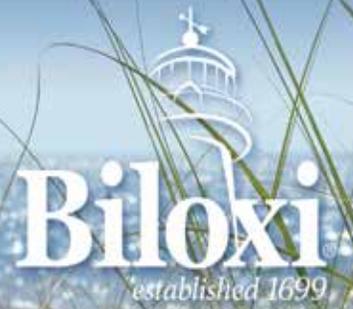


# BNews Monthly

AUGUST 2018

*A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi*



## Giddy up! Development firing on all cylinders at the moment

You've seen the two big announcements – major expansions at Margaritaville and Treasure Bay – and, as significant as they are, they're just a fraction of development in Biloxi.

Biloxi now has \$70 million in commercial and residential construction underway.

"As one new business begins construction or opens its doors, we work to make sure that we have other projects working their way through the process, either under review

▶ See the details on development, Page 2

or ready to receive building permits," said Biloxi Community Development Director Jerry Creel. "It's important to keep things moving."

Currently, two hotels, accounting for 238 rooms, are under construction on U.S. 90 and a third, for 66 rooms, has its building permit. In east Biloxi, the \$3.3 million Salt Grass

Steakhouse continues construction, while in west Biloxi, at Edgewater Mall, a new \$7 million movie theater is being built, along with an indoor trampoline park inside the mall itself. And, of course, further west, plans are in the works for Funtime USA amusement park.

"We also see significant growth in residential subdivisions," Creel said. "There are 25 subdivisions under development or review, and, we have 132 homes under construction."



In one of the iconic images from Hurricane Camille, the shrimp boat Wade Klein rests between an oak and front beach home.

## A reminder of why we must be prepared

It was 13 years ago this month that Hurricane Katrina devastated Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and as fresh as that storm remains on minds of residents, longtimers will remember Camille, the original monster storm.

August marks the 49th anniversary of Hurricane Camille, and the 13th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, two storms that decimated Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Said Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich: "Everybody said there would never be another Camille, and they were right. There was Katrina, and it's incumbent upon us to be prepared for the next one, whether it's a hurricane or flooding caused by a heavy thunderstorm."

- ▶ A preview of Cable One programs, Page 13
- ▶ Storm & Flood Preparedness info, Page 14
- ▶ Back in the Day column: Hurricanes, Page 15

## Here's the latest on infrastructure work in east Biloxi

Porter Avenue and connecting streets north of Division will see asphalt being poured in August, and during the month crews are expected to wrap up drainage work on Division, one of the final phases before asphalt can be applied.

Those are two of the highlights from Oscar Renda, the firm working on the 55 miles of infrastructure north of the CSX railway.

- Among the other August milestones:
- Asphalt will be applied to Bradford and Haise streets and on Magnolia north of Division.
  - Curbing installed on Division from

Caillavet to Reynoir

- Work on Benachi north of the CSX crossing, delayed because of issues on Howard Avenue, will resume.
- Drainage structures will be installed on Hopkins Boulevard, which will allow limestone to be installed near the end of August.

Meanwhile, it was a mixed bag of news from Ricky Eiland of Hemphill Construction, the firm handling work south of the CSX Railway.

Installation of a 16-inch water line on Irish Hill Drive is complete.



See video updates at [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us)

On Howard Avenue at Benachi, where workers are installing a sewer

line 25 feet below ground, the deepest part of the entire project, workers encountered a bank of phone lines that were on no plans. Detours will remain for about another month.

In August, residents and motorists can expect to see more of the same progress. Added Eiland: "We're continuing to come behind ourselves and put down a base coat of asphalt just as soon as we can. It will be a continuing cycle throughout the project."

# Treasure Bay announces plans for major expansion

Treasure Bay Casino and Hotel has announced plans for a three-phase expansion that will see additional parking to the west of the resort, followed by a casino expansion and parking garage.

Construction of the new surface parking at the west beach resort is expected to begin this fall on four acres the casino recently purchased. The new parking should be in place by the end of this year.

Once the new surface parking is complete, Treasure Bay plans to add 10,000 square feet in gaming space and build a parking garage, which will be situated to the east of the resort. The gaming expansion, which should begin taking shape in 2019, will extend from the second-floor casino and connect to the new garage.

“We are so pleased about moving forward with our plans for an expansion and additional parking,” said Treasure Bay President Susan

Varnes. “Although we were fortunate to have had the hotel facility to move into after Katrina all those years ago, we knew it would not be easy to transition into a gaming property. We are proud of the success we have had, and it is time to expand.”

The total investment hasn’t been announced because design work continues.

## Sports betting will stimulate tourism efforts, Gilich says

It’s a good bet that legal sports betting at Biloxi casinos will bring a spike in tourism, Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich says.

Biloxi’s eight casinos began making plans for the new amenity after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a 1992 federal law that had prohibited most states from authorizing sports wagering. On the heels of the decision, the Mississippi Gaming Commission in June adopted the regulations for sports betting, and a 30-day waiting period made Saturday, July 21, as the first day sports bets can be placed in a Mississippi casino.

“Sports betting will probably result in a boost in gaming revenue for our eight casinos, and everyone agrees it will bring more people to our city more often that will increase hotel, restaurant and other tourism sales,” Gilich said. “This will be especially helpful in drawing casino visitors during tournaments and championships like March Madness and football bowl and playoff games.”



## Margaritaville: Ready to rock ‘n’ roll

State and local leaders gathered at Margaritaville Resort Biloxi the other day to announce something Biloxians heard about a couple of years ago: A \$140 million waterfront expansion of the family resort to include a second hotel tower and amusement park.

Gov. Phil Bryant was among the speakers at the gathering, which was held to announce that the developers – also responsible for the White House Hotel, the Watermark, and Bay Cove Condominiums and Retirement Home – had secured a Tidelands lease from the Mississippi Secretary of State.

Barrington Group’s plans involve a new 300-room hotel tower on the property to the west of the current Margaritaville, with the amusement park in between. No construction timetable was announced, but when the project was originally announced in October 2016, developers had envisioned 18 months of construction.

## A glimpse at construction

A total of \$70 million in construction is underway at the moment in Biloxi, not including public works projects. Here are some of the major commercial projects:

<b>Hilton Garden Inn</b> 100 rooms, 648 Beach Blvd.	<b>\$14.5 million</b>
<b>Watermark Hotel</b> 138 suites at former Santa Maria Del Mar, 674 Beach Blvd.	<b>\$8.8 million</b>
<b>Edgewater Mall Premier Cinema</b> Eight-screen movie theater	<b>\$7 million</b>
<b>La Quinta Inn and Suites</b> Permit issued for 66-room inn at U.S. 90 and Seal	<b>\$6.7 million</b>
<b>Salt Grass Restaurant</b> 140 E. Beach Blvd., north of Golden Nugget	<b>\$3.3 million</b>
<b>Indoor trampoline park</b> Edgewater Mall	<b>\$2 million</b>
<b>Machado/Patano Engineering Services</b> Conversion of former Merchiston Hall, Howard Avenue	<b>\$2 million</b>
<b>Waffle House</b> 618 Beach Blvd., near Bellman	<b>\$1.2 million</b>

In addition, 132 new homes are under construction in 21 subdivisions

## 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

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# City receives 'clean' audit

The city has published its annual audit, and, as expected, it's page after page of tables of numbers, and explanations that may leave Joe Taxpayer in a daze.

However, says Biloxi Chief Administrative Officer Mike Leonard, the 152-page document, known as a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the City of Biloxi, has several key takeaways among the detailed financial information about city operations:

- It's a "clean audit," meaning no outstanding regulatory deficiencies were found.
- Revenues, including sales tax, property tax, gaming tax and all other sources were steady though slightly below budget for the period, Leonard said.
- The city reduced long-term debt by \$28 million during the Fiscal Year ending Sept. 30, 2017. The city's outstanding long-term general obligation debt, which is debt backed by taxpayers, stands at \$46.4 million, or about half of the city's borrowing capacity.
- The \$60 million city operating budget ended the fiscal year with revenues and expenses essentially balanced. Revenues were down from the city's projections, but were slightly above last year's figures. At the same time, the city also reduced expenses to end the fiscal year with a balanced budget.
- The financial condition of the city's two enterprise funds – the water-sewer fund and port fund – both improved during the year. Utility rates remain among the lowest in the state.

The CAFR (pronounced "caff-ra") "is a detailed snapshot of the city's financial condition at a certain point in time, in this case Sept. 30, 2017," said Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich. "Two of the tools we use in managing public dollars are the municipal budget and the CAFR. The budget is a plan for the fiscal year, showing where funds are to be allocated, and the CAFR shows what actually happened during that year, plus it provides a look at trends in different sectors of the city economy."

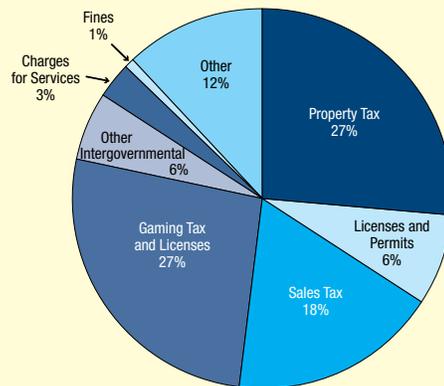
The document was prepared by Piltz, Williams & LaRosa, certified public accountants. It is shared with credit-rating agencies, regulators and those interested



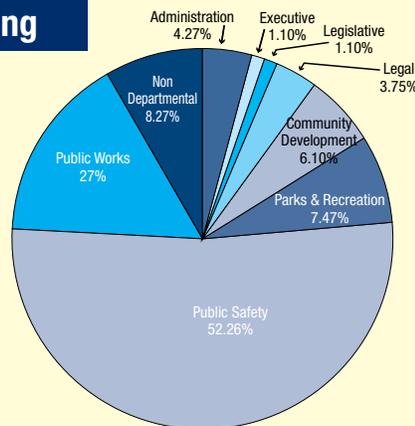
See the CAFR and supporting documents at [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us)

## Where the money came from and where it went in FY 2017

### Incoming



### Outgoing

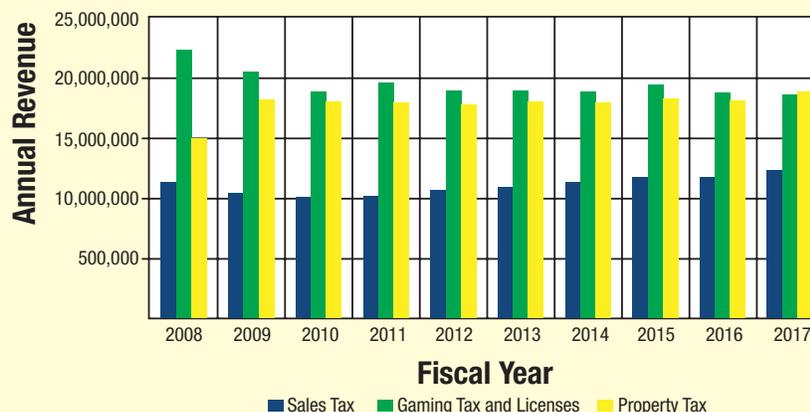


in a detailed financial analysis of the city. It includes a section that traces the city's revenue sources and departmental spending over the past 10 years.

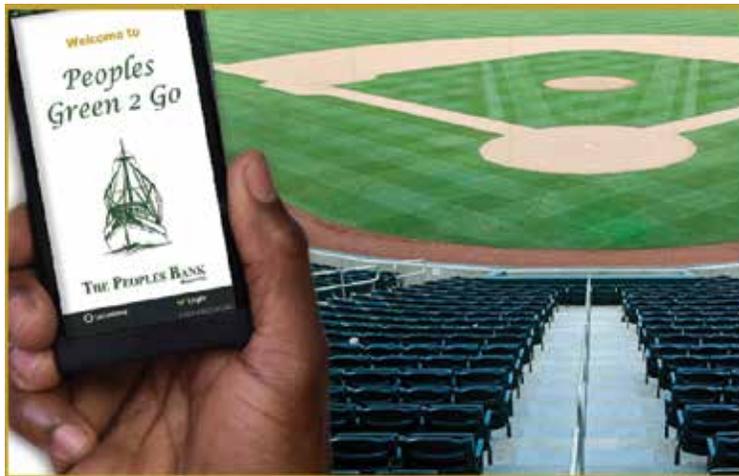
Perhaps the most important part of the CAFR is its overview, known as a Letter of Transmittal. This 11-page document highlights trends in key municipal economic indicators: revenue from sales, gaming and property taxes; building permits and their valuations.

Said Gilich in an introductory letter, after outlining a host of key economic indicators and initiatives: "From my vantage point, the city's economic future continues to be very bright."

## Revenue Trends



- **Splish splash:** Four city splash pads are open to beat the summertime heat. Hiller Park, Point Cadet, and Margaret Sherry pads are open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the John Henry Beck Park pad is open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Having a ball:** Pickleball - the paddle sport that combines badminton, tennis, and ping pong - is open to all ages daily at the Popp's Ferry Recreational area, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and at the Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursday 5:30 to 8 p.m.
- **Inside story:** How busy are key city departments each week? Find out in the **Weekly Report**, a compilation of police and fire responses, construction, and the status of major public works. Visit [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us).
- **Start early:** Biloxi's **Excel By 5** program, open to ages five and younger, resumes in September at the Lopez School. For more information, visit [www.excelby5.com/communities/biloxi/](http://www.excelby5.com/communities/biloxi/).
- **Street trivia:** There's a taste of Hollywood in an area west of Keesler. You'll find Hollywood Boulevard, which, of course, intersects with Vine. Then there's Sunset Boulevard, "Wiltshire" Boulevard, and Rodeo Drive, which locals are more inclined to call "Road-E-o" instead of "Road-A-o." Have trivia? Email us, [online@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:online@biloxi.ms.us).



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A rendering of the front of the new station, which will face Popp's Ferry Road.



A rendering of the east side of the new station.

## City awards \$4 million contract to build Cedar-Popp's fire station

It's official: Construction of a new fire station is underway on city property on Popp's Ferry Road east of Cedar Lake Road, and the new station should be operational this time next year.

The station, known as Station 7, will be a 13,000-square-foot fire command station to serve the areas north of the Bay of Biloxi.

"We want to thank Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District, which worked with us on the financing for this \$4 million station," Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich said during a groundbreaking ceremony on July 20. "This station has been a long time coming, and we're pleased to be able to move forward with this project."

The City Council in June awarded a contract to the Biloxi firm Starks Contracting to build the new station. Planning continues for a second station, Station 10, on Old Highway 67, east of Cedar Lake Road.

Biloxi Fire Chief Joe Boney said Station 7 will typically be staffed by as many as eight firefighters, along with a battalion chief.

The station will have three engine bays, including room for a 75-foot ladder truck now housed at Station 6, at the Margaret Sherry Library. The battalion chief is moving his office from Station 9 at Eagle Point, and the fire department's training operations also will be moved to Station 7.

"Mayor Gilich and the City Council recognized the case we made for constructing this larger station," Boney said.

"This area north of the Bay has seen significant demographic changes in recent years. We've seen new medical facilities, new retirement facilities, new apartment complexes, new businesses and new subdivisions. We now have a huge high school, a huge junior high school and an elementary school in this station's run."

None of these things were there when the city planned this station years ago."

Added Boney: "The mayor and council recognized these things and they have made sure we have the firefighters and the assets where they need to be so we can respond appropriately."

"This area north of the Bay has seen significant demographic changes in recent years. We've seen new medical facilities, new retirement facilities, new apartment complexes, new businesses and new subdivisions. We now have a huge high school, a huge junior high school and an elementary school in this station's run."

—Fire Chief Joe Boney

## Officers, groups recognized for bus-train response, other selfless acts

Police officers, dispatchers, partner agencies and citizens were recently recognized for going above and beyond the call of duty.

The Biloxi Police Department's first and second quarter awards, held at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in July, honored those in law enforcement and citizens for helping make Biloxi, as Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich likes to say, "safe, friendly, and beautiful." The awards ceremony also recognized those who responded to the deadly charter bus-train collision at Main Street in 2017.

"Most cops shy away from any type of gratitude," Biloxi Police Chief John Miller said. "We like to hold these award ceremonies to show officers that they are important and are appreciated."

Officer of the Month and First Quarter was awarded to Eli Humphrey who also received a Medal of Valor, the department's highest award for sworn officers. He

received the awards for his selfless act during a perilous incident. While on the scene of a traffic crash on I-110, Officer Humphrey pulled another police over a concrete barrier to prevent that officer from being struck by another vehicle crash.

Investigator John Lamb was awarded the Officer of the Month and Second Quarter and Ramona Wolfe was honored as the Dispatcher of the First Quarter.

The department also recognized dozens for helping in the response to the charter bus-train collision that killed four people and injured three dozen others. Among those recognized were police officers, as well as the Biloxi Fire Department, Biloxi Public Affairs Division, Dispatchers Eric McKnight and Brandi Dorcik, American Medical Response, Acadian, Keesler Air Force Base, Merit Health, Life Flight, Harrison County Sheriff's Office, the Harrison County Fire Service and several clergy members.

"We are fortunate not only for the training of our first responders but for the citizens and their training." Miller said. "They jumped in and took direction. Everyone came together. We would have never known how things would have been if we didn't have the training and assistance that we did."





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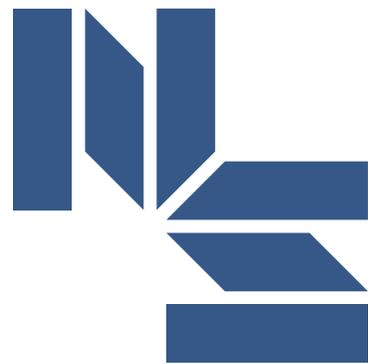


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- AUG 6 **DOGGONE MONDAY** PRESENTED BY RAISING CANE'S
- AUG 14 **BREW CREW TUESDAY & A DOGGONE DOUBLEHEADER**  
PRESENTED BY MILLER LITE & RAISING CANE'S | FIRST PITCH 5:35 P.M.
- AUG 15 **ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT WEDNESDAY**
- AUG 16 **FIRST RESPONDERS NIGHT & DOUBLE PLAY THURSDAY**  
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- AUG 17 **FIREWORKS FRIDAY & SOUTHERN MISS NIGHT**
- AUG 18 **MARDI GRAS NIGHT & JERSEY AUCTION** BENEFITING K&J FOUNDATION
- AUG 19 **FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT & MILITARY SALUTE SUNDAY**  
PRESENTED BY KEESLER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
- AUG 20 **DOGGONE MONDAY**
- AUG 21 **LUNCH BREAK SPECIAL & EDUCATION DAY** FIRST PITCH 10:35 A.M.
- AUG 22 **ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT WEDNESDAY**
- AUG 23 **DOUBLE PLAY THURSDAY & COLLEGE FAIR NIGHT**  
PRESENTED BY POLK'S MEAT PRODUCTS, YUENGLING, COCA-COLA & KICKER 10B
- AUG 30 **DOUBLE PLAY THURSDAY**  
PRESENTED BY POLK'S MEAT PRODUCTS, YUENGLING, COCA-COLA & KICKER 10B
- AUG 31 **FIREWORKS FRIDAY** PRESENTED BY ALPHA MEDIA
- SEP 1 **SHUCKTOBERFEST & STEIN GIVEAWAY** FIRST 1,000 FANS
- SEP 2 **FAN APPRECIATION DAY & MILITARY SALUTE SUNDAY**  
PRESENTED BY KEESLER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
- SEP 3 **DOGGONE MONDAY** PRESENTED BY RAISING CANE'S | FIRST PITCH 1:05 P.M.



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## Classes resume Aug. 6 for A-rated Biloxi schools

Ring, ring goes the bell.

The 2018-2019 school year begins on Aug. 6 for the Biloxi Public Schools and here are some dates to remember.



When the doors open on Biloxi's eight public schools – Biloxi High, Biloxi Junior High, Biloxi Upper Elementary, and elementary schools at Gorenflo, Jeff Davis, Nichols, North Bay, and Popp's Ferry – school leaders estimate 6,200 students will be in class. That's slightly above

last year's 6,100 students, which matched pre-Katrina enrollment.

"This was the reason we built the new junior high, to accommodate that expected growth," said Jennifer Pryon, Biloxi Public Schools spokesperson.

This school year marks the second year for two Biloxi schools: the new junior high on Richard Drive, near Biloxi High; and the upper elementary off Father Ryan Avenue.

The Biloxi Indians launch their 2018 football season with a jamboree on Aug. 9 when Biloxi High takes on Long Beach. The 9th grade and junior varsity's first game is Aug. 20, a home game against Gulfport.

Other key dates:

- Aug. 17 – Shrimp Bowl, with Biloxi Indians facing St. Stanislaus
- Oct. 12 – Homecoming against St. Martin
- Oct. 26 – Senior Night for Indians players
- Sept. 3 – Labor Day, school holiday
- Oct. 8 – Columbus Day, school holiday
- Nov. 19-25 – Thanksgiving break, school holidays
- Dec. 21-Jan. 7 – Christmas break, school holidays
- Jan. 21 – MLK Day, school holiday
- March 4-6 – Mardi Gras, school holidays
- April 19 – Good Friday, school holiday
- April 22-28 – Spring Break, school holidays
- May 24 – Last day of school

## City's back-to-school leagues ready for play

Back-to-school means back to sports, and Biloxi's Parks & Recreation Department has plenty of activities on tap.

On two Saturdays, Aug. 4 and 11, the department holds registration for tackle football, cheerleading, and flag football. Registration takes place at the Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road from 9 a.m. to noon both days.

Football is open to children ages 7 to 12, cheerleading is for ages 6 to 12, and flag football is for ages 5 and 6.

"We are bringing back the flag football program, which we offered years ago," said city Athletics Specialist Greg Eleuterius. "By offering this sport to ages 5 and 6, we'll introduce more players to the game of football."

Each sport is open to Biloxi and non-Biloxi residents and fees for Biloxi residents are \$30 for one child, \$50 for two, \$75 for three, and \$90 for four children. Non-residents pay \$50 per child. Fees for adult softball are \$375 per team. During registration, proof of residency and birth certificate are required. Financial assistance for registration is available.

The city also offers baseball, basketball, soccer, youth and adult softball and special needs baseball, basketball, kickball, and volleyball.

For more info, visit [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us) or contact Eleuterius at 228-388-2483 or [sports@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:sports@biloxi.ms.us).

## Best Bets!



### Kick off the month with music, artwork

It's a first-of-the-month ritual, and you ought to check it out. It's First Friday in downtown Biloxi, on Aug. 3 from 5 to 8 p.m., when you can find bargains at downtown shops and restaurants, door prizes, live entertainment and, this month, a classic car show just south of the Mardi Gras Museum. Make your plans. Details: 228-435-6339.



### It's some wheel fun: Bike Biloxi rolls Aug. 21

Each month, on the third Tuesday of each month, in fact, a host of bike riders gather to tour downtown for Bike Biloxi. The group follows a 6.5 mile course that this month will end up at Biloxi Brewing Co. Don't have a bike? No problem. Check out the bike rental stations at MGM Park or the Biloxi Visitors Center. Details: 228-435-6339 or [mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us).

**Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum's Heritage Hall of Fame 2018 nominations**, Aug. 1-30; Nomination forms available online at [www.maritimemuseum.org](http://www.maritimemuseum.org) or by calling 228-435-6320.

**First Friday Downtown Biloxi Art District (#artontherule)**, Aug. 3, 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.

**24th Annual Carl Legett Memorial Fishing Tournament**, Aug 3-5, Point Cadet Pavilion, no admission fee. Friday weigh-in 4-8 p.m., Saturday weigh-in 4-8 p.m., Sunday weigh-in and shrimp boil, 2-5 p.m. Also, on Saturday, Aug. 4, at 6:30 p.m., see Meet the Press, featuring Robert Collier. The band will be making their first appearance on the Coast in more than 20 years. Details: 228-896-7646.

**Biloxi Gift Show**, Aug. 4 and 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. Wholesale gift show open to qualified retailers. A retail sales tax permit and additional credentials are required. Details: 228-594-3700.

**Biloxi youth football and cheerleading registration**, Aug. 4 and 11, 9 a.m.- noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Flag football, ages 5-6; tackle football, ages 7-12; cheerleading, ages 6-12. Fees: Biloxi residents, \$30 for one child, \$50 for two children, \$75 for three children, \$90 for four children; Non-Biloxi residents, \$50 per child. Details: 228-388-2483.

**Gulf Coast First Annual Paranormal Convention**, Aug. 11-12. Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. Vendors and groups; tickets: \$10-\$20. Details: 228-594-3700.

**Biloxi Aquatics swimming lessons registration**, Aug. 13, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave. Two-week, evening sessions open to ages one to adult. Biloxi residents: \$30; Non-Biloxi residents, \$50. Details: 228-435-6205.

**Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary 175th Anniversary Year**, Aug. 16, 6 p.m., Nativity Cathedral Church, 870 Howard Ave. Stained glass window presentation. Details: 228-374-1717.

**Classic Gun and Knife Show**, Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Aug. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. Details: 228-594-3700.

## Best Bet!

### Shuckers: Plenty of fun this month

Biloxi's playoff-bound Shuckers have 18 home games this month, hosting homestands with Jacksonville, Mobile, Pensacola and Birmingham. But, as Schooner, the Shuckers mascot, will tell you, minor-league baseball games are not just about balls and strikes. It's the affordable, family-oriented atmosphere at MGM Park.



► See the game-by-game schedule, Page 11

## A word about BNews Monthly

Welcome to the third 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://biloxi.ms.us/register).

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

**Website:** The city's website, at [biloxi.ms.us](http://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.

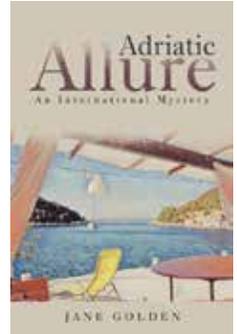
Vincent Creel,  
Public Affairs Manager  
[vcreel@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:vcreel@biloxi.ms.us)

Cecilia Dobbs Walton,  
Public Affairs Specialist  
[cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us)



**Bike Biloxi Ride in Downtown Biloxi**, Aug. 21, 6 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. This free ride, held on the third Tuesday of each month, follows a 6.5-mile course through downtown. Bring your own bike or rent one at the Biloxi Visitors Center or MGM Park through the Zagster app. Bike rental is \$3 per hour. After this month's ride, cyclists and guests are invited to Biloxi Brewing Co., 186 Bohn St., for refreshments. Helmets and lights are recommended. Details: 228-435-6339 or [mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us).

**"Adriatic Allure" Book launch and signing**, Thursday, Aug. 23, 5:30 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Re-discover the "Old Country" of Croatia in Patti Golden's newest mystery, "Adriatic Allure" Follow her protagonist Jeni as she frantically searches for a young Tulane graduate who suddenly goes missing during Yacht Week. Refreshments will be available. Details: 228-374-3105.



**Back to School Special Needs Party**, Aug. 24, 6-9 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Rd. Open to all physically and mentally challenged adults and children. Free admission. Refreshments provided. Details: 228-388-7170.

**Jurassic Quest**, Aug. 24, 3-8 p.m., Aug. 25 and 26-26, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center. Experience America's largest and most realistic dinosaur event and what it was like to be among living, breathing dinosaurs. Tickets: \$18-\$34. Details: 228-594-3700.



### Biloxi Shuckers Baseball

105 Caillavet St., 800-745-3000 or 228-233-3465  
[www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t5015](http://www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t5015) • Tickets start at \$7

- Biloxi Shuckers vs. Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, Aug. 2-6
- Biloxi Shuckers vs. Mobile BayBears, Aug. 14-18
- Biloxi Shuckers vs. Pensacola Blue Wahoos, Aug. 19-23
- Biloxi Shuckers vs. Birmingham Barons, Aug. 30- Sept. 3



### Biloxi Little Theater

220 Lee St., 228-432-8543, [www.4blt.org](http://www.4blt.org)  
 • 7th Annual A Glee-ful Celebration, Aug. 3-5  
 • Evita, Sept. 7-9, 13-15

### Center Stage

2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258, [centerstagebiloxi.com](http://centerstagebiloxi.com)

**Biloxi Lighthouse and Visitors Center**

1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, [www.biloxi.ms.us](http://www.biloxi.ms.us)  
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Biloxi Mardi Gras Museum**

119 Rue Magnolia, 228-435-6308, [www.biloxi.ms.us](http://www.biloxi.ms.us)  
Currently closed for renovations

**Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum**

115 1st St., 228-435-6320, [www.maritimemuseum.org](http://www.maritimemuseum.org)

- **Rod Hedgecock** – Rustic old to rustic new; through August 5

**Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art**

386 Beach Blvd., 228-374-5547,  
[www.georgeohr.org](http://www.georgeohr.org)

- **Works from the Tougaloo College Art Collections**, 1963-1967, through August 11
- **Rodrigue's Blue Dog: Discovering Late Works on Canvas and Metal**, through August 18
- **Thacker Mountain Radio Show**, Aug. 25, 7 p.m.

**STUDIO CLASSES:**

- **Coffee Club with Cree Cantrell**, Aug. 1, 10-11 a.m.
- **Learning with Watercolor**, Aug. 2 - 30, 3-6 p.m.
- **Kids Pottery Wheel**, Aug. 4, 2-4 p.m.
- **Oil Painting with Frank Janca**, Aug. 9 -Sept. 13, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **Date Night on the Pottery Wheel**, Aug. 3, 11, and 24, 6-8 p.m.
- **Making Masterpieces Using Light and Shadow**, Aug. 18 and 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Make a Ceramic Magnolia**, Aug. 25, 1:30-3 p.m.
- **Mudslingers: Try Your Skills on the Wheel**, Aug 4, 12:30 p.m.; Aug. 8, 8 p.m., and Aug. 18, 12:30 p.m.
- **Raku Night**, Aug. 11 and 23, 4- 8 p.m.

Check the website for more events at OOMA!

**West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire Museum**

1046 Howard Ave., 435-6119/435-6200, [www.biloxi.ms.us](http://www.biloxi.ms.us)  
Historic 1937 fire house open Saturdays 9 a.m. 2 p.m. or by appointment.

**Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi**

1178 Beach Blvd., 374-0606

- **Bingo Nights**: Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, Early Bird starts at 6:30 p.m., regular game 7 p.m.
- **Charity Bingo Sunday for Bethel Free Clinic**: Aug. 5, doors open at noon; tickets \$25 donation.
- **Going Out (Steak Nights and Dances)**: Aug. 4, 11, 18, and 25; 6-10 p.m.; live entertainment; prices vary.

**Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)**

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Friday Night Dinners**, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 6 p.m.; \$8 per person.
- **Saturday Night Dance**, Aug. 18, 7- 11 p.m.; \$8 per person; music by Southbreeze Band

**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](mailto: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, 13034 Kayleigh Cove, 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](http://mainstreetbiloxi.com)

**City of Biloxi Public Meetings**

- **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.
- **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 schedules meetings: second Thursday of the month at 4 p.m.; City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: 228-435-6259, Cortney 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.
- **Development Review Committee**: Regularly scheduled meetings: Wednesdays at 9 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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30 Story Time Woolmarket Library	31 Community Market  Story Time W. Biloxi	1	2 Community Market  Story Time MSherry Library	3 First Friday Downtown Biloxi  Fishing Tournament Point Cadet Pavilion Gleeful Celebration Biloxi Little Theatre +Live+ Beau Rivage Lorrie Morgan/Mark Willis IP Casino Resort Spa   vs. Jumbo Shrimp MGM Park	4 Football & Cheer Reg. Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center Carl Legett Tournament Point Cadet Pavilion Biloxi Gift Show MS Coast Coliseum Gleeful Celebration Biloxi Little Theatre   vs. Jumbo Shrimp MGM Park
5 Fishing Tournament Point Cadet Pavilion Biloxi Gift Show MS Coast Coliseum Gleeful Celebration Biloxi Little Theatre Kevin Hart MS Coast Coliseum   vs. Jumbo Shrimp MGM Park	6 Story Time Woolmarket Library   vs. Jumbo Shrimp MGM Park	7 Community Market  Story Time W. Biloxi  Evita Biloxi Little Theatre	8  Evita Biloxi Little Theatre	9 Community Market  Story Time MSherry Library  Evita Biloxi Little Theatre	10 Paranormal Convention MS Coast Coliseum  Tanya Tucker Golden Nugget  Ken Jeong IP Casino Resort Spa  Todd Rundgren Hard Rock  Boyz 2 Men Beau Rivage	11 Football & Cheer Registration Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center  Paranormal Convention MS Coast Coliseum  Montgomery Gentry IP Casino Resort Spa
12	13 Story Time Woolmarket Library  Aquatics Swimming Lessons Registration Biloxi Natatorium	14 Community Market  Story Time W. Biloxi  Evita Biloxi Little Theatre   vs. BayBears MGM Park	15 Godsmack/Shinedown MS Coast Coliseum  Evita Biloxi Little Theatre   vs. BayBears MGM Park	16 Community Market  Story Time MSherry Library Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary 175th Anniversary Evita Biloxi Little Theatre   vs. BayBears MGM Park	17  Tracy Morgan IP Casino Resort Spa   vs. BayBears MGM Park	18 Classic Gun & Knife Show MS Coast Coliseum Urban Cowboy Reunion IP Casino Resort Spa Purple Reign Hard Rock Terry Fator Beau Rivage   vs. BayBears MGM Park
19   vs. Wahoos MGM Park	20 Story Time Woolmarket Library   vs. Wahoos MGM Park	21 Community Market  Story Time W. Biloxi  Bike Biloxi Visitors Center   vs. Wahoos MGM Park	22   vs. Wahoos MGM Park	23 Community Market  Story Time MSherry Library  Book Signing Visitors Center   vs. Wahoos MGM Park	24 Back to School Special Needs Party Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center  Dick Fox's Golden Boys IP Casino Resort Spa  Jurassic Quest MS Coast Coliseum  Billy Currington Hard Rock	25
26	27 Story Time Woolmarket Library	28 Community Market  Story Time W. Biloxi	29	30 Community Market  Story Time MSherry Library   vs. Barons MGM Park	31  Clairvoyants IP Casino Resort Spa  Better Than Ezra Beau Rivage   vs. Barons MGM Park	1   vs. Barons MGM Park



President George W. Bush consoles east Biloxi resident Patrick Wright amid the destruction left in Katrina's wake.

## City, Cable One to look back at Camille, Katrina experiences

The City of Biloxi and Cable One will air a day of special storm-related programming on Wednesday, Aug. 29 to commemorate the anniversaries of Hurricanes Camille and Katrina, and to help educate residents about the dangers of storms and flooding.

Cable One is airing the programs throughout the day as a public service for its Biloxi customers on Cable 69. Programming will begin in the morning and continue for 24 hours, with on-screen prompts offering scheduling information throughout the day and evening.

August marks the 49th anniversary of Hurricane Camille striking Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The month is also the 13th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

"These programs airing on Cable One are designed to tell the story of Biloxi, how we've weathered the storms, and how we've moved forward," said Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich. "They are catastrophic episodes in our past, but they clearly illustrate that the people of Biloxi and the Gulf Coast have the drive and determination to overcome any and all adversity.

"And more importantly, they are intended to help remind our residents that we must be vigilant in our efforts to be prepared for storms and flooding."

Among the programs that will air repeatedly throughout the day on Cable 69:

- "R U Ready," a city-produced program in which Coast and state disaster-response leaders provide vital information on how to prepare for storms and flooding. The program was filmed during a city-sponsored gathering earlier this year at the Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center.
- "Katrina & Biloxi: A Story of Resolve and Resilience," the city's award-winning documentary filmed in the wake of Katrina.
- "A Lady Called Camille," the Civil Defense-created documentary produced after the killer 1969 storm.
- "Camille 45," a city-created documentary, featuring Danny Guice, who was mayor of Biloxi when Camille struck.
- "The greatest speech ever given by A.J. Holloway," a 12-minute presentation made six months after Katrina to a national gathering of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C. Holloway was mayor of Biloxi when Katrina struck.
- "The Centennial of the Croatian-American Cultural Society," a documentary created in 2013, which is essentially the story of Biloxi.
- An interview with Mayor A.J. Holloway conducted at City Hall on the afternoon of Aug. 29, 2005, as winds from Katrina began to subside.



## Own your own copies of Katrina, Biloxi history

"The Complete Katrina Experience," featuring two full photo books and two DVDs chockfull of storm footage and inspirational recovery stories, is now available for only \$15.

"Katrina +10: A Story of Resolve & Resilience" is the city's award-winning documentary featuring Weather Channel Meteorologist Jim Cantore, original music and 911 tapes to tell the story of the people of Biloxi and their experiences before, during and after Katrina.

"Katrina +10" is a documentary that shows recovery at the 10-year mark in Biloxi, Gulfport, Bay St. Louis, D'Iberville, Long Beach, and Pass Christian. The documentary features interviews with city leaders as well as bonus video footage.

The photo albums and DVDs originally sold for \$20 individually, and are now both available for \$15.

The two-volume set (two photo albums and two bonus-filled DVDs) is available at:

- Biloxi Visitors Center
- Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum
- Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art
- Sharkheads
- Souvenir City

See more Storm & Flood Preparedness info on Pages 14-15

# What to do and when to do it

## DURING A HURRICANE WATCH

**(A Hurricane Watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24-36 hours.)**

- Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for hurricane progress reports.
- Check emergency supplies.
- Fuel car.
- Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys, and garden tools and anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.
- Secure buildings by closing and boarding up windows. Remove outside antennas.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings. Open only when absolutely necessary and close quickly.
- Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs, bottles, and cooking utensils.
- Store valuables and personal papers in a waterproof container on the highest level of your home.
- Review evacuation plan.
- Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place.
- Take pre-storm pictures of house and contents.



- Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy. Avoid open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.
- If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power “surge” when electricity is restored.
- If officials indicate evacuation is necessary:
  - Leave as soon as possible. Avoid flooded roads and watch for washed-out bridges.
  - Secure your home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve.
  - Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going.
  - If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture to protect it from flooding or better yet, move it to a higher floor.
  - Take pre-assembled emergency supplies, warm protective clothing, blankets and sleeping bags to shelter.
  - Lock up home and leave.

## DURING A HURRICANE WARNING

**(A Hurricane Warning is issued when hurricane conditions – winds of 74 mph or greater, or dangerously high water and rough seas – are expected in 24 hours or less.)**

- Listen constantly to a battery-operated radio or television for official instructions.
- If in a mobile home, check tie-downs and evacuate immediately.
- Avoid elevators.
- If at home:
  - Stay inside, away from windows, skylights, and glass doors.

## AFTER THE STORM

- Stay tuned to local radio for information.
- Help injured or trapped persons.
- Give first aid where appropriate.
- Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Call for help.
- Return home only after authorities advise that it is safe to do so.
- Avoid loose or dangling power lines and report

them immediately to the power company, police, or fire department.

- Enter your home with caution. Beware of snakes, insects, and animals driven to higher ground by flood water.
- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage; if electricity is off, keep refrigerator and freezer closed as much as possible.
- Take pictures of the damage, both of the house and its contents for insurance claims.
- Drive only if absolutely necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges. Refrain from sightseeing.
- Use telephone only for emergency calls.
- Inspecting utilities in a damaged home
  - Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear blowing or hissing noise, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbor’s home. If you turn off the gas for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.
  - Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks or broken or frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.
  - Check for sewage and water lines damage. If you suspect sewage lines are damaged avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid the water from the tap. You can obtain safe water by melting ice cubes.
- Generally, utility companies restore services lost during major storm events first to public service providers, such as hospitals, water systems and public safety agencies.

## Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

- 1** – 74-95 mph
- 2** – 96-110 mph
- 3** – 111-130 mph
- 4** – 131-155 mph
- 5** – greater than 155 mph

Spanish and Vietnamese translation available online.

## Need More Info?

- To read FEMA’s answers to frequently asked questions about repairing significantly damaged properties in flood zones, visit [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us).
- To read FEMA’s “Homebuilder’s Guide to Coastal Construction,” which provides technical guidance and recommendations concerning the construction of coastal residential, visit [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us).
- Those with other questions can call the Community Development Department at 228-435-6280 or e-mail [building@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:building@biloxi.ms.us).

# Remembering Camille

Editor's note: This issue of BNews launches a new monthly column on Biloxi history, written by the manager of the Local History and Genealogy section of the Biloxi Public Library.

Hurricanes are nothing new to the Gulf Coast. Before the days of high technology, we can find documented evidence of monstrous visits from the sea and air. Mayan mythology mentions Huraken the god of storms. Journals from early explorers record hand-written accounts of devastation caused by catastrophic weather events. The great hurricane of 1722 caused such destruction of the Coast that some early settlers fled to New Orleans and Mobile

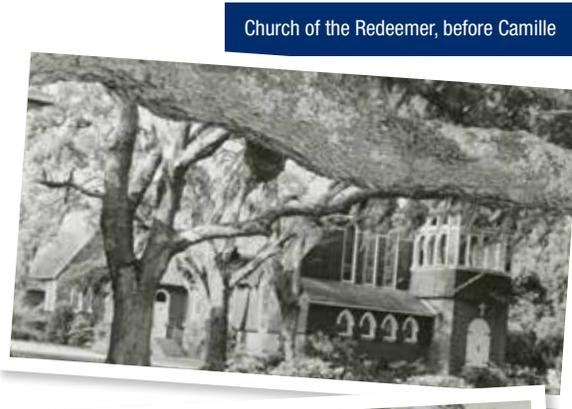
to re-establish their lives. That hurricane was indeed a major deciding factor in the move of the planned capital of Louisiana from Biloxi to New Orleans.

Hurricanes did not always have names, as we know them today. Storms were once named by year. Then, in 1954, with the confusion of identifying so many storms, the United States began naming storms using female names. In 1978 both male and female names were listed. Once all the listed hurricane names are used for

a season, the Greek alphabet comes into play, which occurred during the year of Katrina.

This July marks the 49th anniversary of Hurricane Camille's unwelcome visit to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. With radio and TV warnings in place, Camille attacked land on Aug. 17, 1969 with its relentless force of winds recorded at nearly 200 mph. Iconic Biloxi structures, such as seafood factories, Victorian homes along U.S. 90, and popular tourist attractions crumbled with Camille's mighty force. Evidence of the height of Hurricane Camille's storm surge can be found in several locations today: inside the Biloxi Lighthouse, on a pole to the west of the Biloxi Visitors Center, in Mary Mahoney's Old French House Restaurant, and on the steps of the city's Glenn Swetman house. On U.S. 90, where the Church of the Redeemer once stood, now stands the Hurricane Camille Memorial, which bears the inscriptions of 172 casualties who perished during that storm.

One little-known publication resulting from Hurricane Camille's visit to the Gulf Coast was published in 1970. It is a federal document printed at the end of an investigative hearing at Biloxi's Broadwater Beach Hotel on Jan. 7, 1970: "A Federal Response to Hurricane Camille." This 2,568-page report is a detailed account of the U.S. Senate's Special Subcommittee on Disaster Relief. The



Church of the Redeemer, before Camille



Church of the Redeemer, after Camille

Baricev's, before Camille



Baricev's, after Camille

voluminous fact-filled official government document can be found at the Local History and Genealogy Department at the Biloxi Public Library in microfiche format.

During the month of August, the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Biloxi Public Library will feature displays commemorating the 49th anniversary of Camille's historic visit to the Gulf Coast.

The Local History and Genealogy Department of the Biloxi Public Library, part of the Harrison County Library System, is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details: biloxi.ms.us or 228-435-4613.

63' above ground

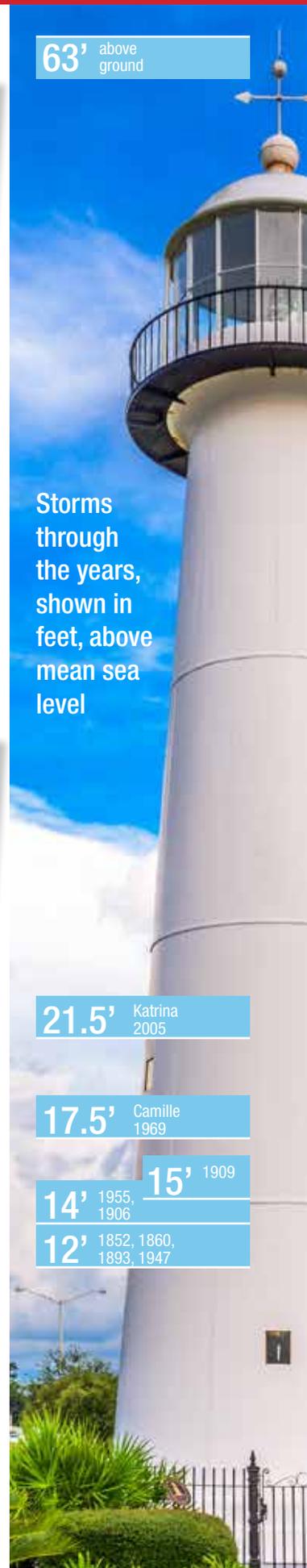
Storms through the years, shown in feet, above mean sea level

21.5' Katrina 2005

17.5' Camille 1969

15' 1909  
14' 1955, 1906

12' 1852, 1860, 1893, 1947





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# BNews Monthly

AUGUST 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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