

## Best Bets!

### Christmas on the Water weekend

The Christmas on the Water festivities kicks off on Friday, Dec. 1 with the annual Children's Parade at 6 p.m. Kindergarten to fourth graders will ride on hay wagons through downtown to the Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. At the Town Green, Christmas decorations will be lit, and Santa will be waiting to talk with the children. Then on Saturday, Dec. 2, the Annual Christmas in the City takes place along the Rue Magnolia area from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 100 vendors will be selling their wares and Christmas carols will be sung by local choirs. The centerpiece of the weekend takes place on Saturday at 6 p.m. with the parade of decorated boats cruising along the waterfront followed by a fireworks show. This Biloxi tradition dates back to 1986. It has grown to an impressive holiday family weekend that attracts locals and visitors. Visit [biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us), call 228-435-6339, or 228-432-2563.



### Parading for Christmas

Parades are a major feature of celebrations along the Gulf Coast, especially at Christmas. Here's the lineup: Children's Walking Parade on Friday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. in Downtown, Christmas boat parade on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. in the Mississippi Sound, Woolmarket Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. in the Woolmarket community, and Ward 2 Christmas parade on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2:30 p.m. in East Biloxi. Check out the calendar entries for more details.

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

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

**Annual Children's Christmas Parade and Lighting of the Town Green**, Dec. 1, 6-8 p.m., Downtown. Annual parade featuring children in grades K to 4th riding in hay wagons from Frank Gruich Center, 591 Howard Ave., to Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Parade followed by festivities including lighting of the Christmas tree, Santa, and hot coco and cookies. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

**Wreaths for Biloxi National Ceremony**, Dec. 1, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. to prepare the wreaths. Dec. 2, 11 a.m., wreath ceremony; 234 Coolidge Ave. Volunteers needed. Details: [facebook.com/WreathforBNC/](https://facebook.com/WreathforBNC/)

**Breakfast with Santa**, Dec. 2, 8-10 a.m., Half Shell Oyster House, 125 Lameuse St. \$5 pancake plates. Details and tickets: [www.nativitybvm.org/breakfast-with-santa](http://www.nativitybvm.org/breakfast-with-santa)

**19th Annual Christmas In The City**, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 140 Lameuse St., Howard Avenue, G.E. Street, Jackson Street, Rue Magnolia, and Water Street areas. Features local choir performances, entertainers, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus (10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.), pusharates (a Croatian holiday treat) near Mary Mahoney's back door on Water St., arts and crafts vendors, and hourly drawings for \$100 cash! Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

**Christmas on the Water**, Dec. 2, 6 p.m. Mississippi Sound. Boats parade in full holiday décor, with a fireworks show following the parade. Best viewing locations along Beach Boulevard between the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor and Casino Row. Details: 228-617-3112 or 228-432-2563

**Christmas on the Water Aboard the Biloxi Schooner**, Dec. 2, 4:30 p.m. departure, Biloxi Schooner Pier, 367 Beach Blvd. Presented by the Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum. Guests may bring food and refreshments; ice is provided. Excursion returns to dock by 8 p.m. Admission: \$45 for adults, \$25 for children, ages 3-12. Details and to purchase tickets: 228-435-6320

**Children's Mardi Gras Christmas**, Dec. 3, 2-4 p.m. Mary Mahoney's, 138 Rue Magnolia. Gulf Coast Carnival Association presents Photos with Santa and SCCA CXV Royalty. Admission charged. Details: 228-432-8806

**Coffee with a Veteran**, Dec. 5, 8-9:30 a.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Details: 228-604-0014

**2nd Annual Stroll for Autism Fundraiser**, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Dr. Frank Gruich Community Center, 591 Howard Ave. Sponsorship opportunities available. BYOB affair. Setups available. Food available for purchase. Details: 228-218-1687

**The Singing Christmas Tree**, Dec. 8, 7 p.m.; Dec. 9, 6 p.m.; & Dec. 10, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, 1560 Popp's Ferry Road. A 30-foot interactive tree and more than 200 cast featuring drama, singers, and orchestra. Free admission. Details: [www.fcbiloxi.org/singingchristmastree](http://www.fcbiloxi.org/singingchristmastree)

**Breakfast with Santa**, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Donal M. Snyder Center, 2520 Pass Road. Buffet-style breakfast, 5"x7" photo with Santa included. Open to children and adults. Must pre-purchase tickets; <https://buytickets.at/enchantedrentals/1027233>. Details: 228-274-4447

**Come Learn with Santa**, Dec. 9, 9:45 -11:15 a.m., 140 St. John Ave., Lopez School. Event open to children ages 5 and younger and includes pictures with Santa, creating holiday crafts, and decorating Christmas cookies. Details: 228-297-6808, [susanhunt@biloxischools.net](mailto:susanhunt@biloxischools.net)



## Stay in touch

**BNews:** Welcome to the 67th 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](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 228-435-6336.

**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)

John Majure, Public Affairs Specialist  
[jmajure@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:jmajure@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 . . . . . 435-6280
- 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



**Annual Woolmarket Ward 7 Christmas Parade,** Dec. 9, 2 p.m. Parade begins on Shortcut Road at Woolmarket Road and ends at Woolmarket Elementary School, 12513 John Lee Road. See Santa Claus and decorate the Christmas tree at the Woolmarket Elementary gym. Hot Chocolate and cookies provided. Details: 228-861-5422 or Councilman Nathan Barrett at 228-263-3000

**Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum Holiday Open House,** Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 115 1st St. Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy a tour through the museum, and shop with local vendors for art and treats! Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Door prizes! Free admission. Details: 228-435-6320

**Mississippi Gulf Coast Marathon,** Dec. 9-10, 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Beach Boulevard from Pass Christian to Biloxi. Coastal running fest showcases the local culture with a beautiful beachside run. Kick off the weekend at the Runner Village at Margaritaville Resort on Friday Dec. 8. Registration prices vary from \$25 to \$155. Details: [www.mississippigulfcoastmarathon.com](http://www.mississippigulfcoastmarathon.com)

**Concerts on the Causeway,** Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m., Popp's Ferry Causeway Park, 560 Causeway Dr. Entertainment and food. This month's proceeds will benefit the Mental Health Association. Pet-friendly; bring lawn chairs: no outside coolers allowed. Details: Facebook, "Concerts on the Causeway"

**Senior's Christmas Luncheon,** Dec. 15, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to ages 50 and older. D.J.; door prizes. Free admission. Details and to RSVP: 228-388-7170

**Special Needs Christmas Dance,** Dec. 15, 5-8 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to all ages with physical and mental disabilities and includes food and door prizes. Bring a gift worth no more than \$10 to be given to the Biloxi Police Department. Details: 228-388-7170

**Biloxi Visitors Center Holiday Open House,** Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Dozens of artists and craftsmen show and sell their wares for last-minute Christmas shoppers. Photos with Santa noon-4 p.m.; children's activities; and door prizes. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

**City of Biloxi Ward 2 Christmas Parade,** Dec. 17, 2:30 p.m. Parade begins at O'Reilly Park, 431 Division St., and ends at John Henry Beck Park, 671 Division St. Register for parade through Dec. 13th. Details: [cbell@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:cbell@biloxi.ms.us) or 228-388-7170

**The Knights of Columbus Christmas Blood Drive,** Dec. 17, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, 2090 Pass Road. Donors are urged to go to [//RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to preregister.



**Biloxi Little Theatre**  
 220 Lee St., 228-432-8543,  
[www.4blt.org](http://www.4blt.org)  
 • **What the Elf?** Dec. 10, 11, 15, & 16

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

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

2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org)  
 • **Lying of the Wreaths to Honor Our Fallen,** Dec. 2, 2 p.m.  
 • **Christmas Encampment,** Dec. 2, 6-9 p.m.; Admission: \$5-10

### Biloxi Excel by 5

Lopez School, 140 St. John Ave., 228-297-6808, [susan.hunt@biloxi.schools.net](mailto:susan.hunt@biloxi.schools.net)  
 • Community-based certification program to improve child's overall well-being by age 5.  
 • **Come Learn with Santa,** Dec. 9, 9:45 a.m.

### Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center

1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, [biloxi.ms.us](http://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  
 • **Holiday Open House,** Dec. 16-18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Biloxi Schooners

367 Beach Blvd., 228-435-6320, [schooner@maritimemuseum.org](mailto:schooner@maritimemuseum.org). Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
 • Group charters available, up to 44 people



**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 for tour availability

**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

**Harrison County East Biloxi Senior Center**

461 Parker St., 228-435-4192, [co.harrison.ms.us/departments/senior/services](http://co.harrison.ms.us/departments/senior/services)

- Open 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

**KAFB Farmer's Market**

625 Marina Dr., 228-376-3170, [melissa.wedel.civ@health.mil](mailto:melissa.wedel.civ@health.mil)

- **Dec. 15**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Marina Park

**Kroc Center, MS Gulf Coast, The Salvation Army**

575 Division St., 228-207-1218, [krocmscoast.com](http://krocmscoast.com)

- **Breakfast with Santa**, Dec. 2, 8-11 a.m. Admission: \$5

**Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum**

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

- Open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m.
- **Christmas Open House**, Dec. 9, 10-4 a.m. Free admission

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

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

- Check the website for events and studio classes at OOMA!
- **Make your own Ceramic Christmas Tree**, Dec. 1, 6-8 p.m.; Admission: \$45
- **Holiday Art Camp**, Dec. 18-20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; ages 6-12: Admission: \$135

**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

**Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi**

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Doors open at 5 p.m.; Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts. Concessions available. Kitchen open until 8 p.m.

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

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

- **Seafood Dinners**, Fridays, 6 p.m.
- **Karaoke with Kenny**, Fridays at 7 p.m.

**Joppa Shrine**

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold by 7:15 p.m. \$20. Dine-in or for carry-out. Details, 228-392-9345

**Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society**

591 Howard Ave. (2nd floor), Frank Gruich Community Center, 228-396-1543

- **Christmas Party and meeting**, Dec. 2, 1-3 p.m.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish Bingo**

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Bingo**, Dec. 4, 11, & 18. Doors open at 5 p.m., early birds at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m. Details: 228-388-3887

**The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish**

- **Dec. 2, 3 p.m.**, "Advent Service of Reflections" Choral Program

- **Dec. 17, 4 p.m.**, Annual "Nativity Cathedral Christmas Concert"

- **Dec. 21, 7 p.m.**, Annual "Christmas Caroling at Cathedral Square"

- **Dec. 24, 10:30 p.m.**, Annual "Christmas Eve Pre-Service of Carols & Music"

- **Biloxi Bingo Mania**, Tuesday nights behind Nativity Cathedral; 871 Esters Blvd. Doors open at 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. Details: 228-374-6472

**Lagniappe****Charles R. Hegwood****Biloxi Community Market**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 a.m.-2 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