

BNews Monthly

DECEMBER 2021

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



CTA needs your input. Five minutes.

– Page 11



Santa parades all this month

– Page 18



Let there be brighter light

– Page 9



LOOKING UP ON U.S. 90



Our front yard gets a makeover

– Page 6

It's a wild, wild time in Biloxi

– Pages 14-15



Checking out Doe's Eat Place

– BTV, Page 21



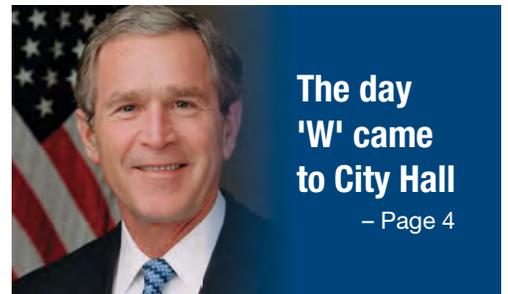
Latest from VA, Keesler

– Page 10



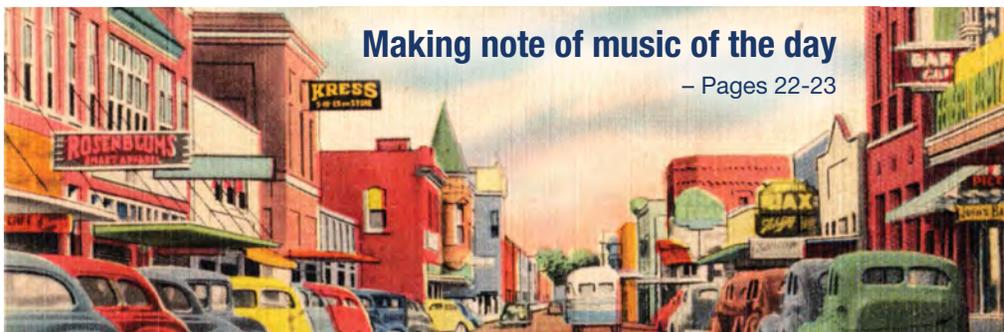
The day 'W' came to City Hall

– Page 4



Making note of music of the day

– Pages 22-23



Even more inside

Back in the Day	22
BTV in December	21
Calendar	17
Coast Transit	11
Infrastructure maps	12
Keesler update	10
Nick L. Shrimp	4
Public meetings	19
Random notes	14
VA Today	10

**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

Visit us online
at biloxi.ms.us



Sign up for Bmail
at biloxi.ms.us

For B-Alerts, text
BILOXI to 99411

BNews Monthly, the City of Biloxi's monthly newsmagazine, is printed and mailed to everyone in Biloxi by the first of each month. It is also available online and at city facilities.

The city's Public Affairs Division (Manager Vincent Creel, Specialist Cecilia Dobbs Walton) is responsible for BNews, with cooperation and support from city departments and partner agencies. BNews is underwritten each month by the civic-minded advertisers on these pages, whose messages reach all Biloxi residents and businesses.

Email: online@biloxi.ms.us



Singing River Medical Clinics

High quality healthcare close to home.

1. Cowan Road

350 Cowan Rd. | Gulfport
228-206-7054
Monday - Friday

2. Cedar Lake

967 Cedar Lake Rd. | Biloxi
228-205-6814
Monday - Friday

3. Reynoir

131 Reynoir St. | Biloxi
228-205-6821
Monday - Friday

4. Ocean Springs

3099 Bienville Blvd. | Ocean Springs
228-872-2403
Open 7 days a week



Singing River

In partnership with

Ochsner



SingingRiverHealthSystem.com

Pictures with Santa!

IN FRONT OF DILLARD'S

Santa will be available for pictures
through Christmas Eve!

Photo hours will be Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
and Sunday noon-6 p.m.



Edgewater Mall Holiday Hours

EXTENDED HOURS SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS
PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS

November 26, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

December 18, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

December 19, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

December 20-23, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

December 24, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Edgewater Mall has
a million-square feet of retail,
restaurants and entertainment in a safe
and climate-controlled environment.



EDGEWATERMALL.COM

DILLARD'S | JCPENNEY | BELK | FOOD COURT
HWY 90 | ON THE BEACH | 228-388-3424



Edgewater Mall

It wasn't Christmas, but 'W' got a Biloxi gift

"No one said anything about a gift," the Secret Service agent said, with furrowed brow and steely eyes. "What is it?"

He had a point. After all, it was only the day before when he and a fellow agent inspected Biloxi City Hall floor by floor, checking out entrances and exits, windows and doors, locating a shower and the junction box for the building's telephone landlines, and no doubt checking off a list of precautions and considerations before a Presidential visit.

It was March 1, 2007 and President George W. Bush, making his umpteenth visit to South Mississippi in the two years since Hurricane Katrina, was coming to Biloxi City Hall for the first time. Gov. Haley Barbour, Mayor A.J. Holloway and about 60 local leaders from across the Coast had assembled in the City Council chambers to greet the President.

White House staff had placed two-dozen placards at seats along a huge table at the front of the room. George W. Bush would be at the head of the table, flanked by the governor and mayor. An advance team had even placed flag spreaders inside the room's U.S. flag to ensure the stars and bars were spread for all to see.

And now a surprise gift was thrown into the mix, and it became quickly evident that it was a definite breach of protocol.

"It's really not a gift," said a city staffer. "He's been to our city so many times, we thought it was time he had a license tag."

Out quickly for Secret Service inspection came the city-created gift -- a Mississippi license tag for the 43rd President. It read "BUSH 43."

The agent laughed. "It will be fine." Constitutional crisis averted.

The clock ticked onward as the assembled group of politicians mingled in the back of the council room, awaiting the President's arrival that morning.



Nick L. Shrimp

There was Eddie Favre, the pride of Bay St. Louis, sporting his signature short pants. Wayne Brown, whose MDOT crews were working on new bridges over the bays of Biloxi and St. Louis, and at Popp's Ferry. There were a host of Coast mayors and future mayors in the audience, a bevy of lawmakers and civic leaders.

The President was coming.

And 10 minutes or so before he arrived, the Secret Service had another announcement: "The President is not wearing a tie today." Most of the politicians in the room quickly began taking off their neckties, so as not to upstage the President. Some kept them on. It was the President after all.

Finally, in he walks. Smiling. Waving. Slacks, gray windbreaker, and, yes, open-collared shirt. He glad handed, smiled and took his seat. Aide Karl Rove quietly slipped into the back of the room, with satchel in hand.

The President reminded Holloway of the walk they took in East Biloxi four days after the storm, finding people that were

literally stunned and were in shock, and were wondering what life meant for them. And I remember the piles of debris. ...

"And I've come back again because I'm inspired every time I come here to see progress and the spirit alive. People here said, 'We refuse to be held down by the storm; we will overcome it.'"

During the 45-minute session, Gov. Barbour outlined milestones of Katrina recovery statewide, while Mayor Holloway, after thanking the President for visiting Biloxi City Hall, had four specific requests, three involving debris removal and its funding, and a fourth that the President use his influence to see maps by the June 1 start of hurricane season.

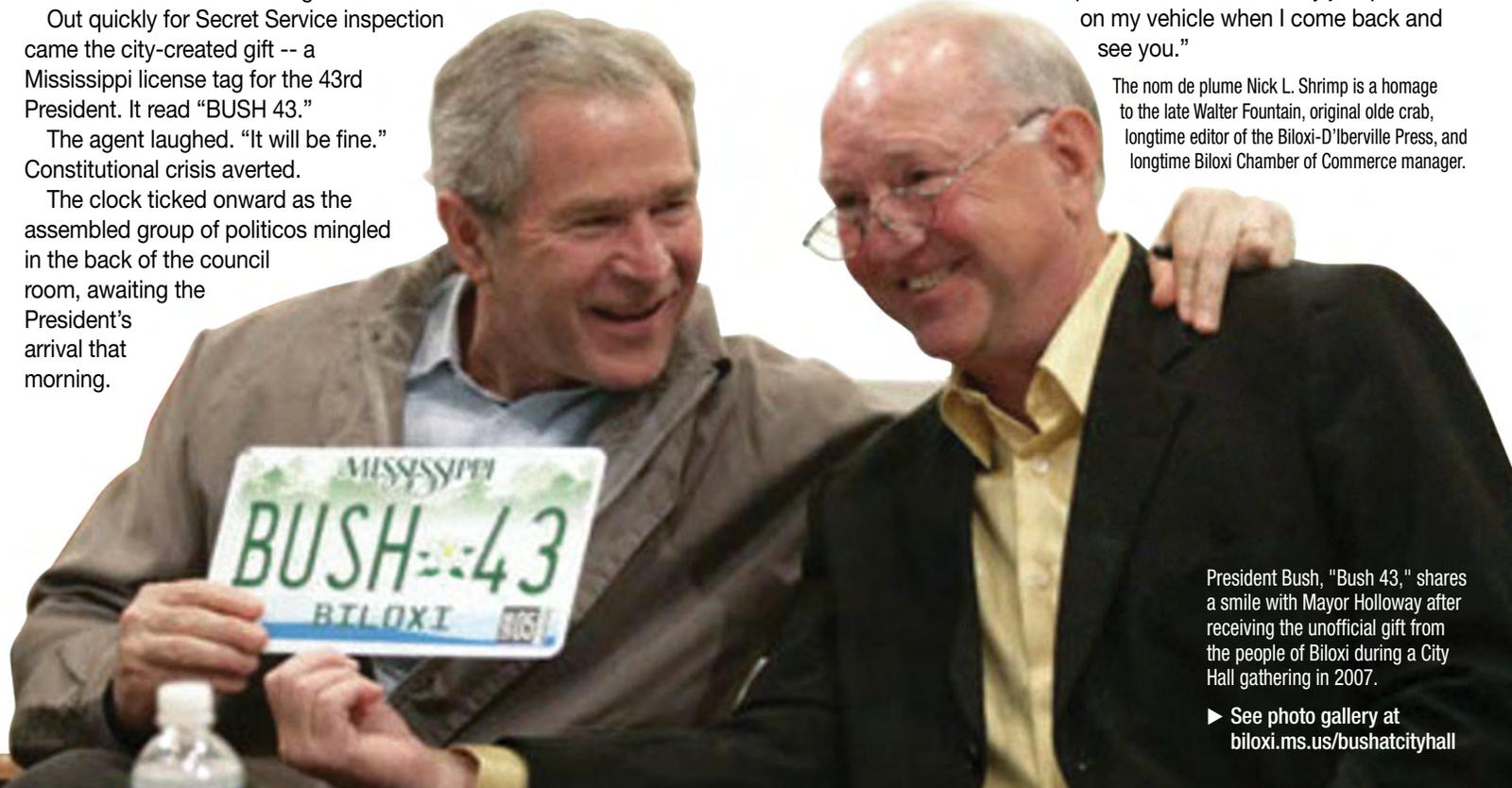
"I want to tell you how honored we are to have the President of the United States in Biloxi City Hall," Holloway said. "And on behalf of the people of Biloxi, I want to thank you for all of the assistance you have given us."

Holloway also presented the President with the unofficial gift, the "BUSH 43" vanity plate.

"I'm proud to be back again," the President said. "I intend to keep coming back so long as I'm the President, and perhaps after the presidency, A.J."

"Now, A.J. has given me a great gift. Instead of the key to the city, he gave me a Biloxi, Mississippi license plate. It's got my name and my number on there," the President said, as the audience chuckled. "One of these days, I'll own a private vehicle, and I may just put this on my vehicle when I come back and see you."

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.



President Bush, "Bush 43," shares a smile with Mayor Holloway after receiving the unofficial gift from the people of Biloxi during a City Hall gathering in 2007.

► See photo gallery at biloxi.ms.us/bushatcityhall



Shining a light on giving.

Project SHARE makes it easy to help your neighbors in need. By donating a few dollars on your power bill, which is matched dollar for dollar by Mississippi Power, you can change the lives of others, including those who are elderly, disabled or struggling and facing tough circumstances. Spread love and light this holiday season.

Visit mississippipower.com/projectshare to donate.



New Year WEEKEND OF WINNING

NEW YEAR'S EVE
& NEW YEAR'S DAY

DECEMBER 31 • 8 PM - 12:30 AM
JANUARY 1 • 7 PM - 11 PM

\$20,220 CASH GIVEAWAY

PLUS, 125 POWER PLAY WINNERS!

10 WINNERS OF \$2,022 IN CASH
AT 12:30 AM ON JANUARY 1.

PRIME & PRIORITY WINNERS
RECEIVE TIER BONUSES BOTH NIGHTS.*

Unclaimed Power Play prizes will roll over
to the 11 PM drawing on January 1.

One free entry and one entry
for every 100 slot points earned
(or table games equivalent)
December 1 - January 1, 2022.

Visit kiosk for drawing check-in after
7 PM on Dec 31 and 6 PM on Jan 1.

*Excludes final drawings.



PALACE CASINO RESORT®

BILOXI'S ONLY SMOKE FREE CASINO

158 HOWARD AVE, BILOXI, MS • 1-800-PALACE-9
WWW.PALACECASINORESORT.COM

Free Players Club membership required.
Visit Player Services for details.



Developers pitch idea of a toll bridge at Popp's Ferry

It's certainly not the most popular idea, but, the fact is, Biloxi could have a new, four-lane Popp's Ferry bridge, a bridge without a draw, by 2026, but the option would include a crossing toll between \$1 and \$1.25.

Or, says Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, the city could wait another 15 to 20 years, hoping for federal or state funding. The City Council is considering options, and no votes have been taken or scheduled to enter into an agreement.

Biloxi has been pushing for a new bridge to replace the aging, low-level, two-lane bridge

that carries 20,000 cars on an average day and is a vital West Biloxi evacuation route. The 42-year-old bridge also malfunctions from time to time, causing headaches for motorists and mariners alike.

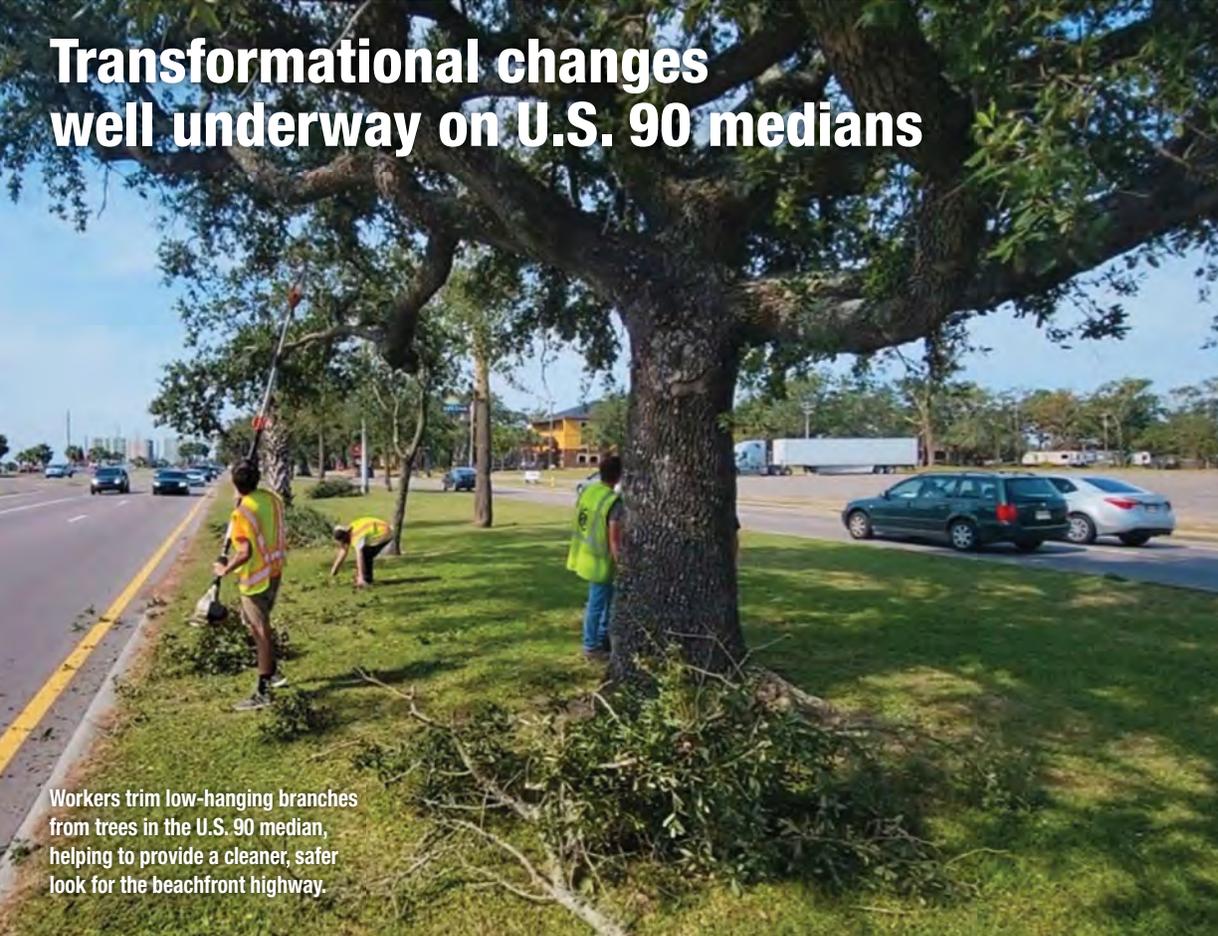
United Bridge Partners on Nov. 16 told the City Council that the firm would fund, build and maintain the estimated \$170 million bridge. However, there would be a crossing toll somewhere between \$1 and \$1.25.

► See the presentation: biloxi.ms.us/pfbridge

Under the firm's plan, frequent users of the bridge would get discounts, and no tolls would be charged during states of emergency. Plate-reading technology could be used to bill drivers electronically or by mail.

United Bridge Partners pointed to cost, timeliness and certainty. Said company VP Ryan Dolan: "Federal grants are extremely competitive, take a long time to secure, and typically only fund a fraction of the project costs. So non-federal funding sources such as ours would still be required to deliver the project soon."

Transformational changes well underway on U.S. 90 medians



Workers trim low-hanging branches from trees in the U.S. 90 median, helping to provide a cleaner, safer look for the beachfront highway.

By the end of November, private contractors were winding down a 2½-month U.S. 90 operation that had seen sand removed, trees trimmed and medians edged from Biloxi's western end at DeBuys Road all the way to Myrtle Street at Point Cadet.

The work began before Cruisin' the Coast, with crews sprucing up high profile corners and hauling away more than a hundred truckloads of sand. A week after Cruisin', crews returned to embark on a plan to spruce up the entire eight-mile stretch of U.S. 90 in Biloxi.

It's an effort that may cost as much as \$700,000 and it's the result of a jointly funded initiative involving the city, county and Coastal Mississippi Convention & Visitors Bureau.

"We've see a huge amount of visitors in the past year, and a good number of them were

first-time visitors," Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich said. "Our goal here is to make this transformational, where we have a much more inviting median and streetscape along Highway 90, our front yard."

Tree limbs and palm fronds were clipped at higher levels for a safer and cleaner view, and sand was hauled away.

"Obviously," Gilich said, "the sand remains a problem. We're hopeful that our project between Oak Street and the harbor will demonstrate that a small kneewall and proper maintenance will go a long way to keeping sand on the beach.

"But make no mistake. We remain focused on beautifying Highway 90 in a way that will be transformational and sustainable, for everyday drivers and for visitors."

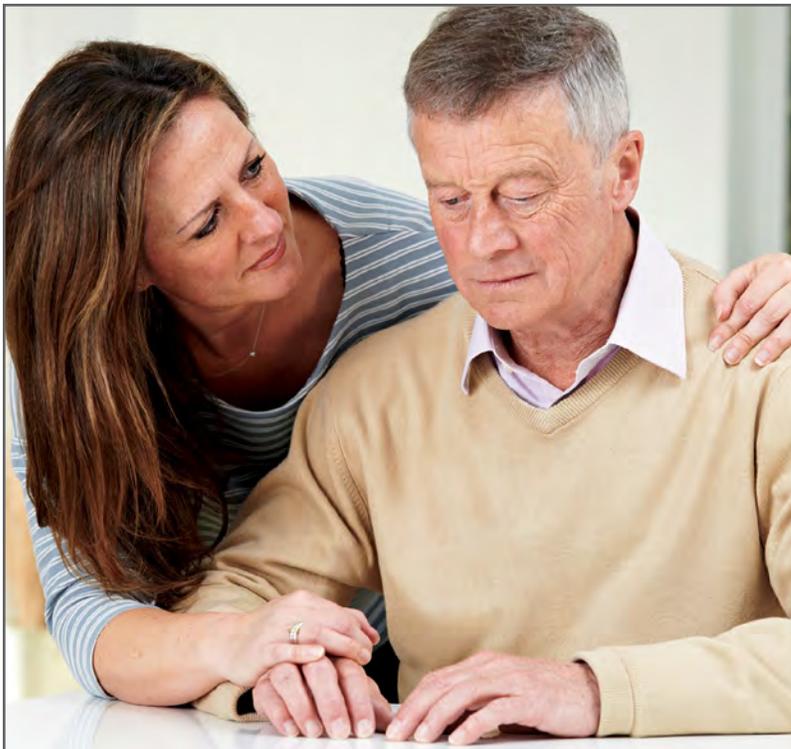
News & notes

Parks: Basketball goals have been installed at Eagle Point Park, a new shade structure is in place at Miramar, tennis courts have been resurfaced at Mark Barhanovich Circle Park, and brush at the base of trees is being cleared at Pennzoil-McManus. Work continues.

Popp's lighting: Mississippi Power has agreed to step in and help with lighting issues on the Popp's Ferry bridge. Travel lanes will be illuminated by LED fixtures, which will match the bridge's power supply and avoid the need for a separate ballast. A contract has been awarded and more light is in the offing.

Curves: Work has begun to smooth out -- or "shape" -- two troublesome curves on Howard Avenue, between Ahern and Kuhn streets. Making the thoroughfare safer for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists also meant the removal of six trees, including two storm-ravaged live oaks, from the public right of way.

Litterbugs be aware: The new signs that have been placed in the CSX rights-of-way along Irish Hill Drive spell it out: "No littering/\$450 fine."



If you or a loved one are experiencing behavioral or emotional issues, the senior care team at Merit Health Biloxi is here to help. Our program provides short-term, compassionate inpatient treatment designed specifically for older adults in a warm and supportive atmosphere. The care team begins with a physical and mental health assessment, working with the patient and family to develop an individualized plan of care.

Services include:

- Psychiatrist and therapist sessions
- Group therapy
- Patient and family education
- Medication management

For more information or a confidential assessment, call **228-452-1995**.

MeritBiloxiBehavioralHealth.com

Mental and physical health are important at every stage of life.



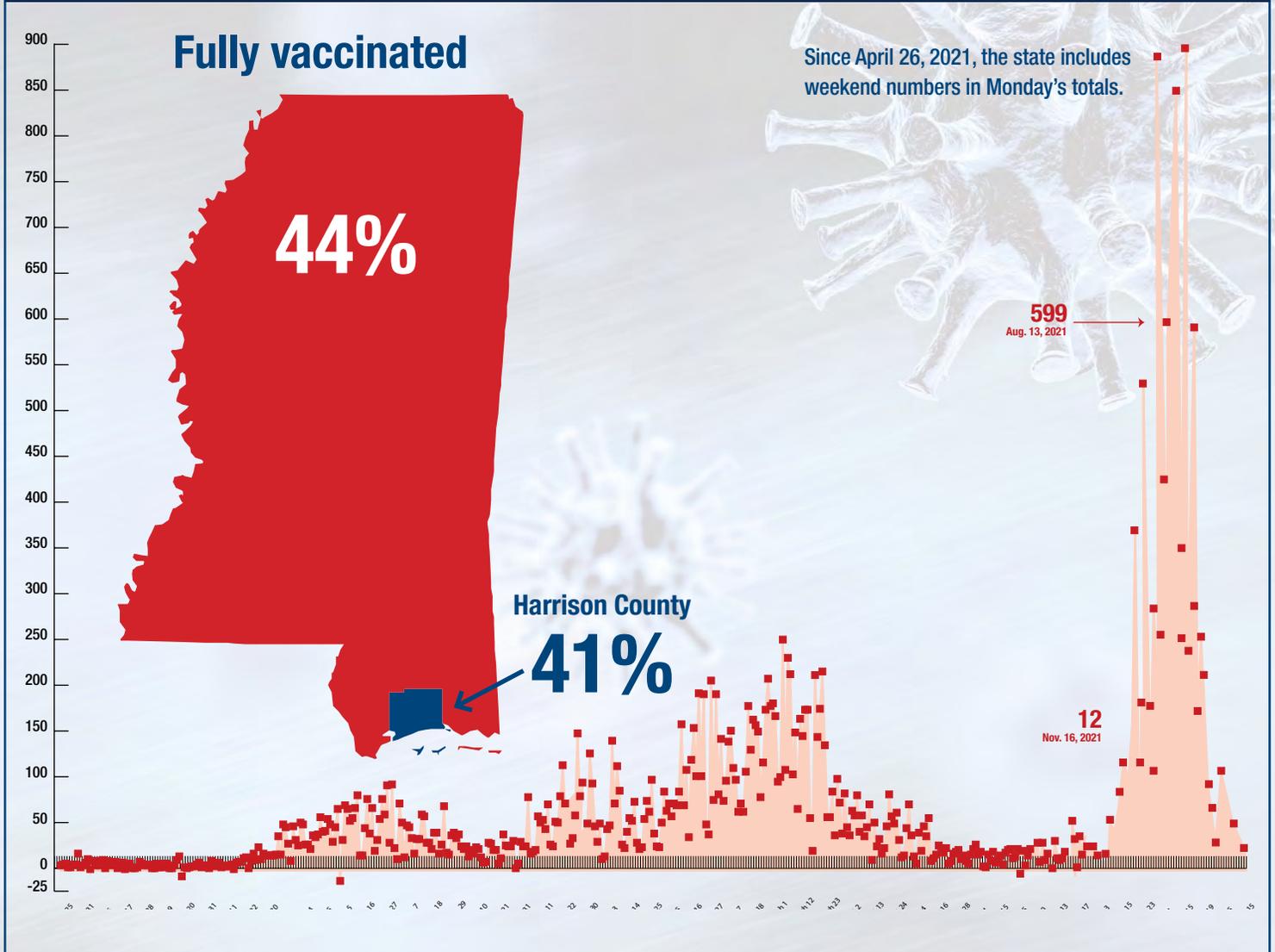
Wishing the Indian Nation a

**WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON
&
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



Coronavirus by the numbers

Harrison County – Daily Cases



Statewide overall

Population: 2.97 Million

Positive cases

509,717 (as of Nov. 16, 2021)

Deaths

10,215 (as of Nov. 16, 2021)

Fully vaccinated

44% (as of Nov. 16, 2021)

Harrison County

Population: 208,080

Positive cases

34,679 (as of Nov. 16, 2021)

Deaths

552 (as of Nov. 16, 2021)

Fully vaccinated

41% (as of Nov. 16, 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.

Old cobra heads on 90



New LEDs on 90



Upgrade to streetlights making progress in Biloxi

By Jeff Shepard
Mississippi Power

Mississippi Power has begun upgrading Biloxi's 3,500 streetlights to energy-efficient light-emitting diode fixtures as part of the company's upgrade of the 52,000 streetlights in its 23-county service area.

The power company has upgraded 500 of the city's existing lights to LEDs, including many of the 400-watt cobra-head fixtures on U.S. 90, as well as lighting fixtures on Irish Hill Drive and sections of Porter and Howard avenues.

At the same time, the company is installing smart photocells on all fixtures to help monitor service.

"The new lighting will give the city streets a brighter, more uniform coverage," Mississippi Power Lighting Service Supervisor Terri Lee said. "In addition, we are installing smart photocells that are integrated with a central management system, which will monitor the status of the fixtures."

The overall project is scheduled to be completed in 2024.

After the streetlight upgrades, the company will complete the property and security lights that have not already been upgraded with LED and smart photocells.

The new fixtures are priced close to, and in many cases below, the fixture being replaced, so there will be minimal impact to the city's overall street light bill.

Citizens, the police want you

The Biloxi Police Department is accepting applications for its inaugural Citizen's Police Academy.

The program, designed to give citizens insight into how the police department serves the community, will be a 10-week class at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from Jan. 4 through March 15 at the Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave.

Participants must be at least 21 years old, a resident of Harrison County, and must complete an application, which is available at the front desk of the Public Safety Center or online at biloxi.ms.us/cpa.

Application deadline is Dec. 17, and the program is limited to 25 participants.

For questions, contact Captain Goldsworthy at 228-385-3033 weekdays, by cell at 228-348-8227 or by email at tgoldsworthy@biloxi.ms.us.



NEW YEAR'S EVE 2022 *Hot Seat*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

\$500 IN FREE SLOT PLAY EVERY 30 MINUTES STARTING AT 1PM.

\$2,022 GRAND PRIZE AT MIDNIGHT

FREE Party Favors & Champagne Toast

4X POINTS

**12:01 AM
TO 4PM
JANUARY 1**

See Player's Club for details.



CITY OF BILOXI PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability of Draft, Public Hearing & 15 Day Comment Period for the City of Biloxi Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for Program Year 2020 for the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program

Notice is hereby given that the City of Biloxi has prepared a draft of the 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for Housing and Community Development and will conduct a public hearing regarding its performance and expenditures for the program year ended September 30, 2021 for the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program.

- The draft will be available for public review and comment for 15 days, from Wednesday, December 8, 2021 through Thursday, December 23, 2021, during regular office hours 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to being available for review on the city's website: www.biloxi.ms.us, copies of the draft will be available at the following locations:
 - City of Biloxi Federal Programs Office, 2nd Floor 214-A Delauney Street
 - Biloxi City Hall - 140 Lameuse Street
 - Biloxi Main Public Library - 580 Howard Avenue
 - West Biloxi Library - 2047 Pass Road
 - Margaret Sherry Library - 2141 Popp's Ferry Road
 - Woolmarket Library - 13034 Kayleigh Cove Drive
 - Biloxi Housing Authority - 330 Benachi Avenue
- The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Biloxi Community Development Department located at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Biloxi, MS 39530.

The City encourages the participation of minorities, non-English speaking persons, the disabled, low- to moderate-income persons, residents of public housing, and all others interested in community events. Those individuals who wish to participate but may be hindered by disabilities or who are non-English speaking are urged to notify the City at least three (3) days prior to the hearing so special arrangements can be made. Persons who need to discuss this or ask questions concerning the hearing may contact the City of Biloxi Federal Programs Division by calling 228-435-6269.

Citizens' comments will be received at the public hearing and/or may be delivered to the Federal Programs Division Office at 214-A Delauney Street, Biloxi, MS, mailed to the Federal Programs Division at P.O. Box 429 Biloxi, MS 39533 or emailed to spickrich@biloxi.ms.us. Comments will be accepted until 4 p.m., December 23, 2021.

Information about the city's CDBG Entitlement Program can be found at Biloxi.ms.us/cdbg



Remember our Veterans this holiday season

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

As we prepare to spend the holiday season with friends and relatives, the encouragement and well-wishes of the community we call home continue to demonstrate the remarkable partnership we have with the



Bryan C. Matthews

City of Biloxi and the surrounding areas. We have had the opportunity to engage with our community partners in so many functions during 2021, activities that have bolstered our relationships

and created a sense of partnership of which I am proud.

And as our community has recognized and cared for the thousands of Veterans calling Biloxi home, the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System - with the mission of providing the best medical care possible to our nation's heroes - is thankful for the efforts



Biloxi VA TODAY

and support which have made our efforts possible.

We will continue to honor those men and women who have sacrificed so much to ensure we have the right to enjoy the holiday season with family and friends and worship as we individually see fit. However, we see fit to celebrate, the freedom to do so has been ensured by the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coastguardsmen who swore an oath to our great nation, men and women from all walks of life and from all areas of our country including our wonderful Gulf Coast community.

As we gather with family and friends, take a moment to remember the Veterans who spent so many holidays alone, and remember that there are Veterans who might still be alone during this time. Please reach out

to these individuals and extend your best wishes however you see fit; the kindest of words can be a difference-maker in the life of a Veteran feeling alone, not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year. The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for Veterans in crisis or individuals concerned about them. Call 1-800-273-8255 and then press 1.

Please take a moment to remember our Veterans during this holiday season, along with the men and women defending our way of life still, as well as the wounded warriors, their families and the families of those who never returned home for holiday celebrations.

For the thousands of Veterans we serve and the more than 1,800 GCVHCS employees honored to do so, I wish each one of you warmest wishes for a joyous holiday season.

► This monthly column and the 15-minute program airing daily at 6:45 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. on BTW are created by the Public Affairs Division of the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System.



Keesler on the march

Airmen from the 81st Training Group carrying the 50 state flags march in the 21st Annual Gulf Coast Veterans Day Parade in Biloxi. Keesler Air Force Base leadership, along with hundreds of Airmen, attended and participated in the Nov. 6 parade in support of all veterans, past and present. More than 50 floats, marching bands and military units marched in the largest Veterans Day parade on the Gulf Coast.

- See more photos at www.keesler.af.mil
- Watch Keesler update daily at 7:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. on BTW.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY KEMBERLY GROUE

CTA needs your input!

Why don't you ride public transportation?

Morgan Shiyou
Coast Transit Authority

Coast Transit Authority is calling on Biloxi residents, community partners, and business leaders to help develop recommendations for the Strategic Business Plan, a document that will provide guidance for changes to the local transit system over the next decade.

All we ask is five minutes of your time on the CTA website to take a survey. We want your valuable input on how we can make a change for the betterment of our community. Help guide CTA in spending our upcoming \$1.7 million technology modernization project. A project of this magnitude hasn't been implemented in 15 years.

CTA staff and the project team are considering all modes of transportation in the plan, including driving, walking, bicycling, and taking public transit. Technology improvements will also be a focus of the plan, as traveling in the future could likely include autonomous vehicles, Mobility as a Service (MaaS), and electrified vehicles and transit systems.

"This plan is based on what the community in Coastal Mississippi values the most, so your thoughts and opinions at this point in the planning process are crucial," said Ed Elam, a consultant and project manager on the planning project team.



Coast Transit Authority

Please take five minutes to take the
online survey at coasttransit.com/survey

"Whether you ride the bus every day or you've never taken transit in your life, this plan will impact the way you travel in the future," said CTA Executive Director Kevin Coggin. "Please help us get the word out and invite as many people as you can to take the survey."

Biloxi is known for its tourism and hospitality. Tourists are one of CTA's top percentage of riders. Tourist, especially tourist from larger cities, expect public transportation to be just as popular with Biloxi residents as it is with out-of-towners.

"If you don't currently ride transit, why not?" Coggin said. "We want to know what we could do better that would encourage you to use our services, and how we could better connect you to transit service through things like access to bikes, scooters, or even micro-transit."

Providing feedback could payoff; CTA is offering a chance to win one of ten fifty-dollar gift cards or monthly bus passes for lucky respondents. Residents have six weeks to respond and enter the drawing, from Nov. 8 to Dec. 19, 2021.

"As our population is growing and changing, I want to make sure we plan for a transportation system that will best serve the families in our community," Coggin said. "We need a system that works for everyone, which is why we're offering incentives for those who are willing to give their opinions."

The survey for CTA's Strategic Business Plan can be found at coasttransit.com/survey. Visit our website and navigate to the menu where there is a survey link or simply click on the graphic at the top of the website that says "Survey."

This will direct you to the survey page with less than five minutes' worth of questions. For those without digital access, paper copies of the survey will be available at all CTA Transit facilities or at the CTA office, 333 Debuys Road, Gulfport. The survey is also available in Spanish.

For more information, call 228-896-8080 or visit our website at coasttransit.com. "CTA, We Keep The Gulf Coast Rolling For You"

Learn more in "Rolling with CTA," daily at 6:15 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. on BTV in December



Annual Christmas Gulf Coast Public Safety Feed the Needy Program

Biloxi Police, volunteers and other agencies will deliver hot Christmas Day meals to the homes of the less fortunate.

**Deadline for orders: Dec. 13 at 9 a.m.
Call Biloxi Police at 228-385-3033**

To donate or volunteer:

Call: Gulfport Police, 228-868-5703

**Mail: Attn: Feed the Needy Program
2220 15th St., Gulfport, MS 39501**



The infrastructure work in Biloxi

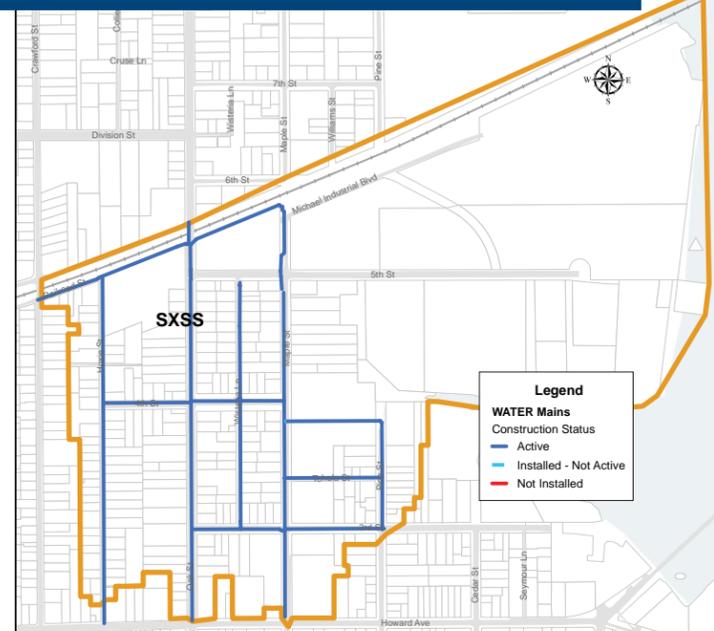
These pages contain maps show the status of the city's two major infrastructure projects now underway. The information on these maps is compiled by the city's Engineering Department, based on reports from contractors and inspectors at each site. See detailed maps and video online at biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/.

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, mid-September, Nov. 17, Dec. 31. Extension primarily because of inclement weather.

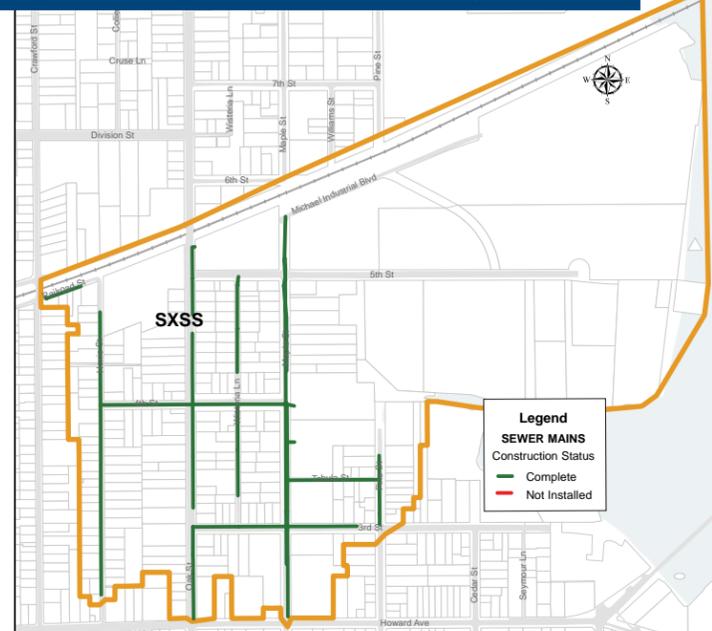
Lane Construction Water

Water Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



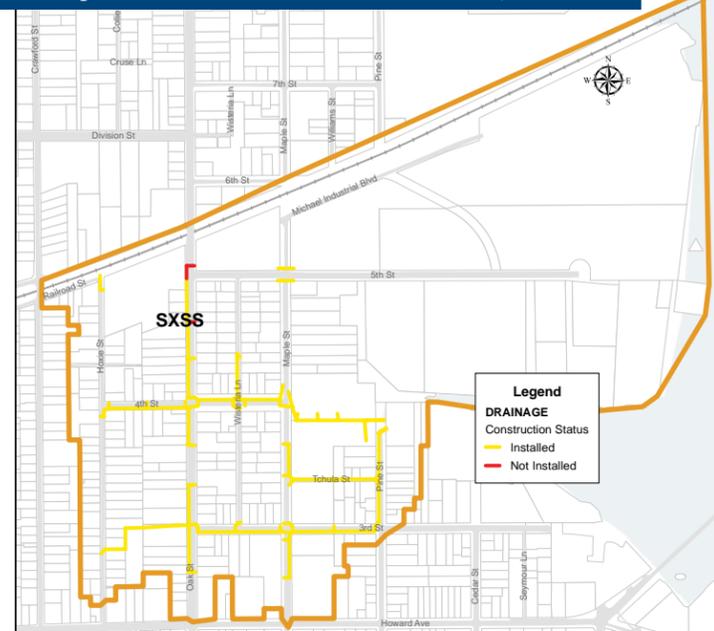
Lane Construction Sewer

Sewer Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



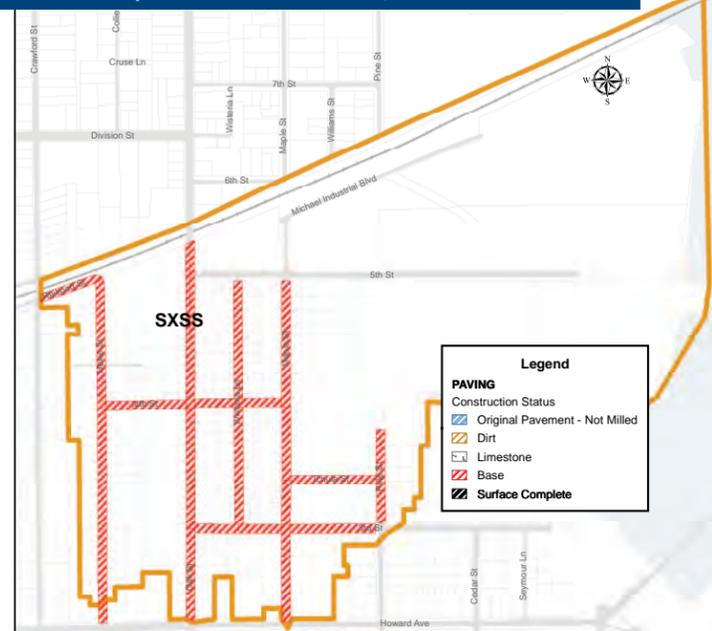
Lane Construction Drainage

Drainage Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



Lane Construction Pavement

Roads to be paved as of November 15, 2021

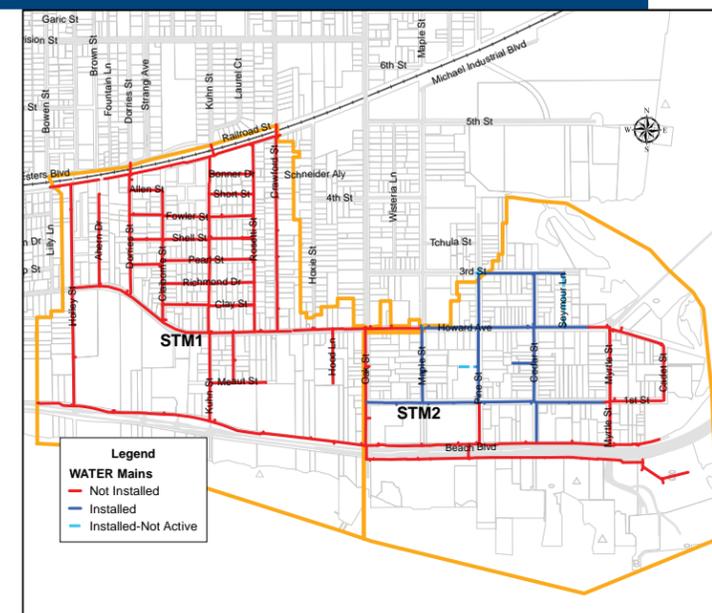


St. Michael 1 & 2

The Necaise 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 Necaise work is scheduled to take 900 days.

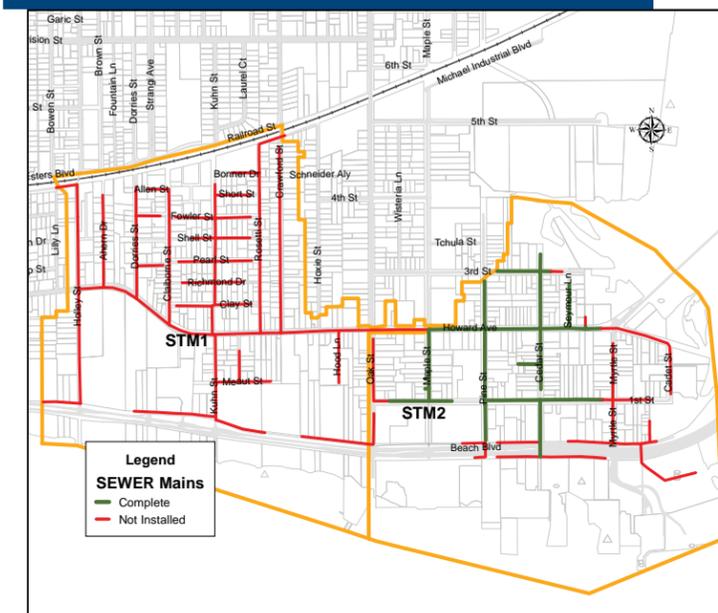
Necaise Brothers Construction Water

Water Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



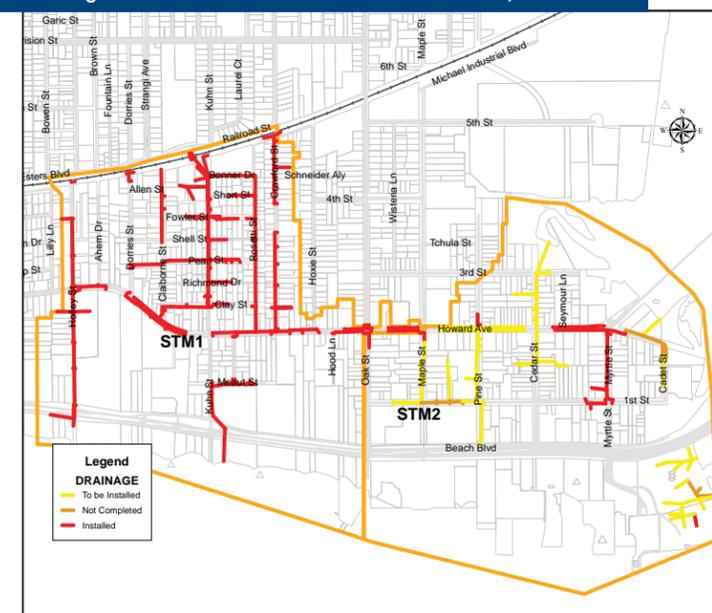
Necaise Brothers Construction Sewer

Sewer Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



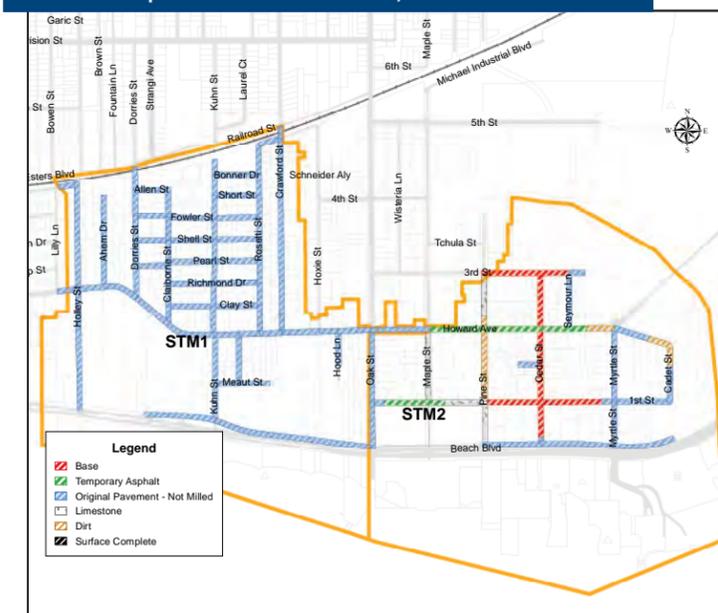
Necaise Brothers Construction Drainage

Drainage Mains to be installed as of November 15, 2021



Necaise Brothers Construction Pavement

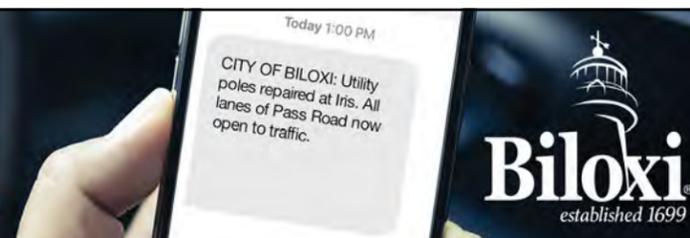
Roads to be paved as of November 15, 2021



Get the 411 on traffic

B-Alert

Text BILOXI to 99411 for timely traffic updates.



Random Notes



Time capsule: Dec. 31, 1963

At first glance, it could be a photo from present today. Water-soaked sand along Highway 90. Big surprise. Leftover classic cars from Cruisin', and the city's signature landmark decked for Christmas. Fact is, that's actually snow, not sand, alongside U.S. 90. A rarity, but not unprecedented. And then there's the man who immortalized the image: Joe Moran (1919-1999), the local artist renowned for his renderings of schooners, shrimp boats and still lifes. Biloxi Historical Administrator Bill Raymond used the photo to re-create the Christmas decor for the Lighthouse a few years ago. The Lighthouse trimmings will be toned down this year, but the 1963 image -- prints on sale at the Biloxi Visitors Center -- lives on. It's the inspiration for this year's Visitors Center Christmas ornament. Get yours for \$20 at the Visitors Center, north of the Biloxi Lighthouse.



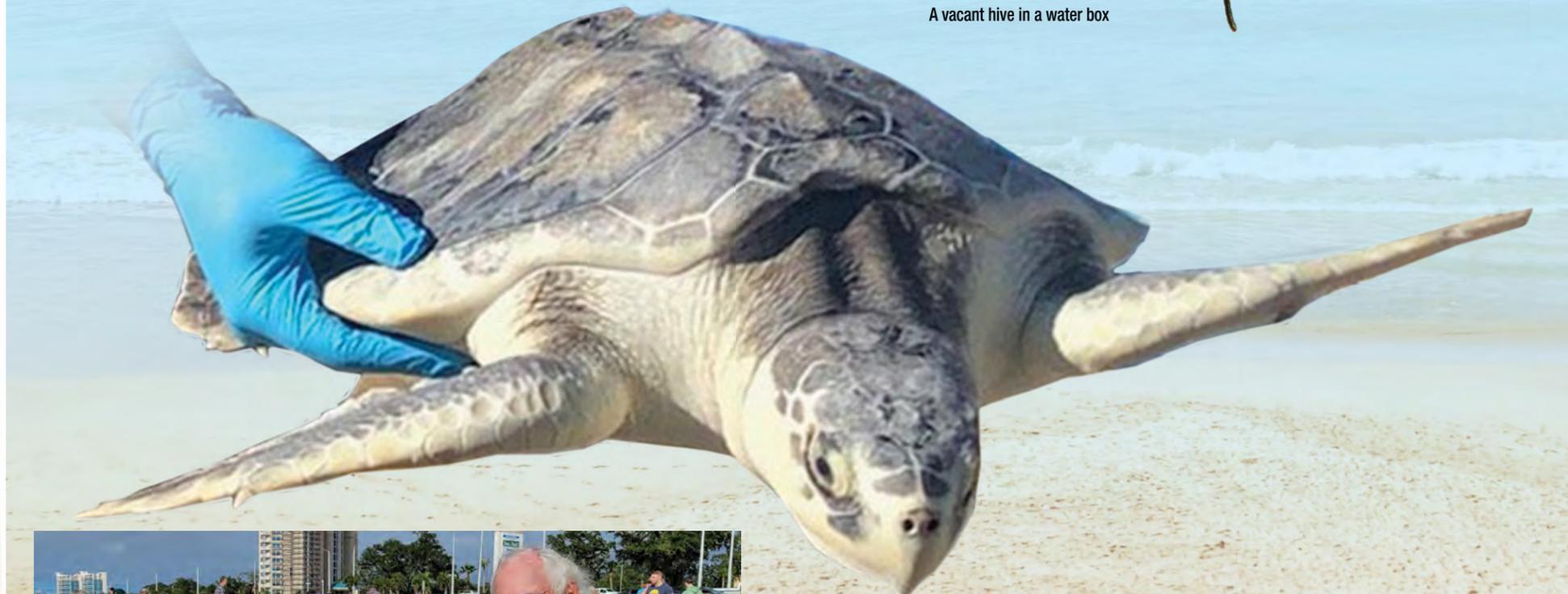
The wild kingdom

Water department means bees-ness

The Biloxi Water Department reads meters electronically these days. Each meter is pinged regularly from cell towers across the city. But workers still have to go into the in-ground meter boxes from time to time. They've found snakes, needles, roaches (lots of roaches), notes from residents (who think the meters are read the old-fashioned way), and even an occasional beehive, as was the case recently at a North Biloxi home, where the bees apparently had "flown the coop." Bees, snakes and residents are reminded not to tamper with the electronic meters. Says Billing Supervisor Dianne Merrill: "Sometimes people will open it and disconnect it, thinking it won't read. That's when it has to be manually read and when a tampering fee is applied to the account." That's no beeswax.



A vacant hive in a water box



John Read: A fan of the turtles

State Rep. John Read of Gautier, who chairs the House Appropriations Committee, brought his children to the beach in Biloxi the other day to help the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies release three endangered Kemp's Ridley turtles on the beach across from Edgewater Mall. The turtles were part of a group cold-stunned and flown from Massachusetts for rehab at IMMS, with the aid of the veterinary staff of Mississippi State University. "I've done a lot in the Legislature, and I continue to enjoy it," Read, the six-term legislator, said after the ceremony. "This old boy was even elected Speaker of the House by his fellow legislators, something a lot of people don't know. It's true," he said with a smile. "Every speaker must be sworn in, and in my 15 minutes as speaker, I had the honor of swearing in Phillip Gunn."

Onetime Speaker John Read, right, with Moby Solangi of IMMS and turtle releasers William and Michael

What they're reading: Edgewater merchants

The hustle and bustle of the Christmas season will certainly take a toll on their reading time, but here's what some of the folks at Edgewater Mall have been reading pre-season:

- **Terry Powell**, Edgewater Mall general manager: "Jean Laffite Revealed," by Ashley Oliphant & Beth Yarbrough
- **Kimmy Landry**, Books A Million: "Rules of Magic," by Alice Hoffman
- **Reba Jones**, One Buck Plus: "The Pursuit of God," by A.W. Tozer
- **David Murray**, Puzzles USA: "The Heathens," by Ace Atkins
- **Rachel Schmitt**, Popcorn Plus: "Have a Little Faith," by Mitch Albom
- **James Pendleton**, Airbrush Jungle: "The Gulag Archipelago," by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

Holiday Open House



**Saturday, Dec. 18 and
Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021**
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Biloxi Visitors Center • 1050 Beach Boulevard

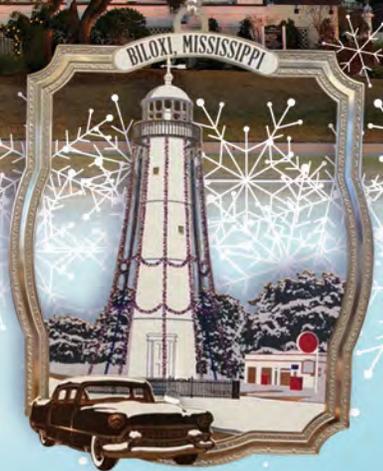
Local artists and craftsmen will be showing and selling their creations at the Biloxi Visitors Center.

Admission is free. Door prizes.

Don't miss this excellent opportunity for special, last-minute Christmas gifts!

Free tour train rides around downtown Biloxi.

Limited
Edition 2021
Lighthouse
Christmas
Ornament
now available.




Biloxi[®]
established 1699

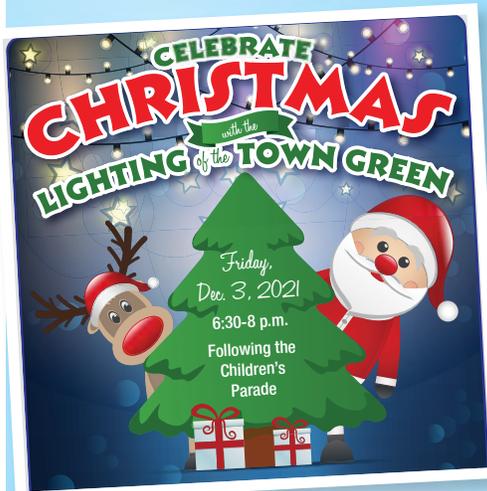
Visit us online at biloxi.ms.us • 



Best Bets!

Lighthouse Lighting

The Christmas season in Biloxi officially begins Thursday, Dec. 2 with the lighting of the city's most-photographed, the Biloxi Lighthouse. The 64-foot tall structure will light up with Christmas lights and Santa will be on site to hear the children's biggest Christmas wishes. Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and include hot chocolate and cookies. Biloxi Visitors Center Christmas shirts and ornaments will be available for purchase. Details: 228-374-3105



Christmas parades

Parades are a major feature of celebrations along the Gulf Coast, especially at Christmas. Here's the lineup: Children's Walking Parade on Friday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. in Downtown, Christmas boat parade on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. in the Mississippi Sound, Woolmarket Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. in the Woolmarket community, and Ward 2 Christmas parade on Saturday Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in East Biloxi. Check out the calendar entries for more details.



Lighting of the Biloxi Lighthouse, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m., south of the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich and Santa will turn on the Lighthouse Christmas lights. Refreshments served. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

Winter Magic at BHS, Dec. 2, 7, 10 & 14, 7-9 p.m. Biloxi High School, 1845 Tribe Drive. Join Biloxi High School's clubs and activity groups for a family-friendly holiday event. Activities include pictures with Santa, holiday music and goodies, and more. Admission is free but donations are welcomed. Details: 228-435-6105

Christmas on the Water Children's Parade, Dec. 3, 6 p.m., Downtown Biloxi. The parade features marching bands, hay wagons and Santa himself! Parade begins at Frank Gruich Community Center, 591 Howard Ave., and ends at Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Details: 228-388-7170



Lighting of the Town Green, Dec. 3, 6:30-8 p.m., Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

First Friday and Downtown Block Party at the District Green, Dec 3, 5-9 p.m., Howard Ave. & Rue Magnolia. Event features live music by Fun, K Getaway, 5-6 p.m.; Symone French, 6:15-7:15 p.m.; and Jamelle Richardson "The Gulf Coast Blues Boy," 7:30-9 p.m.; food trucks, vendors, retailers open late and beer from Fly Llama Brewing Co. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Biloxi Youth League Basketball Registration, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal Snyder Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to Biloxi and non-Biloxi residents ages 6-15. Fees: \$30 for one child, \$50 for two children, & \$50 per child for non-Biloxi residents. Details, including financial assistance: 228-388-2483, sports@biloxi.ms.us

Christmas on the Water Boat Parade, Dec. 4, 6 p.m. Boats parade in full holiday décor, with a fireworks show afterward. Best viewing: between the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor and the Biloxi Lighthouse. Details: 228-617-3112 or 228-432-2563

Christmas on the Water Aboard the Biloxi Schooner, Dec. 4, 4:30 p.m. departure, Biloxi Schooner Pier, 367 Beach Blvd. Presented by the Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum. Excursion returns to the dock by 8 p.m. Guests may bring food and refreshments aboard; ice is provided. Admission: \$45 for adults, \$25 for children ages 3-12. Details: 228-435-6320

Santa Calling, Dec. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Christmas is just around the corner and the Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department has made special arrangements with Santa and his North Pole operators to give children, age 10 and younger, a direct line to Santa. Applications available at www.biloxi.ms.us/santa. Deadline: Dec. 8 at 4 p.m. Details: 228-388-7170



Best Bet!

Holiday Open House

Looking for special, hand-crafted gifts for Christmas? Mark your calendar for two Holiday Open Houses. The Maritime and Seafood Industry Museums will host its holiday shopping event Saturday, Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the museum with vendors, Santa, free museum tours, and refreshments. Then on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 18-19, the City of Biloxi hosts its annual holiday shopping event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Biloxi Visitors Center. There will be local artists and craftsmen selling their wares, door prizes, free tour train rides around downtown Biloxi, and Santa will be available for free photos 1-4 p.m. each day. Details: 228-435-6320, Seafood Museum; 228-374-3105, Biloxi Visitors Center

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

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 43rd 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 BILOXI 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, Dec 9, 5:30 p.m., Southern Bound Book Shop meeting room, 999 Howard Ave. This month there will be an annual book swap - bring a new, unwrapped book in a gift bag and go home with a great new book; and request for donations for Buddy Bags such as gender-neutral fleece throw, activity book with crayons, hygiene kit, and gift cards. Stop by the free meeting or call Biloxi Main Street for more information. Details: 228-435-6339

International Christmas Pastry Sale, Dec. 10, noon-6 p.m.; Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 12, 1-4 p.m.; Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 255 Beauvoir, Road. Free admission. Details: 228-388-6138

Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum Holiday Open House, Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 115 1st St. Meet Santa, enjoy a tour through the museum and shop with local vendors for art and treats. Free admission. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Details: 228-435-6320

Mississippi Gulf Coast Marathon, Dec. 11-12, 7 a.m.- 2 p.m., Beach Blvd. from Pass Christian to Biloxi. This Coastal Running Fest showcases the local culture with a beautiful beach side run. Kick off the weekend at the Runner Village at MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St., Biloxi. Registration prices vary from \$20 to \$125. Events include full and half marathons, 5K and kid's 1-mile. Details: www.mississippigulfoastmarathon.com



Annual Woolmarket Christmas Parade, Dec. 11, 2 p.m. Parade begins on Shortcut Road at Woolmarket Road, ends at Woolmarket Elementary School. See Santa Claus and decorate the Christmas tree at the Woolmarket Elementary gym. Hot Chocolate and cookies provided. Details: 228-861-5422 or Councilman Nathan Barrett at 228-547-5816

Special Needs Christmas Dance, Dec. 17, 6-9 p.m., Donal Snyder Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. All ages with physical and mental disabilities are invited to celebrate Christmas with friends and family. Food and door prizes will be available. Admission: one unwrapped gift valued no more than \$10. Gifts will be given to the Asgard Motorcycle Club for distribution. Details: 228-388-7170, programs@biloxi.ms.us.

Biloxi Visitors Center Holiday Open House, December 18-19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Dozens of artists and craftsmen show and sell their wares for last-minute Christmas shoppers. Santa, refreshments, children's activities, and door prizes. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105



City of Biloxi Ward 2 Christmas Parade, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. Parade begins at Division and Lee streets, travels west on Division and ends at John Henry Beck Park, 671 Division St. Following the parade, visit with Santa, decorate the Christmas tree and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies. Details: 228-388-7170, programs@biloxi.ms.us

 **Bike Biloxi,** Dec. 21, 6 p.m.; Downtown ride. Wear your UGLY Christmas sweaters! 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

 **Biloxi Little Theatre**
220 Lee St., 228-432-8543, www.4blt.org

- **What The Elf?**, Dec. 10 & 11. Tickets: \$20
- **Lemmings**, Jan. 21-23; 28-30, 2022
- **Clue**, March 4-6 & 11-13, 2022

Center Stage
2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258
www.centerstagebiloxi.com

- **3rd Coast Harmony: A Cool Yule**, Dec. 4-5, tickets \$15
- **Aladdin**, Dec. 15-17. Tickets: \$10

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library

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

- **Laying of the Wreaths to Honor Our Fallen**, Dec. 4, 2-3 p.m. Free admission; check in at Gift Shop in main building
- **Christmas In Camp**, Dec. 21, 6-9 p.m. Admission: \$5

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; Admission: \$5 for ages 12 and older; \$2 for ages 6 to 11; free for ages 5 and younger

Biloxi Schooner Pier

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

- Walk-on sunset sails: Admission: \$30 adults; \$15 ages 3-12
- 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

- 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

Kroc Center, MS Gulf Coast, The Salvation Army

575 Division St., 228-867-6541

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum

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

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!
- Yoga under the oaks – Dec. 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Fatima Parish

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- Monday Night Bingo, Every Monday night behind Our Lady of Fatima church. Doors open at 5 p.m., card sales at 5:30 p.m.; Early bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Food available. Event benefits OLF ministries.

Ship Island Excursion

228-864-1014, www.msshipisland.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**, Dec. 3, 10 & 17. Doors open at 5 p.m.; Early Bird games 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts and door prizes. Concessions available and open until 8:30 p.m.
- **Sunday Charity Bingo**: No Sunday Bingo in December

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 228-392-9345

- **Steak Night**, Dec. 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
- **Joppa Shriners Christmas Party (Ages 21 and over only)**, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.-midnight. Admission: \$10 for individual, \$50 for a table of eight. Enjoy music (provided by Freddie Doolittle), dancing and fun; prizes awarded for the "Best Table Decorations". Bring your own food and drinks. Details: 228-392-9345

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Karaoke with Kenny**, every Friday at 7p.m.

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
28	29	30	1  Public Ice Skating MS Coast Coliseum Dec. 1-31 (except for 24 and 25)	2 Community Market Lighting of the Biloxi Lighthouse Biloxi Visitors Center Biloxi Pro Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Winter Magic Biloxi High School	3 ZZ Top IP Casino First Friday Block Party The District Green Christmas on the Water Children's Christmas Parade Downtown Biloxi Lighting of the Town Green Town Green Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	4 The Nutcracker Beau Rivage Chris Stapleton MS Coast Coliseum  Boat Parade Biloxi Small Craft Harbor Biloxi Lighthouse Biloxi Schooner Biloxi Schooner Pier Biloxi Youth League Basketball Registration Snyder Center
5 The Nutcracker Beau Rivage Brunch with Santa Beau Rivage	6 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	7 Community Market Winter Magic Biloxi High School Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	8	9 Community Market Santa Calling www.biloxi.ms.us/santa Main Street Book Club Southern Bound Books	10 Steak Night Joppa Shrine Winter Magic Biloxi High School International Christmas Pastry Sale Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	11 Brandon Bennett IP Casino Woolmarket Christmas Parade Woolmarket Rd  Holiday Open House Beau Rivage Maritime & Seafood Ind. Museum Int'l Christmas Pastry Sale Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Better Than Ezra Beau Rivage
12 Christmas In The Air Beau Rivage Int'l Christmas Pastry Sale Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 	13 Christmas In The Air Beau Rivage Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	14 Community Market Christmas In The Air Beau Rivage Winter Magic Biloxi High School Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	15 Christmas In The Air Beau Rivage	16 Community Market Christmas In The Air Beau Rivage Penfolds Wine Pairing Dinner Palace Casino	17 Air Supply IP Casino Chicago Beau Rivage Queen Celebration Hard Rock Special Needs Christmas Dance Snyder Center Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	18 Biloxi Visitors Center Holiday Open House Biloxi Visitors Center City of Biloxi Ward 2 Christmas Parade Division Street
19 Biloxi Visitors Center Holiday Open House Biloxi Visitors Center	20 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	21 Community Market Bike Biloxi Biloxi Visitors Center Yoga Under the Oaks Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	22	23 Community Market	24 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	25 Christmas Day 
26	27 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	28 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	29	30 Community Market	31 The Molly Ringwalds Beau Rivage Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	1

BTV December 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 (6 min)
6:10 a.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 a.m.	"Rolling with CTA" (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: Christmas parades
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: Christmas parades
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 (6 min)
6:10 p.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 p.m.	"Rolling with CTA" (15 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: Christmas parades
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.

See BTV replays of Christmas parades



Four Christmas parades will roll in Biloxi in December, and you can look to see replays on BTV at 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. a day or two after the parade.

The holiday parades are the special presentation for BTV in December, where the program lineup also includes replays of Biloxi City Council meetings, updates from Keesler Air Force Base, the Biloxi Veterans Administration Medical Center and Biloxi Public Schools.

Here's the lineup of parades, and look to see them on BTV a day or two afterward:

- Children's Walking Parade, Friday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. in Downtown.
- Christmas boat parade, Saturday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. in Biloxi channel.
- Woolmarket Christmas parade, Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m.
- Ward 2 Christmas parade, Saturday Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in East Biloxi.

Check out the Community Calendar for details on each parade, and, remember, see the replays of each parades a day or two afterward, at 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on BTV.

Dining at Doe's Eat Place

The December episode of "Biloxi Cooks!" tells the story of Doe's Eat Place down at Margaritaville Resort & Family Fun Center on Point Cadet.

The chefs at Doe's, a James Beard Award-winning restaurant and winner of Open Table's 2016 Diners' Choice Award, share a delightful dish that is an upcoming new addition to the menu, and, they say, sure to be a favorite.

"Biloxi Cooks!" airs at 7 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. daily throughout December.

This month's recipe: Chicken Parmesan

Doe's Eat Place, Margaritaville

Ingredients:

- 6-ounce Chicken Breast
- Fryer oil
- All Purpose flour
- Eggwash
- Breadcrumb mixture
- 6 ounces of Marinara
- 2 ounces of Parmesan and Mozzarella
- 10 ounces of angel hair pasta
- Chopped Basil to taste
- 2 pieces of garlic bread

Instructions:

1. Tenderize 6-ounce chicken breast until ¼ inch thin
2. Place chick in AP flour mixture, then eggwash
3. Place chicken in breadcrumb mixture and then in non-seafood fryer. Fry until golden brown
4. Temp chicken, if not 165 degrees, then place in oven until done
5. Place chicken on sheet pan, ladle 2 ounces of marinara on top, then place 2 ounces cheese mix on top and melt in salamander
6. Microwave 10 ounces of angel hair pasta for one minute
7. Ladle 4 ounces marina on top of pasta, then place chicken breast on top
8. Garnish with chopped basil and 2 pieces of garlic bread



Musical Memories

Sites and sounds from yesteryear Biloxi

Early days of Biloxi music

Music is amazing. It sets the mood, and brings us back to great memories of yesteryear. Centuries ago, back when Monsieur D'Iberville landed on our Coast, music was a lot different. Certainly, there were no rock bands or fancy guitars, or even radios.

In the early 1700s, a few treasured journalists who visited our Biloxi area wrote down, in cursive on their simple paper, what sounds they heard. They were from birds and

Back in the Day



By Jane Shambra

Native Americans.

When Native Americans gathered in groups, there was often singing and dancing. Their instruments included flutes, drums, and shakers.

When Monsieur attended an Indian ceremony, sometimes the Chief asked the children to sing. Each child had a

simple instrument: a dried gourd filled with small stones or seeds. These were similar to maracas and could easily be shaken to the beat of the tune. Early journal writers tell us they were much like our castanets.

Even though there is no accounting of exact music and songs, we can only imagine...

Monsieur and his group sang in Canadian French and Latin hymns, while the Native Americans chanted in their own native tongue. At first, probably neither could recognize the words of the other, but the rhythm and tones of each was probably shared by all.

The writer is manager of the Local History and Genealogy section of the Biloxi Public Library. Email her at jane.shambra@gmail.com.

Factory tunes

Back in the late 1800s, when Biloxi was established as the Seafood Capital of the World, each seafood factory had its own whistle with music of its own. When a boat loaded with seafood arrived, the factory sounded out its unique tune (i.e. a song) summoning its respective workers to unload, sort, clean, and pack the catch.

Airborne from KAFB

Reveille, Retreat, and Taps are three distinct tunes which emanate from within Keesler Air Force Base. Years ago, a selected expert bugler would be assigned the duty of playing these iconic outdoor sounds. Today, they are transmitted electronically via Keesler's Big Voice system and can sometimes be heard in neighborhoods adjacent to Keesler's perimeter.

- ▶ Reveille is played promptly at 6 a.m. It signifies the beginning of the official duty day and raising of the flag.
- ▶ Retreat can be heard at 5 p.m. and signifies the end of a duty day and the lowering of the flag.
- ▶ Taps is sounded at 9 p.m. and is a signal for lights out at the end of a day.

Parading tunes

Mardi Gras day, St. Patrick's Day, Veterans Day, and even Biloxi High School Homecoming parades are all popular downtown parades. Each has its own music which includes school and military bands. Some floats even provide electrified music as well as live bands.

Sounds of musical theater

As we anxiously await the reopening of the Saenger Theatre, we can only image what events will entertain us in years to come. Our

beloved Saenger opened in 1929 with a magnificent Wurlitzer organ and the capacity to show both Vitaphone and Movietone movies, adding then-modern sound to its motion picture presentations. Since that time, the Saenger has hosted endless events including concerts, dance recitals, movies, meetings, plays, and beauty pageants.

Biloxi's musical hangouts

Back in the day, folks traveled from far and near to visit Biloxi's famous supper clubs to hear notable entertainers. One of our most memorable venues was that of Gus Stevens Supper Club, which was located at the northeast corner of Veterans Avenue and U.S. Highway 90. Not only did he serve amazing breakfast, lunch and supper meals, but he also provided high-end entertainment for his guests. Stars of stage, television, movies, and radio made up his featured shows. Some of his popular entertainers included Mel Torme, Jerry Lee Lewis, Justin Wilson, Johnny Rivers, and Jayne Mansfield.

Sweet sounds from above

Biloxi's assortment of music goes far beyond singing, musical instruments, and other electronic entities. Our beloved bird kingdom has always provided unique, pleasurable melodies.

One of the most entertaining and relaxing features of Biloxi is that of bird watching. These winged creatures have tunes all their own, and the true meaning of their language is generally unknown to humans. For years, Biloxians have been awed by the numerous visits of the Pelicans who remarkably can identify and scoop up their healthy aquatic dinners on one swoop. They are often seen resting on remnants



▲ Biloxi High School band entertaining a Mardi Gras crowd, Feb. 2018

of piers and flying overhead in formation.

Our special Least Tern birds are well protected visitors. While many birds fly south for the winter, Biloxi's Least Terns migrate from the South, from Central and South America, and spend summers instead of winters on our sandy beaches. They arrive about the first week in April, find mates, and lay eggs in their nests on our beaches. The melodious shrill tunes of "kip-kip-kip" and harsh "zreep" make up their unique songs. Each female lays two to four eggs the color of sand. The parents are always busy fishing with their beaks. Their vacation in Biloxi is short lived, and by the third week in September, the Least Tern families leave for their long journey down south. We can spot one of these nesting areas on the beach area just south of the Beauvoir home.

Years ago, in the late 1800s, the small, beautiful Least Terns became extinct. The millinery trade, then, was collecting and utilizing thousands of these birds' skins, and utilizing their beautiful feathers in the production of women's fashionable hats.

Did you know the true stories of "The Birds" in Biloxi? Not so long ago, in 1997, Biloxi was besieged with both pigeons and bats (who are mammals with wings). Biloxi's prior public safety building became overcome with a nesting population of bats. And, the canopies throughout the Vieux Marche, or Howard Avenue from Reynoir to Lameuse, had become a haven for pigeons. So, before the awnings in the Vieux Marche could be removed and before a new Public Safety Center could be torn down and replaced, city workers and volunteers carefully rescued all the bats and pigeons and relocated them without harming them in any way. These winged inhabitants were taken to safer homes.

Tunes to come

Very soon, Biloxi will welcome two new musical notes, one on Howard Avenue and the other will travel the coast.

In the near future, Biloxi will roll out the welcome mat for one of its repurposed historical buildings on Howard Avenue. The former Kress Department Store, built in 1927 and also known as Trip's Variety Store and Saad HealthCare, will soon become a musical palace. At that location, construction is underway on the Morgan Freeman's Ground Zero Blues Club. A place that was once the location for schools supplies, shampoo, and Christmas presents will soon be transformed into a music venue.

And, in 2022, Biloxi will welcome the long-awaited sound of a brand new "choo-choo" – one that we can ride on. It has been announced that Amtrak passenger train service will return to the Gulf Coast and stop at four locations along its route between Mobile and New Orleans. Excitingly, Biloxi is one of the chosen four stops!

Biloxians haven't had the pleasure of hearing or riding in Amtrak cars since before Hurricane Katrina. The train was once a main conveyance of passengers, goods, and seafood. Passenger service between Mobile and New Orleans ran through our city beginning way back in the 1870s.

Lagniappe

Our very own Mayor "FoFo" Gilich is musically talented. He has been spotted numerous times performing on his piano. Rumor has it that whenever and wherever he sees a piano, he can't resist tickling the keys! Mayor Gilich learned his leadership skills early in life!



▲ Least Tern nesting sign on the beach



Biloxi seafood factories in 1910s



Opening day of the Saenger Theatre, 1929



The Kress building along Howard Avenue in the 1940s



The Gus Stevens Supper Club, a popular entertainment venue in the 1950s

BNews Monthly

DECEMBER 2021

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

Visit us online
at biloxi.ms.us



Sign up for Bmail
at biloxi.ms.us

For B-Alerts, text
BILOXI to 99411



P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #57
BILOXI, MS 39530

ECRWSS

Local Biloxi Postal Customer

CELEBRATE THE *Magic* OF THE HOLIDAYS WITH US



SCARLET
PEARL
CASINO RESORT

9380 Central Avenue • D'Iberville, MS 39540 • 888-752-9772 • ScarletPearlCasino.com •

Must be 21 or older. See Pearl Rewards Club for promotional rules and details. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-522-4700.