame Day Oak Golf Club/MGM Park Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park The Bellamy Brothers Golden Nugget Roots & Boots Tour IP Casino Resort Spa Rick Springfield Beau Rivage	16 Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park Avant IP Casino Resort Spa
17 Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park South Mississippi Summer Fair last day MS Coast Coliseum	18 Story Time Woolmarket Library	19 Community Market Story Time W. Biloxi	20	21 Community Market Story Time MSherry Library	22 Scrapin' the Coast MS Coast Coliseum Love Letters Biloxi Little Theatre Chicks with Hits IP Casino Resort Spa	23 Scrapin' the Coast MS Coast Coliseum Postmodern Jukebox Hard Rock
24 Scrapin' the Coast last day MS Coast Coliseum	25 Story Time Woolmarket Library	26 Community Market Story Time W. Biloxi	27	28 Story Time MSherry Library  Festival Shuckers vs. Bay Bears MGM Park	29 Gallery 782 Nifty Fifty Raffle Gallery 782  Shuckers vs. Bay Bears MGM Park Penn & Teller Beau Rivage Air Supply IP Casino Resort Spa	30 S.N.A.C.S. – WLOX Personalities Center Stage Shuckers vs. Bay Bears MGM Park Theresa Caputo LIVE! MS Coast Coliseum Back Bay Biloxi Fireworks IP Casino Spa/Scarlet Pearl Casino Air Supply IP Casino Resort Spa

Think ahead on evacuations, storm shelters

One of the toughest decisions that residents may have to make when a storm approaches is whether they should evacuate their property and possessions for either a local shelter or out-of-town accommodations.

Depending on the severity of the storm, that decision can be made for those in low-lying areas: Local authorities may order a mandatory evacuation.

In Harrison County, as many as 10 hurricane shelters can be activated in times of peril. A shelter should be refuge of last resort, but residents need to be aware of several factors if they are considering seeking refuge in a shelter.

The decision to open a shelter is usually based on the intensity of a storm and where it is expected to make landfall. Local Emergency Management leaders make the decision to open shelters in coordination with the American Red Cross, and the public is notified through the media.

The shelter sites can vary from year to year and storm to storm.

"The type of weather event, the direction of a storm and rising tides are just a couple of the factors that go into activating a shelter," says Biloxi Emergency Manager Michelle Crowley, a battalion chief in the Biloxi Fire Department. "The number and location of shelters that are needed to be activated during an event, also have to be considered."

If you think you may seek refuge in a shelter, some points to consider:

- Bring enough food and water for at least the first day.
- Bring your own blankets and other personal needs. Cots cannot be guaranteed.
- No pets at typical shelters; no firearms, alcohol or tobacco products are allowed.
- Public transit systems – buses and taxis – will stop operating when sustained winds reach 35 mph.
- If you have an infant, bring an adequate supply of diapers and formula.
- If you or a member of your family is on a special diet, bring the necessary food.
- If you are on prescription medication, try to have a two-week supply of medication.

If you're thinking about evacuating, be familiar with evacuation routes. Traffic may be delayed by bridges opening to marine traffic. Bridges, by the way, will not open for marine traffic when sustained winds reach 35 mph.

And, finally, if you encounter a flooded roadway - in times of peril or on a typical day, remember the oft-repeated advice:

"Turn around, don't drown."

Heed the call

Network of sirens sounds the alarm when danger threatens

Biloxi has a system of 10 siren towers to help alert residents to impending danger, such as a tornado and hurricanes.

On the first Wednesday of every month, the City of Biloxi will conduct a test of the tornado sirens and on the first and last day of hurricane season, the city will test the hurricane sirens. The minute-long, citywide tests will be at noon.



OK, here's the lineup of 2018 storm names

Who's to say there's not another Camille, Katrina or even Nate in the group? Which name will gain notoriety this year, or merely be lost to the ages?

There's no telling at this point, which is why preparation is the key.

Those points notwithstanding, here's the lineup of storm names for the 2018 Hurricane Season, which runs from June 1 to Nov. 30:

Alberto	Helen	Oscar
Beryl	Isaac	Patty
Chris	Joyce	Rafael
Debby	Kirk	Sara
Ernesto	Leslie	Tony
Florence	Michael	Valerie
Gordon	Nadine	William

If all names are exhausted before the end of the season, Greek alphabet is used.

By the way, don't expect to see the names Katrina, Camille, Isidore, Gustav, Nate or a host of others used in the future.

While the World Meteorological Organization, which compiles the list of storm names, has been known to repeat a name after seven years, those storms that have been deemed so deadly or costly are retired to avoid confusion or insensitivity.

And the common denominator among Katrina, Camille, Isidore, Gustav and Nate? They all caused damage in Biloxi.

What you can expect to see when a storm threatens

Residents of Biloxi can plan on seeing a constant flow of information regarding weather bulletins and advice this hurricane season, as well as early warnings about storms. Here are key timelines to remember, but remember that these timelines could be revised, based on the size and scope of the storm:

• 72 hours before landfall

If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a recommended evacuation announcement.

• 48 hours before landfall

If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a mandatory evacuation order for Category 1 to 3 Evacuation Zones, which includes all areas south of the CSX railway, the Biloxi peninsula east of I-110, and all flood prone areas along Back Bay of Biloxi, low-lying areas, and area rivers and tributaries. (See map on Page 10.) At this point, casino resorts are expected to close.

• 36 hours before landfall

If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a mandatory evacuation order for Category 4 to 5 Evacuation Zones, to include all areas south of I-10 and all flood-prone areas along Back Bay of Biloxi, low-lying areas, and area rivers and tributaries. (See map on Page 10.)

What you can do now

Don't wait until a tropical depression or hurricane is in the Gulf to begin preparing. There are steps you can take now. See the list on Page 6.

More info

- Sign up for B-Alert by texting BILOXI to 888777. You'll get advisories via text messages.
- To see evacuation zones and evacuation routes, see map on Page 10.
- Information also will be available via city Bmail (sign up at biloxi.ms.us), and through a recorded message on the City of Biloxi Storm Info Line: 228-435-6300.

It's illegal to sweep lawn clippings into the street

Chances are, you've seen it done or even done it yourself: You cut your lawn, rake up the trimmings and pile them near the curb in front of your home. Or, you'll sweep the trimmings into the street, where you hope they'll be carried away by the wind.

These two scenarios result in one of the biggest causes of flooding in the city – blocked storm drains.

These careless or unthinking actions negate the millions of dollars in improvements that the

city is making citywide to drainage systems.

Piling leaves at the curb or sweeping trimmings into the street means that they will eventually find their way into the city's storm drains. Either bag the leaves for pickup or compost them. A stopped-up storm drain or ditch cannot carry run-off water as it is intended to do. When it rains, that water can flood streets, your property or your neighbor's property.

It's actually a violation of city ordinance to

dump any material into storm drains, ditches, culverts, streams or waterways. (Sec. 9-1-15, Code of Ordinances, 1992).

If you see anyone dumping debris into storm drains, ditches, culverts or streams, please contact the Public Works Department at 435-6271, or online at publicworks@biloxi.ms.us, or the Code Enforcement staff in the Community Development Department at 435-6270 or online at dking@biloxi.ms.us.

Be sure to get a building permit before construction

When you or a licensed contractor make repairs or alterations to your property, those repairs should be in compliance with established building codes. This ensures that

work is up to code and will be able to withstand most weather conditions.

To make sure that your plans are within code, a building permit must be obtained from the City of Biloxi Building Division before you build, alter, re-grade or fill on your property. New buildings in the floodplain must be protected from flood damage. Biloxi's building code requires that new buildings must be elevated to the base flood elevation, plus 1 foot.

The code also requires all additions and 'substantial' improvements or repairs from damage to a building be treated as new construction. A substantial improvement or repair is one in which the value of an addition, alteration, repair or reconstruction project exceeds 50 percent of the total value of the existing building.

Before you begin a project, contact the Building Division at 435-6270 or online at building@biloxi.ms.us.

Qualified staff can help make sure that your project complies with building codes. Biloxi is currently under the 2012 International Building Code, and the 2014 National Electrical Code.

Contractors must have city license

Property owners are warned to beware of transient contractors who typically set up shop in the wake of disasters such as a major hurricane or tornado.

Ask to see the person's City of Biloxi license card, which is required to do business in this city.

Do not pay any money in advance. Do not sign any contracts. And do not pay any money until the work has been inspected and approved by a city inspector.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Community Development Department at 435-6280.

A ride out of harm's way

Coast Transit ready to assist needy residents when an evacuation order is issued. If you need evacuation transportation, known as "Demand Response," it's free, but you must register to get a ride to a local shelter. Call CTA at 228-896-8080. Registration is easy: Your name, address, phone number and any special needs. You'll get all of the info you need.



Federal agencies encourage residents to use direct deposit

In those critical days after Hurricane Katrina, the U.S. Treasury Department worked with the Social Security Administration to get displaced Social Security and other federal benefit checks to recipients, as quickly as possible.

But those who already were using direct deposit had immediate access to their funds from virtually anywhere, thanks to ATMs and financial institution networks.

That's why the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks – through Go Direct – are urging Social Security check recipients who live along

the Gulf Coast to switch to direct deposit.

The recommendation, offered in light of devastating hurricanes, is aimed at ensuring citizens receive their federal benefits without disruption.

Go Direct makes it easy to sign up for direct deposit. People can sign up by calling the toll-free Go Direct helpline at (800) 333-1795 or by visiting www.GoDirect.org to sign up online. To learn more about Go Direct, visit www.GoDirect.org.

Stay tuned for more storm information

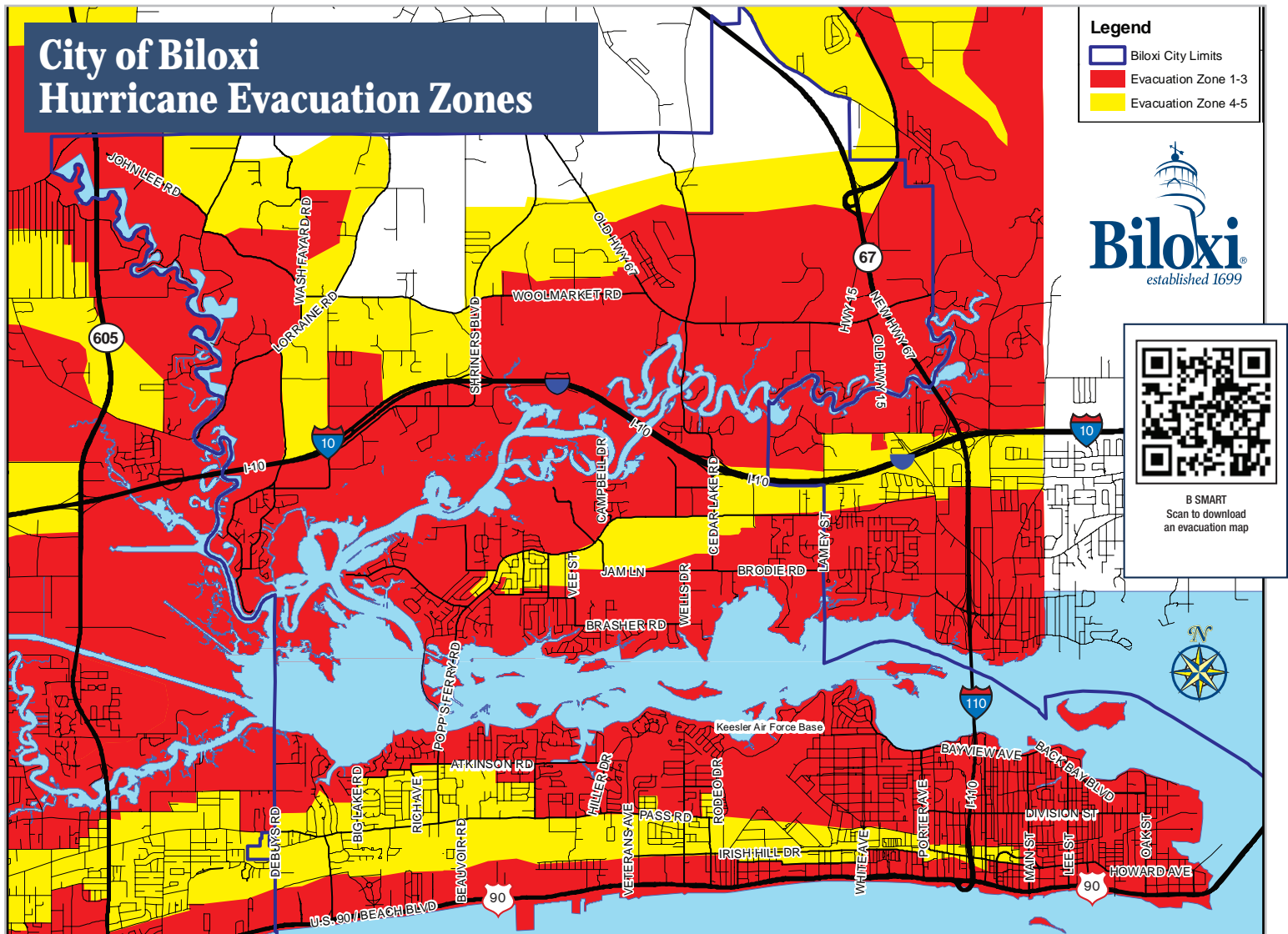
The National Weather Service monitors hurricane and storm activity, and issues official bulletins to local and regional TV and radio stations. Since television coverage may be interrupted by power outages, you should also have a battery-operated radio to follow emergency advisories. It is vital that you monitor these weather broadcasts, especially as a storm approaches.

Additionally, the City of Biloxi relays vital information on a regular basis. The current temperature, conditions and forecast are displayed 24/7 at the top corner of the city's website at biloxi.ms.us.

Sign up to receive timely text alerts by texting BILOXI to 888777. Sign up for the Bmail by visiting biloxi.ms.us/register.

Look right for a list of local outlets where you can obtain information.

Television	WXRQ 105.9
WLOX-TV 13	WXYK 107.1
WXXV-TV 25	WZKX 107.9
The Weather Channel	Radio-AM
	WQFX 1130
Radio-FM	WBSL 1190
WQYZ 92.5	WGCM 1240
WMJY 93.7	WROA 1390
WJZD 94.5	WXBD 1490
WZNF 95.3	WTNI 1640
WUJM 96.7	
WCPR 97.9	Online
WKNN 99.1	Facebook.com/cobiloxi
WGCM 102.3	
WBUV 104.9	



What to do and when to do it

Before a hurricane approaches or NOW

Plan an evacuation route.

- Review the evacuation route by clicking on the Evacuation Map link in the Storm and Flood Preparedness section of the city website. Determine the safest evacuation route for you. Be ready to drive 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.

Prepare a storm kit that includes the following items:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First-aid kit and manual
- Duct tape
- Emergency food and water (at least one gallon of water per person per day for three to seven days; non-perishable packaged or canned food and juices; paper plates and plastic utensils; cooking tools)
- Non-electric can opener
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards
- Sturdy shoes

- Fully charged cell phone
- Store important papers in a waterproof container or resealable plastic bag. Among the important documents: insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

Make arrangements for pets.

- Pets are not allowed in typical emergency shelters for health and space reasons. Contact your local humane society for information on local animal shelters.

Make sure that all family members know how to respond after a hurricane.

- Teach family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity, and water.
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.
- Protect your windows.
- Permanent shutters are the best protection. A lower cost approach is to put up plywood panels. Use 1/2 inch plywood – marine plywood is best – cut to fit

each window. Remember to mark which board fits which window. Pre-drill holes every 18 inches for screws. Do this long before the storm.

Trim back dead or weak branches from trees.

Check into flood insurance.

- You can find out about the National Flood Insurance Program through your local insurance agent or emergency management office. There is normally a 30-day waiting period before a new policy becomes effective. Homeowners policies do not cover damage from the flooding that accompanies a hurricane.

Develop an emergency communication plan.

- In case family members are separated from one another during a disaster (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), have a plan for getting back together.
- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the “family contact.” After a disaster, it’s often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.

See more Storm & Flood Preparedness info in Bnews Monthly each month of hurricane season.



entertained.
excited.
included.
loud.
proud.
at every game.
a part of history.

IT'S FUN TO BE A **Shuckers** FAN!

JUNE 1 SCHOONER THE SEAGULL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS FRIDAY PRESENTED BY MARGARITAVILLE RESORT BILOXI
JUNE 2 MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT & MILITARY-THEMED SHUCKERS HAT GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY KEESLER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
JUNE 13 ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT WEDNESDAY
JUNE 14 LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION NIGHT & TICKET SPECIAL
JUNE 15 SAINTS HALL OF FAME NIGHT & FIREWORKS FRIDAY
JUNE 16 ONE COAST NIGHT WITH JERSEY AUCTION & BEACH TOTE BAG GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY BEAU RIVAGE RESORT & CASINO
JUNE 17 FATHER'S DAY, PREGAME PLAYER AUTOGRAPHS & POSTGAME CATCH ON THE FIELD
JUNE 28 PREGAME HADLEY HILL CONCERT
JUNE 29 FIREWORKS FRIDAY
JUNE 30 FUR CIRCUS PERFORMANCE & PARROT HEAD NIGHT WITH PREGAME MATT HOGGATT PERFORMANCE

JUNE 2018

JULY 3RD
FIREWORKS
EXTRAVAGANZA

PRESENTED BY  Merit Health Biloxi

#MADEINBILOXI

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

BILOXI SHUCKERS BOX OFFICE

MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00AM - 5:00PM

GAME DAYS 10:00AM - END OF GAME

228-233-3465

BILOXISHUCKERS.com

Frequently Called Numbers

Area code is 228 unless otherwise noted.

- Animal control 392-0641
- Auto Tag/Property Tax Information 435-8242
- Birth Certificates 601-576-7960
- Building Permits 435-6270
- Business Licenses 435-6247
- City Council 435-6257
- City Court 435-6125
- Code Enforcement 435-6270
- Drivers Licenses 396-7400
- Emergency Police and Fire 911
- Garbage Collection 701-9086
- Housing Authority 374-7771
- Human Resources 435-6259
- Mayor's Office 435-6254
- Museums information 435-6244
- Parks & Recreation 388-7170
- Planning Commission 435-6266
- Public Schools 374-1810
- Streets and Drainage 435-6271
- Visitor Info 374-3105 or 1-800-BILOXI-3
- Water Service 435-6236

Bnews Monthly

JUNE 2018

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council
George Lawrence • Felix O. Gines
Dixie Newman • Robert L. Deming III
Paul A. Tisdale • Kenny Glavan
Nathan Barrett

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