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# Praise the Lord, but do your part

*This column originally appeared in this space in September 2021.*

So the mayor and emergency managers knew it was going to be a significant storm. Hurricane-force winds would push a storm surge ashore, inundating streets in low-lying areas and possibly even enter homes on Point Cadet.

Police cars slowly drove streets in East Biloxi neighborhoods and in Eagle Point, blaring the news: Evacuate now before the winds pick up and the water begins to rise.

"I'm OK," the Point Cadet resident said from his front yard in the light rain. "The Lord will take care of me."

The rainfall persisted for hours. Water began to rise, just as expected, and the mayor dispatched the city's swift water teams to Point Cadet and Eagle Point, north of the Bay. On foot and pulling small skiffs, the crews made their way through the

foot-deep water covering the streets. Winds howled and wind-blown water stung the uncovered face.

They arrived at a home and knocked on the door. "The water's going to continue to rise, and the winds are going to get worse," they pleaded: "Please get in our skiff and let us take you to safety."

"No," the resident said. "Thank you for coming out, but the Lord is going to take care of me."

So they moved on.

Later in the day, before the sun set and before the final push of water came ashore, the mayor dispatched the city helicopter to Point Cadet and Eagle Point, as streets were impassible.

There was the resident, sitting atop his roof, with the home, the entire neighborhood, in three feet of water. Debris floated by.

"Grab the rope ladder," they hollered from the helicopter. "We'll take you to safety."

"No," the resident said. "I'll be OK, the water will go down and the Lord will take care of me."

Hours later, with water at five feet and winds whipping, the resident climbed into the attic and pushed through a roof top vent. He took refuge on the rooftop. In the gusty winds and rain.

Finally, he looked upward, "Lord, why has thou forsaken me?"

And the reply came: "I've sent a police car, a boat and a helicopter. What are you waiting for?"

\*\*\*

It was a story told a time or two years ago. True dat? Not really. The city does not own a helicopter.

The point is, things will come your way in life that, as Hizzoner likes to say, are actually opportunities.

In this issue and on BTV this month you will find opportunities to better prepare yourself for the 2021 storm season, which begins this month, June 1, and runs through Nov. 30. Not that hurricanes look at a calendar.

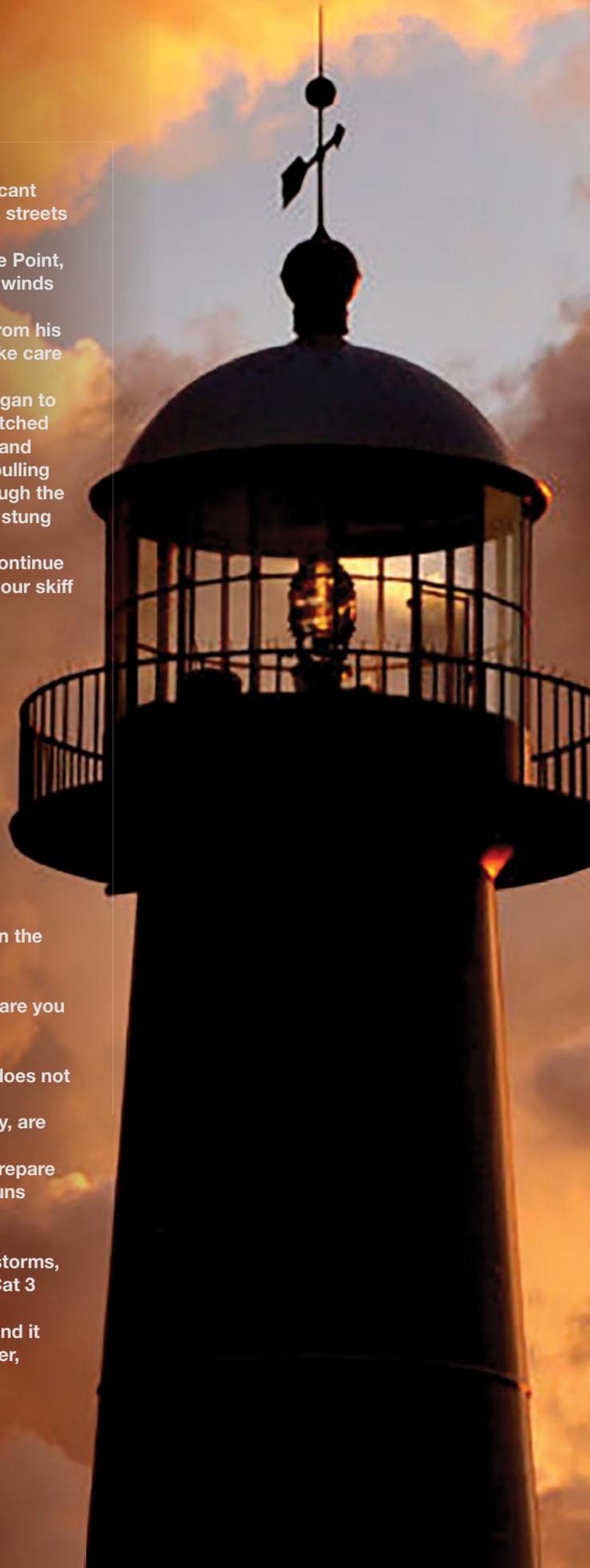
Storms are becoming more intense, and, as evidenced by last year, more frequent. The record-breaking 2020 hurricane season produced 30 named storms, eclipsing the record of 28 back in 2005. Fourteen of the 2020 storms were Cat 3 or greater.

For all the prognostications and historical data, it takes only one storm, and it doesn't even have to be a storm, to cause damage, either from wind or water, or both.

The Lord will protect you? Remember what they say: God helps those who help themselves. Do your part. Read the advice. Heed the advice. Seize the opportunities.

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

Photo by Tim Isbell • [timisbell.com](http://timisbell.com)



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**Edgewater Mall**

Contractors are stripping the Barq's building to its original form, removing 10 decades, layers upon layers, revealing incredible masonry and art from back in the day. According to developer Lee Young, the next step is to frame out the 23 apartments on the top floor.



## Growth is bustling in Biloxi

There is no doubt a lot is going on in Biloxi, and development is no different. In fact, earlier this year in his annual State of the City Address, Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich said that "excitement and growth can be seen throughout the city"...and that Biloxi has "a gravity that attracts people from everywhere."

The attraction is definitely bustling the growth! Here is an update on development in Biloxi from the Biloxi Community Development Department.

### Current projects under construction:

- Margaritaville expansions – Ferris Wheel and Aerobar
- Camp David RV Park expansion (12001 Cedar Lake Road)
- Saenger Theater renovations (416 Reynoir St.)
- B & G Climate Control Storage expansion (on Tommy Munro)
- Arbor Landing Apartments Phase 2 with 174 units and Phase 3 with 50 units (1850 Popp's Ferry Road)
- Slim Chickens (916 Cedar Lake Road)
- Big Play Roller Coaster (1842 Beach Blvd.)

### Plans under review:

- Barq's Building
- The Bella, 14 condos in (formerly Wells Fargo, corner of Howard and Reynior)
- Newman RV Storage (on Tommy Munro)

### Final plats submitted:

- Point Breeze Sub'd Phase 1 off Grandview – 22 lots
- Eula Street Townhomes Phase 1 off Debuys – 39 units

### Also in the works:

- Residence Inn (1254 Beach)
- Life Storage expansion (1932 Popp's Ferry Road)
- 1908 Bed and Breakfast (formerly Chateau Blessey, 1012 Beach Blvd.)

▶ See a weekly report from the Community Development Department, along with reports from Police, Fire, and Engineering, at [biloxi.ms.us/weeklyreports](http://biloxi.ms.us/weeklyreports)

▶ See development meeting agendas, including DRC, AHRC, and Planning, at [biloxi.ms.us/departments/community-development/](http://biloxi.ms.us/departments/community-development/)

# JOIN OUR TEAM

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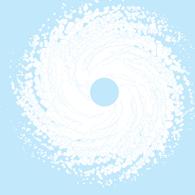
Ingalls Shipbuilding designs, builds and maintains amphibious ships and destroyers for the U.S. Navy and National Security Cutters for the U.S. Coast Guard. Employing more than 11,300 employees, Ingalls is the largest manufacturing employer in Mississippi and a major contributor to the economic growth of Alabama and Mississippi. As the largest supplier of U.S. Navy surface combatants, Ingalls has built nearly 70 percent of the U.S. Navy fleet, and is the only shipyard simultaneously building 4 classes of ships.



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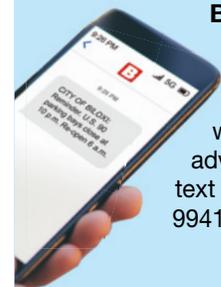
**The status:** Biloxi hasn't seen a threat during

the 2022 Hurricane Season, but make no mistake, the peak of the season is almost here.

### What you should be doing:

- Have a plan.
- Gather supplies and make a storm kit.
- Trim back dead or weak branches from trees.
- Check on flood insurance.
- Develop an emergency communications plan in case family members are separated
- Know your evacuation zone and route. Plan for alternate routes and travel time.
- Make arrangements for pets. Contact your local humane society for more info on shelters that accept pets.
- For details to make sure you are prepared before, during, and after a storm, visit [biloxi.ms.us/stormandflood](http://biloxi.ms.us/stormandflood).

**B-Alert:** For on-the-go traffic and weather advisories, text BILOXI to 99411.



## Crime mapping, There's more to it

By Capt. Louis Moran  
Biloxi Police Department

In today's environment of expanding responsibilities contrasted with increasingly constrained resources, the City of Biloxi endeavors to maximize its return on investment with regard to the effective use of technologies. No partnership illustrates the concept of maximizing resources and return on investment more than those undertaken by the City's public safety agencies, the Police and Fire Departments; the Engineering Department, specifically Geographic Information Systems (GIS) engineering services; and the Information Systems Department (IS).

The development of a new, public interactive, Crime Mapping portal is just one of several ways that police, GIS, and IS departments improve the public's awareness of safety, emergency management, and overall quality of life in Biloxi. In general, crime mapping provides opportunities to enhance public safety operations through:

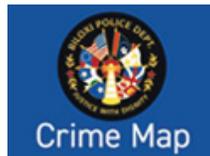
- Facilitating strategic analysis of offenders;
- Leveraging predictive analytics to improve overall targeting of prolific offenders;
- Moving from reactive (sense & respond) to proactive (predict & act); and
- Targeting real-time crime issues through problem-oriented policing strategies.

At its most basic, crime mapping provides for field-level tactical analysis using various methods:

- Geospatial Analysis
- Time of Day
- Day of Week
- Temporal Grids
- Heat Mapping
- Density Mapping

More advanced strategic analysis, combined with crime mapping, brings together that analysis with finished intelligence publications and work products, and real-time operations to maximize the impact of public safety resources. Anyone who has attended a

City Ward meeting may recognize this summarized as hot-spot analysis, used to profile and help accurately predict characteristics of criminal subjects. With the use of emerging technologies, crime mapping and analysis incorporate unique datasets, behavior profiling, specialized software solutions, and network analysis techniques to analyze key threats, identify prolific offenders, identify opportunities to disrupt nefarious activities, and evaluate the risks and benefits of planned strategies.



Our departments' technology also supports all phases of Emergency Management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Biloxi's unique geography lends it to be especially susceptible to severe weather events, and technology not only informs the City's hazard mitigation plans but also allows the public safety departments to better plan for response situations.

Between 2015 and 2022, the police and fire departments responded to 611 calls for flooded areas, evacuations, and rescues during storm-related events. Another way that police, fire, GIS, and IS departments partner during such events is through projecting storm surge modeling, contrasted with historic calls for service for situations such as flooded areas, evacuations, and high-water rescues. Police and Fire personnel may then forecast their response needs.

Partnerships among public safety, GIS, and IS departments provide value-added solutions to complex problem sets. GIS-based systems and tools have become commonplace in support of decisions made by local, state, and federal managers.

The growing awareness of public safety needs and emergency management responsibilities, and the complex nature of those responsibilities, has resulted in the continued necessity for technology to supplement managers and provide value-added capabilities. The challenge has been and will continue to be finding lower-cost alternatives while still taking advantage of the benefits GIS technologies provide.

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PRIMARY CARE

## 2022 SCHEDULE

-  **AUGUST 19**  
**AT GEORGE COUNTY** | JAMBOREE
  -  **AUGUST 26**  
**EAST CENTRAL** | SHRIMP BOWL
  -  **SEPTEMBER 2**  
**AT STONE**
  -  **SEPTEMBER 16**  
**PEARL**
  -  **SEPTEMBER 23**  
**AT D'IBERVILLE**
  -  **SEPTEMBER 30**  
**AT HARRISON CENTRAL**
  -  **OCTOBER 6**  
**OCEAN SPRINGS**
  -  **OCTOBER 14**  
**ST. MARTIN** | HOMECOMING
  -  **OCTOBER 21**  
**AT PASCAGOULA**
  -  **OCTOBER 28**  
**HANCOCK** | SENIOR NIGHT
  -  **NOVEMBER 4**  
**AT GULFPORT**
-  HOME     AWAY

# FRIDAY NIGHTS

## IN THE INDIAN NATION

5 PM  
to  
7 PM

*Tailgate with the Indians!*

BRING YOUR TENT & CHAIRS, WE'LL HAVE FOOD TRUCKS, MUSIC AND MORE!

*Kickoff!*

7 PM





Photo Credit: Mike Krebs

# Shuckers Star-Studded Season Rolls Along

By Garrett Greene  
Biloxi Shuckers

With the unofficial halfway point of the season already in the rear-view mirror, the Biloxi Shuckers have just three home stands remaining in the 2022 season. There's still plenty left for Biloxi, who saw past, current and future players honored during the 2022 All-Star Festivities.

On the current roster, outfielder Joey Wiemer was selected to the 2022 MLB All-Star Futures Game, the seventh consecutive season Biloxi has placed at least one player on the All-Star Futures roster. Wiemer joins the likes of Josh Hader, Ethan Small and Orlando Arcia as former Shuckers to participate in the Futures Game, which features the top prospects from all over Minor League Baseball. Wiemer entered the game as a pinch hitter and went 0-for-1 with a sacrifice fly in two times up to bat.

Future Biloxi Shuckers Antoine Kelly (High-A Wisconsin) and Jackson Chourio (Low-A Carolina) were also selected to the Futures Game. Kelly pitched to two batters, retiring both in a scoreless outing. The tall lefty is just one level below Biloxi in the Brewers' system, and at the All-Star Break, he was third in the Midwest League in strikeouts (109) and fifth in ERA (3.62). As for Chourio,



the recently minted #1 prospect in the Brewers' system went 0-for-2 but became the seventh youngest player to appear in the Futures Game at just 18-years-old, joining the likes of former 18-year-olds Miguel Cabrera, Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Bryce Harper and Mike Trout to appear in the Futures Game.

At the big-league level, the Shuckers were once again well represented at the Midsummer Classic. Josh Hader was named to his fourth consecutive All-Star team while reigning N.L. Cy Young Award winner earned his second straight nod. 2019 Shuckers' reliever Devin Williams got his first All-Star Game honor, while 2015 Southern League Pitcher of the Year Jorge Lopez, now closing for the Baltimore Orioles, earned his first All-Star honor. Finally, 2015 and 2016 Biloxi

Shuckers' first baseman Garrett Cooper, now playing for the Miami Marlins, was selected to his first All-Star Game.

On the field for the Shuckers, down the stretch in the season, Biloxi's trio of top-prospect outfielders, Sal Frelick, Wiemer and Garrett Mitchell, have missed time throughout the season but are on track to make up one of the most dangerous defensive outfielders in Minor League Baseball, constantly making highlight-level plays and throwing out base runners. With several Top 10 SportsCenter plays already under their belt, there are sure to be more during the remainder of the summer.

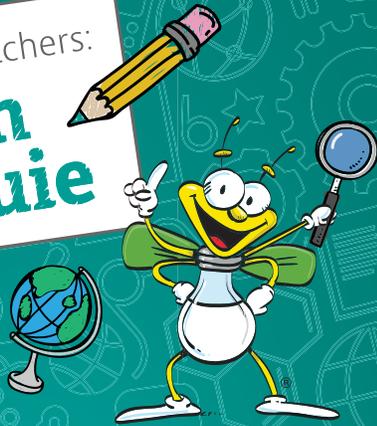
On the promotional schedule, there are a pair of Fireworks Fridays on August 12 and August 26, plus giveaways smattered across the promotional schedule. One of the can't miss giveaways comes up on August 13 with a BBQ Apron Giveaway presented by Conecuh Sausage to the first 1,000 fans. Plus, don't miss Mardi Gras Night on August 27 as the Shuckers will wear special Mardi Gras jerseys designed once again by local artist Matt Stebly.

The summer is almost gone, so be sure to come out and catch the Shuckers before the season draws to a close in September!

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

Attention K-5 Teachers:

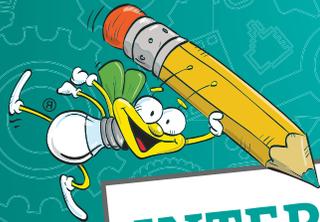
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# Improvements underway at Hiller Park's slipway

Boaters accessing the water at Hiller Park will soon see enhancements to the facility's boat launch.

On July 20, contractors with JE Talley began a 90-day project to upgrade the concrete boat launch. Improvements include two finger piers on both sides of the launch, a 25-foot pier on the south side, and a 58-foot pier on the north side that will run parallel to the shoreline for boat

parking while waiting to load or unload.

The site will also see new asphalt in the parking area.

"The boat launch is located in the city's largest park and is used often," said Parks & Recreation Director Sherry Bell. "These upgrades will allow better and more access to Biloxi Bay and it will help decrease some of the wait time for boaters entering and exiting the water

because of the new finger piers."

The \$400,000 project is being funded by a Tideland grant, and the new and improved 40-foot by 70-foot concrete boat launch is expected to reopen in early Fall.

During the work, the boat launch will be closed. The public is encouraged to use the boat launch at the Popp's Ferry Causeway.

# Coronavirus by the numbers

## Statewide overall

Population: 2.97 Million

### Positive cases

**859,352** (as of July 17, 2022)

### Deaths

**12,573** (as of July 17, 2022)

### Fully vaccinated

**48%** (as of July 17, 2022)

## Harrison County

Population: 208,080

### Positive cases

**57,321** (as of July 10, 2022)

### Deaths

**669** (as of July 17, 2022)

### Fully vaccinated

**53%** (as of July 18, 2022)

## COVID-19 Vaccinations

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



CELEBRATING  
**30**  
*Years*

**GAMING IN BILOXI**



# Three decades of gaming, entertainment, and revenue for Biloxi



This month marks the 30th anniversary of legalized gaming in Biloxi. It all began on Aug. 1, 1992 when Senator Tommy Gollott rolled the first dice on a craps table inside the Isle of Capri Casino on Point Cadet.

Thronges of visitors and residents had lined up to walk aboard the state's first legalized dockside casino gaming vessel, the Isle of Capri Casino. The Isle's opening would begin a Biloxi transformation from the sleepy, former seafood capital of the world to a gaming destination full of entertainment and tax revenue.

A casino row formed from Point Cadet at Myrtle Street to Oak Street and developments flourished along the Back Bay and in West Biloxi. And, the potential for more casino development is still beaming.

Biloxi's casinos have been instrumental in building livelihoods by creating jobs in the hospitality industry, adding luxurious hotel rooms for overnight visitors, and building community confidence through partnerships to make Biloxi 'safe, friendly and beautiful.'

Today, you'll find eight first-class casino resorts in Biloxi, with most offering championship golf courses, fine dining and buffets, top-name entertainment, and an array of other visitor amenities.



### Biloxi's Past Gaming Properties:

- Isle of Capri Casino
- President Casino
- Biloxi Belle Casino
- Casino Magic Biloxi
- Grand Casino Biloxi
- Lady Luck Casino
- Gold Shore Casino
- Imperial Palace Biloxi
- Silver Slipper Casino
- Margaritaville Casino Biloxi



### Biloxi's Present Gaming Properties:

- Golden Nugget Biloxi Hotel & Casino
- Palace Casino Resort
- Harrah's Gulf Coast
- Boomtown Casino Resort
- IP Casino Resort Spa Biloxi
- Hard Rock Biloxi Hotel & Casino
- Beau Rivage Resort & Casino
- Treasure Bay Casino & Hotel

### Show Us That Money!

Gaming tax revenue is another fine result for Biloxi. It has remained a prominent factor in

the city's success. During those first five months of 1992, Biloxi's casinos collectively raked in \$77.5M.

A variety of economic development programs designed to augment casino tourism with new family amenities like amusement parks, mini-race car tracks and eco-tourism have become part of Biloxi. Walkways are being installed, which will allow locals and visitors to stroll the waterfront from Back Bay Biloxi all the way around the Point Cadet area and across to West Beach.

Downtown revitalization continues with new restaurants, entertainment venues, and retail shops underscoring mixed-use developments that include housing elements for millennials and retirees. There are two pedestrian walkways over U.S. 90 that now allow easier entry into downtown Biloxi by the thousands of visitors staying in beachfront resorts like Beau Rivage, Hard Rock, Doubletree by Hilton, Hilton Garden Inn, and the Legends Hotel.

In 2018, the Beau also opened the Magnolia State's first legal sportsbook. Now, all eight properties offer a sportsbook, and those returns continue to propel Biloxi's gaming tax revenue.

Fast forward to 2021, 'the record year' for gaming revenue receipts in Biloxi, and continue into June 2022 when the gross monthly casino revenue was \$97M for the city's eight open gaming facilities. In essence, gross gaming revenues could bump up to a billion dollars by the end

of the fiscal year in September.

### 'Gaming is in our DNA'

While the Biloxi gaming market may have remained flat for the past several years, at least three available gaming sites are still being considered by various companies for potential development. One example is the Universal Music Group and investment holding company Dakia U-Ventures who in 2020 announced a \$1.2 Billion UMusic Broadwater Hotel with gaming action proposed.

As Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich says, "gaming is in our DNA in Biloxi; it's part of Biloxi's history and continues to be part of Biloxi's future."

There are less than three dozen gaming markets in the country. Biloxi's eight casinos (and four others in nearby cities) comprise the country's fifth-largest gaming market. Biloxi, or what the industry calls the Gulf Coast market, was topped in 2021 by Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Chicago, and Baltimore-

Washington.

Adds Mayor Gilich: "Competition improves the product, and we have that!"

### Cheers to 30 more

Games of chance date back hundreds of years in Biloxi, to the time of Native Americans. Although casino-style gambling has been part of Biloxi's history dating back to at least the early 20th century, the legalized gaming industry has proven itself in three decades since that first day when thousands of people lined up in the broiling August sun before they could enter one of the two cramped "boats."

Legal gaming quickly resuscitated the stagnant Biloxi tourism industry, evolving into supersized gambling halls with dazzling new resort hotels and entertainment centers.

"The key to our success is the synergy and energy of the eight casinos we have in Biloxi," said Gilich. "With them all in one spot, we have the variety and spice of success."

Now, all bets are on as another 30 years begins in Biloxi.

## Casino Resort Requirements

Did you know that the Mississippi Gaming Commission—the state agency tasked with overseeing the casino industry—has a number of requirements for new casino resort developments? According to statute, features must include:

- Be no more than 800 feet from the 19-year mean high water line, excluding public rights of way. Harrison County establishments south of Highway 90 may exceed the eight hundred (800) foot measurement up to the southern boundary of Highway 90.
- A parking facility to accommodate at least 500 cars, in close proximity to the casino complex.
- A hotel of at least 300 rooms and be a three-diamond

rating as defined by an acceptable travel publication as determined by the commission.

- A restaurant capable of seating at least 200 people and a fine-dining facility capable of seating at least 75 people.
- A casino floor of at least 40,000-square feet.
- Have or support an amenity that will be unique to the market and will encourage economic development and promote tourism.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. §§ 75-76-225; 75-76-209; 75-76-27; 75-76-79; 75-76-33; 75-76-79; [www.msgamingcommission.com/images/uploads/MGC\\_RegsPart\\_2\\_Licensing.pdf](http://www.msgamingcommission.com/images/uploads/MGC_RegsPart_2_Licensing.pdf)

**Beau Rivage Resort & Casino**  
875 Beach Blvd., Biloxi  
(228) 386-7111 or 888-750-7111  
Amenities include hotel, shops, spa/salon, buffet, dining, nightclub, valet parking, pool, golf course, and performing arts theater.

**Boomtown Casino**  
676 Bayview Ave., Biloxi  
(228) 435-7000 or 800-627-0777  
Amenities include a bakery, gift shop, buffet, dining, valet parking, and RV park.

**Golden Nugget Biloxi**  
151 Beach Blvd., Biloxi  
(228) 436-4753 or 800-777-7568  
Amenities include hotel, shops, buffet, dining, spa/salon, valet parking, and pool.

**Hard Rock Hotel and Casino**  
777 Beach Blvd., Biloxi  
(228) 276-7625  
Amenities include hotel, shops, spa/salon, buffet, dining, nightclub, valet parking, pool, and performing arts theater.

**Harrah's Gulf Coast**  
280 Beach Blvd., Biloxi  
(228) 436-2946 or 800-WIN-2-WIN  
Amenities include hotel, shops, spa/salon, buffet, dining, valet parking, pool, and golf course.

**IP Casino Resort Spa**  
850 Bayview Ave., Biloxi  
(228) 436-3000 or 888-WIN-AT-IP  
Amenities include hotel, shops, spa/salon, buffet, dining, nightclub, valet parking, pool, and performing arts theater.

**Palace Casino Resort**  
158 East Howard Ave., Biloxi  
(228) 432-8888 or 800-PALACE9  
Amenities include hotel, buffet, dining, spa/salon, valet parking, pool, marina, golf course

**Treasure Bay Casino and Hotel**  
1980 Beach Blvd., Biloxi  
(228) 385-6000 or 800-747-2839  
Amenities include hotel, gift shop, buffet, dining, pool, valet parking.

# Online messaging helps Veterans stay connected

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

We're in an era where communication is more rapid than it ever has been; a wealth of information is available at the touch of a screen or a few clicks from a mouse. Health care has been at the forefront of technology innovation for decades but knowing how to communicate your health care needs to your health care team is critical.

The U.S. Department of Veterans



Affairs (VA) has different methods of communicating with health care teams, and one of the most effective ways Veterans and other eligible beneficiaries can maintain an active stance in

their health care is through the use of VA's Secure Messaging, <https://www.va.gov/health-care/secure-messaging/>.

With VA Secure Messaging, you can communicate privately online with your VA health care team. This web and mobile-based service protects your sensitive information so you can safely and easily communicate with your VA health care team online.



## Biloxi VA TODAY

You can use secure messaging to:

- Ask non-urgent, non-emergency health-related questions
- Give your health care team updates on your condition
- Request VA referrals, test results, and prescription renewals
- Manage your VA health appointments
- Ask routine administrative questions about topics like scheduling appointments or getting directions
- Get health education information from the Veterans Health Library at [https://www.prevention.va.gov/Veterans\\_Health\\_Library.asp](https://www.prevention.va.gov/Veterans_Health_Library.asp)

With VA Secure Messaging, Veterans can write messages, save drafts, review their sent messages and keep a record of their conversations, and can use this tool to communicate with any VA health care team member who has signed up to participate.

VA health care professionals should respond within three business days (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except federal holidays).

VA Secure Messaging is not designed

for emergency or urgent health care needs. Veterans experiencing an emergency, call 911 or visit your nearest emergency room.

If Veterans and other eligible beneficiaries need to talk to someone right away, I encourage you to use the Veterans Crisis Line at <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>. Dealing with issues such as chronic pain, anxiety, depression, trouble sleeping, anger or even homelessness can impact your health and the Veterans Crisis Line is confidential (private), free and available 24/7.

To connect with a Veterans Crisis Line responder anytime, day or night, call 988, then select 1. Veterans can also communicate with the Veterans Crisis Line through a confidential chat at <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat/>, or by text to 838255.

Maintaining contact with your health care team is critical to your ongoing health care, and I encourage each and every one of you to take advantage of these virtual modalities for routine inquiries and in maintaining your health records.

Additionally, we're headlong into summer and here on the Gulf Coast, that can mean excessive heat and unpredictable weather situations. Take a few moments to ensure you're prepared for possible severe weather, and look in on your neighbors, some of whom could be elderly Veterans.

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.

## Hurricane preparations continue at Keesler

Airman from the 338th Training Squadron recently filled sandbags in an effort to stay prepared for storms this hurricane season. Over 40 Airmen assisted the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron by filling more than 2500 sandbags.



Photo credit: U.S. Air Force photo by Kemberly Groue

► 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.

**DUNGNESS & SNOW CRAB 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**

**MEMBER DISCOUNTS: CLUB 10% | MILITARY & 50+ 15%  
ELITE 20% | SELECT 25%**



# BILOXI Shuckers PROMOTIONS in August

**AUG 9 T-Shirt Tuesday Giveaway**  
presented by US Air Force 331st Recruiting Squadron

**AUG 10 Military Wednesday & Bark in the Park** presented by Keesler Federal Credit Union & Raising Cane's

**AUG 11 Double Play Thursday**  
**\$2 Yuengling, \$2 Sodas & \$2 Hot Dogs**  
presented by Yuengling, Coca-Cola & Kicker 108

**AUG 12 Fireworks Friday**

**AUG 13 BBQ Apron Giveaway**  
presented by Conecuh Sausage

**AUG 14 Family Fun Day Sunday**

**AUG 23 T-Shirt Tuesday Giveaway**  
presented by WellCare

**AUG 24 Military Wednesday & Bark in the Park** presented by Keesler Federal Credit Union & Raising Cane's

**AUG 25 Double Play Thursday**  
**\$2 Yuengling, \$2 Sodas & \$2 Hot Dogs**  
presented by Yuengling, Coca-Cola & Kicker 108

**AUG 26 Fireworks Friday**  
presented by Margaritaville Resort Biloxi

**AUG 27 Mardi Gras Night & Jersey Auction**  
Custom Jerseys by Matt Stebly

**AUG 28 Family Fun Day Sunday**

**SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT**

	1	2 MIS	3 MIS	4 MIS	5 MIS	6 MIS
7 MIS	8	9 RCT 6:35PM	10 RCT 6:35PM	11 RCT 6:35PM	12 RCT 6:35PM	13 RCT 6:35PM
14 RCT 5:05PM	15	16 MTG	17 MTG	18 MTG	19 MTG	20 MTG
21 MTG	22	23 CHA 6:35PM	24 CHA 6:35PM	25 CHA 6:35PM	26 CHA 6:35PM	27 CHA 6:35PM
28 CHA 5:05PM	29	30 RCT	31 RCT		HOME	AWAY

**BILOXISHUCKERS.com**



DIRECTLY TO YOUR INBOX

# Bmail

It's free. Cancel anytime. To sign up, go to [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us) and click on the Bmail icon.



# The infrastructure work in Biloxi

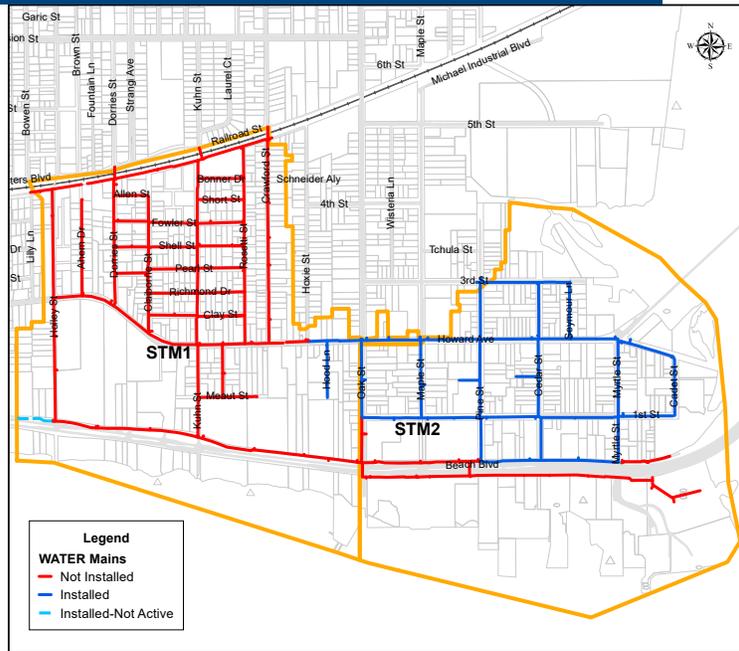
These pages contain maps showing the status of the city's two major infrastructure projects now underway. The information on these maps is compiled by the city's Engineering Department, based on reports from contractors and inspectors at each site. See detailed maps and video online at [biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/](http://biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/).

## 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.

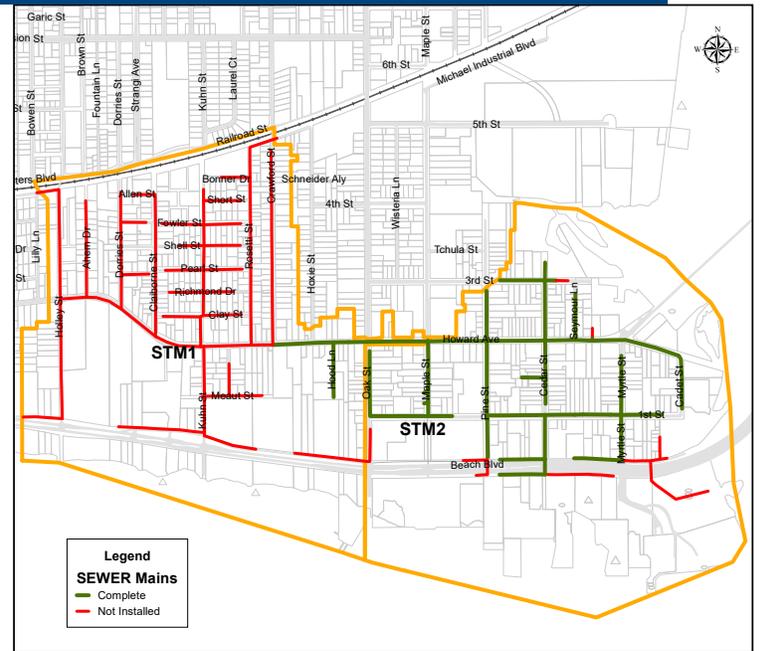
### Necaise Brothers Construction Water

Water Mains Installed as of July 15, 2022



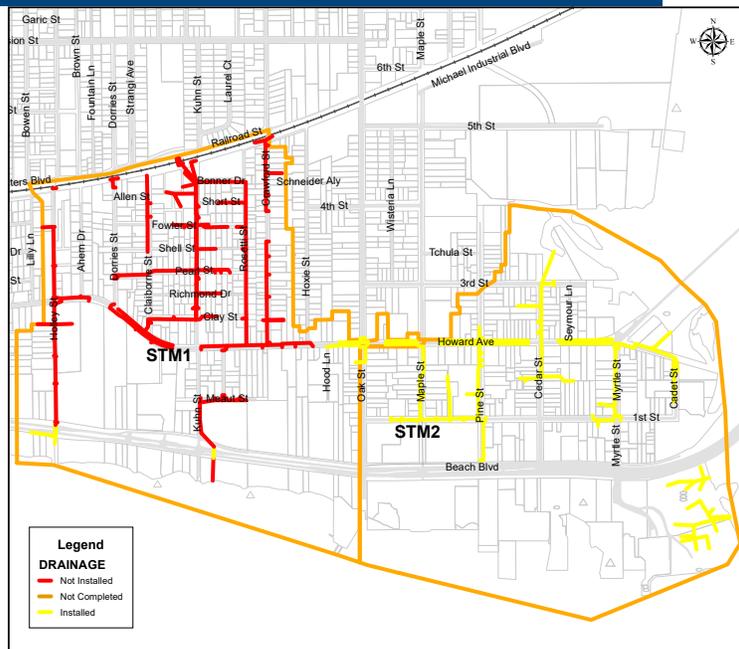
### Necaise Brothers Construction Sewer

Sewer Mains Installed as of July 15, 2022



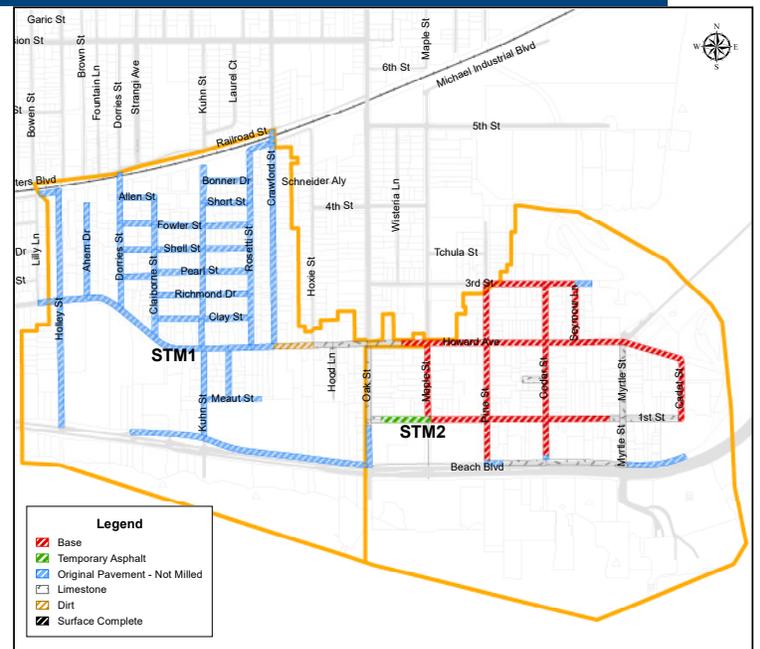
### Necaise Brothers Construction Drainage

Drainage Installed as of July 15, 2022



### Necaise Brothers Construction Pavement

Paving Installed as of July 15, 2022

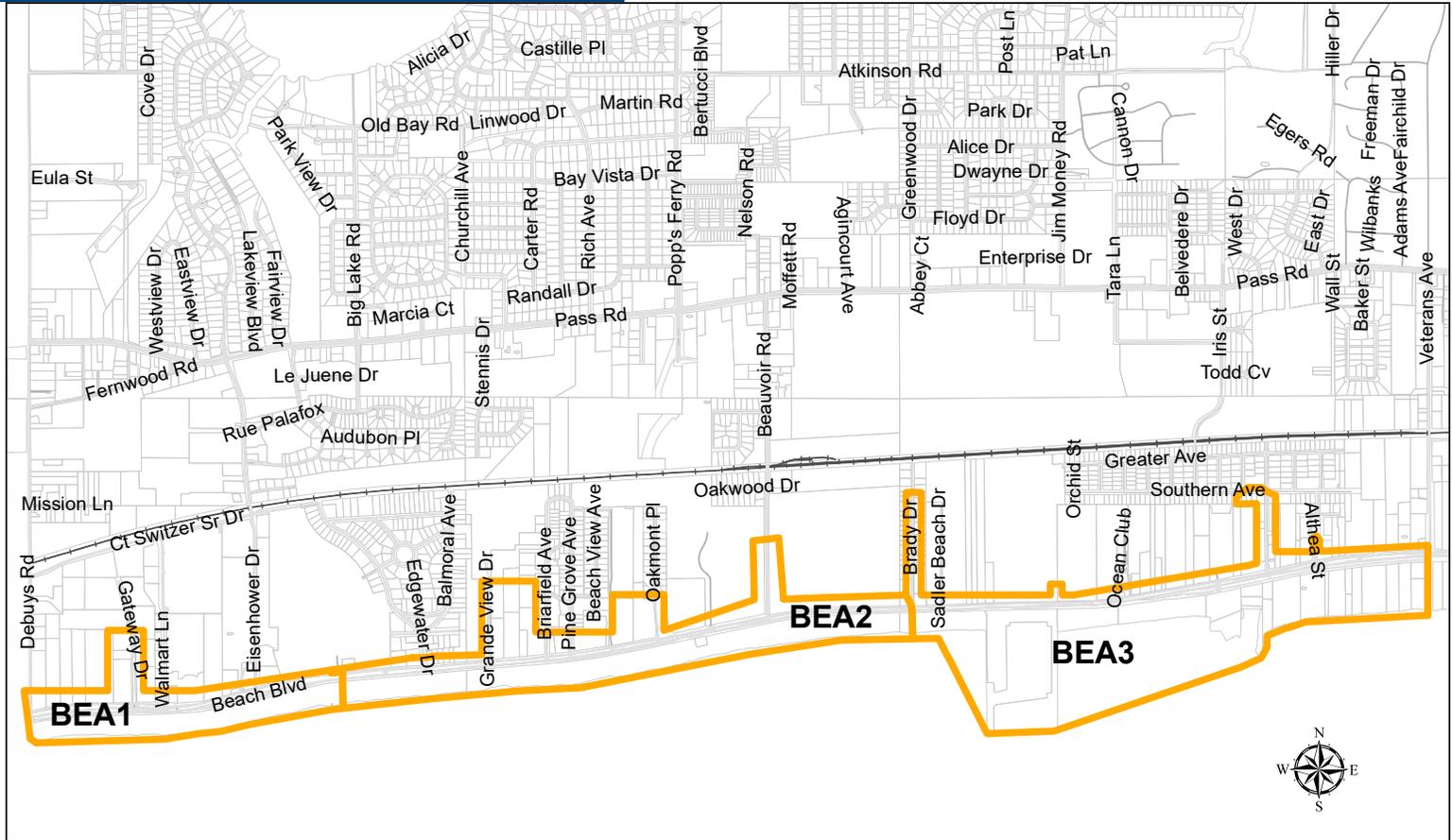


# Beauvoir 1, 2, & 3

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 began in July 2022.

## Necaise Brothers Construction

Water, sewer, drainage work to come



## Information tools you can use

### B-Alert

Get info-on-the-go to your cell phone. Text BILOXI to 99411.

### Bmail

Sign up for news directly from the city. Go to [biloxi.ms.us/register](http://biloxi.ms.us/register).

### Btv

Watch on Sparklight 56, Uverse 99 or online at [biloxi.ms.us/btv](http://biloxi.ms.us/btv).

### YouTube

See hundreds of City of Biloxi videos on demand. Click on the YouTube icon on the website.



Like and follow pages: City of Biloxi, Biloxi Police Department, Biloxi Fire Department, and Visit Biloxi.



Like and follow the official City of Biloxi page.

Sign up for all at [biloxi.ms.us/register](http://biloxi.ms.us/register).

Public Affairs Division  
[online@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:online@biloxi.ms.us)

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Public Affairs Specialist  
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# Random Notes



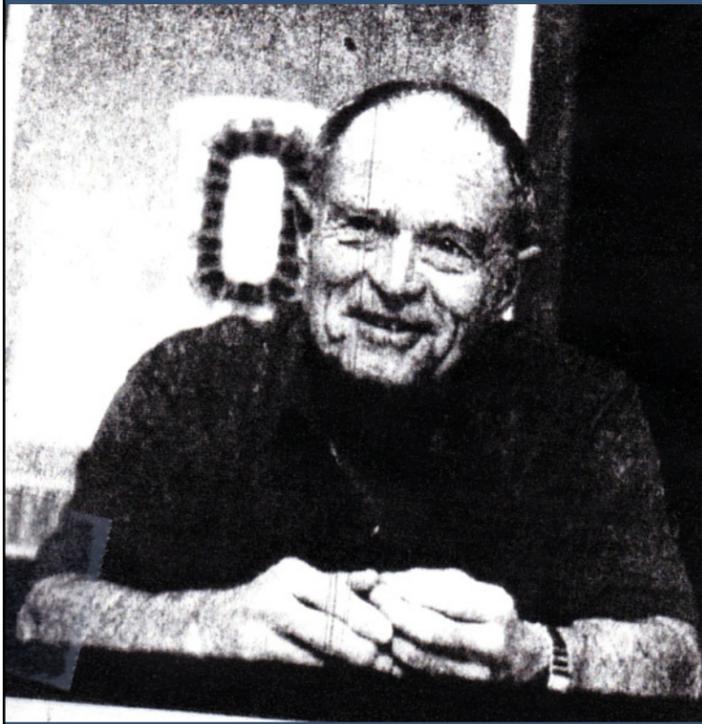
## He stood for Gold Star Families



### Hershel W. 'Woody' Williams

At 98 years old, retired Marine and West Virginia native Hershel 'Woody' Williams was the remaining Medal of Honor recipient from WWII upon his passing on June 29, 2022. His Woody Williams Foundation supports Gold Star Families through memorial monuments that recognize relatives of lost U.S. service members. Williams was in Biloxi on Nov. 23, 2019 for the dedication of Biloxi's Gold Star Families Memorial in Guice Park. He stood inside the soldier's cutout amid the monument's five black granite panels. To date, there are 178 active Gold Star family communities throughout the nation, including one U.S. territory. 104 monuments have been installed with 70 considered in progress.

### Time capsule: A generous philanthropist Ralph Louis Englestad



Photograph from Biloxi Historical Society's website:  
<https://biloxihistoricalsociety.org/casinos-gambling-liquor-and-vice>

Before Biloxi casino entrepreneur Ralph Louis Englestad set his sights on Biloxi, he was a talented hockey goalie and a construction owner. The Thief River Falls, Minnesota native, born in late January 1930, moved to Las Vegas in 1959. Englestad used some of his construction company profits and real estate investments to buy a Strip motel. That site would become the Imperial Palace. Englestad on Dec. 22, 1997 opened the Imperial Palace Biloxi at the corner of Caillavet Street and Bayview Avenue on Back Bay as the sister of the Imperial Palace in Paradise, Nevada. Today, the same property is known as the IP Casino Resort Spa and is owned by Penn National Gaming. The Biloxi Historical Society notes on their website the gaming executive managed a 20-month battle with lung cancer until his death at his Las Vegas home on Nov. 26, 2002. Englestad was 72.



Photo credit:  
Lindsay Lechner

## Simply the best!

The Biloxi 8U All-Star team are Cal Ripken State Champions! The team took home the honor on June 28 in Ocean Springs. This is the first state championship in the 8U division in Cal Ripken for the Biloxi Youth Baseball League. "We played our hearts out. What an amazing ride this was. I love each and every one of these kids and families. We made one heck of a baseball family!" said Head Coach Jeff Lechner.

**Players:** Bretton Bogard, Zachary Broussard, Myles D'Angelo, Hudson Everett, Nolan Guess, John Kirk IV, Gage Lechner, Luke Lyons, Jake McIntyre, Kaden Nichols, Aiden Patton, Lucas Torres.  
**Coaches:** Head Coach Jeff Lechner, Brett Bogard, John Kirk, Patrick Lyons.

### What they're reading: Public Works edition

Since we are in hurricane season and our Public Works crews are always working to make sure storm drains, and gutters are clear and ready for a storm, we asked some staff members to share what they've been reading:

- **Billy Ray Allen, Director:** "Rawr!" by Todd H. Doodler (for my grandson Gunner).
- **Jerrilyn King, Administrative Assistant:** "Verity" by Colleen Hoover.
- **Krista Hickman, Computer Operator:** "How Things Work: The Inner Life of Everyday Machines" by Theodore Gray.
- **Tracey Forehand, Utility Supervisor:** "A Game of Thrones" by R. R. Martin.
- **Shanna Coleman, Budget Technician:** "You Are a Badass: How to Stop Doubting Your Greatness and Start Living an Awesome Life" by Jen Sincero.



**There's only one definitive Katrina story on the market.**

**It's a two-volume set – two photo albums and two DVDs – for only \$15.**



**AVAILABLE AT**

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

## Best Bets!



## Wheels in motion!

Each month, on the third Tuesday, a host of bicycle riders gather to tour downtown for Bike Biloxi. The social group ride begins at 6 p.m. at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd., follows a path downtown, using the marked bicycle lanes in available areas. Cyclists end the ride at a downtown restaurant, on their dime. Helmets and reflective bike lights are recommended for safety. Details: Biloxi Main Street, 228-435-6339.

**Biloxi Natatorium Back to School Hours**, beginning Aug. 1, weekdays. Aquatics Division is open for adults (lap swimming) from 5 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and for children (recreational swimming, ages 17 and younger) from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Details, including fees: 228-435-6205

**Biloxi Public Schools Students' First Day**, Aug. 4. The 2022-2023 school year begins for students in all grades. Details: [www.biloxischools.net](http://www.biloxischools.net)

**First Friday & Downtown Block Party at the District Green**, Aug. 5, 5-9 p.m., 785 Howard Ave. Live entertainment: Cary Hudson & Katrina Miller at 5 p.m. and Unfazed Show & Band at 7 p.m. Event features arts and craft vendors, and activities. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339 or [mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:mainstreet@biloxi.ms.us)

**Gallery 782 Co-Art Artist reception**, Aug. 5, 5-8 p.m., 773 Jackson Street. Join featured artist-members David Salters and Sue West for a special show opening. Free admission. Details: 228-436-7782

**Biloxi Youth Football & Cheer Registration**, Aug. 6 & 13, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal M. Snyder, Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Flag football, ages 5-8; tackle football, ages 9-12; cheerleading, ages 6-12. Details on fees and financial assistance: 228-388-2483 or [sports@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:sports@biloxi.ms.us)

**Mississippi Coast Annual Black Rodeo**, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m., Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. Calf roping, barrel racing, bull riding, and bull dogging (steer wrestling). Tickets begin at \$21. Details: 228-594-3700, 1-800-726-2781

**Edgewater Mall Arts & Craft Show**, Aug. 6 & 7, inside Edgewater Mall, 2600 Beach Blvd. Free admission. Details: 228-860-5015 or [clearvisionent.net](http://clearvisionent.net)

**Biloxi Shuckers Baseball**, MGM Park, 105 Caillavet St., Admission prices begin at \$8. Details: 228-233-3465

- vs. **Rocket City Trash Pandas**, Aug. 9-14
- vs. **Chattanooga Lookouts**, Aug. 23-28

**Date Night at OOMA**, Aug. 12, 6-8 p.m., Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Blvd. Create two pots to keep in this fun, two-hour pottery wheel class for couples. Tickets: \$30. Details: 228-374-5547

**Karaoke Kickoff at Biloxi Yacht Club**, Aug. 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m. 408 Beach Blvd. Karaoke by musician Larry Hebert from "The Undercover Band" and "South Breeze". Mingle and sing with special guest Patsy McKeehan of "Southern Reign." Must be age 21 or older. Two drink minimum. Details: 228-374-6344

**Gulf Coast Royal Rendezvous**, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.-12 a.m., Dr. Frank G. Gruich Sr. Community Center, 591 Howard Ave. The Southernettes invite all parading organization courts for a scholarship fundraiser. Open to the public ages 21 and older; entertainment provided. Tickets: \$25 per person. Details: [southernettes@gmail.com](mailto:southernettes@gmail.com)

## Best Bet!



## Pottery date night

Fun pottery class for couples on Friday, Aug. 12 at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art in the Biloxi Ceramics Studio! Bring your sweetie or a pal, wear clothes and shoes that can get dirty, and spend two hours spinning clay hand-in-hand. Create two pots to keep. Instructors will glaze and fire the creations two weeks prior to pickup. Cost is \$30 per person. Open to individuals ages 18 and up. Limited to 10 students per class. Details: 228-374-5547.

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

## Stay in touch

**BNews:** Welcome to the 51st 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

Keith Wilson, Public Affairs Specialist  
[kwilson@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:kwilson@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 Go, Shuckers!

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

- VS. Rocket City Trash Pandas, Aug. 9-14, 6:35 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 5:05 p.m. Sunday
- VS. Chattanooga Lookouts, Aug. 23-28, 6:35 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 5:05 p.m. Sunday

Expect an array of between-innings antics and exciting promotions including after-game fireworks on Aug. 12 and 26.

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





**Bike Biloxi Downtown Ride, Aug. 16,** 6 p.m. Begins at 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

**Arts in the Alley, Aug. 20, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.,** Ground Zero Blues Club Biloxi, 814 Howard Ave. Local artisans will sell their crafts in an indoor and outdoor arts market. Live music by Jamie Hyatt. Details: 228-910-6600 or [daniel@groundzerobiloxi.com](mailto:daniel@groundzerobiloxi.com)

**Biloxi Main Street Book Club, Aug. 25, 5:30 p.m.,** Martinis, 918 Howard Ave. This month's book is "Behind Every Lie" by Christina McDonald. Participation is free. Details: 228-435-6339 or email [Lrosetti@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:Lrosetti@biloxi.ms.us)

**Sara M. Jenkins and Joshua Duncan, Artists Reception, Aug. 25, 6 p.m.,** Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum. Light snacks and beverages. Free museum entry. Details: 228-435-6320

**Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame, Aug. 28, 3 p.m.,** Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Awards ceremony for 2020, 2021, and 2022 inductees. RSVP by Aug. 21 to Cheryl Bell at 228-388-7170 or [cbell@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:cbell@biloxi.ms.us). Details: 228-388-7170

**Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum's Heritage Hall of Fame 2022 nominations deadline, Aug. 30.** Nominate individuals who have shown dedication to honoring the tradition of the maritime and seafood industry on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Forms available online at [www.maritimemuseum.org](http://www.maritimemuseum.org). Details: 228-435-6320



### Biloxi Little Theatre

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

- **I Dreamed A Dreamgirl, Sept. 17**

### Center Stage

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

- **Music of the Night: The Songs of Andrew Lloyd Webber, July 28-Aug. 7**

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

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

- **Living History at Beauvoir, Aug. 20.** Admission charged based on age
- **Meet the Spirits, Aug. 22, 6 p.m.** Admission: \$30 per person

### 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 for ages 12 and older; \$2 for ages 6-11; free for ages 5 and younger

## Biloxi Schooners

367 Beach Blvd., 228-435-6320, schooner@maritimemuseum.org. Open 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

- Walk-on sunset sails, admission: \$30 adults, \$15 ages 3-12
- Group charters available, up to 44 people

## 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 for tour availability

## 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

- Hours of operation: Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sunday, noon – 4 p.m.
- **37th Annual \$10,000 Drawdown on September 17**, 6 p.m. Tickets on sale now.

## Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

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

- Check the website for 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

- Historic 1937 firehouse open Saturdays 9 a.m.–2 p.m. or by appointment

## Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Aug. 5, 12, 19 & 26. Doors open at 5 p.m.; Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts and door prizes. Concessions available. Open until 8:30 p.m.

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

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

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

## Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 228-392-9345

- **Steak Night**, Aug. 12, 6-8 p.m. (Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m.) \$20, dine in or carry out

## Mississippi Coast Mustang Club

- **2nd Saturday Cruise-In**, Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m., Edgewater Mall, 2600 Beach Blvd.

## Our Lady of Fatima Parish

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Night Bingo**, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29; doors open at 5 p.m., Early Birds 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 5:30 p.m.; Early Bird games 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
- **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> Music of the Night Center Stage  Biloxi Natatorium Back to School Hours Aquatics Division  Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>2</b> Community Market Music of the Night Center Stage  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>3</b> Music of the Night Center Stage  Charles "CC" Carter Ground Zero Blues Club	<b>4</b> Community Market Music of the Night Center Stage  The Unfazed Experience Ground Zero Blues Club  Quiet Riot Hard Rock Casino  Biloxi Public Schools Students' First Day	<b>5</b> Music of the Night Center Stage  Gallery 782 Co-Art Artist Reception Jackson Street  First Friday & Block Party The District Green  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>6</b> Music of the Night Center Stage  Annual Black Rodeo MS Coast Coliseum  D.K Harrell Band Ground Zero Blues Club  Youth Football & Cheer Registration Sr. Community Center  MS Coast Annual Black Rodeo MS Coast Coliseum  Arts & Craft Show Edgewater Mall
<b>7</b> Music of the Night Center Stage  Arts & Craft Show Edgewater Mall	<b>8</b> Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>9</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>10</b> Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park	<b>11</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park  Cody Jinks/ Clint Black MS Coast Coliseum	<b>12</b> Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park  Date Night at OOMA Ohr-O'Keefe Museum  Steak Night Joppa Shrine  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>13</b> Clairvoyants IP Casino Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park  Youth Football & Cheer Registration Sr. Community Center  Karaoke Kickoff Biloxi Yacht Club  Gulf Coast Royal Rendezvous Sr. Community Center  2nd Saturday Cruise-In MS Coast Mustang Club
<b>14</b> Shuckers vs. Trash Pandas MGM Park	<b>15</b> Randy Houser Beau Rivage  Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>16</b> Community Market Bike Biloxi Downtown Ride Biloxi Visitors Center  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Community Market	<b>19</b> Lyle Lovett Beau Rivage  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>20</b> Arts in the Alley Ground Zero Blues Club  Living History Beauvoir  Purple Reign Hard Rock Casino  Biloxi Gun & Knife Show MS Coast Coliseum
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Meet the Spirits Beauvoir  Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>23</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>24</b> Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park	<b>25</b> Community Market Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park  Main Street Book Club Martinis  Artists Reception Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum	<b>26</b> Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park  Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons Beau Rivage  Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>27</b> Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park  Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons Beau Rivage  Alabama MS Coast Coliseum
<b>28</b> Shuckers vs. Lookouts MGM Park  Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame Biloxi Civic Center	<b>29</b> Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	<b>30</b> Community Market Heritage Hall of Fame 2022 deadline Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum  Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> Community Market	<b>2</b> Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge  Seafood Dinners / Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	<b>3</b>

# BTV August 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
6:10 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 at Doe's Place in Margaritaville (9 min replay)
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special presentation: "Camille: The original monster storm" (1 hr)
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 at Doe's Place in Margaritaville (9 min replay)
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special presentation: "Camille: The original monster storm" (1 hr)
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
6:10 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 at Doe's Place in Margaritaville (9 min replay)
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler update (15 min)
8 p.m.	Special presentation: "Camille: The original monster storm" (1 hr)
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.

## "A salute to Camille" encore this month on BTV

August 17, 1969. It has been 53 years since Hurricane Camille struck Coastal Mississippi, officially making landfall in Waveland. Hurricane Katrina became the new gold standard, no doubt, when she made landfall on Aug. 29, 2005.

As an encore, Mississippi filmmaker Rex Jones's "Camille: The original monster storm" will air all month on BTV at 8 a.m., 8 p.m., and 2 each afternoon. Jones interviewed Coast residents for the hour-long documentary produced for The University of Mississippi's Southern Documentary Project.

## A BTV replay of Biloxi Cooks! at Doe's Eat Place

Doe's Eat Place, inside Margaritaville Resort & Family Fun Center on Point Cadet, has a great story. Learn all about this James Beard Award-winning restaurant this month during an encore replay of "Biloxi Cooks!" from December 2021.

The chefs at Doe's share a delightful recipe for Chicken Parmesan that was previously published in the December 2021 issue of BNews Monthly. The show airs at 7 a.m., 7 p.m., and 1 p.m. on BTV.

### This month's recipe

#### Chicken Parmesan

*Doe's Eat Place – Margaritaville, 195 Beach Blvd.*

- Ingredients (one serving):**
- 2 oz of Parmesan and Mozzarella
  - 6-ounce Chicken Breast
  - Fryer oil
  - All-Purpose flour
  - Eggwash
  - Breadcrumbs mixture
  - 6 oz of Marinara
  - 10 oz of angel hair pasta, cooked
  - 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 (broiler)
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



# Bets placed on Biloxi for years

This column originally appeared in this space in August 2020.

## Back in the Day



By Jane Shambra

Gambling has a history in Mississippi and has been deemed as “Mississippi’s Oldest Pastime.” Historians have cited stories of early Native Americans enjoying games and gambling such as playing stick ball. The popular sports betting game utilized sticks made of strong wood, such as hickory, and crafted balls of rock, hair, and hide sewn together with wagers made on the outcome.

Monsieur d’Iberville’s crews enjoyed gambling games of cards much like the decks of playing cards we see today but with different illustrations.

Biloxi has a significant history of being a benefactor of gambling profits. Long ago, in the late 1800s, the heirs of a legendary Louisiana Lottery millionaire Charles Howard bestowed a wealth of benefits to the City of Biloxi through his sons Frank Turner Howard and Harry Turner Howard for Biloxi schools, a hospital, and a church.

The Howard family had a summer home on Biloxi’s East Beach Road, known today as U.S. 90. In fact, Harry T. Howard served as Mayor of Biloxi from 1888 to 1890 and 1897 to 1899.

In August 1896, in appreciation for the family’s generosity, Pass Christian-Point Cadet Road was renamed Howard Avenue.

### The Mysterious Island That Vanished

One of the most fascinating chapters of Biloxi’s gambling history includes the story about the Isle of Caprice. The island, once called Dog Keys and situated 12 miles offshore between Horn and Ship islands, was once a popular resort, supported by swim meets, family outings, fishing, a dance hall, restaurant, and, of course, the stories of illegal booze and gambling.

The resort, built and operated by Col. J.R. Apperson, Arbeau Caillavet and Walter Henry “Skeet”



Harry T. Howard, former Biloxi mayor and son of Louisiana Lottery millionaire Charles Howard



Popular island resort in the early 1900s, Isle of Caprice

Hunt, opened May 30, 1926. Access to the island was simply by boat for a round trip fee of 75 cents, and was graced by popular celebrities including Ethel Barrymore, a stage and screen star.

By 1932, the island deteriorated, and as a result of a series of most unfortunate events, “fantasy island” became completely submerged. Years later, an iconic photo of a man standing in a boat drinking clear well water from a rusty pipe is all that remained.

Today, even that iconic pipe has vanished. According to Native American legends, that island has appeared, disappeared and reappeared throughout time. Susan Hunt, Skeet’s granddaughter, says she and her sister still pay taxes on the land in case it comes up again.

### Biloxi on the radar

After years of gambling on the island, betting on schooners and horse races, placing wagers while traveling on a riverboat, and playing the slots in downtown, some still frowned upon the pastime and rightly so since it was not exactly legal.

It was common to hear of raids where machines were unexpectedly seized from establishments and chopped to bits.

In the early 1950s Tennessee Senator Estes Kefauver organized a congressional committee to investigate gambling crimes involved in interstate commerce.

Hearings were held in 14 cities throughout the

The Point Cadet area of East Biloxi, which before Katrina was also known as Casino Row.



Palace Casino Resort, Grand Casino hotel north, Grand Casino theater, Grand Casino barge, Grand Casino hotel south, Casino Magic barge, Casino Magic hotel with parking garage underneath, Isle of Capri hotel, Isle of Capri barge.



United States, including Biloxi. Those called upon to testify included Biloxi Mayor Hart Chinn, as well as City Commissioner A. J. Creel, Police Chief Earl Wetzel, Sheriff Laz Quave, Keesler Field Commander James F. Powell, and Bank President E. C. Tonsmeire.

The script of those hearings was later published by the U. S. Government Printing Office as an official document. When the hearings ended in 1951 television sets were entering homes, and it became clear that future Senate investigations could be a part of regular television programming.

### Voting for the boats

In 1990, the Mississippi State Legislature voted to pass the Mississippi Gaming Control Act establishing the Mississippi Gaming Commission to regulate charitable and casino gaming. On March 10, 1991 Harrison County voters approved legalized dockside gambling.

Then, in August 1992, Biloxi saw the arrival of its first floating casinos. The Isle of Capri Casino was the first casino to welcome its two new gambling riverboats, The Diamond Lady and The Emerald Lady, to the shores. Thousands of locals and tourists waited outside for hours to be part of the city’s first legalized embrace of gaming. The two compact riverboats could handle only a few hundred guests each, causing lines that stretched more than a football field.



The President Casino, once occupied the legendary Broadwater property.

That scene was repeated two weeks later when the President Casino opened at the legendary Broadwater property in West Biloxi and again two weeks after that when the Biloxi Belle took over the deteriorating Buena Vista hotel site in downtown.



The President Casino, one of Biloxi’s first casinos, all lit up.

### Katrina creates recyclables

Traveling against their will, and in spite of precautions to secure these mighty vessels, many of

Biloxi’s dockside casino barges voyaged away from their original moorings to new locations in August of 2005 when the monster storm, Hurricane Katrina, made an unwelcome visit.

We are told that the barges traveled above utility poles before landing north of U.S. 90, leaving poles and wires still in place, proof of the mysterious power of the storm.

Passersby on U.S. 90 were awestruck to see firsthand just how immense and complicated casino structures actually were. Unprecedented recycling projects of dismantling these colossal entertainment palaces followed, separating its contents into respective piles for reuse – plastic, cement, metal, electronics, piping, etc.

There were also loose coins that escaped the “one arm bandits.” These finds resulted in a new weightless technology of the next generation of Biloxi casinos essentially eliminating betting with pocket coins/ casino coins. Now, new slot machines issue winning

certificates and the clanging of the dropping winning coins had been replaced with a prerecorded rendition of joyous coin music.

### Dividing the Pie

From that uncertain beginning, dockside gaming – as it is still called – has resurrected Biloxi’s tourism and progressed to a billion dollar-a-year industry that has allowed the city to invest tens of millions of dollars in public education and public safety. It has also created thousands of jobs and hotels rooms.

It is quite a change from back in the day when backdoor gambling and bootleg booze established the city as a tourism location. Gaming is enhancing day-to-day city services, expanding amenities for residents, and is, of course, legal.

## Fun fact: The Elvis story

Along the corridors of the Hard Rock Casino in Biloxi is a fascinating museum of musical memories including guitars, attire, and vinyl records of famous performers. The facility was scheduled to open just as Katrina knocked on Biloxi’s door step.

Sadly, many relics of our musical past unexpectedly exited the building. One item was the famous costume that Elvis Presley wore in the movie G.I. BLUES. An honest Waffle House employee retrieved and returned the khaki clothing, and a specialist restored and presented it back to its home in our casino on Beach Boulevard.



I’ll bet Elvis never dreamed that his uniform would swim and survive anything like Katrina!

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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