

## The State of our City

See the inside story  
on the accomplishments  
of city departments in 2021  
in a special report

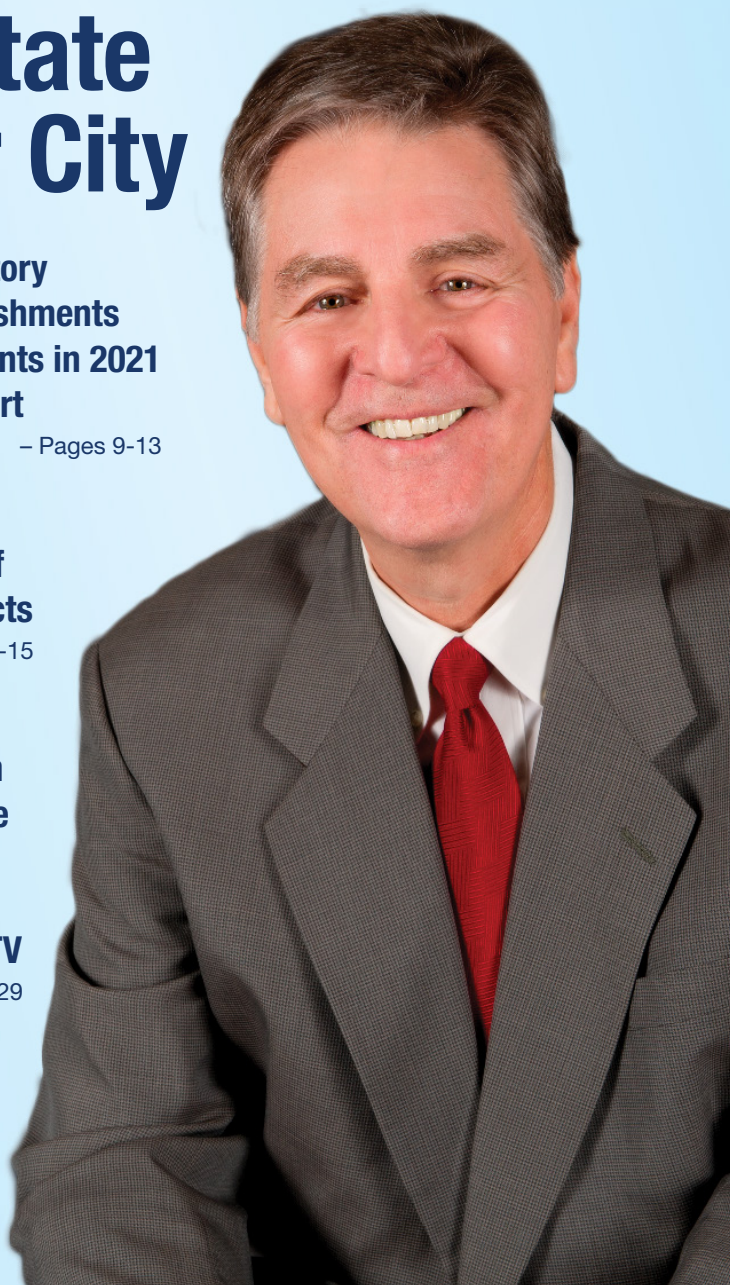
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See the status of  
major city projects

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See Mayor Gilich  
present the State  
of the City daily  
at 8 a.m., 2 p.m.,  
and 8 p.m. on BTv

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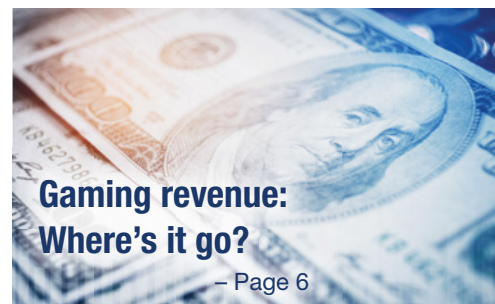
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mall**

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Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich  
and the Biloxi City Council  
George Lawrence • Felix O. Gines  
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Nathan Barrett

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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](mailto:online@biloxi.ms.us)

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# Just a word or two on the way out the door

Welcome to the 48th issue of BNews Monthly, a milestone for an unlikely prospect: a monthly newsmagazine produced by your city government, printed and delivered to you by the first of every month.

This is your owner's manual to Biloxi. A compendium of things to see and do, with a nod to our flavorful past, our sense of place.

Thank you to Robin Stephens Lund whose design made it pop. To Jimmy Spiers and the Knight-Abbey team who made sure it

was printed and delivered citywide. To Renny Sherman, for putting the B in BTV and the zip in A to Z. To Mele Printing, for maintaining the striking design and timely delivery. All a great team.

Thank you to the advertisers on these pages. You made the numbers work.

Thank you to Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, whose trust allowed these things to happen, and to Mayors Gilich and A.J. Holloway for the wide berth afforded the Public Affairs Manager.

Cecilia Dobbs Walton will do an outstanding job as this city's new Public Affairs Manager. She loves this city and job as much as I do, and she's smarter than me.

Finally, my fellow Biloxians, thank you for allowing my work into your homes and businesses, your mailboxes and inboxes, your cellphones, and your computer and TV screens over the years. Framing this story has been an honor and a privilege.

--Vincent Creel

## State of the City

### The origins are humble for a story that is so big

This column originally appeared in this space in February 2021.

As this year's State of the City presentation makes its way to mailboxes, cyberspace and BTV this month, it marks another turn in a long and winding road for the annual presentation.

And we're not talking about the impact of COVID-19 and its havoc on annual events. No, we're talking about an annual presentation that has evolved from a gathering of a few dozen people in the auditorium of the J.L. Scott Marine Education Center on Point Cadet 30 years ago, to an event that has been presented to luncheon audiences of 600 or so people who paid \$50 a head to hear the news of their city.

The event is a brainchild of the late Tommy Munro, the longtime Biloxi booster, civic leader, respected businessman and benevolent one. Munro marshalled support among like-minded citizens – Dickie Schmidt, Franklin Kyle, Larry Corban, Dr. Frank Gruich, to name a few – to shine a favorable light on the city, to present an annual State of the City report.

"That small group of us were thinking that there wasn't one, and there should be," said Biloxi attorney Wayne Hengen, a charter member and former president of what today is the Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. "Tommy likened it to the State of the Union, and I don't know that any other cities had done it back then."

Hengen has attended every State of the City presentation since that first year.

"Oh yea," he responded matter-of-factly. "And I couldn't be more proud that we have gotten so much participation in the event. They've been informative and it seems like it's growing every year. Tommy Munro hit the nail on the head."

To be sure, the annual presentation is actually rooted in state statute: In the mayor council form of government, state statute says the mayor "shall annually report to the council and the public on the work of



### SOTC through the years – and now

You can see an archive of State of the City videos and reports online at [biloxi.ms.us/sotc](https://biloxi.ms.us/sotc).

The 2022 State of the City will air on BTV daily throughout the month at 8 a.m., 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. It is also on-demand on the city's YouTube channel.

the previous year and on the condition" of the municipality. The mayor, the statute continues, shall also require each city department to make an annual report.

Of course, it could be as simple as "hey, we've had a good year." But when has government taken the simple route?

In fact, Mayor Holloway, never known to relish the role of public speaking before large audiences of, say, three or four, much less 600 to 700, was forced to deliver two state of the city addresses. One for the Biloxi chamber and one for the Biloxi Bay chamber. Usually about a month apart, and to essentially the same audience. Mercifully, the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce eventually opted to stage Breakfast with the Mayor every couple of months instead of a state of the city.

Credit Don Snyder, the longtime and enterprising Biloxi Parks & Recreation chief, with the idea of a multi-media presentation.

"You know," Snyder said one year after sitting through a 30-minute delivery by Mayor



Tommy Munro planted seeds before he passed away in 2009

Holloway, "it might be good to do a movie every year. That way, people won't have to just sit and listen to the mayor. They can have something to see."

Tactful, you were, Don Snyder.

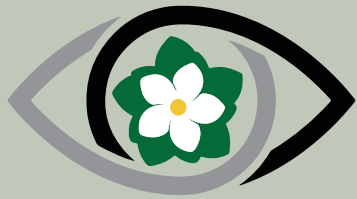
Mayor Holloway, for sure, loved the idea, with the majority of the heavy lifting taken off Game Day. What has ensued is a fast-paced, 18- to 25-minute presentation, set to recorded word and using nearly 200 images and supporting video.

For 20 years, the address has been supported by a mailout sent to every postal customer in Biloxi, and now with a robust online presence as well.

And, in this election year and in these often uncertain times, here's one certainty: the State of the City is the one presentation each year where you get a broad-yet-comprehensive take on the program of work in your city. And, yes, to borrow a phrase from a Tommy Munro bumper sticker, it shows that "things are brighter in Biloxi."

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.





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# Keeping it simple: Where does that record-breaking gaming revenue go?

Clark Griffith, the retired Air Force general, fighter pilot and former Keesler commander, and Biloxi City Councilman, used to draw on his Gadsden, Ala. roots when it came to complex public policy issues.

“Put that in ‘farmer’ for me,” he would say occasionally with a smile. “Keep it simple.”

And so it was, with the latest record-breaking monthly gaming figure to come from Biloxi casinos: \$115 million in gross gaming revenue reported by Biloxi’s eight casinos for the month of March 2022. The figure -- the seventh time the monthly gross gaming revenue has crossed \$100 million since it all began in August 1992 -- eclipses the previous Biloxi records of \$111 million in April 2021 and \$105 million in July 2007.

Huge numbers, for sure. The \$115 million generates a tax windfall of \$13.8 million in taxes, including \$9.2 million to the state, \$2.4 million to the city, and \$1.07 million to the county.

But we’ll put in “farmer,” too:

Let’s say you lose \$100 in a slot machine at a Biloxi casino. Where does that “lost” \$100 go? It’s been a question Biloxians have asked since Day 1.

Here’s the breakdown, in general terms, on a \$100 loss at a slot machine in Biloxi: \$88 goes to the house; \$12 is paid in gaming taxes:

State of Mississippi:	\$8.00
City of Biloxi general fund	\$1.28
City public safety	.64
City public schools	.64
County public safety	.32
County schools	.32
Gulfport	.07
Harrison County	.14
Long Beach	.03
Pass Christian	.02
Biloxi	.06
Tax split	.80
Harrison County	.61
City of Biloxi	.19



## News & notes

### Make a splash:

The city’s four splash pads are now open daily:

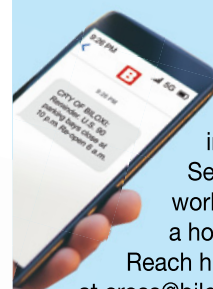
Hiller, Margaret Sherry, and Point Cadet, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Beck Park, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Details: 228-388-7170.



### Stow the trash:

Your trash and recycling carts should be curbside only on trash day. It’s actually a city

ordinance. See a problem? Call Code Enforcement, 228-435-6280.



### Help in a flash:

Craig Ross in the Citizens Service Division works to resolve a host of issues.

Reach him by email at [cross@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:cross@biloxi.ms.us) or 228-435-6271.

### Avoid the crash:

Thousands get timely traffic advisories regularly from the city. To avail yourself of the free text messages, text BILOXI to 99411.







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Photos by Mike Krebs

## Catching #ShuckFever

By Garrett Greene  
Biloxi Shuckers

After hitting a grand slam to power the Biloxi Shuckers to a Friday night victory over the Mississippi Braves, Shuckers' catcher Brent Diaz was asked in his postgame interview just how hot the Biloxi Shuckers were as a team.

Diaz looked out on the crowd at MGM Park and said, "We've got a saying in the clubhouse right now, and it's that WE'VE GOT SHUCK FEVER!" The culmination of his interview over the speaker system drew a resounding roar from the Biloxi faithful that heard from the catcher while waiting for the first fireworks show of the year.

The phrase has become the rallying cry for the Shuckers, who started the 2022 season with an incredibly hot streak, winning seven in a row to start the year and eight of their first nine to match the best start in franchise history.

This Biloxi Shuckers team is incredibly entertaining to watch. Armed with some of the best prospects in the Milwaukee Brewers' farm system, they had the top-scoring offense in the Southern League through the first two weeks of the year, scoring no less than three runs in any of their victories.



Biloxi's lone loss in the first two series of the season came in a rain-shortened game that only lasted five innings. And considering the Shuckers have already mounted one comeback of at least four runs this season, it's within reason that had the game been a full nine-inning contest, they likely would have come back and won that one too.

Leading the charge for the Shuckers is outfielder Joey Wiemer, the second-ranked prospect in the Brewers' system. Standing at 6'4", Wiemer takes some of the hardest swings in baseball. If you get a chance to sit down near the on-deck circle, you can hear the 'whoosh' of air with every practice swing the imposing outfielder takes. Proof that baseball players come in all shapes

and sizes, 5'9" Felix Valerio was the early team-leader in home runs for Biloxi, banging out three in the first nine games while also reaching base safely in every contest.

These Shuckers aren't just mashers though; through their first two series, they also had the lowest ERA in the Southern League. All of that has produced an exciting (and winning) team in the early stages of the season.

Of course, there is more than just what's happening on the field to look forward to during the month of May at MGM Park. During the Shuckers' pair of homestands in the month, there are two Fireworks Fridays, three giveaway nights, and Education Day on May 11 against Birmingham with a 11:05 a.m. first pitch. And every new season brings some small changes at the ballpark, including digital ticketing, cashless concession stands, and improved fan concession ordering with Waitr at the ballpark. Details on policies, players, and tickets can all be found at [biloxishuckers.com](http://biloxishuckers.com).

The weather is warming up and so are the Shuckers, so make your plans to come out to MGM Park multiple times to see the future stars of the Major Leagues and catch #ShuckFever too!

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



# The state of our city, transformational

Greetings,  
my fellow Biloxians:

It's that time of year when we present our annual State of the City report, providing you a compilation of the many and major achievements of city departments and divisions in the previous year.

Transformational is a word you hear a lot but don't always see. In 2021, we saw it.

We have accomplished many things and began many things. In 2021, we saw more streets paved, hit record-breaking gaming and sales tax revenues, dedicated a statue to our most famous son of Biloxi, Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise, and saw growth, not only economically but in population, according to the 2020 census.

A big part of the state of our city right now is creating jobs, solidifying and broadening our appeal, and enhancing our quality of life. We are creating excitement and it is transformational.

I'm very thankful for what we've been able to do. We are rising to the next level of sustaining and building on the positive things that we're making happen.

We worked to continue to provide the day-to-day services you expect and deserve, but we've also forged new partnerships that have produced positive results in terms of economic development, quality of life, and quality of place.

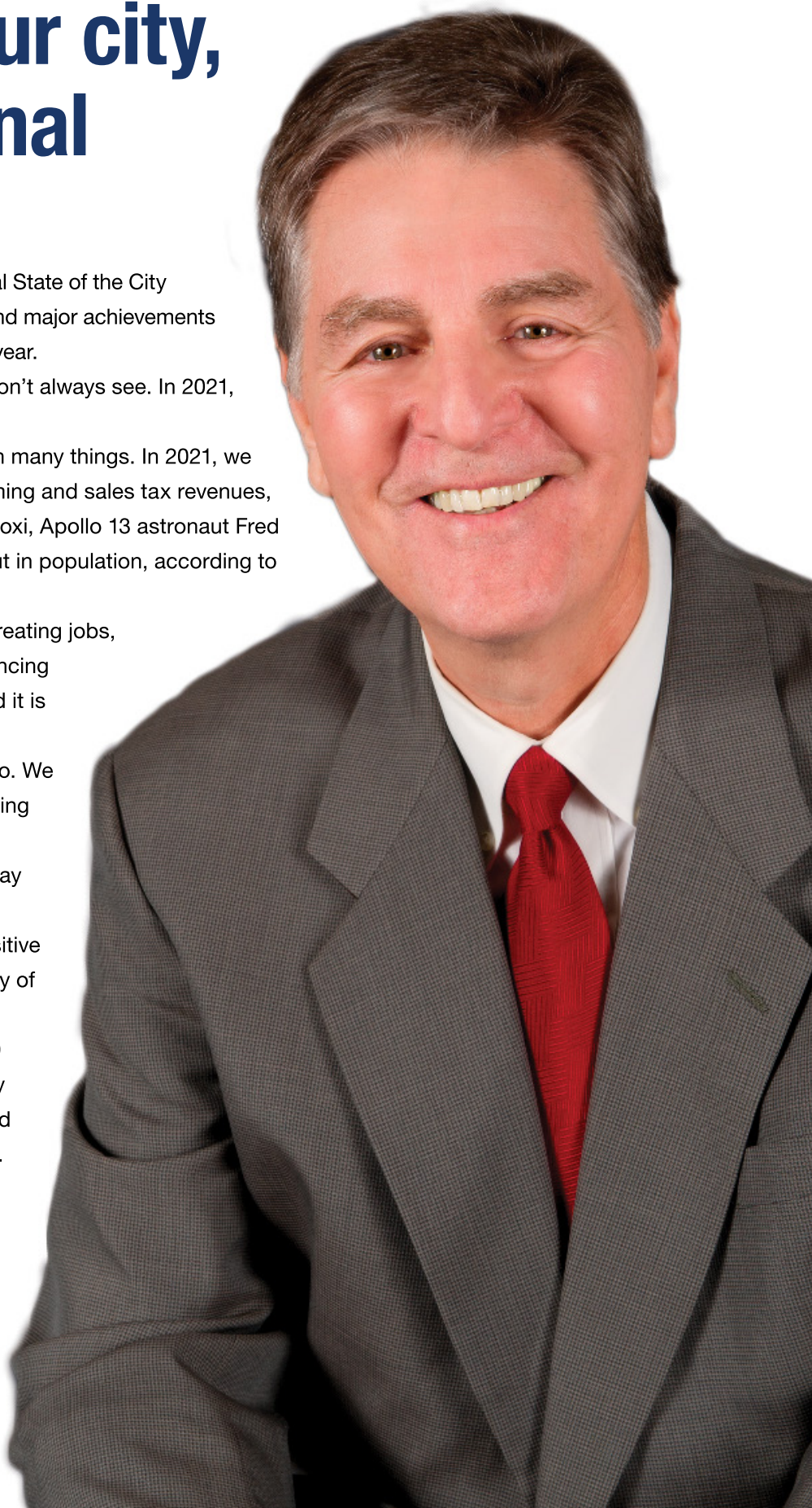
Our dedicated city workforce of more than 600 has continued to provide progressive, day-to-day services. I always say Biloxi is a safe, friendly, and beautiful city. Our employees make that possible.

I hope you read this report and appreciate as much as I do the progress we have made and the transformations happening in Biloxi.

God bless you and God bless Biloxi.



Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, Mayor



- ▶ See State of the City presentation daily at 8 a.m., 1:05 p.m. and 8 p.m. See it anytime on the city's YouTube page.
- ▶ See the year of progress, Pages 9-13
- ▶ See an overview of the work citywide, Pages 14-15
- ▶ See it all at [biloxi.ms.us/sotc](http://biloxi.ms.us/sotc)



# Departmental Annual Reports



Fred Haise statue, south of the Biloxi Lighthouse

## Administration Department

- Bond rating remained at AA-, one of best in the state
- Received \$70.6 million in revenue; had \$61.5 million in expenses
- Employees 615; saw 34 retirements. Hired 63 permanent and 22 seasonal employees
- Continued assisting the installation of community crime cameras throughout the city
- Upgraded network system municipal-wide
- Organized the Fred Haise statue dedication near Biloxi Visitors Center

## Community Development

- Issued \$110,784,969 million in construction permits in 2020, including \$15.45 million commercial and \$80.17 million residential
- Issued 4,557 permits, including 338 for commercial and 1,942 for residential
- Saw the completion of the Blake Assisted Living and Memory Care Community, The Legends Hotel, Fast Pace Urgent Care on Pass Road, Starbucks at Edgewater Mall outparcel, Auto Zone on Cedar Lake, America's Thrift Store at Edgewater Village, and T-Mobile on U.S. 90
- Permits issued for major commercial projects: Arbor Landing Apartments Phase 2 and Popp's Ferry Climate Control Storage
- Construction continued on the Community Bank main branch, Margaritaville Amusement Park Phase II and parking garage, Fields Flights Restaurant, Camp David RV Park, Marshall Funeral Home, and exterior renovations to the Saenger Theatre
- Renovations and repairs: Howard Avenue Apartments (former Josette's), new multi-tenant building for RDH Holdings at 2572 Pass Road, Edgewater Square Shopping Center, Housing Authority, First Baptist Church, Ellzey's Hardware, Palace Casino, Imperial Palace, Chateau Le Grande Condominiums, Ochsner Medical Center, Jia Noodle Bar, AAA Storage, and a new Martini Bar at 918 Howard Avenue
- Issued 276 new business licenses; 315 short-term rental
- Planning Commission oversaw 74 cases, conducted public hearings for each
- Reviewed 59 projects and approved 32 site plans
- Issued 110 residential and 7 commercial tree permits and distributed 200 trees during the annual Arbor Day Run
- Received the designation of "Tree City USA" for the 37th year
- Maintained rating of 4 in building division by the Mississippi State Building Department Rating Bureau
- Received a 6 in the Community Rating System (CRS)
- Biloxi Lighthouse was visited by 2,365 guests
- Biloxi Visitors Center welcomed 81,914 and 202 events
- Biloxi Civic Center hosted 52 public events

## Engineering Department

- Managed nearly 50 projects in concept, design, construction, or completion
- Managed nearly \$2 million of paving
- Completed more than 1000 work orders

## Engineering Department continued

- Completed projects West Biloxi Boardwalk extension, parallel roadway along railroad tracks between Nixon and Oak streets, phase one of Lorraine Road Water Line, and Woolmarket drainage project
- Construction underway: Bayview Avenue Walkway, Eagle Point Park, walkway from Small Craft Harbor to Oak Street, Saenger Theatre, Keesler Gate outside, Sixth Street South Infrastructure, and St. Michaels Phase 1 & 2 Infrastructure
- Paving completed: Jefferson Street, McDonald Avenue, Cavailer Park, Camp Four Jacks Road, Old Woolmarket Road, Woolmarket Lake Road, and Timber Ridge Lane
- Paving, roadway/pipe repair, replacement work completed: Hampton Lane, Harkness, Victory Lane, Brandon James, Atkinson east and west, and Tara Lane
- Projects in design phase: Point Cadet Marina improvements, Kuhn Street Boat Ramp, Canaan Fishing Dock Reconstruction, Main Street Railroad Crossing upgrades, South Contract Phase 2 (BVE 1 & 2), CSX Passenger Train Platform, Keegan Bayou restoration, Visitors Center renovations, Hiller Park boat ramp, West Biloxi Biloxi Master Plan, West Contract, Coliseum Pier repairs, Popp's Ferry extension, Causeway floating docks, Popp's Ferry bridge, Cedar Lake bridge, Shriners Blvd. waterline, Woolmarket Road sidewalks, Lorraine Road waterline phase 2, Eagle Point canals cleanup, and Eagle Point Park phase 2
- Projects in concept phase: Lee Street boat ramp, East Biloxi recreational facility, Saenger Theatre interior, Bayvista water well, and Mason Road waterline



Work continues on the walkway from Oak St. to Small Craft Harbor

## Fire Department

- Responded 8,286 calls for service, including 5,655 for rescue and medical (68.2 percent of overall calls), and 223 fire-related. Other calls include good intent, hazardous condition and false alarm calls
- Implemented new reporting and staffing software
- Hired 12 firefighters
- Appointed new chief and assistant chief
- 8 firefighters completed certifications for EMTs, 2 received advanced EMT certification, and 1 firefighter was certified as a Paramedic
- Completed over 30,000 hours of professional development training
- Installed 82 smoke detectors in 22 residences
- Conducted 1,613 fire inspections and 377 certificates of occupancy inspections – 63 short-term rentals
- Reviewed 77 blueprints for approval
- Reviewed 51 commercial plans
- Issued 39 burn permits
- Approved 12 outdoor fireworks displays and three indoor pyrotechnic shows
- Completed another year of annual R U Ready community outreach event
- Secured more nearly \$1 million in grants
- Department employed 170 firefighters and 9 civilians
- Received Class 2 rating
- Hosted the annual SEAFC Conference



Fire Chief Nicholas Geiser



Fire Asst. Chief Jason Earl Davis



Biloxi Firefighters stand ready to serve



The fire department received a Class 2 rating





The new St. Mary's Park



Miramar Park's new shade structure



Investigation Division felony case resolve rate is above national average



Police assist with several special events

## Legal Department

- Successful defense of Secretary of State lawsuit to limit Biloxi's waterfront development
- Secured miscellaneous recoveries of over \$450,000
- Shared management and maintenance of city's downtown development grants with Biloxi Main Street
- Participated in ongoing economic development initiatives
- Oversaw of refinancing city debt service, resulting in interest savings
- Dealt with code enforcement and helped to streamline property cleanup issues

## Parks & Recreation

- Canceled all programs from February to June because of COVID-19
- Summer Playground Program included 250 participants; excluded Sun and Teen camps
- Community events held: Halloween on Howard with 500 participants, Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Breakfast with 60 participants, Special Needs Thanksgiving Family Dinner with 125 participants, Senior Citizen Christmas Party with 60 participants, annual Children's Christmas Walking Parade, and inaugural Ward 2 Christmas Parade
- Hosted state Senior Olympics with 550 participants
- Sports leagues held: Softball with 125 participants; baseball with 450 participants; football/cheerleading with 250 participants; and basketball with 165 players
- Natatorium welcomed 34,038 visitors to swim, train, and compete
- Donal Snyder Community Center welcomed 9,570 visitors
- 16 parks/playgrounds and 20 ballfields see a spike in attendance
- Woolmarket City Center opened
- Repairs: Natatorium retractable roof, Circle Park tennis courts, DSCC outside windowsill, and DSCC HVAC
- Replacements: Natatorium pool pump filter and DSCC room partitions
- Installed a new pavilion and playground at Circle Park and courts and soccer goals at Eagle Point Park
- Facility bookings totaled 241
- Biloxi Civic Center welcomed 52 events with 22,560 guests
- Pickleball courts saw 26,410 participants; hosted MS Senior Olympics, Battle for the Pink Charity Tournament, and USA Pickleball Sanctioned Tournament

## Police Department

- Responded to 91,098 calls for service
- Officer-initiated calls represented 55 percent of call volume
- Rescued 122 animals
- Investigations Division resolved 30.8 percent of all felony crimes, a rate above the national average
- Investigated and resolved four homicides
- K9s and handlers conducted 105 narcotic searches and 41 explosive searches
- Conducted more than 12,000 hours of training
- Bomb Squad answered 23 calls for service
- Honor Guard was called to provide representation at 16 details
- Bike team logged 240-miles with citizens
- Dive team provided water safety assistance for the 4th of July Fireworks display, Blessing of the Fleet, and Christmas on the Water Boat Parade
- Public information division generated over 137 press releases
- Department employed 123 sworn officers and 45 civilians
- Seven sworn officers retired, six resigned and 13 were hired

## Police Department continued

- Four dispatchers were hired
- Assisted with several events, including Spring Break, Scrapin' the Coast, Cruisin' the Coast, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Marathon
- Secured nearly \$11,000 in grants

## Port Division

- Maintains four harbors with a total of 44 slips
- Hosted the Gulf Coast Billfish Classic, Biloxi King Master, and Kingfish Mayhem tournaments that brought in over 150 boats to Point Cadet Marina
- Planned for repairs to the Commercial Fishing Dock
- Repairs were made to the Point Cadet Marina, Oak Street North Pier, Ice Wharf Pier, Forest Avenue Pier, Coliseum Pier, and Kuhn Street Boat Ramp

## Public Affairs Division

- City's website had 837,823 sessions in 2021, nearly double that of 2020
- Site had 690,501 unique visitors in 2021, more than double that of 2020
- Sent 120 Bmails to an audience of more than 7,000 subscribers
- Changed B-Alert text messaging company in October; number updated to 99411
- Completed 12 BNews Monthly newsletters, averaging 24 to 26 pages, delivered to every address in Biloxi; generated \$146,200 in advertising revenue to offset printing and delivery costs
- BTV: Biloxi Television, a municipal TV channel, offered local programming and replays of council meetings. New programming included Postcards from Biloxi, Golf Carts on Biloxi Streets, Mission Update: The Fred Haise Statue, Old Biloxi Photos, Holiday Fire Safety Tips, and Storytime with Kelly Gumbo
- Continued live streaming city council meetings and Biloxi A to Z weekly reports
- Implemented media request email for all media inquiries
- Facebook – Gained thousands of followers to end year with more than 50,000

## Public Works Department

- Maintained more than 46 city buildings, MGM Park, and the Biloxi Cemetery
- Processed 10,231 work orders totaling more than \$2.6 million
- Filled 1,990 potholes
- Mowed 8,085 miles of rights-of-way
- Maintained and repaired 341,087 feet of drainage ditches
- Installed and removed 9,387 barricades and 33,868 four-foot delineator cones for special events
- Picked up 1775 bags of litter and 1552 tires
- Installed 306 signs
- Maintained 23 water wells, 104 lift stations, and more than 2700 fire hydrants
- Employed 87 employees
- Six employees are certified well operators
- Two employees are certified waste water operators



Several piers reopened after Hurricane Zeta repairs



Biloxi Television available 24/7 online



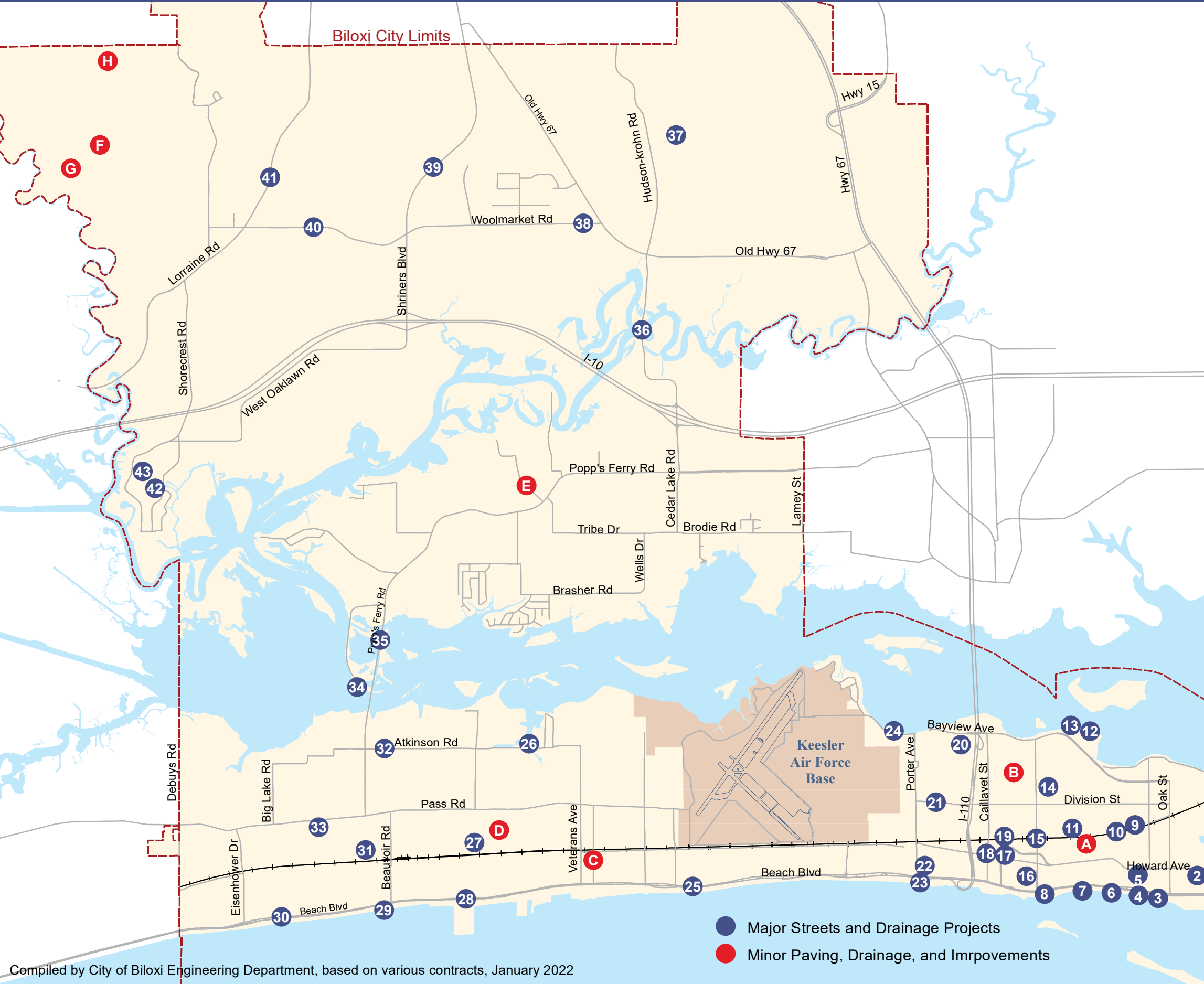
PW crew paint the Saturn V rocket base of the Fred Haise statue



Employees installed 306 signs



# March 2022 status of major projects



## Major streets and drainage projects, cost and status

Includes under design, under construction, pending or completed

1	Point Cadet Marina Improvements	\$5.7 million	Design
2	Sixth Street South Infrastructure (SXSS)	\$10.5 million	Under Construction
3	Small Craft to Oak Street Boardwalk	\$3.0 million	Under Construction
4	Kuhn Street Boat Ramp Expansion	\$1 million	Design
5	St. Michaels Phase 1 & 2 Infrastructure (STM1&2)	\$41.5 million	Under Construction
6	Sand Beach Renourishment	\$1 million	Design
7	Lee Street Boat Ramp	\$500,000	Conceptual
8	Port Commission Building Roof Repairs	\$175,000	Complete
9	East Biloxi Connector Roadway	\$730,000	Complete
10	CSX Railroad Closures	\$50,000	Complete
11	East Biloxi Recreational Facility	\$500,000	Conceptual
12	Canaan Fishing Dock Reconstruction	\$5 million	Design
13	Canaan Fishing Dock Maintenance	\$250,000	Under Construction
14	North Contract (Katrina Infrastructure)	\$129 million	Complete
15	Main Street Railroad Crossing Upgrades	\$210,000	Design
16	South Contract Phase 2 (BVE 1 & 2)	\$24 million	Design
17	Saenger Theater Exterior Repairs	\$2.5 million	Under Construction
18	Saenger Theater Interior Renovations	\$3 million	Conceptual
19	CSX Passenger Train Platform	\$400,000	Design
20	Keegan Bayou Restoration	\$4.1 million	Design
21	Keesler Gate Outside Project	\$18.3 million	Under Construction
22	Visitors Center Renovations	\$100,000	Design
23	Lighthouse Pier Parking Lot	\$500,000	Under Construction
24	Bayview Waterfront Restoration Project	\$2.0 million	Under Construction
25	Highway 90 Beautification	\$140,000	Complete
26	Hiller Park Boat Ramp	\$200,000	Design
27	West Biloxi Master Plan	\$80,000	Design
28	West Contract (Katrina Infrastructure)	\$33.5 million	Design
29	Coliseum Pier Repairs	\$90,000	Design
30	Beauvoir Phase 1, 2, & 3 Infrastructure (BEA1,2,3)	\$32.4 million	Nearing Construction
31	Popp's Ferry Extension	\$18.3 million	Design
32	Atkinson Road Traffic Study	\$18,800	Complete
33	Bay Vista Water Well	\$750,000	Conceptual
34	Causeway Floating Docks	\$100,000	Design
35	Popp's Ferry Bridge From Riverview to Pass Road	\$75.0 million	Design
36	Cedar Lake Bridge Repairs	\$900,000	Design
37	Mason Road Waterline	\$600,000	Conceptual
38	Woolmarket Road East Drainage	\$1.2 million	Complete
39	Shriners Blvd Waterline	\$600,000	Design
40	Woolmarket Road Sidewalks	\$1.0 million	Design
41	Lorraine Rd Water Line Phase 2	\$600,000	Design
42	Eagle Point Canals Cleanup	\$40,000	Design
43	Eagle Point Park Phase 2	\$200,000	Design

## Minor Paving, Drainage, and Improvements, cost and status

Includes under design, under construction, pending or completed

A	Jefferson Street Paving	\$15,000	Complete
B	Paving Infrastructure Area Various Streets	\$161,000	Complete
C	McDonnell Avenue Paving	\$57,500	Complete
D	Cavalier Park Repairs	\$30,600	Complete
E	Camp Four Jacks Road Paving	\$26,000	Complete
F	Old Woolmarket Road Paving	\$20,600	Complete
G	Woolmarket Lake Rd Paving	\$84,000	Complete
H	Timber Ridge Lane Paving	\$11,600	Complete





# BILOXI Shuckers PROMOTIONS in May

**MAY 10 T-Shirt Tuesday Giveaway**  
presented by Maxem Urgent Healthy Care

**MAY 13 Fireworks Friday**  
presented by Margaritaville Resort Biloxi

**MAY 14 Shuck Yeah Saturday**  
Amazing Tyler & Poster Giveaway  
presented by Mele Printing

**MAY 24 T-Shirt Tuesday Giveaway**  
presented by US Air Force  
331st Recruiting Squadron

**MAY 27 Fireworks Friday**  
presented by Island View Casino

**MAY 14 Shuck Yeah Saturday**  
Memorial Day Weekend & Surprise Giveaway  
presented by Beau Rivage Resort & Casino

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 PNS 1:05PM	2	3 MTG	4 MTG	5 MTG	6 MTG	7 MTG
8 MTG	9	10 BIR 6:05PM	11 BIR 11:05AM	12 BIR 6:35PM	13 BIR 6:35PM	14 BIR 6:35PM
15 BIR 1:05PM	16	17 MIS	18 MIS	19 MIS	20 MIS	21 MIS
22 MIS	23	24 MTG 6:35PM	25 MTG 6:35PM	26 MTG 6:35PM	27 MTG 6:35PM	28 MTG 6:35PM
29 MTG 5:05PM	30	31 PNS	HOME		AWAY	

RESERVE  
YOUR SEATS  
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BILOXISHUCKERS.com

DUNGENSESS & SNOW CRAB | LOBSTER CLAWS & CRAWFISH EVERY DAY  
WHOLE LOBSTERS EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

## CRAB BUFFET LUNCH & DINNER

LUNCH: MONDAY-FRIDAY 11AM TO 1:30PM

DINNER: MONDAY-THURSDAY 2PM TO 9PM | FRIDAY 2PM TO 10PM  
SATURDAY 11AM TO 10PM | SUNDAY 11AM TO 9PM



## CITY OF BILOXI PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC SERVICE APPLICATIONS 2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACTION PLAN

The City anticipates receiving a 2022 CDBG Entitlement Grant allocation of approximately \$452,491 and anticipates generating estimated program income of \$175,784 for 2022 activities, based on previous years' resources.

The City of Biloxi will conduct two public hearings to give Biloxi residents opportunity to:

- Present oral or written input about City housing, community development and supportive housing needs; and
- Participate in development and implementation of the 2022 CDBG Action Plan, a component of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

Both hearings will be held in the Community Development Auditorium, at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, at 5:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, May 24, 2022** and **Wednesday, June 22, 2022**.

Residents are urged to attend, particularly low, very low, extremely low income and public housing residents, minorities, and those with mobility, visual, and hearing impediments. If special accommodations are needed for the hearings, please contact the City's Federal Programs Manager at least 72 hours prior to the hearings at 228-435-6269 or [spickich@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:spickich@biloxi.ms.us).

Applications for **PY2022 CDBG public services funds** will be available on the City's website [www.biloxi.ms.us/cdbg](http://www.biloxi.ms.us/cdbg) on **May 2, 2022** for agencies to complete and submit prior to the **4 p.m., June 1, 2022** deadline. Information about the application process and eligible use of funds is available online.

Information about Biloxi's CDBG Program can be found at <http://www.biloxi.ms.us/cdbg/>



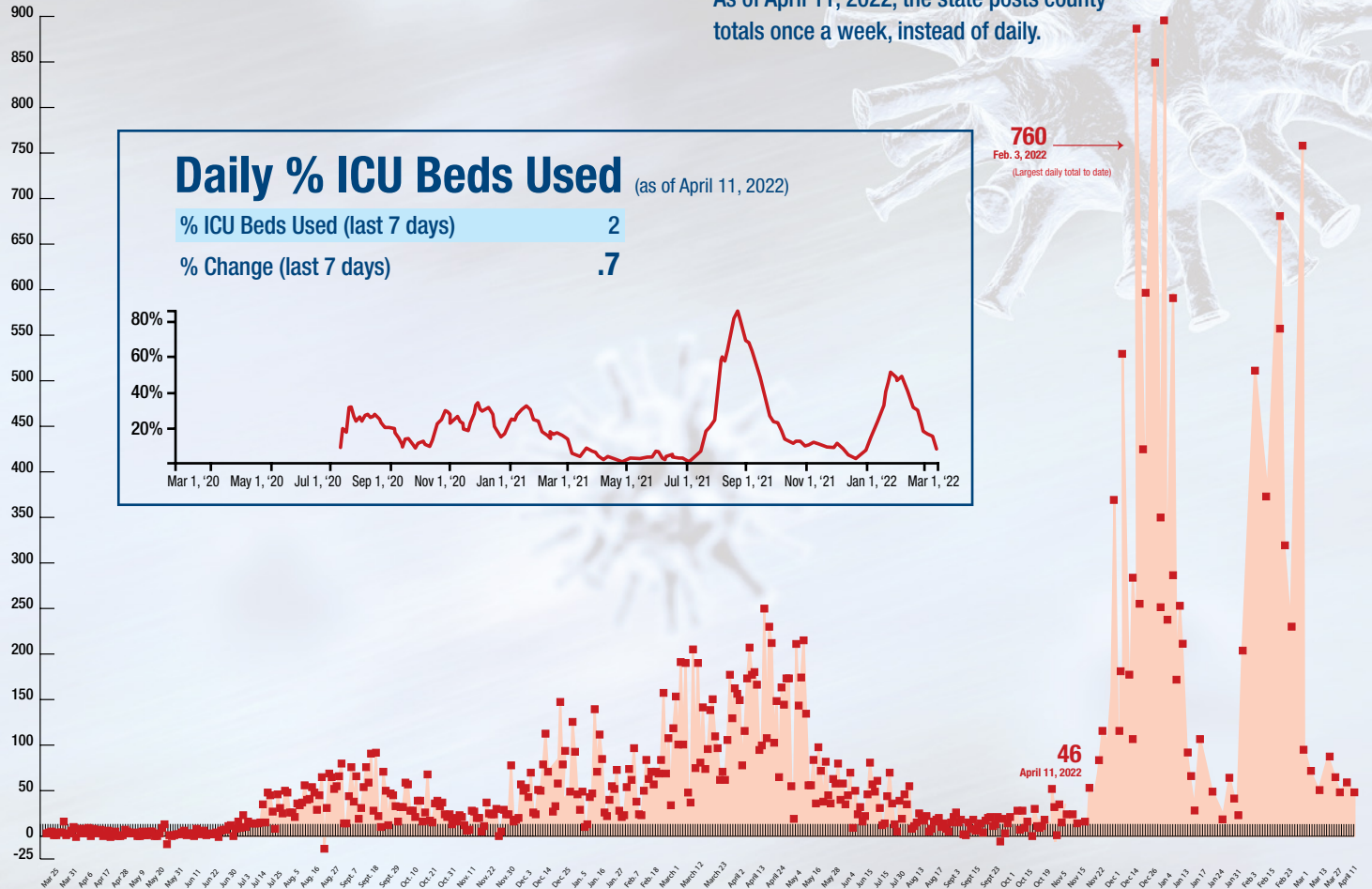


# Coronavirus by the numbers

## Harrison County – Daily Cases

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

As of April 11, 2022, the state posts county totals once a week, instead of daily.



### Statewide overall

Population: 2.97 Million

#### Positive cases

**796,139** (as of April 12, 2022)

#### Deaths

**12,420** (as of April 12, 2022)

#### Fully vaccinated

**48%** (as of April 11, 2022)

### Harrison County

Population: 208,080

#### Positive cases

**53,623** (as of April 11, 2022)

#### Deaths

**663** (as of April 11, 2022)

#### Fully vaccinated

**46%** (as of April 11, 2022)

### COVID-19 Vaccinations

Visit online at [biloxi.ms.us/coronavirus-info-practical-advice/](https://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.

# A special thank you to VA social workers

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

The Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System (GCVHCS) - one of the largest health care systems along the Mississippi, Alabama,



and Florida Gulf Coast - has long provided health care services to more than 82,000 Veterans and other eligible beneficiaries in our areas. One of the areas in which we have provided unparalleled service is through our social work programs. Our social workers play an integral part in the ongoing top-notch care our Veterans receive - from the primary care clinic, during hospitalization,



## BiloxiVA TODAY

at Emergency Department visits, in mental health and rehabilitation units, and upon enrollment in specialty medical programs.

Our social workers are part of the largest network of social workers in the nation; more than 15,000 Master's prepared social workers are on the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs staff. The VA has a rich history of social work innovators and leaders, as well as the profession's commitment to improving social conditions and quality of life opportunities for Veterans, their families, and caregivers.

Although we celebrated Social Work Month in April, I want to take the opportunity

to highlight the incredible efforts our social workers make each day. They work alongside our physicians, nurses, administration, and support personnel each day to ensure our Veterans remain cared for.

Thank you so much for allowing us to be part of this wonderful community and allowing us to serve this area's heroes with the dignity and care they deserve.

### VA update:

- Enhanced visitor restrictions suspended; face-covering still required for employees/visitors
- Moderna COVID-19 second booster available to Veterans and their caregivers, age 50 or older
- Second booster questions, call 228-523-5080 or 228-523-6017

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 Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System Public Affairs Division.

## Compound expansion at Keesler increases training efficiency

By Airman 1st Class Trenten Walters  
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

The 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers are expanding the Air Expeditionary Force compound to increase the efficiency of simulated deployment training for the 338th Training Squadron.

The expansion was initially brought forward in 2016 and is projected to be ready to use this month.

"Future war will be small team dynamics, geographically separated from one another," said U.S. Air Force Capt. John Presswood, 338th Training Squadron director of operations.

The compound creates a geographically separated environment for Airmen to build teams, stand up, operate, and troubleshoot radio and terrestrial networks while focusing on

compound security and wingman-ship.

Located near Jones Hall, Airmen will now have a classroom and four concrete pads where they will set up AEF tents while under the stressors of being in a simulated combat environment.

By eliminating the transition time Airman use carrying equipment, they will have more time to be engaged in their simulated deployment training. The expansion of the compound improves the expeditionary

training for roughly 1,900 Airman annually in Radio Frequency Transmissions and Cyber Transport courses.

"We have absorbed other Air Force Specialty Codes over the years," said Stephen Johnson, structural supervisor for radio frequency transmission operations. "With the need to increase our student load and also the amount of equipment we have, we want to have a better training area designed for us."

The expansion of the AEF compound

is providing more opportunities and possible integration with other Air Force Specialty Codes, as well as providing the 823rd RED HORSE with training opportunities.

"This is meant to be a training experience for us, we're here to learn how to properly do our specific roles," said U.S. Army Capt. Olivia Theodore, 823rd RED HORSE project engineer.



► See more photos at [www.keesler.af.mil](http://www.keesler.af.mil)

► Watch the Keesler update daily at 7:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m., and 7:45 p.m. on BTV.





Less waiting where  
it matters most – our  
emergency room.

In a medical emergency, every minute matters. So, at Merit Health Biloxi, you'll find faster care in the emergency room. We work diligently to have you initially seen by a medical professional with the shortest wait time possible.\* And, with a team of dedicated medical specialists, we can provide a lot more care, if you need it.

**For less waiting and faster care, count on the ER at Merit Health Biloxi.**

**MeritHealthBiloxiER.com**



Medical professionals may include physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

\*E.R. wait time, which is defined as the time it takes from check-in at the E.R. desk until a patient is initially seen by a medical professional, can change quickly. This time is dependent on the severity of the illnesses and other patients also in the E.R.

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**Proud BCME District**

**For the 8th year straight, the Biloxi Public School District has been recognized as one of the 'Best Communities for Music Education' by the NAMM Foundation. Biloxi is the ONLY school district in the state of Mississippi to receive this recognition for the 2021-2022 school year!**





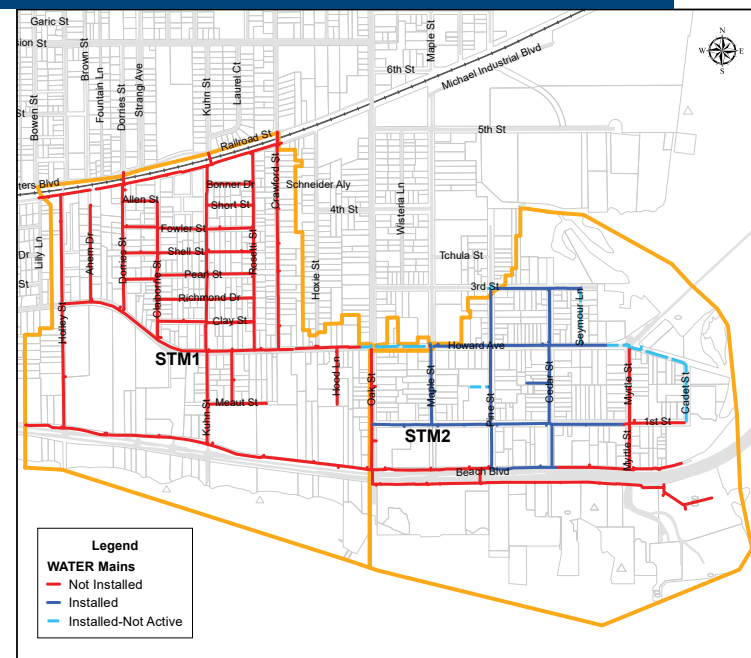
# The infrastructure work in Biloxi

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/](http://biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/).

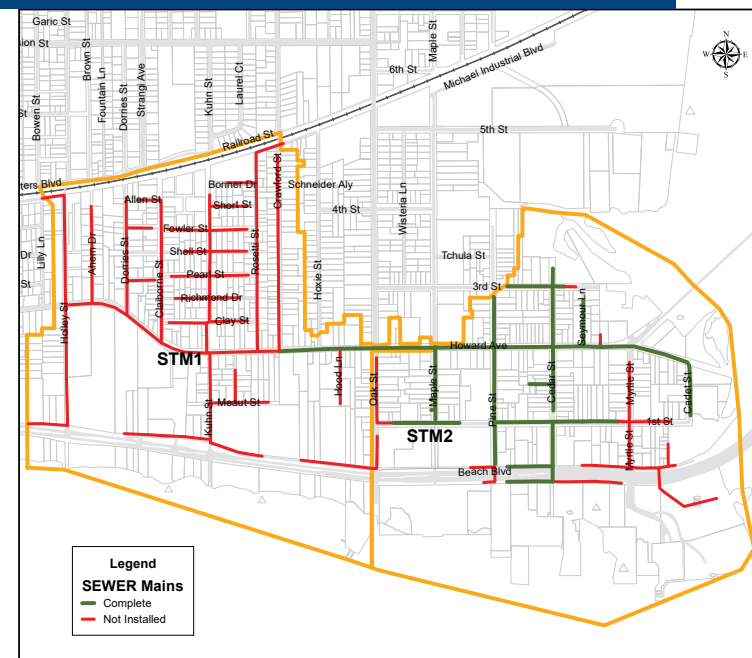
## St. Michael 1 & 2

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.

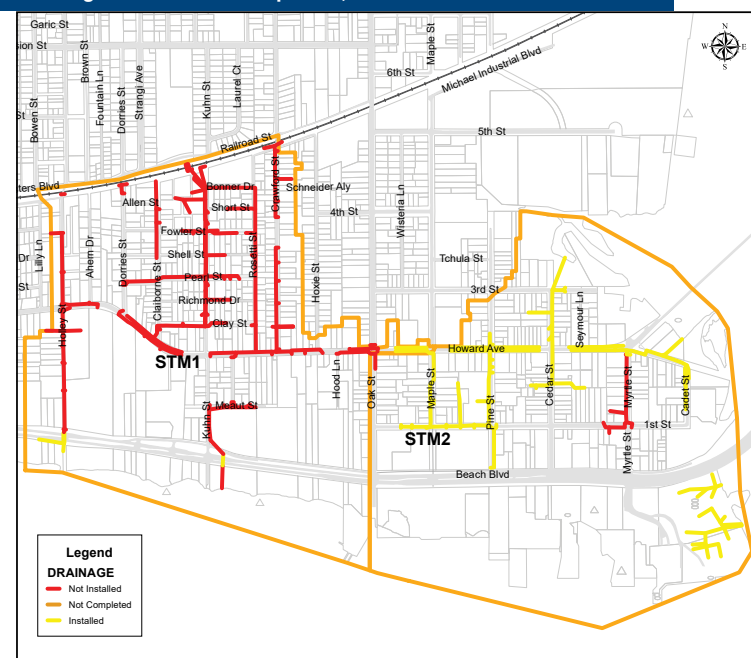
### Necaise Brothers Construction Water Water Mains Installed as of April 15, 2022



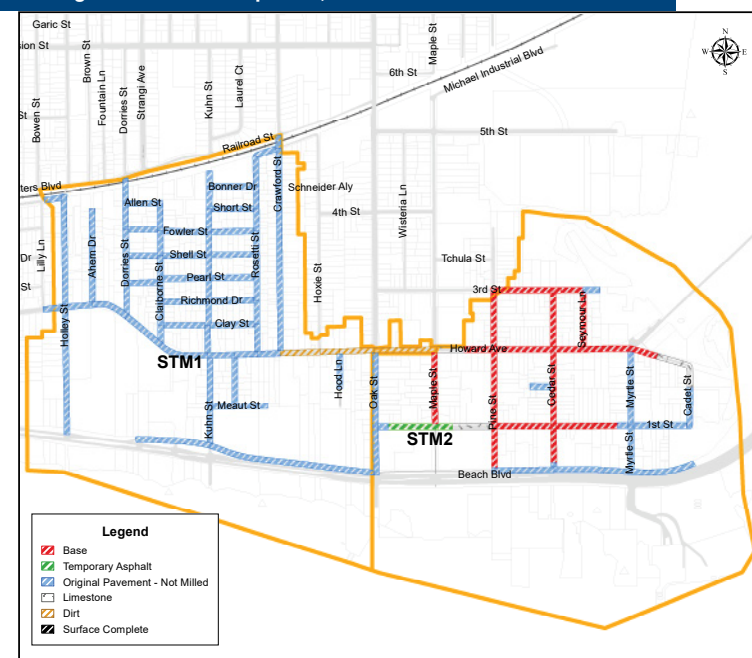
### Necaise Brothers Construction Sewer Sewer Mains Installed as of April 15, 2022



### Necaise Brothers Construction Drainage Drainage Installed as of April 15, 2022



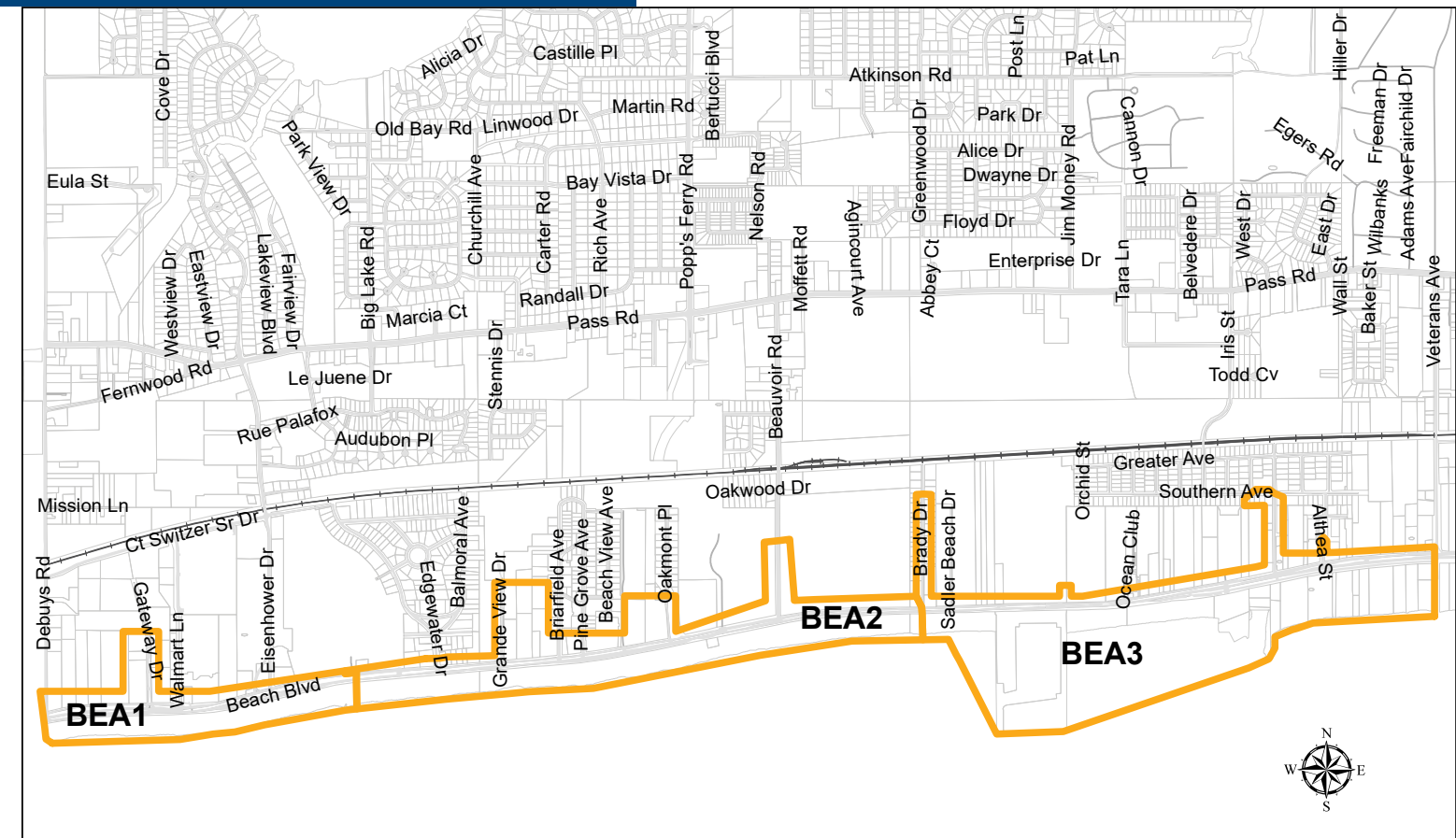
### Necaise Brothers Construction Pavement Paving Installed as of April 15, 2022



## Beauvoir 1, 2, & 3

Necaise Brothers Construction has been awarded the contract, a \$32 million, 1.080-day project to install new water, sewer and drainage lines in West Biloxi, along U.S. 90 from Veterans to Debuys. The work is expected to begin in June.

### Necaise Brothers Construction Water, sewer, drainage work to come



**Get the 411 on traffic**

**B-Alert**

Text Biloxi to 99411 for timely traffic updates.

**Biloxi**  
established 1699



# Random Notes



Time capsule:  
April 8, 2011



Jimmy Buffett had a chance to wax nostalgic about his first gig in Biloxi when he appeared before the Mississippi Gaming Commission back in 2011 to support an ill-fated gaming operation off Oak Street in East Biloxi. His first playing opportunity, he told commissioners, was working for Jake Mladinich at Trader John's on West Beach, which was located due south of where Treasure Bay sits today. That first night at Trader John's, Buffett said, he broke two strings on his guitar while performing. Mladinich said, You break another one, you're fired. I was nervous, Buffett recalled, and I asked him, Well, what do you want me to do? LOOSEN 'EM, he said.

## Happy birthday to ya, Charles

The Europa Star started it all



The Europa Star passes a shrimp boat on its way out of Point Cadet Marina, Nov. 11, 1988.

## Cheers to Charles Liberis on a milestone day

What a day April 9, 2022 was. Biloxi reported that its eight casinos had record-shattering numbers for gross gaming revenue for the previous month, \$115 million, and Charles Liberis was celebrating his 80th birthday. Charles who? Read on.

Many people may can tell the story of opening day at the Isle of Capri, which has its 30th anniversary in August, but the real story of this multi-billion dollar industry began in December 1987.

That's when the City of Biloxi, under Mayor Gerald Blessey, and the Europa Star filed a lawsuit against the State of Mississippi. A ruling by Judge James Thomas that the Supreme Court declined to review allowed Liberis's 187-foot Europa Star to dock at Biloxi's Point Cadet while offering cruises, with gambling, to nowhere.

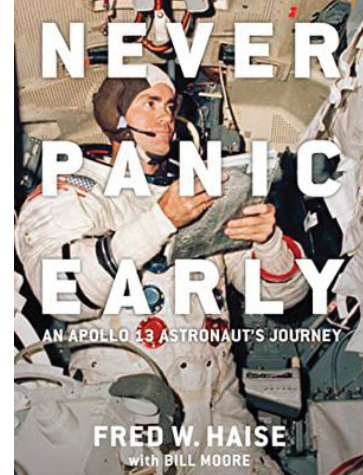
They ended up being cruises to the future; three years later the state Legislature allowed the voters of Harrison County to vote on "dockside" gaming, and the measure was approved on its second local referendum, leading to the Isle of Capri opening as the first legal casino in the South on Aug. 1, 1991.

The Isle was the first to open, but only after the Europa Star tested the waters. Happy birthday, indeed Charles Liberis!



- ▲ **Above:** Former Biloxi Mayor Gerald Blessey
- ◀ **Left:** Celebrating 80 in April was Charles Liberis, right, with Biloxi attorney Michael Cavanaugh, who fought for the cruises to nowhere and won

Photo of Europa Star by David Purdy, from Sun Herald archives at Biloxi Public Library.

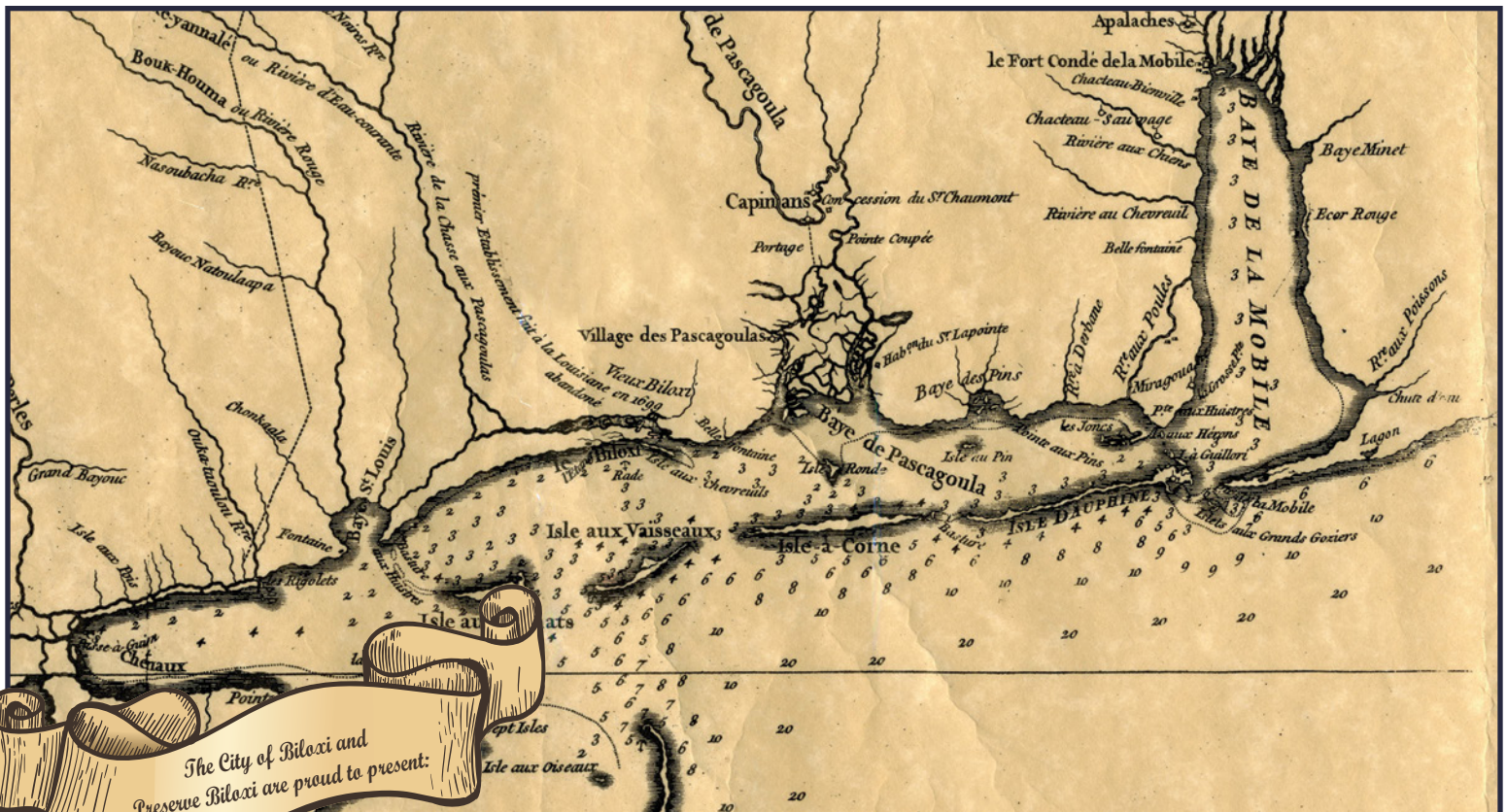


## What they're reading: Never Panic Early

Permit us this week a departure from our routine lineup as we herald the arrival of "Never Panic Early." It's the extraordinary autobiography of Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise, one of only 24 men to fly to the moon. And, yes, a Biloxi native. That's what they're reading:

- **Bob Seik**, former NASA launch director: "Fred candidly describes how his values and training prepared him for the defining moments he has encountered throughout his life."
- **Harrison Schmitt**, Apollo 17 astronaut and former US senator: "No other astronaut can match Fred Haise's life perspective on Apollo's accomplishments."
- **Bill Anders**, Apollo 8 astronaut: "A must read for all those who like a fascinating story."
- **Lucinda Perniciaro L'Enfant**, Moonwalk muralist: "I am literally laughing out loud at what he thought might happen at his first communion. Y'all need to read this book!"





# The Gulf Coast Historical and Cultural Exposition

Celebrating the History and Culture of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Friday & Saturday, May 6 & 7, 2022  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Biloxi Visitors Center • 1050 Beach Blvd.



Sneak Peek Reception

Thursday, May 5, 2022 • 5:30-7 p.m.



Visit us online at [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us) •

Sign up for Bmail at [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us) • For B-Alerts, text BILOXI to 99411



## Best Bets!



### A shrimp blessing

The 93rd Annual Blessing of the Fleet, a long-time tradition, kicks off with a poster unveiling and Shrimp Queen contestant introduction on May 11 at 6 p.m. at St. Michaels Parish Life Center in East Biloxi. Then, on May 28, an evening coronation of the Shrimp King and Queen will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Biloxi Civic Center with live entertainment by Fun K, Getaway, and boiled shrimp plates. The actual Blessing of the Fleet with the dropping of a wreath will begin at 2 p.m. on May 29 in the Biloxi Channel. The boat parade will include a best-decorated contest for cash prizes - \$1,000 for 1st place, \$500 for 2nd, and a \$500 participation award to a selected working boat. The public can watch the parade from the waterfront along U.S. 90 from the Biloxi Lighthouse to the Biloxi Bridge. For more information, contact Biloxi Main Street at 228-435-6339.

**36th Annual Gorenflo's Cobia Tournament**, April 30-May 1, Point Cadet Marina, 119 Beach Blvd. Sports anglers converge on the Mississippi Gulf Coast for cash prizes. Details: 228-432-7387 or visit [www.gorenflostackle.com](http://www.gorenflostackle.com).

**You Can't Take It With You**, May 5-18, Center Stage, 2670 Rue Palafox. A colorful, award-winning play filled with amusement. Details: 228-388-6258

**Biloxi Natatorium temporary closure**, May 2-6. Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave. Pool closed for filter work. Donal Snyder pool will have extended hours during this time, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Details: 228-388-7170

**3rd Annual Officer Robert McKeithen Memorial Blood Drive**, May 4, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Details: 1-800-733-2767

**Annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Historical and Cultural Exposition Sneak Peak Reception**, May 5, 5:30-7 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Free admission and refreshments. Details: 228-374-3105

**First Friday and Downtown Block Party at the District Green**, May 6, 5-9 p.m. Free Arts and craft vendors, activities, and entertainment by Karate Kids at 5 p.m., and Symone French & Trouille Troupe at 7 p.m. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

**Atlanta Braves Trophy Tour**, May 12, 4-7 p.m., Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

**Annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Historical and Cultural Expo**, May 6-7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Group exhibits, demos, lectures, and fun. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

**Biloxi Lighthouse Fair**, May 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Free lighthouse tours, arts & crafts, and more. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

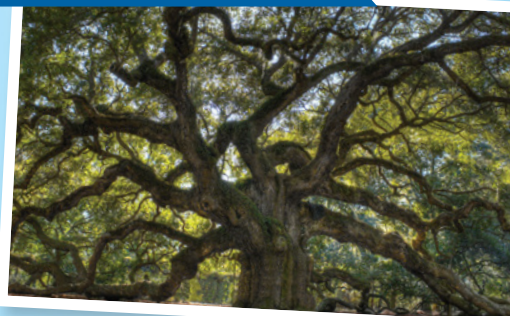
**3rd Annual Chuck Bond Memorial Run for Roses**, May 7, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Beauvoir, 2244 Beach Blvd. \$30 per bike, includes a meal at 1 p.m., trophy presentation at 3 p.m. Details: 228-388-4400

**Rock-N-Roll Open Car, Jeep, Truck & Bike Show**, May 7, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet St. Car show, kids activities, live entertainment, car show judging, and more. Details: 228-860-5015

**Unveiling of the 2022 Biloxi Blessing of the Fleet Poster and introduction of the 2022 Shrimp Queen Contestants**, May 11, 6 p.m., St. Michaels Parish Life Center, 177 1st St. Unveiling of 2022 poster and winner; introduction of the 2022 Shrimp Queen contestants. Details: 228-435-6339

**Biloxi Fire Museum Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser**, May 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Biloxi Fire Museum, 1046 Howard Ave. Fish or shrimp plates with potato salad & beans. \$10 a plate. Details: 228-331-5055

## Best Bet!



### A catwalk under the oaks

The Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art will host its annual spring fundraiser, Catwalk Under the Oaks, on Friday, May 20 at the IP Casino Resort on Bayview Avenue. The event will feature New York Designer Sariah Parks and Wearable Floral Designs by The French Potager. There will also be a Patron Cocktail Party at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and the catwalk begins at 8 p.m. The theme of the event is industrial chic meets contemporary art and the oak trees will be projected on the ceiling! For more information, including admission fees, call the museum at 228-374-5547.

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



## Stay in touch

**BNews:** Welcome to the 48th 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](mailto:kmiller@biloxi.ms.us).

**Bmail:** The city provides information about projects and events via email. Sign up at [biloxi.ms.us/register](http://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](http://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](mailto:vcreel@biloxi.ms.us)

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

## Best Bet!

### Let's play ball

Biloxi Shuckers Baseball games at MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St.

- VS. Pensacola Wahoo's April 26-May 1, 6:35 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1:05 p.m. Sunday
- VS. Birmingham Barons, May 10-15, 6:35 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1:05 p.m. Sunday
- VS. Montgomery Biscuits, May 24-29, 6:35 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 5:05 p.m. Sunday

Expect the usual array of between-innings antics and outstanding promotions.

Tickets start as low as \$8 if you buy in advance. Reserve your seats online at [www.biloxishuckers.com](http://www.biloxishuckers.com).



**Magical World Festival,** May 14-15, gates open 9 a.m., Beauvoir 2244 Beach Blvd. Visit with wizards, witches, fairies, knights, and others from the magical and mythical realms. Also includes kids' activities, merchants, food, and entertainment. Admission charged. Details 228-388-4400

**Bike Biloxi,** May 17, 6 p.m., downtown bike 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

**The Salvation Army Kroc Community Orchestra,** May 18, 6 p.m., Kroc Center, 575 Division St. A free and fun activity open to the community. If you play an instrument, please attend! Open to all ages, must have 2-year minimum musical instrument experience. Details: 228-207-1218

**Annual Catwalk Under the Oaks: Denim and Blues Couture,** May 20, 6 p.m., Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Blvd. Event begins with VIP Parton and Member Cocktail Party. Dinner served at 8 p.m. Catwalk begins at 9 p.m. Admission charged. Details: 228-374-5547, [development@georgeohr.org](mailto:development@georgeohr.org)

**Main Street Book Club,** May 26, 5:30 p.m., Martinis, 918 Howard Ave. "Apples Never Fall" by Liane Moriarty, is the book of the month. Details: 228-435-6339

**City of Biloxi Parks & Rec End of Year School Pool Party,** May 27, 5-7 p.m., Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave. Open to school-age children. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

**Coronation of 2022 Shrimp King and Queen,** May 28, 5:30 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Join the Biloxi Blessing of the Fleet Committee as they preside over the crowning of the 2022 Shrimp King and Queen. Live entertainment, Fun K, Getaway at 7 p.m., and boiled shrimp plates. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Details: 228-435-6339

**93rd Annual Biloxi Blessing of the Fleet,** May 29, 2 p.m., Mississippi Sound. Viewing along U.S. 90 from the Biloxi Lighthouse to the Biloxi Bay Bridge. Includes ceremonial wreath drop and cash prizes for the best-decorated boats. Details: 228-435-6339



### Biloxi Little Theatre

220 Lee St., 228-432-8543, [www.4blt.org](http://www.4blt.org)

- **Barefoot in the Park,** May 13-15 & 20-22

### Center Stage

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

- **You Can't Take It With You,** May 5-18
- **Stage Stars,** A Student Theatre Workshop, May 30-June 3

### Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library

2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org)

### Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center

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

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



## Biloxi Schooners

367 Beach Blvd., 228-435-6320, [schooners@maritimemuseum.org](mailto:schooners@maritimemuseum.org)

- Walk-on sunset sails: Admission: \$30 adults; \$15 ages 13-12
- Group charters, up to 44 people, also available

## Biloxi Shrimping Trip

693 Beach Blvd., 228-392-8645, [www.biloxishrimpingtrip.com](http://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](http://www.biloxitourtrain.com)

- Call in advance to check tour availability.

## Betsy Ann Riverboat Cruise

173 Beach Blvd., 228-229-4270, [betsyannriverboat@gmail.com](mailto:betsyannriverboat@gmail.com), [www.betsyannriverboat.com](http://www.betsyannriverboat.com)

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

## Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum

792 Howard Ave., 228-314-4747, [museum@coastalmardigras.com](mailto: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., 228-207-1218

- **Community Orchestra**, May 18, 6 p.m.

## Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum

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

- Hours of operation Monday- Saturday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Sunday, noon- 4 p.m.
- Summer Camp registration now open

## Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

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

- May 14, 1-3 p.m., Family Crafternoon with Miss Emily, \$10 per craft
- May 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m., OMMA Afterhours, Free to attend
- May 20, 6-10 p.m., Catwalk Under the Oaks, Admission fee
- Check the website for more events and studio classes at OOMA!

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

1046 Howard Ave., 228-435-6119, 228-435-6200, [www.biloxi.ms.us](http://www.biloxi.ms.us)

- Historic 1937 firehouse open Saturdays 9 a.m.- 2 p.m., or by appointment
- May 13, Fish or shrimp plates, \$10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Details: 228-331-5055

## Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, May 6, 13, 20, & 27. 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 and open until 8:30 p.m.
- **Sunday Charity Bingo**: No Sunday Bingo in May.

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

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Seafood Dinners every Friday night in May**, 6-8 p.m.
- **Karaoke with Kenny**, every Friday at 7 p.m.

## Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 228-392-9345

- **Steak Night**, May 13, 6-8 p.m. (Last ticket sold at 7:15 p.m.). Steak, potato, salad, dessert, and beverage - \$20, 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
- **Bunco**, May 11, 5-8 p.m., \$10 per person, limited to 56 players. Prizes for various categories. RSVP: 228-233-4228

## Mississippi Coast Mustang Club

- May 14, 8 a.m. -3 p.m., Edgewater Mall, 2600 Beach Blvd., Super Cruise-In

## Our Lady of Fatima Parish

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Night Bingo**, Monday nights behind OLF church. Doors open at 5 p.m.; Early bird at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m.

## The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

871 Esters Blvd., 228-374-6472

- **Biloxi Bingo Mania**, Tuesday nights behind Nativity Cathedral. Doors open at 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](mailto:seniors@biloxi.ms.us)

### Biloxi Libraries

- Biloxi Library, 580 Howard Ave., 228-436-3095
- Margaret Sherry Library, 2141 Popp's Ferry Road, 228-388-1633
- West Biloxi Library, 2047 Pass Road, 228-388-5696
- Woolmarket Library, 13034 Kayleigh Cove, 228-354-9464

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

### Biloxi Main Street

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



### City of Biloxi Public Meetings

- **Architectural Review Commission**: Regularly scheduled meetings: second and fourth Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m.; Community Development, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266
- **Biloxi City Council**: Regularly scheduled meetings: first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. and the third and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.; City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: 228-435-6257
- **Biloxi Civil Service Commission**: Regularly scheduled meetings: second Thursday of the month at 4 p.m.; City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: 228-435-6259
- **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
<b>1</b> Stage Stars Center Stage  36th Annual Gorenflo's Cobia Tournament Point Cadet Marina  Shuckers vs. Wahoos MGM Park	<b>2</b> Stage Stars Center Stage  Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>3</b> Community Market Stage Stars Center Stage  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>4</b> 3rd Annual Officer Robert McKeithen Memorial Blood Drive Biloxi Visitors Center	<b>5</b> Community Market Historical & Cultural Exposition Sneak Peak Biloxi Visitors Center  Annual MS Gulf Coast Reception Biloxi Visitors Center  You Can't Take It With You Center Stage May 5-May 18	<b>6</b> Annual MS Gulf Coast Historical & Cultural Exposition Biloxi Visitors Center  Raheem Devaughn IP Casino  First Friday & Block Party The District Green  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>7</b> Annual MS Gulf Coast Historical & Cultural Exposition Biloxi Visitors Center  3rd Annual Chuck Bond Memorial Run for Roses Beauvoir  Rock-N-Roll Open Car, Jeep, Truck & Bike Show Point Cadet Plaza
<b>8</b> Mother's Day Biloxi Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Fair Biloxi Visitors Center	<b>9</b> Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>10</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Barons MGM Park May 10-15  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>11</b> Shuckers vs. Barons MGM Park  Unveiling of the 2022 Biloxi Blessing St. Michaels Parish Life Center  Bunco Joppa Shrine	<b>12</b> Community Market 61st Annual MNA Coin & Currency Show MS Coast Coliseum  Atlanta Braves Trophy Tour Biloxi Town Green  Shuckers vs. Barons MGM Park  Winger with Steelheart MS Gulf Coast	<b>13</b> Marlon Wayans Beau Rivage  MNA Coin & Currency Show MS Coast Coliseum Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser Fire Museum  Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre  Steak Night Joppa Shrine  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>14</b> Michael Grimm IP Casino  Family Crafternoon Ohr-O'Keefe Museum  61st Annual MNA Coin & Currency Show MS Coast Coliseum  Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre  Shuckers vs. Barons MGM Park  Magical World Festival Beauvoir  MS Coast Mustang Club Edgewater Mall
<b>15</b> Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre  Shuckers vs. Barons MGM Park May 10-15  Magicial World Festival Beauvoir	<b>16</b> Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>17</b> Community Market Bike Biloxi Biloxi Visitors Center  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>18</b> You Can't Take It With You Center Stage May 5-May 18  Community Orchestra Kroc Center	<b>19</b> Community Market OMMA Afterhours Ohr-O'Keefe Museum	<b>20</b> Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre  Blippi "The Musical" MS Coast Coliseum  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Catwalk Under the Oaks Ohr-O'Keefe Museum  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>21</b> Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre  George Thorogood & The Destroyers Beau Rivage
<b>22</b> Barefoot in the Park Biloxi Little Theatre	<b>23</b> Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>24</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>25</b> Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park	<b>26</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park  Main Street Book Club Martinis	<b>27</b> Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park  End of Year School Pool Party Biloxi Natatorium  Biloxi Blues Extravaganza MS Coast Coliseum  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>28</b> Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park  Collective Soul IP Casino  Biloxi Blues Extravaganza MS Coast Coliseum  Biloxi Bareknuckle Brawl MS Coast Convention Center  Coronation of 2022 Shrimp King and Queen Biloxi Civic Center
<b>29</b> 93rd Annual Biloxi Blessing of the Fleet MS Sound  Shuckers vs. Biscuits MGM Park	<b>30</b> Stage Stars Center Stage  Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>31</b> Community Market Stage Stars Center Stage  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>1</b> Stage Stars Center Stage	<b>2</b> Community Market Stage Stars Center Stage	<b>3</b> Stage Stars Center Stage  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>4</b>



# BTV May Schedule

Sparklight 56; Uverse 99 (follow prompts) or at [biloxi.ms.us/btv](http://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.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 a.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
6:45 a.m.	Biloxi VA Today (15 min)
7 a.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Duck Poppers
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special Presentation: State of the City 2022
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!" Duck Poppers
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special Presentation: State of the City 2022
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.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
6:45 p.m.	Biloxi VA Today (15 min)
7 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Duck Poppers
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 p.m.	Special Presentation: State of the City 2022
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.

## State of the City: A transformational year

The big production this month on BTV is, of course, Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich's State of the City address.

The thirty-two-minute long presentation is an overview of the city's transformational growth - creating jobs, broadening Biloxi's appeal, and building on the positive things that make Biloxi, Biloxi. The presentation features key sites around Biloxi, a recap of the accomplishments of the city departments, and a look at future development and projects.

The video was recorded at the Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon on April 19 at the Beau Rivage, and put together by videographer Renny Sherman.

See the State of the City daily at 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., on BTV or watch on demand on the city's YouTube page.

## Numbers add up at this busy corner

As restaurants go, it's one of the busiest corners in Biloxi, Lameuse at Water. There's the always-popular Half Shell Oyster House, Adventures, Le Beignet, CB's Jamaican Jerk, and Fuji, which shares a roof with Rena's, the lunch spot.

Situated atop Fuji, is One Thirty One Lamuese, at 131 Lameuse St., of course. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner and is featured on this month's "Biloxi Cooks!" serving up Duck Poppers.

The episode premiered in August 2021 on BTV. The replay can be seen this month each day at 7 a.m., 7 p.m., and 1 p.m. on BTV.

## This month's recipes

### Duck Poppers

*One Thirty One, 131 Lameuse St.*

#### Ingredients:

- 8 slices bacon
- 1 skinless duck breasts
- 2 jalapeños
- ¼ cup Creole cream cheese\*
- Blacken seasoning - to taste
- 2 cups fresh blackberries, rinsed and drained
- 2 tbsp sugar, or more to taste
- 1 tsp lemon juice

### Duck Poppers

#### Instructions:

- Cut jalapeno it to halves vertically, remove seeds and ribs
- Slice each horizontally
- Spread cream cheese inside each, lightly season with blacken seasoning spices and set aside
- Slice duck breast into 8 slices, about ¼ inch thick, place each on top of the cream cheese stuffed jalapenos
- Lay bacon slice vertically and place jalapenos at bottom of the strip
- Roll bacon with piece of stuffed jalapeño upwards until complete a full roll with bacon connected to bacon
- Turn rolled piece of bacon 90 degrees with the strip still vertical
- Continue to roll bacon to fully cover stuffed jalapeno slice
- Repeat process with 7 other strips of bacon and stuffed jalapeno slices
- Place 8 rolled poppers on grill heat on high, 6-8 mins. each side
- Arrange on a plate and top with a small amount of blackberry coulis

### Blackberry Coulis:

Combine blackberries, sugar, and lemon juice in bowl of small food processor. Blend until smooth and sugar has dissolved, 15 to 20 seconds.

Adjust sugar if desired, and blend again. Then strain mixture using a fine mesh strainer to remove seeds. Refrigerate until ready to use.





# Biloxi's Artist Views



▲ Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville

## Early art illustrations

In the early 1700s, Dutchman Le Page Du Pratz compiled a multi-volume illustrated publication in which he recorded information about the plants, animals, insects, and people he found in this area. Even though Monsieur Du Pratz's drawings are limited, the few that he chose to depict are quite interesting.

The "Diderot Encyclopedia" from the early 1700s contains unique line drawings of what he saw here.

## Back in the Day



By Jane Shambra

## Art of the explorer

Did you know that Monsieur D'Iberville's brother, Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville, had artwork drawn on his body from neck to foot? Born in Montreal, Canada in 1680,

Bienville often traveled to Mobile, met with tribes in that area, and had many serpent-like inkings etched all over his body.

A recent magazine article describes his choice of snakes as being a connection with the Native American culture on the Coast. None of Bienville's fully-clothed portraits give any hints of his hidden artwork. In those days tattooing practices first began with a stencil tracing of charcoal followed by the actual prickling process, usually requiring a few days of recovery, treated with a diet of boiled corn.

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

In spite of all those painful inkings, Monsieur Bienville died in 1767 at age 87 in Paris, France.

## Soldier art

In 1943, when Keesler Air Force Base was still titled Keesler Field, "Art and the Soldier" was published by the Special Service Department of Keesler Field. This 68-page book includes quite an assortment of talent, including paintings, murals, cartoons, photographs, drawings, and posters. It offers a peek into Keesler's past with visuals about its buildings, people, aviation, posters, events, and even music.

"Art and the Soldier" is available for viewing at the Local History and Genealogy Department at the Biloxi Library.

## Mosaic art

In 1999 when Biloxi celebrated its Tricentennial, a special outdoor mosaic evolved at 136 G. E. Ohr Street behind the old 1970's Biloxi Library building and near the present-day 782 Art Gallery.

Local artist Elizabeth Veglia was the supervising artist and its construction included a host of volunteers. Funded by the Harrison County Board of Supervisors, this outdoor visual tells the story of Biloxi's unique history through the centuries. It survived the wrath of Hurricane Katrina and is the 21st stop of the Historic Downtown Biloxi Walking Tour.

In 2006, Veglia once again created a mosaic art display. In collaboration with Denis Cowart, Elizabeth Veglia planned and

Tricentennial mosaic in downtown

designed the Katrina Memorial for the "Extreme Makeover" television series. The 12-foot-high feature signifies the height of Katrina waters at that location. The neighboring glass case includes special mementos.

This spot is featured as Stop 1 of the Historic Downtown Biloxi Walking Tour.

## Window art

Many old churches offer a different type of art via stained glass windows. This specialized and delicate glass art can be found in downtown Biloxi's Nativity Cathedral on Howard Avenue.

Each colorful window tells a story and



illuminates the interior of the structure on a sunny day. A total of 61 windows can be viewed, with the first being installed in 1905. Many have the donors' names inscribed onto the glass.

St. Michael's Church, built back in the 1960s has gone through many hurricanes but its array of marvelous stained glass windows can still be visited today.

Near the staircase, inside the Biloxi Visitors Center, folks are awestruck to see two beautiful stained glass windows by the elevator. These works of art were rescued from the old Dantzler House on that same property after Hurricane Katrina.

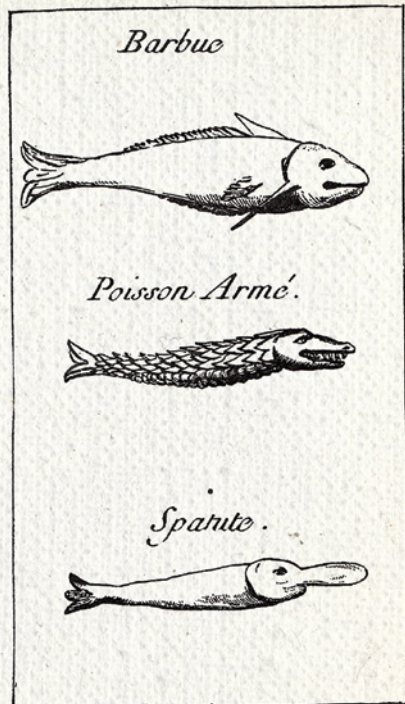
## Art murals

Within the last few years, another interesting outdoor art feature has been added to downtown Biloxi. Overseen by Biloxi Main Street, the Biloxi Public Art Project has successfully commissioned 21 completed murals, with more on the "drawing board."

Basically, these colorful works of art can



Hurricane Katrina Memorial on the Biloxi Town Green



TOP: Cat Fish—MIDDLE: Gar Fish—BOTTOM: Spoonbill Catfish

▲ Drawings from early settler Dutchman Le Page Du Pratz



▲ Downtown Biloxi Art Murals

be found on the sides of public buildings and structures in the area bounded by Porter, Bellman, Division, and Hwy. 90. The inaugural project began under the I-110 adjacent to the Biloxi Community Market.

A virtual tour of the murals is available on the city's website.

## Art where you walk

Be on the lookout for at least 10 new art murals embedded in the street's surface in Downtown Biloxi. A new undertaking has commissioned murals to be drawn by local artists on downtown intersections. The Cross Walk Mural project was funded by a Mississippi Main Street grant with matching funds from Heritage Trails Partnership and is expected to be completed soon.

## Poster Art

At least twice a year, artists are afforded the opportunity to participate in poster

contests such as the Blessing of the Fleet and Biloxi Seafood Festival. This year Biloxi will be celebrating the 93rd annual Blessing of the Fleet celebration. This special event recognizes the hard work and heritage of the shrimping industry. Artists were encouraged to submit entries for this year's Poster/T-shirt contest. The City of Biloxi and The Blessing of the Fleet Committee are among the sponsors of the annual event. After careful review of this year's entries, a winner will be announced on Wednesday, May 11 at an unveiling event at St. Michael's Parish Life Center. Check out the calendar section for more information on the unveiling and Biloxi's 93rd annual Blessing of the Fleet and Shrimp Festival which is scheduled for May 27 – 29.



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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
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