

BNews Monthly

SEPTEMBER 2021

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



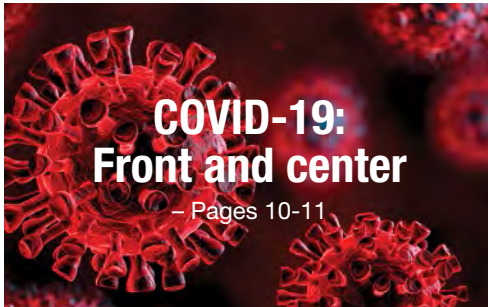
A new landmark on Point Cadet

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COVID-19: Front and center

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'Safe, friendly and beautiful'

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VA to Veterans: Get vaccinated!

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New fire chief now at helm

– Page 6



WE WANT YOU!



We're hiring!

**Biloxi
Fire
Department**

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**Biloxi
Police
Department**

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Biloxi is rollin' with Coast Transit

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Keesler visitor breaks barriers

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The life and times of yesteryear Biloxi

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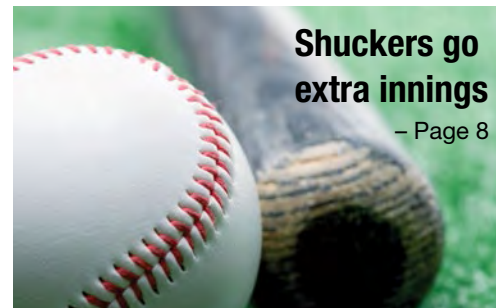
Our best bet: Seafood City

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Shuckers go extra innings

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White Pillars: Got grits?

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Yes, I'll take that to go

You see them regularly these days, these osprey, top-of-the-food-chain fish hawks, perched as a quiet-yet-attentive sentinel atop a light pole on the Popp's Ferry bridge or, similarly, above the center median of U.S. 90.

Their nests appear in the most conspicuous of places: in cell phone towers, power line towers, even lodged atop the USS Biloxi mast in Guice Park, and to the consternation of firefighters, you'll see the telltale signs of wooden flotsam and jetsam nests among the row of lights atop poles at city ballfields.

Every now and then those who stop at red lights on U.S. 90 might notice one of the birds of prey circling over the waters of the sound, looking for the next meal. You might even see one flying overhead



carrying a fish, which of course is being offered a fatal and final bird's-eye view of Biloxi.

"I don't know, I think we're seeing them more regularly than we did growing up," says Larry Sablich, whose Port Division office overlooks the water. "I think Katrina probably had something to do with it, pushing them closer to us. I think it's great. I really think the ones

nesting at the Biloxi mast see me every time I walk in and out of the office."

Thankfully, we're able to catch a glimpse of these treasures, along with landscapes, sunsets and more. There's a cadre of local photographers who capture these moments on a regular basis and share on social media pages, especially Facebook's I Love Biloxi.

The late Alex North was certainly the best known shooter, but we tip our caps to the lensman who showcased the moments some of us may miss: Carl Fallo, who by mid-August had captured his 227th Biloxi sunset. There's also Tony Sawyer, Nathan Hall, Tim Isbell and Albert J Henrion Jr., among the local shooters. The work is free for the viewing.

Slow down and enjoy the show.

The nom de plume Nick L. Shrimp is a homage to the late Walter Fountain, original olde crab, longtime editor of the Biloxi-D'Iberville Press, and longtime Biloxi Chamber of Commerce manager.

Photo by Albert Henrion Jr.

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the Edgewater Mall Facebook page.



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Edgewater Mall



Picture this

Lensman James Edward Bates was the official photographer for the new rendering of the Mayor and City Council, marking new four-year terms of office. The photo will hang among the second-floor officialdom gallery at City Hall. Shown, from left, are Councilmembers George Lawrence, Ward 1; Felix Gines, Ward 2; and Dixie Newman, Ward 3; Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich; and Councilmembers Robert L. Deming III, Ward 4; Paul Tisdale, Ward 5; Kenny Glavan, Ward 6; and Nathan Barrett, Ward 7.

'Safe, friendly, beautiful' New \$70 million budget comes into better focus

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich's "safe, friendly and beautiful" credo, fueled by millions in federal COVID-19 funding to replace lost revenue, was the backdrop more than during budget meetings in August, when the mayor and councilmembers reviewed nearly \$4 million in additional spending in three key city departments: Police, Fire and Public Works.

Biloxi could have 16 new police officers patrolling streets and neighborhoods next year, firefighters could be tooling around in three new fire trucks, and the Public Works Department could get 10 new workers and a host of new equipment.

Police, Fire and Public Works were the first three city departments to have budgets reviewed as the mayor and councilmembers move toward crafting a spending plan for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins Oct. 1. Among the other departmental budgets that were reviewed was Parks & Recreation, where five workers will be added.

The City Council has the final say on city spending, by state statute. Mayors, however, have historically presented a budget that is reviewed and revised by the City Council.

► See financial info at biloxi.ms.us

The city is projecting \$70 million in revenue, primarily from gaming, sales tax and property taxes, to operate in the new fiscal year. The \$70 million also includes the first half of \$11 million in federal aid to replace revenue lost during the pandemic.

The FY '22 budget, Gilich has said, represents a renewed commitment toward making Biloxi a safe, friendly and beautiful community. More than once during the budget sessions, councilmembers bemoaned the overall appearance of city rights-of-way, complaining of overgrown grass and weeds along roadsides or on city properties.

For the key departments of Police, Fire and Public Works, "safe, friendly and beautiful" meant more funding and resources. The proposed increases in spending: \$1.74 million in Police, \$1.15 million in Fire and \$1.02 million in Public Works.

The Police Department, where the \$1.7 million-dollar bump in spending will bring its FY '22 budget to just under \$20 million, expects to realize a goal of 145 officers, up by 12 percent from the current level of 129, and nearly two dozen new police cruisers.

911: Mayor Gilich and Biloxi's chiefs met with AMR to discuss emergency response rates, which, AMR says, have been impacted by COVID-19 issues. AMR response times in Biloxi averaged 25 minutes in July. Said Gilich to county supervisors: "We need a solution." Background on the issue: at biloxi.ms.us/amr



East Biloxi: Temporary paving was done down on the section of Howard from Myrtle to Maple, and pavement was headed for Oak by, of all dates, Aug. 29. See details and deadlines of current infrastructure work, Pages 18-19.

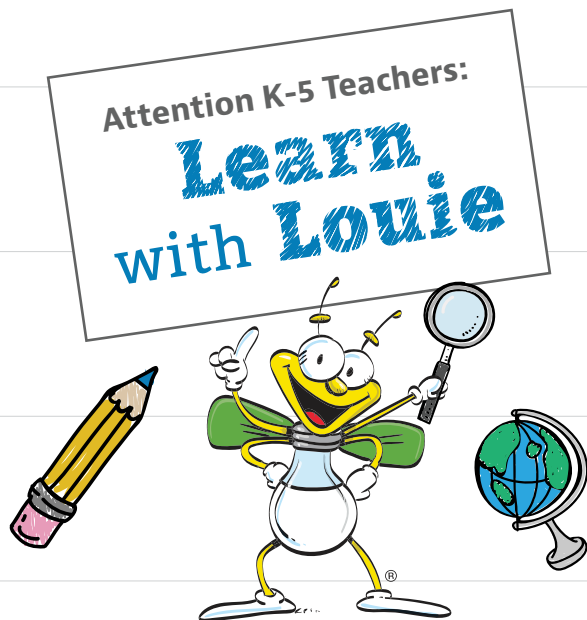
Swimming:

Frequent users of the pools at the Biloxi Natatorium and Donald M. Snyder Sr. Community Center will notice shorter swim times because of staffing shortages. Keep an eye on the Facebook pages for both venues.



Division: The torrential downpours have deterred construction of the new Keesler gateway from I-110 to Forrest Avenue, as well as construction of the base's new visitors center. A first-quarter 2022 opening was among the topics the other day in a meet-and-greet between Mayor Gilich and the new Keesler honcho, Col. William Hunter, commander of the 81st Wing.





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A new Biloxi landmark

Point Cadet -- and Biloxi -- welcomed a new landmark in August with the dedication of the statue and grotto honoring Our Lady of La Vang, outside the Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church on Oak Street in East Biloxi. Bishop Louis F. Kihneman III, before an outdoor audience of nearly 300, celebrated Mass at an altar situated at the foot of the 13-foot statue, which stands in front of a 30-foot rock wall. Our Lady of La Vang is said to have appeared in a remote rainforest in the late 1700s to a group of Catholics fleeing persecution in Vietnam. She became a centerpiece of Catholic faith in the country, and, after the fall of Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 — when more than a million Vietnamese became refugees — her intercession was credited with sparing the lives of her devotees. Said Martyrs Pastor Thang Pham: “Since we are Vietnamese, we wanted our Mother here, to be the Mother of this community.”

Photo by Serena Gilich

Geiser named Biloxi fire chief

Nicholaus Geiser, a 17-year veteran of the Biloxi Fire Department who served as Deputy Chief of Management, has been appointed Biloxi's fire chief.

Geiser, 41, has been a Biloxi firefighter since July 2004 and has been promoted up the ranks: Firefighter II in July 2005 and Firefighter III in August 2007. In November 2010, he was assigned as a field training officer and held that position for nearly two years until he was reassigned as a Firefighter III in February 2012. Then in May of 2016, Geiser was promoted to fire captain and served in that role until March 2019, when he was named Deputy Chief of Training and Biloxi's Emergency Manager.

In those positions, Geiser oversaw the training of all newly hired Biloxi firefighters and was responsible for informing employees, residents and visitors on how to prepare for natural disasters and other emergencies.

Geiser, a Biloxi native, graduated from Biloxi High School and from the University of Southern Mississippi with a double major in Business Management and Accounting.

He became a firefighter for a few reasons, including family advice, he said. “First, my uncles talked it up as the best job in the world, and they were right. Second, the city reimbursed my tuition to finish up the degree and get the second one, and, third, I had a desire to help people and not sit behind a desk for the rest of my life.”

Geiser's two uncles are Mike Geiser and Jimmy Geiser, who today are both retired Biloxi firefighters.

Mayor Gilich also announced that Jason Earl Davis, currently Deputy Chief for Training, will become the department's assistant chief, a position held by Mark Dronet, who retired earlier this year.



Nicholas Geiser

Oscar Renda seeks \$79 million more for North Contract

Oscar Renda Contracting, the Texas firm that in 2014 was awarded the contract for the \$116 million North Project, and at one point had dozens of East Biloxi streets reduced to dirt, has filed a \$79 million lawsuit against the city, alleging, among other things, that the engineering documents and plans for the construction were flawed.

The lawsuit, filed in Harrison County Circuit Court, follows a request by Oscar

Renda in May 2020 for \$70 million, updated 10 months later using new methodology to \$79 million, for “extra work,” City Attorney Peter Abide told the City Council.

The claim, the city said in a previous 31-page reply, was “based mainly on false logic and inaccurate analysis,

non-supported calculations, and ignores contractual provisions in order to assert arguments that are incorrect.”

Mayor Gilich, after receiving the \$79 million request, notified Oscar Renda that, regardless of the methodology of either request, “the city's ultimate analysis is that ORC has not shown that it is entitled to additional time and compensation beyond what the city has already granted.”


- ▶ See background on city website
- ▶ See latest on infrastructure, Pages 18-19

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biloxi.ms.us • 

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Shuckers sending off summer with a bang

By Garrett Greene
Biloxi Shuckers

It's hard to believe but the Biloxi Shuckers season is nearing its conclusion for 2021. It seems like just a few weeks ago that the Shuckers were beginning baseball for the first time in over 600 days and throwing a no-hitter at MGM Park, but the summer is indeed winding down.



While this year has certainly not been like most for the Shuckers, the season has still been highlighted by incredible moments, spectacular players and, of course, exceptional promotions. And the end of the season brings plenty of opportunities to get out to MGM Park at least one more time to say farewell to summer.

September will feature two post-game fireworks shows, coming on Friday, Sept. 3 and Friday, Sept. 17. There are also several giveaways left on the schedule, with a wine tumbler giveaway to the first 1,000 fans (wine not included) on Saturday, Sept. 4 presented by Beau Rivage, and a Shuckers Tote Bag giveaway to the first 1,000 fans on Saturday, Sept. 18.

An annual tradition at MGM Park, Egg Bowl Night will have some extra juice coming up on Thursday, Sept. 2. A former Bulldog has already played with the Shuckers this season, with lefty Ethan Small donning a Biloxi uniform from May 5 through June 18. But now, an Ole Miss alum, first baseman Thomas Dillard, is with the Shuckers for the final stretch of the season.

Dillard was taken by the Brewers in the fifth round of the 2019 draft out of Ole Miss after setting the program record for walks in a single season and earning a spot on the All-SEC Tournament Team for a second consecutive season. The switch-hitter lit up the High-A Central while playing with the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers before his mid-August promotion to Biloxi, hitting 16 home runs while recording 67 RBI to lead the league.

The Shuckers lineup also features the electric base-stealer David Hamilton, who stole 41 bases at High-A before his promotion to the Shuckers and is in the top five in all of Minor League Baseball in steals. Plus, Brewers' No. 1 prospect Garrett Mitchell has hit some tape measure home runs to parts of MGM Park that no slugger has ever reached in his brief time in Biloxi.

Additionally, the end of the season brings an opportunity for the Shuckers to say "thank you" to the entire community that has supported the team through the first six seasons on the Coast. As the Shuckers have done every year, we take one extra night to recognize members of the Armed Forces with Military Appreciation Night on Saturday, Sept. 18. And the season draws to a close on Sunday, Sept. 19 at 1:05 p.m. with Fan Appreciation Day, featuring prizes and drawings for fans all throughout the game.

Just because baseball season is ending soon doesn't mean the gates to MGM Park will be locked until the start of the 2022 baseball season. The ballpark is set to host plenty of outside events during the fall and is available for groups to book during the offseason. So come out and celebrate the end of summer with the Shuckers or reach out to enjoy MGM Park for your special occasion this fall and winter!

Garrett Greene is Media Relations Manager and voice of the Biloxi Shuckers. See "Inside Shuck Nation" daily on BTV at 6:15 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

First baseman Thomas Dillard, an Ole Miss alum and Brewers first round pick in 2019, is with the Shuckers for the final stretch of the season. The switch-hitter lit up the High-A Central while playing with the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers before his mid-August promotion to Biloxi.

Photo courtesy of the Mississippi Braves

Veterans parade seeks units for annual procession

The annual Gulf Coast Veterans Parade makes it return to Biloxi this year, and all Veteran and community organizations are invited to sign up to participate.

The 21st parade will roll on Nov. 6 through downtown Biloxi. The parade will lineup from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. with the procession rolling promptly at 11 a.m. Parade staging will begin at the intersection of Howard Avenue and Bellman Street.

This parade, which rotates each year between Biloxi, D'Iberville and Gulfport, is dedicated to military Veterans who have served or are presently serving the country. Entries and decorations should represent the parade theme with dignity and respect to Veterans and the U.S. flag.

Only online registration is allowed, with a deadline of Oct. 18. Sign up at www.msveteransparade.org/parade-test-page.

The Gulf Coast Veterans Parade is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to recognize Veterans for their service, connect the community, and instill patriotism in today's youth. For more information on business sponsorships and individual donations, visit www.msveteransparade.org.

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LUNCH WITHOUT CRAB	\$12.49	\$9.99	\$9.37	\$10.62
DINNER WITHOUT CRAB	\$17.99	\$15.99	\$14.99	\$16.99

WITH PLAYERS' CARD PLUS TAX

*Crab not available for lunch to go or takeout.



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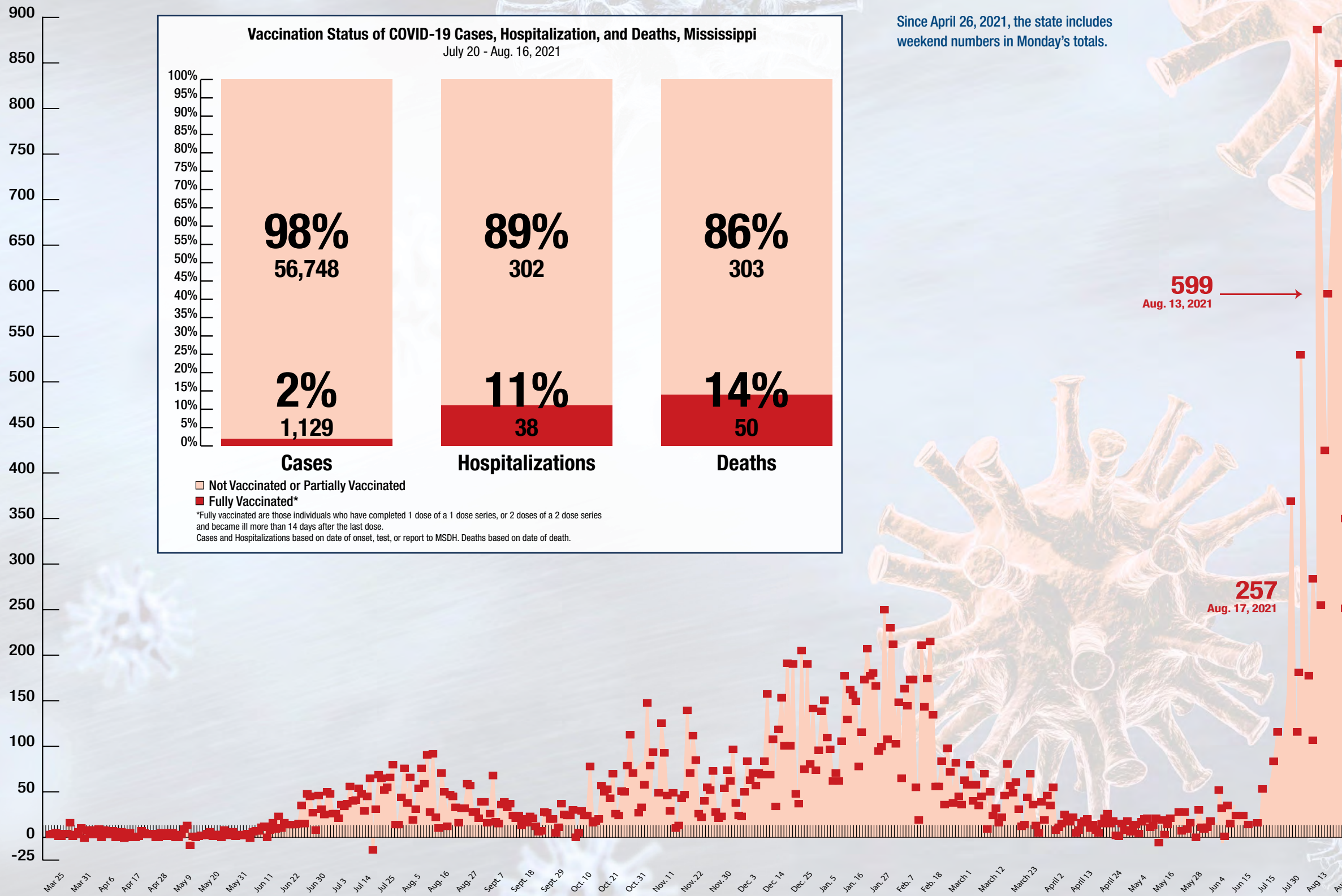
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Coronavirus by the numbers

Harrison County – Daily Cases



Since April 26, 2021, the state includes weekend numbers in Monday's totals.

Statewide overall

Population: 2.97 Million

Positive cases

392,309 (as of Aug 17, 2021)

Deaths

7,880 (as of Aug 17, 2021)

Fully vaccinated

34% (as of Aug 17, 2021)

Harrison County

Population: 208,080

Positive cases

25,536 (as of Aug 17, 2021)

Deaths

349 (as of Aug 17, 2021)


Fully vaccinated

31% (as of Aug 17, 2021)

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/coronavirus-info-practical-advice/ for links to COVID-19 vaccination locations.

Mississippi COVID-19 Hotline:
877-978-6453

 See updates Friday on the city's Facebook page.

Data reported by Mississippi State Department of Health.



We're Recruiting!

The Biloxi Fire Department strives for diversity in order to best represent the community we serve. To further this effort, we are looking for motivated, dedicated, and enthusiastic women and men to join the department. The City of Biloxi provides an excellent benefits package and retirement plan.

The starting salary is \$36,193 for entry level Firefighter. The Firefighter I position involves training in emergency medical techniques, firefighting skills, and much more.

Minimum Qualifications

- 18 years of age or older
- High School Diploma or GED
- Valid Driver's License

Selection Process

- Application Submittal
- Written Exam
- Candidate Physical Ability Test
- Background Check
- Computer Voice Stress Analysis
- Oral Interview
- Conditional Offer of Employment
- Psychological Evaluation
- Medical Evaluation
- Final Offer of Employment

Benefits

- Starting salary for this class is \$36,193
- Scheduling: 24 hrs. on /48 hrs. off
- Retirement Plan
- College Tuition Reimbursement
- Educational Incentive Program
- Health, Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance
- Paid Vacation and Holidays
- Extensive Training

Career Opportunities

- EMT/Paramedic
- Fire Inspector
- Special Operations
- Emergency Management

For more information, contact the Biloxi Fire Department Training Division at 228-435-6200 or visit biloxi.ms.us

E-mail questions to bfdtraining@biloxi.ms.us



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established 1699

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Coast Transit: Safe, reliable and rollin'

Morgan Shiyou
Coast Transit Authority

Coast Transit Authority provides safe, dependable, and affordable public transportation and here are just a few ways CTA keeps the Gulf Coast rolling for you.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, your safety is our top priority. At CTA, we are cleaning and disinfecting our buses and trolleys daily, so you can get to your destination with peace of mind. Masks are required upon boarding and all buses are equipped with individually packaged, free masks should a rider need one. Even with all these extra precautions CTA buses make it to their destinations, timely and efficiently.

Harrison County residents in need of a COVID-19 vaccine? Don't let transportation barriers stop you. CTA is here to help! Call 228-896-8080 to schedule a ride to your vaccination destination.

In Biloxi, the Casino Hopper Trolleys ridership was up by about 110 percent of pre-COVID-19 levels over the summer months. CTA's Casino Hopper Trolleys are mostly used by visitors exploring



Biloxi's casinos and by casino employees. Going to work or play, CTA welcomes you aboard our Casino Hopper Trolley. Ride in comfort to the casinos, attractions and businesses along Highway 90, Caillavet Street and Bayview Avenue. Plus, you can connect with other routes at the Biloxi Transit Center.

And, as you make your plan for this hurricane season, remember CTA is prepared to assist local



Coast Transit Authority

residents with evacuation transportation and move you out of harm's way. Pre-register online at coasttransit.com or call 866-206-8843. Be prepared to provide your name, address, phone number and any special needs you may have. Once registered

for evacuation transportation and an evacuation notice is issued, you MUST call CTA at 866-206-8843 to confirm that you will need transportation assistance.

For a complete list of hurricane transportation rules, routes, schedules and other programs, visit online at coasttransit.com or call 228-896-8080.



2021 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> EC </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p><small>SHRIMP BOWL</small> East Central AUG. 27</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>@ Ocean Springs OCT. 7</p> </div>
<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>@ Poplarville SEP. 3</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>@ St. Martin OCT. 15</p> </div>
<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>@ Pearl SEP. 17</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p><small>HOMECOMING</small> Pascagoula OCT. 22</p> </div>
<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>D'iberville SEP. 24</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>@ Hancock OCT. 29</p> </div>
<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>Harrison Central OCT. 1</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <p><small>SENIOR NIGHT</small> Gulfport NOV. 5</p> </div>

biloxischools.net

A word of advice for Veterans: Get vaccinated

Bryan C. Matthews, Director
Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System

As we continue to navigate these unprecedented times, the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System employees are continuing to provide the best health care possible to our Veterans and other beneficiaries.

While this has proven difficult with the ongoing global health crisis, we have managed to continue meeting the needs of the Veterans we have all chosen to serve and to provide more than 47,000 COVID-19 vaccinations to our Veterans and other

eligible beneficiaries. Our healthcare heroes have been doing their part by caring for our Veterans who have been combating this deadly disease.

Now it is our turn to do our part by encouraging all

Veterans, their spouses, registered caregivers and staff to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at one of the GCVHCS facilities, either in Biloxi; Mobile, Ala.; and in Pensacola, Eglin, and Panama City Beach, Fla.

I encourage all individuals receiving healthcare through the GCVHCS to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. With the recent uptick in COVID-19 hospitalizations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has maintained that getting one of the three COVID-19 vaccines significantly reduces an individual's chance of becoming ill with the virus.

Unfortunately, Mississippi has been one of the least vaccinated states, with 662 out of every 1,000 Mississippians unvaccinated. Additionally, nearly 400 out of every one million Mississippians are hospitalized with COVID-19, an alarming number which could be offset by taking the opportunity to get vaccinated against this deadly virus.

This monthly column and the 15-minute program airing daily at 6:45 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. on BTV are created by the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System manager.



The Biloxi VA has been operating COVID-19 vaccination clinics since Dec. 22, 2020. The VA has hosted numerous weekend vaccination clinics and has implemented walk-in COVID-19 vaccination capabilities. (Photo courtesy of Biloxi VA)



Biloxi VA TODAY

I encourage each and every one of you to get vaccinated; this not only protects you, but your family members, friends and all those with whom you come in contact. Again, our healthcare heroes have been doing their part.

At the GCVHCS, we have been operating COVID-19 vaccination clinics since Dec. 22, 2020. We hosted numerous weekend vaccination clinics and have implemented walk-in COVID-19 vaccination capabilities at each of our sites.

In Biloxi, Veterans and other eligible beneficiaries have the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccinations by visiting the GCVHCS Compensation and Pension (C&P) Clinic (Bldg. 30 at the Biloxi VA Medical Center) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Additionally, Veterans and other eligible beneficiaries aged 18 and older may schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-296-8872 or walk in to receive a vaccination.

► Visit online at www.biloxi.va.gov
and on Facebook at [VAGulfCoast](https://www.facebook.com/VAGulfCoast).

We've also successfully used our newly acquired Medical Mobile Unit to facilitate COVID-19 vaccinations for some of our more rural Veterans; in early August, we provided COVID-19 vaccinations to our Veterans in Picayune, Miss. We're planning on using this 30-foot vehicle in other areas along the Gulf Coast; please monitor our social media page for dates and times when this service could be available in your area.

I would also like to remind individuals interested in visiting our facilities of our enhanced visitation policy. Individuals wishing to visit Veterans at the GCVHCS Community Living Center are required to adhere to the following:

- Visits are scheduled Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. by contacting 228-523-4718 or 228-523-5569.
- Visitors must wear a mask and perform hand hygiene prior to visit.
- Visitors will be screened upon entry to the CLC (temperature/screening questions).
- Visits will occur in the CLC front lobby using the Visitation Station-a plexiglass type shield.
- Only one visitor will be allowed to visit at a time.

Lastly, like health care facilities across the nation, our frontline health care employees have continued performing admirably under some of the most stringent conditions.

He's helping students cross language, cultural barriers

By Senior Airman Seth Haddix
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

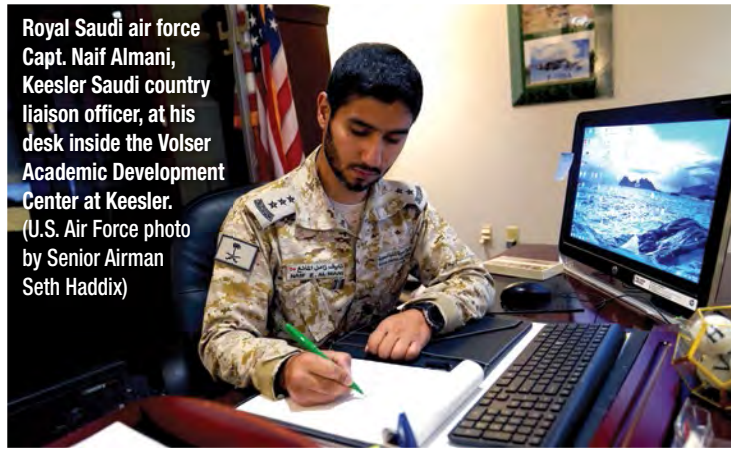
Serving as the Keesler Saudi country liaison officer for the students in training from Saudi Arabia on Keesler, Capt. Naif Almani has worked toward the goal of providing his country with exceptional soldiers and strengthening its relationship with the United States.

After receiving notice from the Harrison County School District and the International Military Student Office, Almani was able to take his mission off-base by interpreting exams for a student in the local area.

"The school needed help translating exams for a student who spoke Arabic, my first language," Almani said. "After verifying the legality, I agreed to help."

Almani was able to act as an interpreter, translating the questions from the teacher to the student in Arabic, and translating his

Royal Saudi air force
Capt. Naif Almani,
Keesler Saudi country
liaison officer, at his
desk inside the Volser
Academic Development
Center at Keesler.
(U.S. Air Force photo
by Senior Airman
Seth Haddix)



answers back. After two days of test taking, Almani was able to help the school and student complete the exams.

Sheila Curtis, Harrison County School District educational director, said that Almani was able to bridge a gap in communication with students a part of the district and hopes to continue working with Keesler personnel in the future.

"Almani has helped us out tremendously as a translator," Curtis said. "It means a lot from strengthening our partnership with Keesler to finding new ways to overcome our

challenges."

Going forward, Almani and the school district continue to work together to overcome any language or cultural barriers.

"I did this more as an act of service," Almani said. "To me, assisting someone who needs it goes under basic humanitarian principles and I was happy to help someone who needed it."

From the allies overseas to the Gulf Coast community, Keesler strives towards advancing its partnerships and creating mutual collaborations to benefit all.

"A part of my professional duty is to consolidate and support the foundation of the cooperation between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States," Almani said. "The United States is one of our most important partners, and diversifying our partnership is key. This partnership is still making remarkable progress. Helping the community resulted in progressing our brotherhood between us and the partnership up to the highest levels."

Watch the Keesler update each day at 7:45 a.m.,
7:45 p.m. and 1:45 on BTV: Biloxi Television.

September Promotions

SEPTEMBER 2	EGG BOWL NIGHT & CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 3	POSTGAME FIREWORKS PRESENTED BY PINEBELT DERMATOLOGY & SKIN CANCER CENTER & FIRST RESPONDERS & FRONTLINE WORKERS NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 4	WINE TUMBLER GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY BEAU RIVAGE
SEPTEMBER 5	BARK IN THE PARK & SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS NIGHT & T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY GULFPORT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM
SEPTEMBER 14	T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY GULFPORT NISSAN
SEPTEMBER 17	POSTGAME FIREWORKS PRESENTED BY MARGARITAVILLE RESORT BILOXI
SEPTEMBER 18	MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT & TYLER'S AMAZING BALANCING ACT & TOTE BAG GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY BEAU RIVAGE
SEPTEMBER 19	FAN APPRECIATION DAY

TUESDAY-SATURDAY 6:35PM START TIME | SUNDAY 5:05PM START TIME | SUNDAY 9-19 1:05PM START TIME



DAILY PROMOTIONS



\$10 20oz Souvenir mug
with \$5 refills



Current & former military
personnel discounted tickets



\$2 Yuengling drafts, \$2 Fountain
drinks, \$3 Weekly Draft Beer
Specials & \$2 Hotdogs



Giveaways, theme nights,
jersey auctions & more



Postgame catch on the field
Enjoy our Family Fun Pack*
*4 person minimum

DATES, TIMES & PROMOTIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Barry Switzer: From one trophy to another

The Lombardi Trophy from his Dallas Cowboys days was unavailable, so a Biloxi memento was best when football legend Barry Switzer dropped by City Hall for a meeting with Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich.



The King and Ollie

The confetti descended and it was all smiles for chef Austin Sumrall of the White Pillars, shown with son Ollie, as the Biloxi restaurateur was crowned “King of American Seafood” during the 2021 Great American Seafood Cook-Off. As the winner, Sumrall will travel across the country and abroad to promote U.S. seafood. Sumrall, who faced competition from ten states, served a Gulf Snapper three ways for the judges: raw, snapper ribs and a poached snapper jowl pho. Said Sumrall: “It was a lot and we were down to the absolute wire on getting it accomplished but our plan was to go big or go home.”

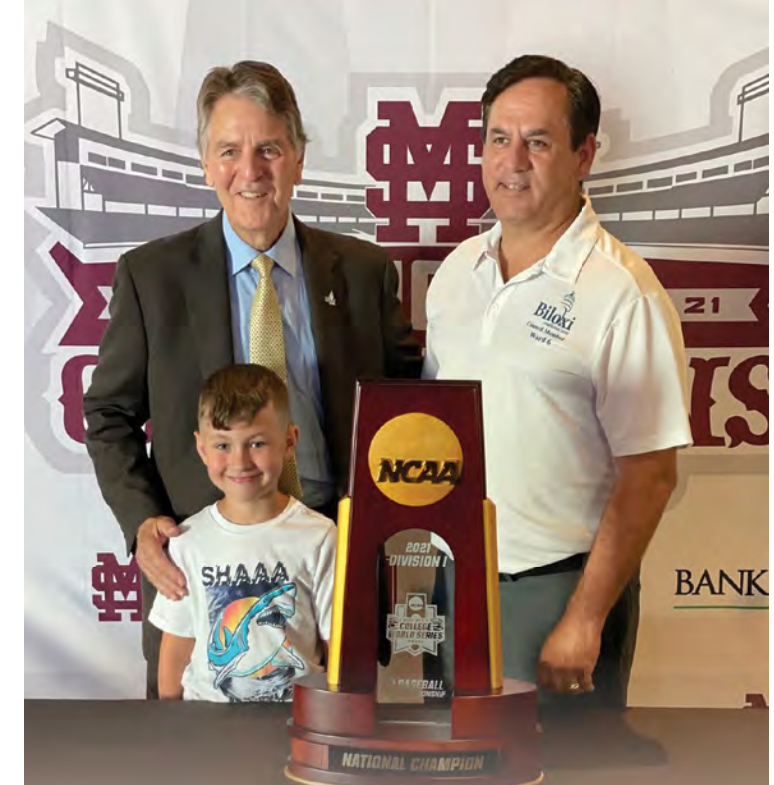
Chef Austin Sumrall
White Pillars
Mississippi
Gulf Snapper Three Ways

Great American Seafood Cook-Off



Mr. Hospitality

Biloxi Visitors Center Manager Bill Raymond, shown with Biloxi Chamber exec Rachael Seymour Kiesling, was named a One Coast community leader during a Coast Chamber ceremony in August.



Hail State

Mayor “FoFo” Gilich and Councilman Kenny Glavan recruited a future voter for some face time the other day when Mississippi State’s NCAA World Series trophy made a stop at Margaritaville.



What they’re reading: Biloxi High School staff

School’s in session, so we checked in with Biloxi High School staff for some page turners:

- **Kelsey Bush**, English I/English III teacher: “Educated,” by Tara Westover
- **Christy Arnold**, Career Center Manager: “The Street Lawyer,” by John Grisham
- **Michael Burkett**, PhD, NBCT, Physics Department: “Rhythm of War,” by Brandon Sanderson
- **Terri Strickland**, AP Language & Composition: “Tuesdays with Morrie,” by Mitch Albom
- **Travis Coakley**, Director of Fine Arts/Director of Bands: “Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap and Others Don’t,” by Jim Collins



The infrastructure work in Biloxi

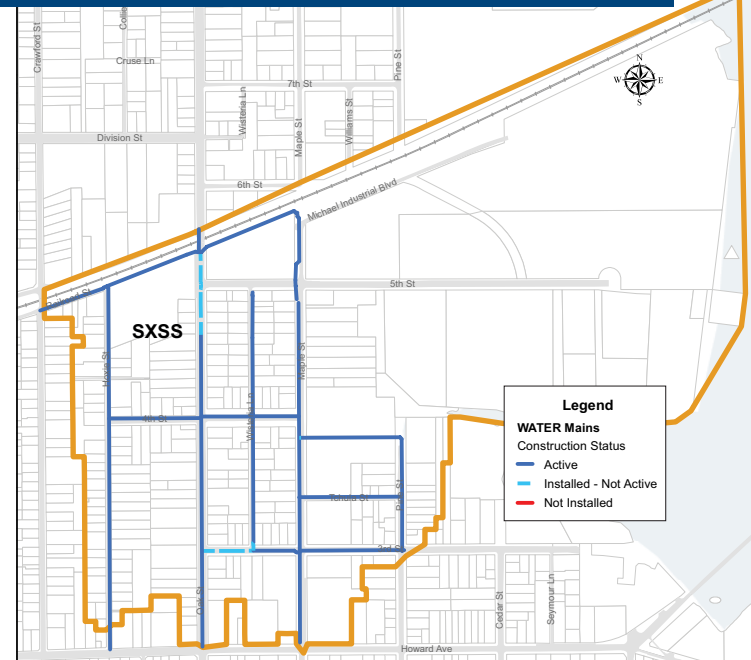
Pages 18 and 19 contain maps that show the status of the city's two major infrastructure projects now underway. The information on these maps is compiled by the city's Engineering Department, based on reports from contractors and inspectors at each site. See detailed maps and video online at biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/.

Sixth Street South

Lane Construction in October 2019 began a \$10.5 million, 550-day project to install new water, sewer and drainage lines in a Point Cadet area south of the CSX railway. It involves three miles of roads, from the tip of the peninsula at Michael Boulevard, south to Third Street and west to Hoxie. Deadline: April 16, 2021, Aug. 14, 2021, Aug. 29, 2021. Extension primarily because of inclement weather.

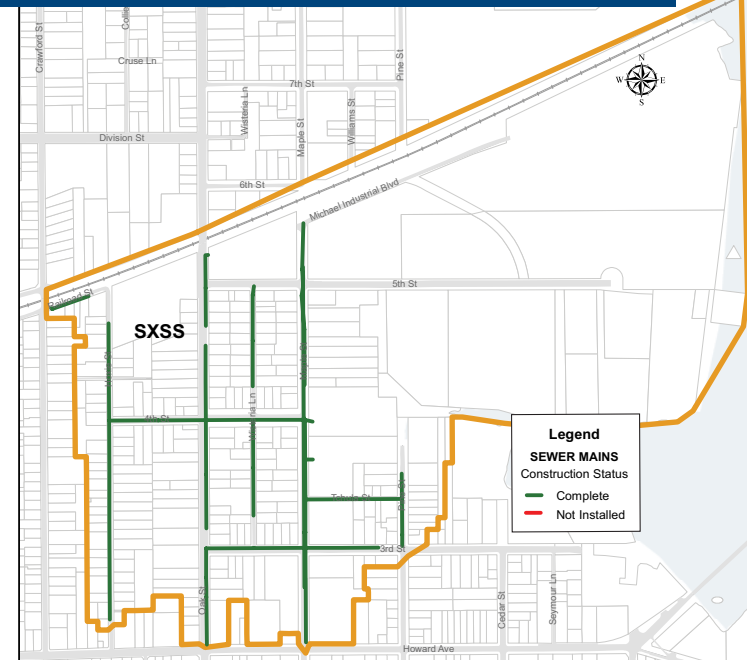
Lane Construction Water

Water Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



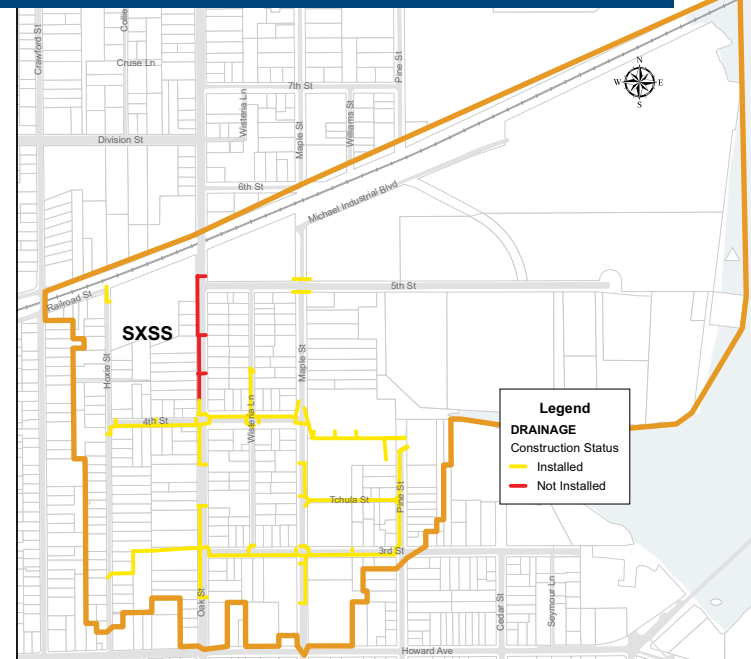
Lane Construction Sewer

Sewer Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



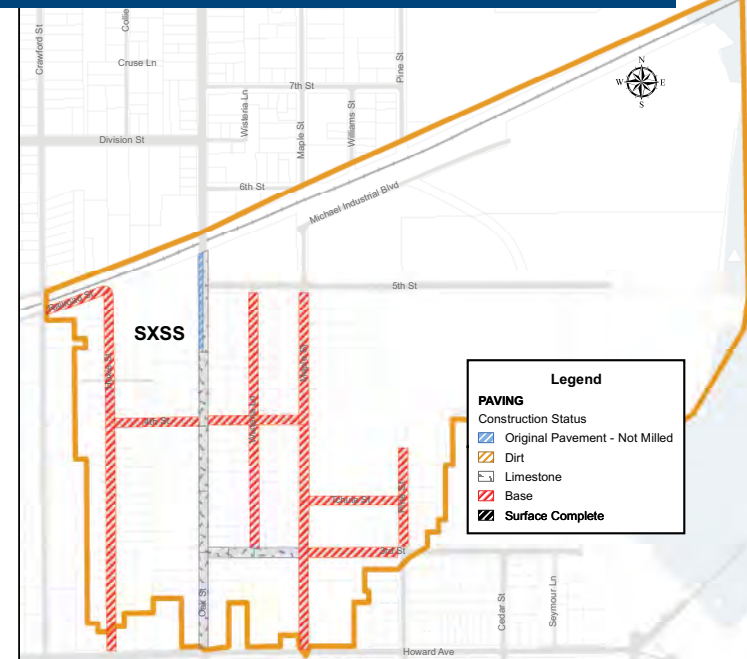
Lane Construction Drainage

Drainage Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



Lane Construction Pavement

Roads to be paved as of August 11, 2021

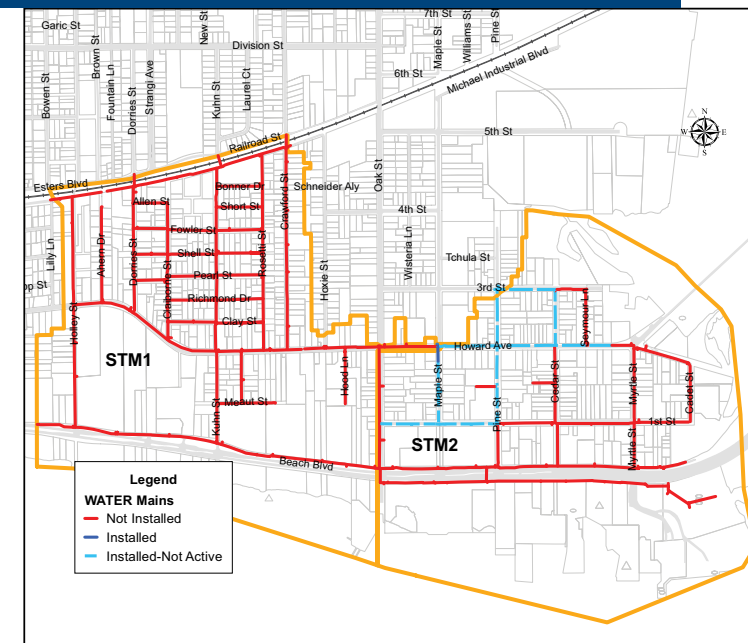


St. Michael 1 & 2

The Necaie Brothers Construction contract began on Jan. 4, 2021 with the next phase of infrastructure work in East Biloxi. The first order of business for this \$41.5-million project: installation of a new sanitary sewer on Howard, from Maple to Cadet, while maintaining access to the Palace Casino throughout construction. The Necaie work is scheduled to take 900 days.

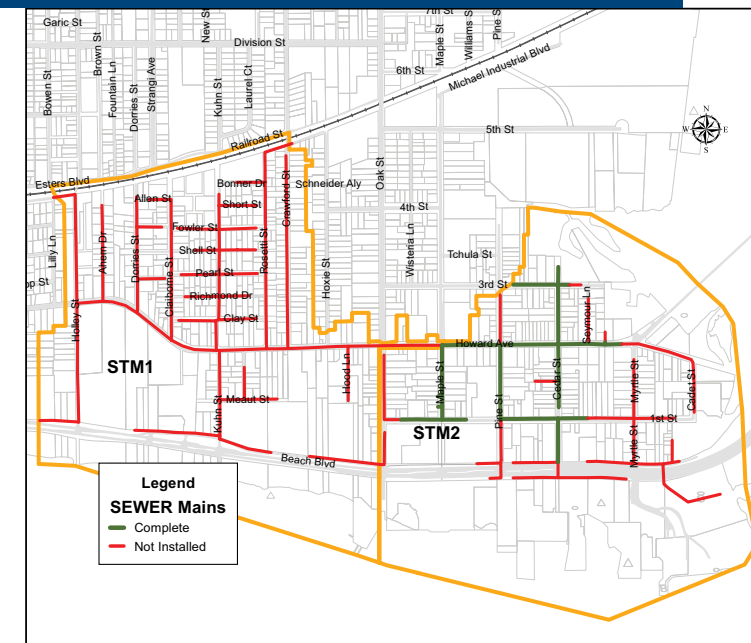
Necaie Brothers Construction Water

Water Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



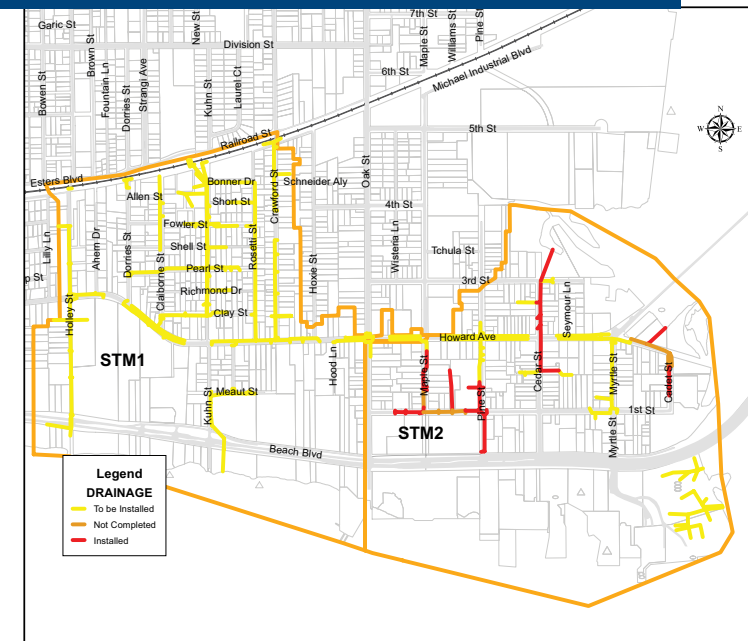
Necaie Brothers Construction Sewer

Sewer Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



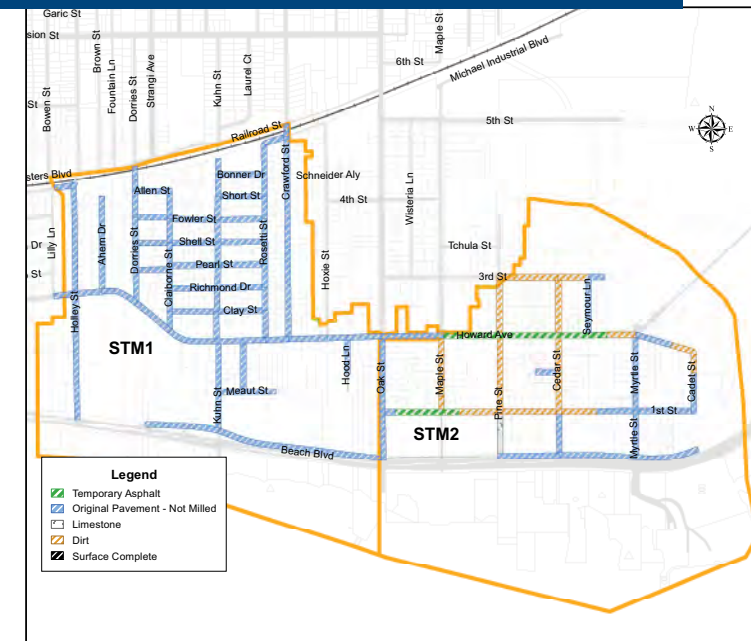
Necaie Brothers Construction Drainage

Drainage Mains to be installed as of August 11, 2021



Necaie Brothers Construction Pavement

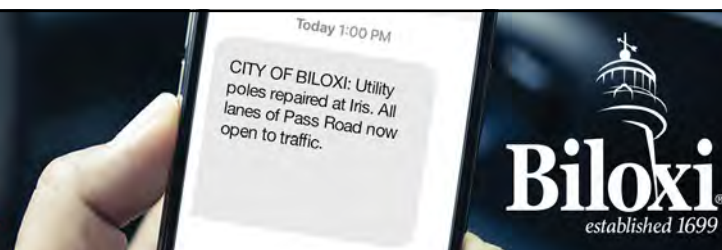
Roads to be paved as of August 11, 2021



Get the 411 on traffic

B-Alert

Text BILOXI to 99411
for timely traffic updates.





A BILOXI POLICE OFFICER • BECOME A BILOXI POLICE OFFICER



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SWAT ★ CSI ★ MORE**

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team unity and hold yourself to a higher standard,
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Benefits

- Low cost health insurance for you and your family
- Retirement plan (Public Employees Retirement System of MS)
- Education pay and tuition reimbursement
- Free Health & Wellness Clinic for you and your family
- Optional take-home vehicle
- Optional deferred compensation plan

Requirements

- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Must be a high school graduate or have a GED
- Must pass a comprehensive background investigation

See more online at biloxi.ms.us

**Contact: bpdapplicant@biloxi.ms.us,
228-435-6262, 228-702-3121**

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Shrimply the best

Satisfy your seafood cravings at the Coast's annual celebration, the Biloxi Seafood Festival. The two-day affair, hosted by the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce, will take place on the Biloxi Town Green on Saturday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Seafood will be the focal point of the event, of course, with a number of businesses serving an array of fresh dishes. There will also be a line up of live entertainment and myriad vendors. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for those ages 12 and younger. Details: 228-604-0014

Fresh fiesta

Crisp produce and freshly grown plants along with live entertainment will be the centerpiece of the Biloxi Community Market Festival on Thursday, Sept. 30 in Downtown Biloxi. The festival will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will accompany the bi-weekly market vendors under the I-110 overpass, at the corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. Info and demonstrations booths, hourly giveaways and themed activities will also be part of the festivities. Admission is free. Details: 228-435-6339

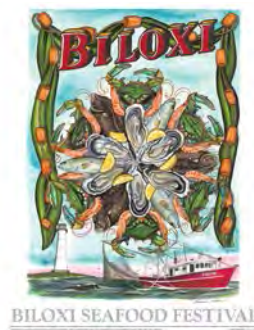
Biloxi Shuckers Baseball, MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St., Home games: Aug. 31-Sept. 5 vs. The Mississippi Braves; Sept. 14-19 vs. Tennessee Smokies. Tickets begin at \$7. Details: 228-233-3465, biloxishuckers.com

First Friday and Downtown Block Party at the District Green, Sept. 3, 9 p.m.-midnight, Howard Avenue & Rue Magnolia. Live music by Rhythm & Rain and Karate Kids, food trucks, vendors, beer from Fly Llama Brewing Company and music bingo returns. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Summer Splash Bash, Sept. 3, 4-9 p.m., Margaritaville Resort, 165 Beach Blvd. Event includes a fireworks show at 9:15 p.m., live DJs, karaoke and public access to the pool. General admission \$20. Details: 228-271-6377

2021 Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Climb, Sept. 11, 5 p.m., Margaritaville Resort, 165 Beach Blvd. The event, honoring the first responders whose lives were lost in 9/11, begins near the Ocean Springs harbor on Front Beach and finishes at Margaritaville where participants can climb 110 floors, symbolic of the 110 floors in the World Trade Center. Details: <https://dogood.t2t.org/event/2021-tunnel-to-towers-5k-run-and-climb-biloxi-ms/e341915>

40th Annual Biloxi Seafood Festival, Sept. 11, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sept. 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Celebrate Biloxi's seafood heritage with live entertainment, arts and crafts, kid activities and seafood. Admission: Adults \$5, children 12 and under are free. Details: 228-604-0014



Gulf Coast Shrimp Tasting Festival, Sept. 11-12, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet Street. Admission: \$7-\$35. Details: www.clearvisionent.net

Empire Fighting Championship MMA Event, Sept. 11, 6-11 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Details: Kristian Guirola, 228-369-2381

Best Bet!

Draw! It's Seafood Museum time

The Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum will conduct its 36th Annual \$10,000 Drawdown on Saturday, Sept. 18. The affair, the museum's major fundraiser of the year, will be at the museum, 115 1st St., and will begin with cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by a seafood-galore-and-more buffet at 7 p.m. The drawdown begins at 8 p.m. Also part of the event: live entertainment, an online silent auction with in-person bidding during the event, an open bar, and door prizes. Tickets are \$100 and admit two to the drawdown. Details: 228-435-6320



Adherence to CDC guidelines paramount.
All events subject to change.

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 40th 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.

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

Bmail: The city provides information about projects and events via email. Sign up at biloxi.ms.us/register.

Advertising: BNews and Bmail represent an advertising opportunity for civic-minded 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 rates and info, email online@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6368.

B-Alert: For text advisories on traffic and severe weather, text BLOXI to 99411.

Website: The city's website, at biloxi.ms.us, is the comprehensive digest of city information. The website also has links to the city's Facebook and YouTube platforms.

Vincent Creel, Public Affairs Manager
vcreel@biloxi.ms.us

Cecilia Dobbs Walton, Public Affairs Specialist
cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us

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
- Citizen services (streets, lights) 435-6271
- City Council 435-6257
- City Court 435-6125
- Code Enforcement 435-0841
- 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

Main Street Book Club, Sept. 16; 5:30 p.m., Southern Bound Book Shop meeting room, 999 Howard Ave. September's selection, "The Marsh King's Daughter," and is available at Southern Bound Book Shop, located next door to Jacked Up Coffee Bar. Stop by the free meeting or call Biloxi Main Street for more information. Details: 228-435-6339

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum 36th Annual \$10,000 Drawdown, Sept. 18, 6 p.m. Fundraiser with a silent auction, cocktails and a buffet. Bar opens at 6 p.m., buffet at 7 p.m., and drawdown at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$100 and admit two people. Silent auction will be online this year and can be found at www.event.gives/msimdrawdown21. Tickets and details: 228-435-6320

Biloxi Soccer League Registration, Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Registration is open to ages 4-7, must be 4 by July 31, 2021. Fees range from \$30 to \$75 for Biloxi residents and \$50 per child for non-Biloxi residents. Details: 228-388-2483

Upstairs Downstairs Reunion #2, Sept. 18, doors open at 7 p.m., Frank Gruich Center, 591 Howard Ave. Admission: \$25-\$500. Details: www.clearvisionent.net

Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame, Sept. 19, Biloxi Civic Center, 591 Howard Ave. Details: 228-388-7170

Mississippi Governor's Job Fair, Sept. 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 591 Howard Ave. Free admission. Details: www.jobfairs.ms.gov/gulf-coast-military-civilian-job-fair

Bike Biloxi, Sept. 21; 6 p.m.; Downtown ride. Begins at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd., and ends with refreshments and food at a downtown restaurant at cyclists' expense. Helmets and lights recommended. Details: 228-435-6339

Mississippi ABLE Town Hall Meeting, Sept. 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m., MS Gulf Coast Community College Hospitality Management Center, Room C, 420 Debuys Road, Biloxi or virtually by Zoom. Learn more about ABLE, which allows qualified individuals with disabilities to save for eligible expenses, invest for the future and keep important benefits. Free admission. Details: MSABLEinfo@mdrs.ms.gov, 601-853-5240

Gallery 782 12th Anniversary Celebration, Sept. 25, 5:30-8 p.m., 773 Jackson St. Refreshments and raffle baskets valued over \$300 filled with art, jewelry and more. Tickets: \$10. Free admission. Details: 228-436-7782

Biloxi Community Market Festival, Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. Outdoor festival with market and specialty vendors, live music by Gram Rea, and prizes every 15 minutes. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Life Line Preventative Screenings, Oct. 1, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Five preventative health screenings to determine plaque build-up. Life Line Screenings can actually see inside arteries to determine risk factors. Each test costs \$70 or get all five for \$149. Details: 228-263-8350 or 330-224-1786



Biloxi Little Theatre

220 Lee St., 228-432-8543,
www.4blt.org
Welcome Back Gala, celebrating our
75th season, Sept. 18

Center Stage

2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258
www.centerstagebiloxi.com
Gaston Hewes & Friends, Sept. 25;
7 p.m. Admission: \$15 per ticket

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library

2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, www.visitbeauvoir.org

- **Faery Court Masquerade Ball,** Sept 12, costumed brunch and silent auction; Admission: \$45
- **Meet the Spirits,** Sept. 18, 6 p.m. until midnight. Visit website to purchase tickets
- **Annual Medieval Fantasy Festival,** Sept. 18-19, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 children
- **Beauvoir's Living History,** Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission: \$12.50 adults, \$7.50 children

Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center

1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, www.biloxi.ms.us. Open daily, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

- **Lighthouse tours daily,** 9 to 10 a.m., weather permitting; \$5 for age 12 and older; \$2 for ages 6 to 11; free for age 5 and younger

Biloxi Schooner Pier

367 Beach Blvd., 228-435-6320, schooners@maritimemuseum.org

- Walk-on sunset sails: Admission: Adults \$30, children ages 3-12 \$15
- Group charters, up to 44 people also available

Biloxi Shrimping Trip

693 Beach Blvd., 228-392-8645, www.biloxishrimpingtrip.com

- Sunset cruises, fishing trips and three shrimping trips daily

Biloxi Tour Train

Biloxi Lighthouse Park parking lot, south of Biloxi Visitors Center, traffic light #40, 228-374-8687, www.biloxitourtrain.com

- Please call in advance to check tour availability.

Betsy Ann Riverboat Cruise

173 Beach Blvd., 228-229-4270, betsyannriverboat@gmail.com, www.betsyannriverboat.com

- Hibachi Dinner Cruises, Historical & Ecological Tour, Live Music Sunset Cruises, Sunset Eco Tours, Twisted Tiki Tour and private charters available

Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum

792 Howard Ave., 228-314-4747, museum@coastalmardigras.com

- Open 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., closed Sundays and Mondays

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum

115 1st Street, 228-435-6320, www.maritimemuseum.org

- Annual \$10,000 Drawdown, Sept. 18, 6 p.m.

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

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

- Check the website for more events and studio classes at OOMA!
- OOMA After Hours, Sept. 16, 5-7 p.m.
- Yoga under the oaks – Sept. 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Ship Island Excursion

228-864-1014, www.mssshipisland.com

- Ferry service to Ship Island, temporarily suspended
- Private charters available year-round
- Dolphin and Sunset Cruises available

West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire Museum

1046 Howard Ave., 228-435-6119/228-435-6200, www.biloxi.ms.us

- Historic 1937 firehouse open Saturday 9 a.m.- 2 p.m., or by appointment

Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Sept. 3, 10, 17, & 24. Doors open at 5 p.m.; Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts and door prizes. Concessions available, open until 8:30 p.m.
- **Sunday Charity Bingo**: No Sunday Bingo for September.

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 228-392-9345

- **Steak Night**, Sept. 10; 6-8 p.m. Steak, potato, salad, dessert and beverage - \$17, dine in or carry out. Steak Nights support efforts at the Shriners Hospital for Children in Shreveport and our local patients. Details or advance orders: 228-392-9345
- **12th Annual Joppa Shrine BBQ and Sportsman's Giveaway**, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. Dine in only. Tickets: \$20 available at the door or call 228-392-9345. Prizes: Academy Sports Gift Cards valued from \$200-\$700.
- **Ladies of Joppa Shrine Indoor Yard Sale**, Sept. 25, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Free admission.

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Seafood Dinners every Friday night in September**, 6-8 p.m. Karaoke with Kenny every Friday at 7 p.m. Call for details.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

871 Esters Blvd., 228-374-6472

- **Biloxi Bingo Mania**, Every Tuesday night behind Nativity Cathedral; Doors open 5:30 p.m.; Early bird begins at 6:30 p.m.; Regular games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Nativity BVM Catholic Elementary School.

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, 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



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 scheduled 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.; Biloxi Community Development auditorium, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Community Market	3 Rick Springfield IP Casino First Friday Block Party The District Green Summer Splash Bash Margaritaville Resort Friday Night Dinners Fleur de Lis Society MS Classic Dog Show Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	4 Kenny Wayne Shephard IP Casino Sara Evans Beau Rivage Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park
5 Shuckers vs. Braves MGM Park	6	7 Community Market	8	9 Community Market	10 Steak Night Joppa Shrine Friday Night Dinners with Karaoke Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	11 Charlie Wilson Beau Rivage Shrimp Tasting Festival Point Cadet Plaza 40th Annual Biloxi Seafood Festival Biloxi Town Green Empire MMA Championship Biloxi Civic Center Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Climb Margaritaville Resort
12 Faery Court Masquerade Ball Beauvoir 40th Annual Biloxi Seafood Fest Biloxi Town Green Shrimp Tasting Festival Point Cadet Plaza	13	14 Community Market	15 Shuckers vs. Smokies MGM Park	16 Community Market OMMA Afterhours Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art Shuckers vs. Smokies MGM Park Main Street Book Club Southern Bound Books	17 Friday Night Dinners with Karaoke Fleur de Lis Society Shuckers vs. Smokies MGM Park Grand Funk Railroad Hard Rock Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	18 Kool & The Gang Beau Rivage 36th Annual Draw Down Maritime & Seafood Ind. Museum Upstairs Downstairs #2 Frank Gruich Center Shuckers vs. Smokies MGM Park Biloxi Soccer Sign Up Snyder Center Fantasy Festival Beauvoir Meet the Spirits Beauvoir
19 Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame Biloxi Civic Center Shuckers vs. Smokies MGM Park	20	21 Community Market Yoga Under the Oaks Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art Job Fair Biloxi Civic Center Bike Biloxi Biloxi Visitors Center Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	22	23 Community Market MS ABLE Town Hall Meeting MGCCC Hospitality Management Center	24 Collective Soul IP Casino Nelly Beau Rivage Friday Night Dinners with Karaoke Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	25 Gaston Hewes & Friends Center Stage 12th Anniversary Gallery 782 Gulf Coast Soul & Comedy Fest MS Coast Coliseum
26	27	28 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	29	30 Community Market Biloxi Community Market Festival Howard Ave. & Hopkins Blvd. Community Market	31	1 Life Line Preventative Screening Snyder Center



September Schedule

Sparklight 56; Uverse 99 (follow prompts) or at biloxi.ms.us/btv

Morning	
6 a.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 a.m.	Inside BTV for August (6 min)
6:10 a.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 a.m.	Inside Shuck Nation (15 min.)
6:30 a.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
6:45 a.m.	Biloxi VA Today (15 min)
7 a.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" (30 min)
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special presentation: Postcards from Biloxi (13 min) Old Biloxi Photos, Volume 1 (16 min)
9 a.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Afternoon	
Noon	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," B&W, 1950s travelogue (9 min)
12:10 p.m.	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," 1960s travelogue (14 min)
12:25 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
12:45 p.m.	Biloxi VA Today (15 min)
1 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" (30 min)
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special presentation: Postcards from Biloxi (13 min) Old Biloxi Photos, Volume 1 (16 min)
3 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Evening	
6 p.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 p.m.	Inside BTV for August (6 min)
6:10 p.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 p.m.	Inside Shuck Nation (12 min)
6:30 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
6:45 p.m.	Biloxi VA Today (15 min)
7 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" (30 min)
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 p.m.	Special presentation: Postcards from Biloxi (13 min) Old Biloxi Photos, Volume 1 (16 min)
9 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Midnight	National Anthem by Ronny Broussard (2 min)



You can view individual programs on the city's YouTube channel.

Old photos, postcards tell story of Biloxi this month on BTV

"Grab some popcorn and an ice-cold Barq's Root Beer and settle back for a nostalgic trip through the decades," videographer Renny Sherman says of this month's special presentation on BTV, encores of "Old Biloxi Photos, Volume 1" and "Postcards from Biloxi."

The programs, at 13 minutes and 16 minutes, will air back-to-back-to-back from 7 to 8 each morning and evening on BTV in September.

About 500 images are used in the two programs, on screen for about five seconds each, and set to music.

"These compilations of vintage images will bring you back through history to Biloxi's Golden Years," Sherman said. "They chronicle the birth of our seafood and tourism industries and feature many of the iconic structures that are uniquely Biloxi."

White Pillars cooks for Biloxi this month

The White Pillars and chef Austin Sumrall, fresh from topping chefs from 10 states in the Great American Seafood Competition in New Orleans, are featured on this month's edition of "Biloxi Cooks!"

The restaurant's U.S. 90 location in West Biloxi sat dormant for nearly 30 years after a heralded run, and today it's a farm-to-table restaurant using Mississippi-grown meats and seasonal local vegetables.

Says co-owner Tresse Young Sumrall: "The food is best described as farm to table and seasonal with no particular genre. We use local fresh ingredients exclusively and make almost everything from scratch. We butcher our own protein, cure our own charcuterie, churn our own ice cream, make our own ketchup from whole tomatoes and hot sauce from whole peppers just to name a few."

This month's recipe: Shrimp and Grits

(Makes 6 to 8 servings)

Creamy grits:

Ingredients:

- 2 cups coarse ground Grit Girl grits
- 2 cups water
- 2 cups Half & Half
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme
- salt and Pepper to taste

Instructions (15 minutes):

Combine wet ingredients and bring to a low boil. Whisk in grits and cook to desired doneness, about 15 minutes. Finish with finely chopped thyme. Salt and pepper to taste.

Shrimp:

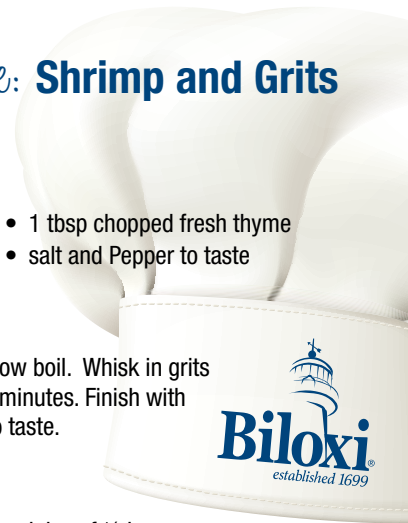
Ingredients:

- 2 pounds 10/12 count gulf shrimp in shell
- 1 large carrot
- 1 large onion
- 1 stalk of celery
- 2 garlic cloves, smashed
- ½ cup Worcestershire sauce
- juice of ½ lemon
- salt and pepper to taste
- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup chopped parsley
- ½ cup oyster mushrooms (sliced)
- ½ shallot (minced)
- ½ cup bacon lardons (rendered)

Instructions (45 minutes):

Peel shrimp reserving shells. Add shells, smashed garlic cloves and peeled and coarsely chopped carrot, onion, and celery into large stockpot. Add water to cover about 2 quarts. Bring up to a boil, reduce to simmer and let go 45 minutes. Strain stock through sieve, and add to medium saucepot along with Worcestershire and reduce to about 2 cups. Finish sauce by mounting in butter and lemon. Sauté the shrimp in butter with bacon lardons, shallots and mushrooms.

Spoon grits onto plate, place 5 shrimp on top, spoon over sauce. Garnish with chopped parsley.





▲ Bathing beauties in Biloxi

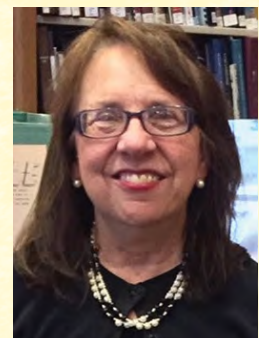
▶ Scenes on the Biloxi Golf Club



▲ T-Rex and the Biloxi Amusement Park

A DAY IN *Biloxi* life OF YESTERYEAR

History has shown us that things evolve, especially when it comes to the way we do things. Rather it be because of natural disasters or economic changes, life back in the day was and looked different. The school year begin after Labor Day, beach access was provided by concrete steps and spare time was often centered around places to visit for entertainment, many of which are either no longer here or have been changed in appearance. Here is a sampling of yesteryear.



By Jane Shambra

High school daze

Found memories and stories are often centered around fun times that were had in school. Decades ago, schools in Biloxi began

in September, just after Labor Day.

One of the most photographed Biloxi schools is that of the old Biloxi Central High School, once situated on the northeast corner of Howard Avenue and Bellman Street. Construction began in 1912 and was open to students for the 1913-14 term. This old high school was devastated by Hurricane Katrina, but a new library and civic center now rest in its place.

Biloxi's first Catholic High School, once known before Hurricane Katrina as the Dantzler House, was situated where the Biloxi Visitors Center is today. It was operated by the religious Brothers of the Holy Cross. The first graduating class in May 1944 lauded Russell A. Quave as the valedictorian.

Nichols High School served Biloxi's African-American community and was named in honor of Principal Marshall Franklin Nichols, Sr. who was the institution's leader until his death in 1945 at which time he was succeeded by his wife Mrs. Fannie Nichols.

Mrs. Nichols insisted on quality education. The old address for the school was once listed as 950 Bellman St., just north of Roy

Street. Later this portion of Bellman Street was renamed Nichols Drive.

Schools then and now not only provided education and preparation for adult life, but they also hosted countless sporting events, sock hops, plays, concerts, and graduation exercises. Many students even paired up with their "first loves" during their high school days, and even chose to conduct the "I Do" ceremonies with their high school sweethearts.

Arena of fun

Built in the 1970's, the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center is situated on a large parcel of land on Hwy. 90 just west of Beauvoir Road. Back in the late 1800's, Dr. Alfred Clay operated a WAIF home there, an orphanage for all-age children from far and near.

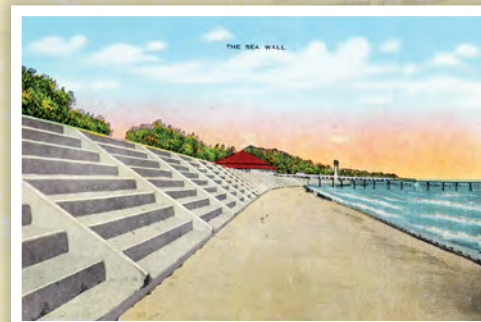
Through the decades, the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center has housed countless entertainment events including concerts, fairs, car shows, sports events, graduations, and has even provided unique ice-skating opportunities for the public for a minimal fee.

Elvis Presley was originally scheduled to be the star at the dedication of the Coliseum's November 1977 grand opening ceremony, but his untimely death on August 16, 1977 halted the planned agenda. Instead, Charley

Pride, award-winning country music star and Mississippi native, hosted the dedication to a crowd of more than 11,000, one of the largest attended events during that time.

Steps to the sea

In the 1920's, the seawall was constructed throughout Biloxi along the fringe of our present busy Hwy 90. This sturdy reinforced concrete edifice offered opportunities for crabbing, viewing sunsets, and lots of romantic interludes.



▲ Steps to the sea

Hobart D. Shaw was the design and supervising engineer for the Harrison County project. It was completed in 1928 at an estimated cost of \$3,400,000 and was funded by a gasoline tax. Its dedication was May 10, 1928 and featured movie star Johnny Weissmuller, who play Tarzan and was also an Olympic swimmer.

In fact, these concrete stairs are still along the beach but have been covered up by sand.

Frocking in the waves

Biloxi's many waterways and hotel pools offered countless opportunities for swimming. Whether it was for competition, family outings, vacations, or simply for fun, our shoreline prompted those of all age groups, all walks of life, and even those from afar to cool off on hot days.

Sand beaches and elevated piers provided ample opportunity to access the warm waters of the Mississippi Sound. It is interesting to note the variety of bathing attire throughout the decades.

Hole in one

Biloxi has hosted many golfing tournaments through the years. Not only have locals appreciated this leisurely activity, but visitors have traveled to Biloxi just to partake in our amazing choices of venues for this sport.

Popular courses in the past included the Edgewater Gulf, Broadwater (known as the Sun Course), Par Three on Popp's Ferry Road, Sunkist County Club, and the Biloxi Golf Club (located on Keesler's Naval reserve park grounds) which was later conveyed to Keesler Air Force Base and utilized as the Officers Club.

Golfing wasn't always limited to adults. For years, families could visit the Biloxi Amusement Park on Beach Boulevard where the game of Magic Golf was offered for all ages. It was located between Travia Street and Veterans Avenue where the iconic green T-Rex dinosaur once stood tall. This exact location was reported to be utilized for scenes of the Fall 1990 filming of Danzell Washington's "Mississippi Masala" (1991) movie.

Church of the Redeemer

Even though the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer was destroyed by the wrath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, its memories of the past live on. Churches are not only places for prayer, but they also serve as gathering places to hold celebrations such as weddings.

This church was originally built on the corner of Howard and Nixon streets but was moved in 1891 to its last location at Bellman and Hwy. 90. On Aug. 17, 1969, the infamous Hurricane Camille destroyed the original structure and a new one was built. You may remember the bell tower that was left and stood on the property for many years. Sadly, Hurricane Katrina destroyed the structures.

That Hwy. 90 parcel is remembered for several other pastimes, as well. Beginning in the 1970's, an annual blessing of animals was held on the church lawn, a tradition that continued through the years. In the 1990's, families and school field trips would go "pumpkin hunting" there to shop for the perfect jack-o-lanterns and/or pies for the fall season.

Today, we can still visit the Hurricane Camille memorial at that location, which commemorates 131 victims lost during that tragedy.

Keesler Field

Keesler Air Force Base wasn't always as we know it today. In the 1800's, it was a mere

forest and originally allocated as a "Naval Reserve Park," to remain timberland for wood in the event the government needed to construct wooden boats for wartime efforts.

Then in the early 1940s, that same section of Biloxi's peninsula had a municipal airport, a golf course, a ballpark, and even a zoo! Old maps in the Local History Library label this property as "The Naval Reserve Park - the Army Air Corps Station No. 8".

You may have heard Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich talk about the tents along the property. Well, Keesler's first troops were housed in 650 tents, while its permanent structures were being constructed.

This year, Keesler Air Force Base is celebrating its 70's birthday in Biloxi. Its rich history includes training, community service, and home of the famous Hurricane Hunters.

Shopping indoors

In 1963, Biloxi's enclosed shopping mall opened up along Hwy. 90 with its first tenants to include Godchaux's, Gayfers and J.J. Newberry. Over the years, the center has seen expansions, demolition and more expansions.

Sears opened in 1972, J.J. Newberry closed in 1979 and became JCPenny. By 1991, the Edgewater Mall included an interesting assortment of retail outlets, including restaurants, shoe and clothing stores, a movie theater, a pet store, an arcade and even a kite store.

The Wind Ventures Kite Shop sold fancy, colorful kites. In those days, beachgoers and travelers along Hwy. 90 were always amazed at the parade of "ginormous" kites soaring above the beach just south of the mall.

Biloxi's pastimes of today have evolved into even greater choices for fun, including Friday fireworks, professional Shuckers baseball games, state of the art outdoor go-kart racing cars, fancy high-tech video arcades, and even axe throwing for adults. And more are on the way!

▼ Edgewater Mall inside, Back in the Day



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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