

BNews Monthly

APRIL 2024

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



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A Thousand Words



Biloxi's star on the horizon
since 1848



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BARNETT



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NEWMAN



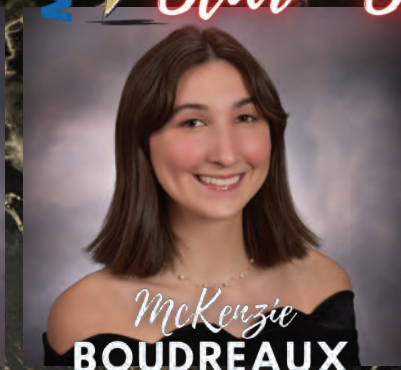
Vincenzo
VIZZINI



Star Students



Rhys
NEWMAN



McKenzie
BOUDREAUX



James
LEON



Candace
SCHWARTZ

Upgrades at Sport Complex prompt improvement at other fields

While renovations continue at the A.J. Holloway Sports Complex, the Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department is preparing two other city fields for youth baseball and softball play.

Registration for the two leagues has wrapped up and play is set to begin at the end of March and the beginning of April. To ensure the leagues' play and games are ample amidst renovations, city crews decided to freshen up Todd Migues and Savarro parks for play rotation.

Last month, Todd Migues Park, located at 425 Parker St., and Savarro Park, at 1353 Irish Hill Drive, received fresh dirt on the infield. City crews then began the installation of new LED lighting. That work is expected to wrap up in early April.

"It's going to be a little different playing at different fields throughout the season, but we are going to do our best to provide a quality youth baseball and softball season," Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation James Lee said. "We are asking people participating to understand the logistics of this and enjoy the season."

Softball games began on the road on March 25 and baseball games are set to commence on April 8. Both leagues will play at all three parks, Todd Migues, Savarro, and A.J. Holloway throughout the season.

Over at the sports complex, new synthetic turf is being installed on the fields as part of the ongoing upgrades to the 68-acre facility. As turf is complete on one field, crews with Talley Construction are

following with the installation of topsoil and sod.

According to Nicholas Moody, senior vice president of design services with MP Design Group, the company overseeing the upgrades, "approximately 70,000 square feet of synthetic turf will be installed in the infields at the baseball fields, along with new irrigation and approximately 15,000 square yards of Bermuda sod in the outfields. This will provide the city with five (5) newly renovated youth baseball fields."

Also, "approximately 100,000 square feet of synthetic turf will be installed in the infields at the four (4) softball fields along with new subsurface drainage, and new parking lots will be added at the baseball, softball, and soccer/football fields that will provide the complex with approximately 120 new parking spaces."

Stripping of the existing sod over at the soccer and softball fields is also a part of the work along with the addition of nearly 34,000 square yards of new topsoil and Bermuda sod.

Added Lee: "We have done research and met with others who have made turf upgrades to their fields for advice on what they did or what they wish they would have done so that we do not get on the sod too early and can let the sod root. We want to take the necessary precautions so that we don't make some of the same mistakes as others and we can provide everyone with a wonderful opportunity at the sports complex."



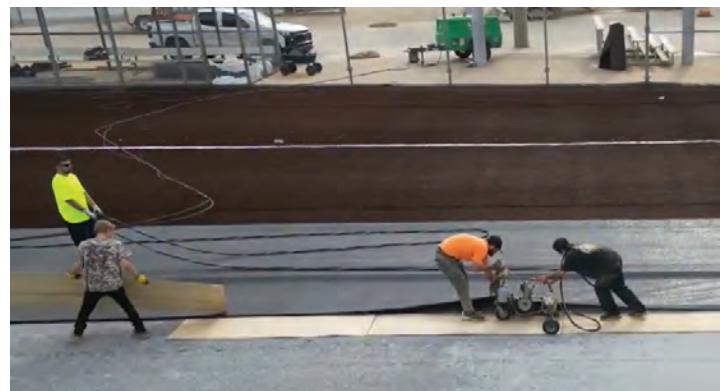
▲ Newly added dirt at Savarro Park



▲ New LED lighting added to Savarro Park



▲ New turf at one of the A.J. Holloway Sports Complex fields



▲ Crew installing turf at A.J. Holloway Sports Complex



20  24

OPENING NIGHT



APRIL 5

APRIL 5 2024 OPENING NIGHT ON FIREWORKS FRIDAY
2024 MAGNET SCHEDULE GIVEAWAY PRESENTED BY WLOX

APRIL 6 BEACH BAG COOLER GIVEAWAY
PRESENTED BY BEAU RIVAGE RESORT & CASINO

APRIL 7 FUN DAY SUNDAY FT. FUN PACK DEALS
4 TICKETS, HOT DOGS, CHIPS & DRINKS FOR JUST \$19 PER TICKET!

APRIL 16 T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY + BREW CREW TUESDAY
BILOXI'S SOUTHERN NEGRO LEAGUE T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY
PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE'S BANK & COORS LIGHT
ASK ABOUT OUR BREW CREW SPECIAL AT THE BEER GARDENS!

APRIL 17 MILITARY WEDNESDAY + BARK IN THE PARK
PRESENTED BY KEESLER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

APRIL 18 THIRSTY THURSDAY
PRESENTED BY PBR, COCA-COLA + KICKER 10B
\$2 PBR, \$2 COCA-COLA, \$2 HOT DOGS & \$4 DRAFT BEER SPECIALS

APRIL 19 BILOXI'S SOUTHERN NEGRO LEAGUE NIGHT ON
FIREWORKS FRIDAY PRESENTED BY AARP OF MISSISSIPPI

APRIL 20 SHUCK YEAH SATURDAY & GOLF TOWEL GIVEAWAY

APRIL 21 FUN DAY SUNDAY FT. FUN PACK DEALS
4 TICKETS, HOT DOGS, CHIPS & DRINKS FOR JUST \$19 PER TICKET!

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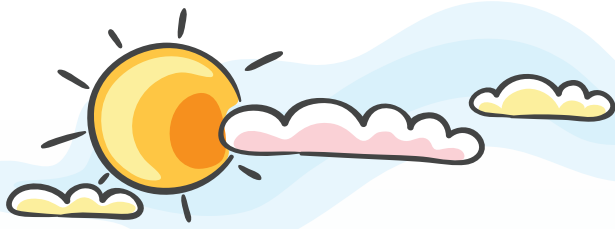
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Summer Playground Program 2024

City of Biloxi Summer Camp for Ages 5-12

Woolmarket — Seven Weeks, June 3–July 19
North Woolmarket School

Registration:

Saturday, April 13, 2024, 9 a.m.–noon
Woolmarket Elementary School Gym, 12513 John Lee Rd., Biloxi



Biloxi — Six Weeks, June 3–July 12
Biloxi Upper Elementary Gym, 9–12 year olds
Michele Gym, 5–8 year olds

Registration:

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 9 a.m.–noon
Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road, Biloxi

Required registration information:

(MANDATORY THROUGH THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT)

1. PROOF OF RESIDENCY
2. Social Security Number for child
3. Two emergency contact numbers
4. List of those who can pick child up
5. Health insurance
6. Health information on child

Program Fees:

Biloxi resident:	\$20 registration fee \$50 weekly fee for first child, \$25 for each additional child \$60 field trip fee per child - one-time fee
Non-Biloxi resident:	\$25 registration fee \$60 weekly fee for first child, \$30 for each additional child \$60 field trip fee per child - one-time fee

All fees must be paid at time of registration.

Check, cash or money order are preferred methods of payment, but we do accept debit/credit cards.*

*There is a small fee applied to debit/credit card transactions.

All recommended safety protocols will be followed.

For more information, call the Parks & Recreation office at 228-388-7170 or email playground@biloxi.ms.us.



Splashing around: The Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department reopens its splash pad at Hiller Park, Margaret Sherry, and John Henry Beck Park on Friday, March 29. The Point Cadet splash pad reopens on Monday, April 1. For more information, including hours of operations, call 228-388-7170 or visit online at biloxi.ms.us/pr.

State of the City replay: On March 7, Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich presented his annual State of the City Address at the Beau Rivage. You can see a replay of the present on demand on the city’s YouTube channel. Just visit online at biloxi.ms.us and click on the image on the home screen to be directed to the video. Or, visit online at <https://biloxi.ms.us/state-of-the-city-2024-325-years-of-success/>.

Community Market: The Charles R. Hegwood Biloxi Community, open all year round, will welcome the spring and summer crowds with a season-opening in May. Market festivals are scheduled for June 13, July 11, Sept. 19, and Oct. 24. For more information, call the Biloxi Parks & Recreation office at 228-388-7070 or visit online at biloxi.ms.us/pr.

Senior Games: Mississippi Senior Games is hosting numerous games throughout the Gulf Coast for adults ages 50 and older. April 20 is the registration deadline for events taking place May 4-25 and Sept. 23 is registration deadline for those interested in participating in the golf events. For more details, including registration fees and schedule of events, visit online at msseniorgames.com.

Council meetings replay: You can see replays of Biloxi City Council meetings online on the City of Biloxi’s YouTube channel. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us, click on the YouTube tab at the top right of the city’s website, and then select the City Council meetings playlist.

Riding the tide at Point Cadet

Over at the Point Cadet Marina, the installation of newly two dozen floating docks is underway.

Improvements to the marina required contractors to remove all of the damaged piers and pilings and then dredge the entire docking area prior to making the renovations. The project also includes the replacement of electrical panels and pedestals. The work is being funded by Restore Act Grant funds.

The new docks are constructed of concrete and designed to float which enables them to adjust with tides and storm surges. This design could potentially eliminate or greatly reduce the damage caused by hurricane tidal surges. The concrete docks are situated in the marina area between the Golden Nugget and Margaritaville and should be completed within the next couple of months.

Point Cadet Marina is the largest marina in Biloxi and is located on the east point of Biloxi. The facility houses 246 berths and is able to accommodate docking of vessels of 25 to 100 feet and provides water and electrical hookups.

The marina is also home to several fishing tournaments that bring in hundreds of visitors multiple times a year. Providing these improved accommodations helps to ensure that the large fishing tournaments will continue to stage their events in Biloxi.



CITY OF BILOXI PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability of Information Relative to the City of Biloxi's 2024 CDBG Action Plan

Notice is hereby given that information relative to the planning, development, and implementation of Biloxi's 2024 Action Plan Component of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program, is available for review as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Information and documents available for review include but are not limited to the following:

- CDBG General Program Rules and Regulations;
- Citizen Participation Plan; and
- A Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan for the City of Biloxi.

Information listed above and other records relative to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2024 Action Plan are available at the Engineering Department of the City of Biloxi located at 214-A Delauney Street in Downtown Biloxi between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Information relative to the planning of the 2024 Action Plan is available to the public for a period of at least five (5) years.

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



April is Fair Housing Month, an opportunity to celebrate the 56th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act that became law in 1968. Through its on-going fair housing educational outreach efforts, the City of Biloxi affirmatively furthers fair housing for its residents.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and sexual harassment), familial status, and disability.

Those who believe they have experienced discrimination may file a complaint by contacting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at (800) 669-9777.

Housing discrimination complaints also may be filed by going to hud.gov/fairhousing.

A promotional advertisement for Treasure Bay Casino and Hotel's 30th Anniversary. The top features the text "30th ANNIVERSARY" in large, green, stylized letters, with "T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY" in white on a green banner below it. A date box says "APRIL 1-30". The main offer is "Get your limited edition Softstyle T-shirt with 300 Base Slot points or 36 Table Credits." Below this, it says "SELECT and ELITE will receive one free shirt." and "Limit one per person per day while supplies last". A grey t-shirt is shown with the 30th Anniversary logo. At the bottom, it says "3X POINTS ALL DAY EVERY WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY IN APRIL" and "2X Points on Video Poker". The Treasure Bay logo is at the bottom right.

Recreation thrives in downtown

By Corey Christy
Biloxi Main Street

Downtown Biloxi is not only experiencing economic growth with new small businesses and housing emerging daily, but it is also expanding its recreational opportunities, providing ways to RAISE YOUR PULSE in the neighborhood.

Notably, recreation has flourished in recent months, with the addition of two pickleball courts, a DIY skate park, and an 18-hole disc golf course in the HOWHOP Creative District under the I-110 overpass. There will soon be even more options to get your heart rate up downtown with a new running group hosted by Jason Weaver and Michael Massey at their new brewery Altered Reality.

Biking events have become a staple in the downtown district, including Biloxi Main Street's long-running Bike Biloxi, occurring on the third Tuesday of each month at Lighthouse Park, and Biloxi Bicycle Works' weekly Friday evening ride.

Bart Luther, owner of Biloxi Bicycle Works, has become a spokesperson for the biking scene, stating, "Bicyclists love downtown Biloxi, and downtown Biloxi loves bicycles."



Bart Luther leads a community ride.

Currently, downtown Biloxi hosts over 500 riders per month between the two group rides, with Bart continuously adding more opportunities for riders of all ages and abilities. Stay updated by following Biloxi Bicycle Works and Bike Biloxi on Facebook.

Under the I-110 just south of Howard Ave. in the HOWHOP creative district, you can find two pop-up pickleball courts open 24/7, and soon to receive a lighting upgrade. Plans for tournaments and regular events are in the works, so stay updated by following the Biloxi Main Street Facebook page.

The latest additions to downtown recreation are the new 18-hole disc golf course and pop-up skate park just north of the railroad tracks under the I-110. Both have been well received, bringing positive activity to the neighborhood.

At any time of day, you can find families,

disc enthusiasts, teens, and skateboarders of all skill levels enjoying these attractions. Completed in early February, the disc golf course has already seen over 300 rounds played, attracting players from as far as 150 miles away.

According to course designers Ryan Morris and Brad Allen, the course offers a fun, beginner-friendly layout perfect for families and friends. Tyler Prowant, leading the effort to bring skating downtown, notes that the pop-up park has significantly impacted the area, averaging 30-60 visitors of all ages at weekly Wednesday night meet-ups. Both groups have collaborated on quarterly events to raise awareness and funds, with the next one scheduled for Saturday, May 4th, featuring an 18-hole disc golf tournament, skating lessons, skate competitions, and more.

Information can be found on SaveDaPar Disc Golf and Gulf Coast Skate Parks Association on Facebook.



▲ Disc golf player at course under I-110

Do You Have Flood Insurance?

It's that time of year again. Hurricane season is just around the corner, and the City of Biloxi is recommending that you purchase flood insurance. Here are a few facts that should move you to action:

- Everyone is vulnerable to flooding. More than 20 percent of the claims in the National Flood Insurance Program are from outside identified flood zones, and claims outside the flood risk area account for a third of disaster assistance for flooding.
- It takes 30 days for a flood insurance policy to take effect, and policies may not be sold when a named storm is in the Gulf.
- In a high-risk area, your home is more than twice as likely to be damaged by flood than by fire.

The City of Biloxi encourages you to call your insurance agent and buy flood insurance.

Questions? Contact Rick Stickler or Kristin Greger with the City of Biloxi, 228-435-6280.

rstickler@biloxi.ms.us kgreger@biloxi.ms.us



B Smart: Scan to visit the city's online Storm & Flood Preparedness section.

This FEMA-mandated notice helps keep Biloxi flood insurance rates low.

Are Your Trees Ready for Hurricane Season?

Contributed by the City of Biloxi Tree Committee

As the old saying goes, “The best time to plant a tree is today,” and “the best time to prep your trees for hurricane season is last year.”

While neither of these brings much clarity or science to the discussion of preparing your trees for this hurricane season, they do communicate the importance of planting, planning, and caring for one of our region’s most important natural resources: the urban forest. The benefits include everything from creating a natural buffer between properties that beautify the landscape to ecological benefits such as stormwater absorption, wind reduction, and wildlife shelter.

High winds and storms can cause damage to trees and nearby dwellings, especially during hurricane season. For this reason, the Louisiana State University’s AgCenter compiled scientific data to place trees in one of two categories: “Survivor Trees” or “Victim Trees.”

Survivor Trees

– compact with a major tap root, well-developed secondary roots, well-tapered trunk, and low center of gravity. Healthy, young-to-middle-aged, and well-maintained.

- Bald Cypress
- Black Gum
- Live Oak
- Shumard Oak
- Sabal Palm
- Winged Elm

Other Wind-Resistant Species

- American Elm
- River Birch
- American Holly
- Southern Magnolia
- American Hornbeam
- Sycamore
- Black Locust
- Sweet Bay Magnolia
- Dahoon Holly
- Sweet Gum
- Hackberry
- Tulip Tree
- Nuttall Oak
- Pond Cypress

Specifically, Live Oaks, Bald Cypress, and the Southern Magnolia are protected in the City of Biloxi. These species are native to our region and grow to be strong stable trees, largely resistant to wind

damage when properly cared for according to ANSI A300 Standards, which is the American National Standard for Tree Care.

Victim Trees

– shallow-rooted, high center of gravity, weighed down by a dense canopy, fast-growing and weak-wooded.

- Pecans
- Silver Maples
- Pines
- Box Elders
- Red Cedars
- Cottonwoods
- Ornamental Peppers
- Hickories
- Willows
- Some Elms

Getting Started

– Early spring is the right time to survey your property and trees for protection against storms

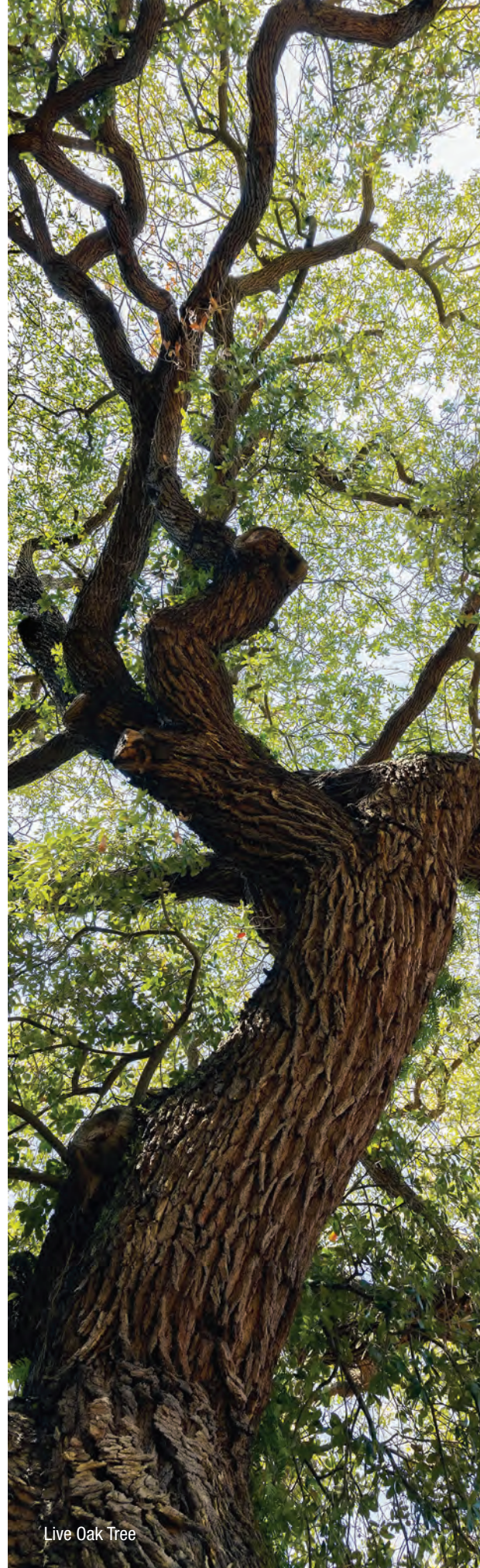
The strongest hurricane-driven, damaging winds will arrive from the east to southeast based on the counter-clockwise rotation of storms. Even smaller storms – remember Zeta – can cause significant damage to your dwelling and trees.

So, walk your property looking for trees, which if felled, would damage buildings, vehicles, and other structures on your property. If you find “victim trees” or even “survivors”/“wind-resistant” trees that are damaged/diseased and need attention, contact a professional tree service or certified arborist to provide advice on trimming or removal. An expertly maintained property will serve you well into the future.

Some trees will require city approval before removal. The City of Biloxi specifically exempts pecan trees and pine trees from requiring a permit for their removal. Similarly, the water oak was recently added to the list of exempt species for the same reason: They are fast-growing, weak-wooded, and have a shallow root system.

Want to Dig Deeper?

- Visit [LSUAgCenter.com](https://lsuagcenter.com); search “Choosing Trees for Hurricane Resistance”
- Search “ANSI A300 Tree Care” on the web



Live Oak Tree

► Email the city’s arborist, Zachary Harris, at zharris@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6280. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/tree-committee/ for more about the tree committee.

A recycling journey

By E. Michael Leonard
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Biloxi

Approximately 50 percent of Biloxi residents participate in our recycling program. The most common reason that Biloxi residents don't recycle is they believe the recyclable material just ends up in the landfill, but that is not the case. So, let's take you on a recycling journey.

Every Biloxi resident under the Harrison County Utility Authority (HCUA) Solid Waste/ Recycling Program is provided with a 96-gallon garbage cart which is brown in color and a 36-gallon recycle cart which is green and has a yellow lid. On the lid, is a list of all items that are accepted under the recycle program and a list of non-accepted items. Residents should use that to determine what goes in the recycle cart.

Once the cart is full, residents simply place it at the curb on their designated service day. Waste Management (WM)

will come by with their truck and empty the recycle cart. At the end of the day the truck goes back to Waste Management's transfer station facility, where the material is emptied out on a large concrete floor under a covered building.

The recycling material is loaded in a tractor trailer with other recycle material collected. It is then hauled by the tractor trailer to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in Baton Rouge, La. or a MRF in Pensacola, Fla. It is unloaded at the facility and put through a large processing machine, made up of the latest technologically advanced sorting system. It uses conveyors, lasers, and air to sort the different recycled materials so they

can be baled through the compactor at the end of the process.

Once they are baled, the MRF will send them to manufacturers who use the materials in processing new items. Not only does this save on landfill space, it reduces the need for virgin materials (fibers, plastics, glass and wood).

The HCUA has created the first of three-part videos detailing this journey. It was released on Monday March 18, 2024, on the Harrison County Utility Authority Facebook page.

► For more information, visit online at hcu-ms.us.



City of Biloxi Stormwater Facts

Important information about your role in the City's Stormwater Management Program.

LAWN CARE

Caring for landscaping and lawns on property that is miles from any water body may seem little to do with water pollution but many of these activities can be quite detrimental to water quality. Normal landscape and lawn maintenance activities can be major contributors to storm drain pollution. Soils, yard wastes, overwatering, and chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters and storm drains before entering our rivers, bays and gulf.

Contact the City of Biloxi Stormwater Management at 228-435-6280 or stormwater@biloxi.ms.us

Fertilizing & Pesticides

- Use fertilizers sparingly and don't apply before a heavy rainfall.
- Before adding fertilizer, have your soil tested so you apply only what is needed.
- Nutrients from fertilizers promote algae blooms and excessive plant growth, which depletes oxygen, making it unavailable to fish and other aquatic life.
- Consider leaving lawn clippings on your lawn as a natural fertilizer.
- Pesticides and herbicides don't just kill garden pests, they also harm beneficial insects, aquatic plants and fish that live in our waterways.
- Read all labels and apply according to the directions.

Watering

- Avoid overwatering. Don't let water run out into the street.
- Use efficient irrigation methods such as soaker hoses and microsprinklers.

- If you have a spray head sprinkler system, consider adjusting your water method to a cycle and soak. Instead of watering for 15 minutes straight, breakup the session into 5 minute intervals allowing water to soak in before the next application.

Yard Waste

- Yard waste such as leaves and grass are pollutants in our waterways because during decomposition they absorb oxygen needed by fish and aquatic animals.
- Never blow or sweep grass or lawn clippings into the streets for storm drains. They should be swept, bagged and disposed of properly. Not only are they pollutants in the waterways but they clog storm drain systems causing flooding.
- Consider recycling your yard wastes by starting a compost pile.

Welcome Back, Baseball!

Biloxi Shuckers begin ninth season on the Coast with nine, fun-filled nights, at the ballpark

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

As the calendar flips to April, Minor League Baseball is officially back on the Coast! The Biloxi Shuckers open up their ninth season on the Coast with a three-game series against the Montgomery Biscuits, the Tampa Bay Rays Double-A affiliate, on Friday, April 5 at 6:35 p.m. at Shuckers Ballpark.

Before Opening Day, the Shuckers are also set to welcome Pearl River Community College, a nationally ranked program, back to Biloxi for an exhibition game on Wednesday, April 3 at 6:35 p.m. The match-up marks the second consecutive year the two teams will meet in a 7-inning exhibition game. Both teams will use wood bats.

Starting on Opening Day, fans will have nine opportunities in April to see the Shuckers, who will welcome a brand-new manager for the 2024 season. The Shuckers will be led by longtime Milwaukee Brewers High-A manager Joe Ayrault, who enters the season with 965 career wins.

On Opening Night, the Shuckers will blast off the season with Space Night at the ballpark! The Shuckers will have specialty graphics for the night and a space-themed fireworks show after the game. Fans are also set to receive a Shuckers 2024 magnet schedule courtesy of WLOX.

On Saturday, April 6, the Shuckers will host their first Shuck Yeah Saturday of the season with a waterproof beach bag cooler giveaway presented by the Beau Rivage for the first 1,500 fans.

The Shuckers then finish out their first homestead with Smokey Bear in attendance on Sunday, April 7 with meet-and-greet opportunities available throughout the game.

The Shuckers then return to Biloxi on Tuesday, April 16, where the first 250 fans will receive a specialty Biloxi Southern Negro League shirt presented by The Peoples Bank in celebration of Jackie Robinson Day.

On Wednesday, April 17, the team hosts its first Bark in the Park of the year! Fans and their four-legged friends can purchase tickets for \$15 in advance and sit in dog-friendly Sections 117 and 119. Fans must sign a waiver for their pets to enjoy the game.

Then, on Friday, April 19, the Shuckers will roll out the red carpet for Biloxi Southern



Negro League night in celebration of Biloxi's baseball history. Former Biloxi Southern Negro League players will be on hand for the game. Fans are encouraged to stay after the final out for a special fireworks show presented by AARP of Mississippi.

On Saturday, April 20, the Shuckers will host Front 9 Night! The first 1,000 fans are set to receive a Shuckers-branded golf towel.

Daily specials also highlight the monthly calendar. Tuesdays are T-Shirt Tuesday for the first 250 fans. It's also Brew Crew Tuesday presented by Coors Light, where fans can purchase a 20oz souvenir tumbler for \$13 with \$7 refills at the first and third-base Beer Gardens. Wednesdays are Military Wednesday presented by Keesler Federal Credit Union. All military personnel can receive a \$3 discount on Dugout Box and Reserved Level tickets. Select night will also be pet-friendly for Bark in the Park!

Fans can kickstart the weekend with Thirsty Thursday presented by PBR, Coca-Cola and Kicker108 also returns to the ballpark for the 2024 season with \$2 PBR bottles, drafts, hot dogs and Coca-Cola products. Fans can splash in with \$4 draft beer specials on Miller Lite and Coors Light at the first and third-base Beer



Fans fill the seats at the ballpark during a recent game.

Gardens. Fans can also cash in on almost 60 percent savings with the 'Thirsty Thursday Deal' which includes a Reserved Level ticket and two drink vouchers for \$16 in advance.

On Fridays, the Shuckers light up the skies over the ballpark with the best fireworks show on the Coast!

The weekend continues with Fun Day Sunday at the ballpark. Kid-friendly events will be available, including pregame autographs, character appearances and kids can run the bases and have a catch on the field after the game. Fans can save over 35 percent with a "Fun Day Sunday" package that includes a Reserved Level seat and a voucher for a hot dog, chips and a soda or water for only \$19 per person with a four-person minimum.

▶ For more info: biloxishuckers.com

▶ Javik Blake 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.

Conditioning a force of fitness and strength

By Airman 1st Class Devyn Waits
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

The 81st Training Group has developed a Military Training Leader Strength and Conditioning course to support Air Force-wide human performance efforts.

The course is designed to teach in-depth fitness skills with an emphasis on proper form and quality movements.

“The MTL Strength and Conditioning course is a four-day program of strenuous exercises at the Human Performance Training Center,” said Staff Sgt. Owain Roberts, 81st Training Support Squadron MTL. “The session begins with a warm-up routine, followed by circuit training that has participants rotate between exercise stations. Once finished, they perform cool-down stretches before returning to their jobs. Barbell squats, rowing machines, stationary bikes, and all other sorts of exercises are implemented in the program.”

To develop the course, the 81st TRG integrated evidence-based strength and conditioning techniques. They collaborated with the 81st Mission Support Group to use the existing strength and conditioning human performance pilot



Airman performing various workouts at the Human Performance building on Keesler as part of the Military Training Leader Strength and Conditioning course.
U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Devyn Waits

programs as a guideline to develop an MTL-specific program.

As force generators, MTLs are directly responsible for teaching Airmen and Guardians how the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness are essential to creating a healthy lifestyle.

“One of the long-term results we strive to see from MTLs who’ve completed the course is to establish a connection between Airmen being physically fit and their mental fitness,” said Master Sgt. Justin Scearcy, 81st TRSS MTL. “If we help them physically, we’re going to help them mentally, thus improving their educational performance and overall experience in technical training.”

With the implementation of this course, MTLs are more prepared to shape Airmen who steer the course of the future force.

“We are excited about the program,” said Col. Laura King, 81st TRG commander. “Continuing to build a foundation of new and healthy habits with our newest Airmen begins with the daily, direct interactions our MTLs have with them. When our students graduate technical training, they will leave with fitness habits they can carry throughout their career.”

▶ See more photos at 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 at biloxi.ms.us/btv

Biloxi Youth Basketball's inaugural March Madness

By Ronnie Seymour
Biloxi Athletic Specialist

The City of Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department, along with the Biloxi High School Athletic Department, hosted the first March Madness City Championship on March 6 at Biloxi High School Arena.

The championship games featured the top two teams from each age group from the city league regular season standings. Game one featured the 6 and 7 age group and was played by Team Nunley and Team Andrews. Team Nunley came out victorious and was led by 6 and 7 age group Most Valuable Player Tahj “Macho” Badon.

Following game one was the 8, 9, and 10 age group with a battle fought between Team Pugh and Team Brown. Game two was won by Team Pugh and Brayden Griffin was awarded the MVP award for guiding Team Pugh to the title.

The last game of the evening was between Team B-Town and Team Indians in the 11 and 12 age division. When the clock hit zero Team Indians

were on top to win the championship. The MVP was awarded to Kayson Sangster-Britton.

The showing by all of the parents, siblings, grandparents, and fans throughout the night totaled more than 500 people. A special thank you goes out to Blaine Real Estate Company for sponsoring our MVP awards and our team Gold Ball trophies.

Having the opportunity to host these games at the BHS Arena gave our players a chance to end the season on the big stage. Once again, we want to thank Elton Bienvenue, Eddie Lofton, Devin Hill, Gabe Myles, Brandon Laird, and all the other school staff who helped pull this off. The Biloxi Public School District plays a huge role in the city's youth sports championship series, ensuring we end the season in style.

We are proud of all the teams that participated in March Madness and appreciate all the volunteer coaches who stepped up to coach the youth this season. See everyone next season for a program that continues to grow!



▲ 6 and 7 Champions, Team Nunley



▲ 6 and 7 MVP, Tahj “Macho” Badon, Team Nunley



▲ 8, 9, and 10 Champions, Team Pugh



▲ 8, 9, and 10 MVP, Brayden Griffin, Team Pugh and David Blaine



▲ 11 and 12 Champions, Team Indians



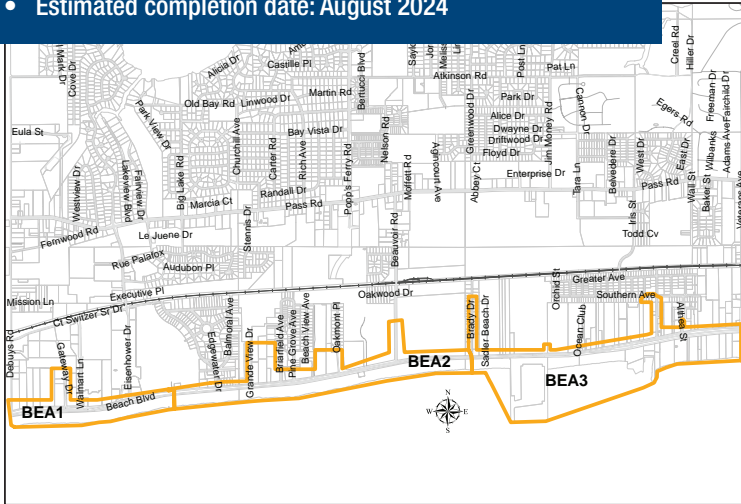
▲ 11 and 12 MVP Kayson Sangster-Britton, Team Indians and David Blaine

The infrastructure work in Biloxi



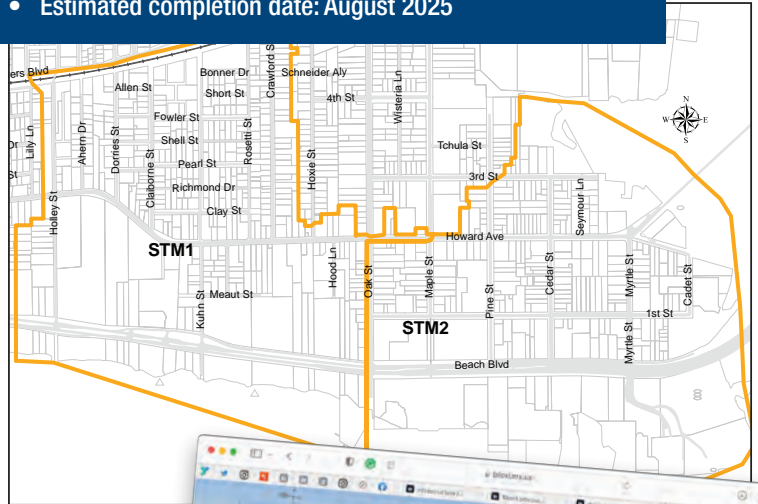
Necaise Brothers Construction

- \$32 million, 1,080-day project to install new water, sewer, and drainage lines
- Work began July 2022
- Estimated completion date: August 2024



Necaise Brothers Construction

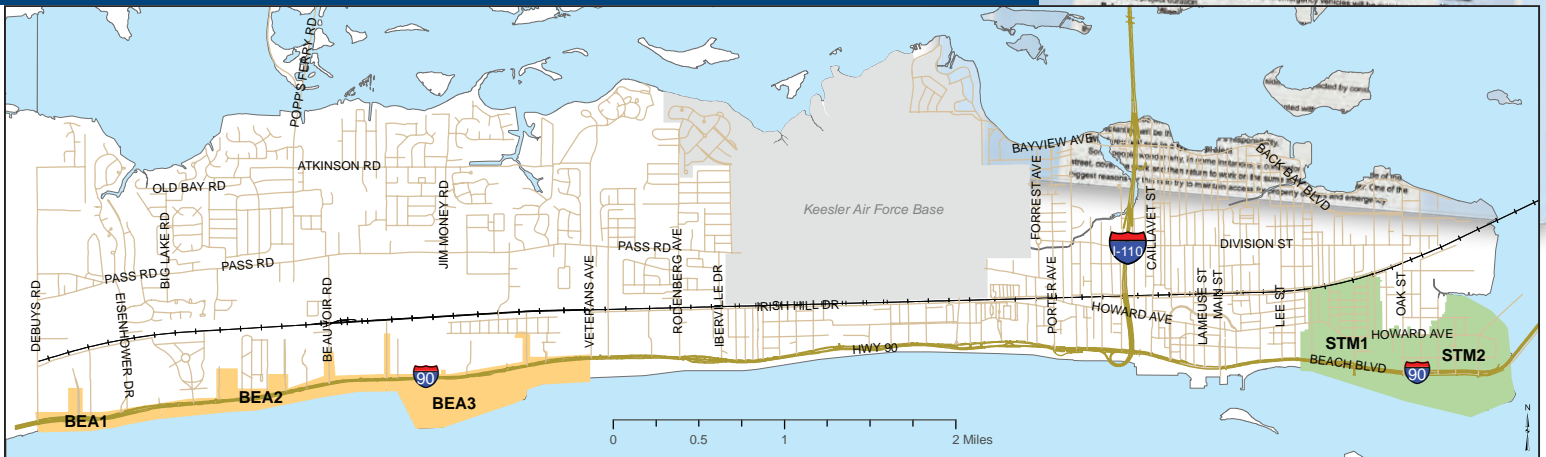
- \$41.5 million, 900-day project install new water, sewer, and drainage lines
- Work began Jan. 4, 2021
- Estimated completion date: August 2025



► See monthly update maps and videos online at biloxi.ms.us/restore-biloxi/.



Areawide map of infrastructure work



Random Notes

Longevity Awards

The City of Biloxi employs more than 600 people in both full-time and part-time positions. Many have been with the city for several years and some for decades. Employees are recognized in five-year increments for their dedication to service to the city. Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich celebrates employees who have shown commitment to the city’s success with a Longevity Awards ceremony at City Hall.



▲ Pictured with Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich from left to right are Police Asst. Chief Christopher DeBack (25 years), Adam Kozlowski (40 years), Frederick Mannino (15 years), Jill Moore (20 years), Jeffrey Sims (5 years), and Charles Baugh (5 years).

TIME CAPSULE:

Safe harbor with a view

The Biloxi Small Craft Harbor has seen changes over the decades but has remained on the shore of “Ole Biloxi,” where Main Street meets Beach Boulevard.

Deer Island to the south created a natural channel that provided a safe harbor for sea-going vessels for hundreds of years. It also made this a logical choice for Biloxi’s Small Craft Harbor. Adding a bulkhead surrounding the marina protected the 124 berths located there. The boat ramp on the north side of the marina still provides local fishermen and boaters

quick access to the beautiful Mississippi Sound.

Following Hurricane Camille in 1969, the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor received major updates and reopened in 1971. Improvements included a harbor master’s building, service building, picnic areas, and bathroom facilities. Hurricane Katrina destroyed the Harbormaster building, but an updated one was rebuilt and opened in August 2010. The building includes stairs, elevators, showers, and restrooms on the second floor and the Port Division administrative offices on the third floor.

Whether you’re watching from the bulkhead or the deck of a boat, the view from Biloxi’s Small Craft Harbor has remained the best seat in the house for decades.



Above: Biloxi Small Craft Harbor in the early 1970s. Postcard from the image collection at the Local History and Genealogy Department.



Left: Biloxi Small Craft Harbor today. Photo by City of Biloxi Public Affairs.

Most Distinguished Biloxian



Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich recognized Lt. Gen. John C. “Clark” Griffith, U.S. Air Force, retired, for his unwavering dedication and exceptional service to his country and our community at the 2024 State of the City ceremony on March 7. Griffith was called to the stage and presented with a proclamation read by Mayor Gilich proclaiming Griffith as the “Most Distinguished Biloxian.”

Wilbert Daniels Honored



▲ Roderick Harris, great-nephew; Ronald Weeks; Johnny Brown, great-uncle of Michael Daniels & Roderick Harris; and Michael Daniels.

A World War II veteran finally received his military grave marker 78 years after his death because of the tireless efforts of a local historian, Ronald Weeks.

Wilbert Daniels entered military service at age 18 in February of 1946 and died in November of that same year of Tuberculosis in Seattle, WA. He was sent back home to Biloxi for burial in the family plot located in the Biloxi Cemetery.

Ronald Weeks dedicates much of his time to researching local history and is part of the social media group “Lost in

the Biloxi Cemetery.” After hearing of the unmarked grave of World War II veteran Wilbert Daniels, he took it upon himself to locate Daniels’ service records and any remaining local family descendants. Working with Wilbert’s great-nephew, Michael Daniels, Weeks obtained the necessary military documents required for an official military marble headstone and submitted a request. The headstone was received a few months later and was placed at Wilbert’s grave on Feb. 28, 2024, 78 years after his death.

April Trivia Crawfish Tales

By Jane Shambra

The regional name for crawfish is pronounced “craw-fish.” How many other names does this delectable, edible creature have?

Mudbugs, crayfish, and crawdads.

When is crawfish harvesting season?

November-July.

Do crawfish have bones like fish?

No. They are crustaceans and have an exoskeleton. They are relatives of the lobster family.

What do crawfish eat?

They eat insects, snails, tadpoles, and old plants.

Besides humans, what other creatures of the animal family eat crawfish? Raccoons, hawks, bullfrogs, and turtles.

Are crawfish healthy to eat?

Yes. They are high in protein, low in fat, have no carbs, and contain a variety of minerals including iron, zinc, potassium, phosphorus, and magnesium. Just don’t overdo the salt!

How many legs does a crawfish have? Crawfish have eight pairs of legs: four sets for walking and four for swimming.

When can you buy crawfish?

Just like shrimp and fish, crawfish (tails), can be found yearlong at seafood markets and grocery stores. But most people prefer to meet up with the entire critters on their dinner platters.

Can you name some places in Biloxi where you can see crawfish, before they are boiled?

Desporte’s, Quality Seafood, the Fillin’ Station, and at family crawfish boils.

Are crawfish new to the Coast?

No. In the 1700s, journalist Le Page De Pratz (1695-1775) wrote about catching crawfish near swampy areas and luring them for dinner with frog legs!

How do you cook crawfish?

Crawfish are boiled.

Can crawfish see well?

They have excellent eyesight, with two eyes that can move separately from one another.

Do crawfish sleep?

Yes. They sleep and sometimes sleep on their sides. And, they are most active at night; they search for food.

What do crawfish have in common with sharks, starfish, deer, and lizards? They can regenerate their parts: legs and claws.

Can you name a Biloxi Seafood factory that processed crawfish?

No. Throughout the seafood factory years, Biloxi did not process crawfish.

Biloxi’s Crawfish Celebration

For more than 20 years, the annual Crawfish Music Festival has been hosted at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi. This year’s event is scheduled for April 19 – 21. Crawfish, great food, music, and rides are the most popular attractions at this outdoor family weekend.

Starry Night

PROM *for Special Needs*

April
26
2024

6-9 p.m.

Donal M. Snyder Sr.
Community Center
2520 Pass Road, Biloxi

All ages, with physical
and mental disabilities,
are welcome!

- * Semi-formal attire
- * Live DJ
- * Hors D'oeuvres
- * King, Queen, Duke, and Duchess
selected by random drawing




Biloxi[®]
established 1699

Security will be provided.

For more information, call the Parks & Recreation Department at
228-388-7170, or email programs@biloxi.ms.us.

Visit us online at biloxi.ms.us •  

Sign up for Bmail at biloxi.ms.us
For B-Alerts, text BILOXI to 99411

Best Bets!



Let's play ball! Biloxi Shuckers Baseball Returns!

April home games:

- April 3, VS. Pearl River Wildcats (Exhibition Game)
- April 5-7, VS. Montgomery Biscuits
- April 16-21, VS. Chattanooga Lookouts

Gates open 65 minutes before the start of the game. Tickets: 228-233-3465, biloxishuckers.com. 105 Caillavet St.

Sprint to the finish line

The annual sprint triathlon, Traditions Triathlon, takes place on April 20 at the story-book neighborhood of The Village



at Traditions. Participants will begin at 8 a.m. with a 600-yard flat lake swim followed by a challenging 16.2-mile bike with some steep climbs, and finish with a 5K throughout the community. The triathlon is open to beginners and seasoned athletes. There will also be a post-race party with an awards ceremony, fruit, food, and beer. For registration fees for individuals or teams, visit online at gulfoastrunningclub.org.

Gulf Coast Military & Civilian Job Fair, April 2, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Free admission. Details: jobfairs.ms.gov/2024-gulf-coast-military-civilian-job-fair



First Friday Block Party, April 5, 5-9 p.m., 932 Howard Ave. (Back Yard). Entertainment by: Titus Gillard Blues Power Band at 5.p.m., and Karate Kids at 7 p.m.! The Biloxi Tour Train will be on hand to give rides from the Saenger Parking lot for First Friday and the Shuckers Opening Day of baseball. Food trucks, vendors and FUN! Admission is free. Details: 228-435-6339

Concerts on the Causeway, April 10, 6-8-p.m. Biloxi Causeway Park, 500 Causeway Dr. Season 2 kickoff. The family/pet-friendly event features Lowry Hamner. No coolers or outside food; bring your lawn chairs. All proceeds will benefit "Advocates for Freedom." Details: @concertsonthecauseway on Facebook



Bike Biloxi, April 16, 6 p.m. downtown ride. Begins at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. and ends with refreshments and food at a downtown restaurant at cyclists' expense. Helmets and lights recommended. Details: 228-435-6339

City of Biloxi Summer Playground Registration, North Woolmarket Elementary, April 13, 9 a.m.-noon, Woolmarket Elementary Gym, 12513 John Lee Road. Program open to ages 5 to 12. Only 75 spots available. Fees begin at \$20. Camp is from June 3 to July 19. For fees and requirement information for registration, visit online at biloxi.ms.us/pr. Details: 228-388-7170, playground@biloxi.ms.us.

City of Biloxi Summer Playground Registration, Biloxi Upper Elementary, Michele Gym, April 20, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Program open to ages 5 to 12. Only 75 spots available at both sites. Fees begin at \$20. Camp is from June 3 to July 12. For fees and requirement information for registration, visit online at biloxi.ms.us/pr. Details: 228-388-7170, playground@biloxi.ms.us.



Shamrockin The Coast, April 20, 7-11 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Entertainment by Blue Rhythm Band. Details: e.givesmart.com/events/APZ/

Best Bet!



Spruce up your area

In celebration of Earth Day, the public is encouraged to clean up businesses, schools, homes, or somewhere else they may be in Biloxi on April 22. Just walk around your area for 15 minutes, pick up trash, and spruce up your area. The Biloxi Downtown Services/ Biloxi Main Street office will have bags and gloves available. Call the office at 228-435-6339 for more information.

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 71st issue of BNews Monthly. It's a compendium of things you should know about your city: status reports on current and pending public works, and a calendar of community events covering the next 30 days.

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

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

Advertising: BNews and Bmail represent an advertising opportunity for civic-minded businesses and organizations. In your hands you are holding the only advertising medium that is delivered to every single home, business, apartment and PO Box in the city. For rates and info, email online@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6336.

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

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

BTv: Biloxi Television, city's municipal TV channel, is a mix of current events, local history and local flavor, and monthly updates. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/btv, and on Sparklight Channel 56.

Contact:
Cecilia Dobbs Walton, Public Affairs Manager
cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us
John Majure, Public Affairs Specialist
jmajure@biloxi.ms.us

Frequently Called Numbers

Area code is 228 unless otherwise noted.

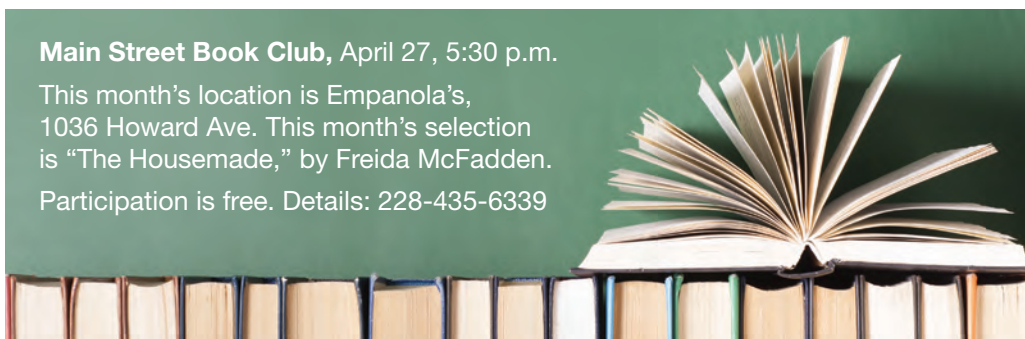
- Animal Control 392-0641
- Auto Tag/Property Tax Information 435-8242
- Birth Certificates 601-576-7960
- Building Permits 435-6270
- Business Licenses 435-6280
- Citizen services (streets, lights) 435-6271
- City Council 435-6257
- City Court 435-6125
- Code Enforcement 435-0841
- Drivers Licenses 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

Tradition Triathlon presented by Gulf Coast Running Club, April 20, 8-10 a.m., The Village at Tradition, 12661 Village Ave. W. This race course will consist of a 600-yard flat lake swim around the perimeter of Tradition Lake; a 16.2-mile bike course that is challenging with a few sharp climbs; and 5K run through the Village at Tradition. Details: gulfcoastrunningclub.org.

Earth Day Celebration Cleanup, April 22, All Day. The public is encouraged to take 15 minutes out of their day and clean up at their business, school, home, or wherever they may be on the day. For bags and gloves contact: 228-435-6339

MSCANFEST, April 20, Noon -8 p.m., Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. Daytime educational sessions, exhibitors, vendors, food trucks, and local bands. Admission: \$10-\$65. Details: <https://www.facebook.com/mscanfest>

Special Needs Prom, April 26, 6-9 p.m. Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road,. Open to all with physical and mental disabilities. Details: 228-388-7170.



Main Street Book Club, April 27, 5:30 p.m.

This month's location is Empanola's, 1036 Howard Ave. This month's selection is "The Housemade," by Freida McFadden. Participation is free. Details: 228-435-6339



Biloxi Little Theatre
220 Lee St., 228-432-8543,
www.4blt.org
• **One Thousand Words**
April 19-20 & 26-28

Center Stage
2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258
centerstagebiloxi.com
• **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?**
April 18-28

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library
2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, www.visitbeauvoir.org

Biloxi Excel By 5
Lopez School, 140 St. John Ave., 228-297-6808
• Community-based certification program to improve child's overall well-being by age 5

Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center
1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, 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.
• Group charters available, up to 44 people
• Walk on Sails, minimum of 6 passengers, \$30/adult & \$15/child ages 3-12, check website for dates.

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

Harrison County East Biloxi Senior Center

461 Parker St., 228-435-4192, co.harrison.ms.us/departments/senior/services

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

KAFB Farmer's Market

625 Marina Dr. 228-377-2821, BOS.81FSS.Vandenburg@us.af.mil

- First Friday of each month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Marina Park (open to those with base access)

Kroc Center, MS Gulf Coast, The Salvation Army

575 Division St., 228-207-1218, krocmscoast.com

- **Blood Drive**, April 16, 1-5 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum

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

- Hours of operation: Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m.
- **Art Exhibit "Third In Line"** April 4-June 30, Opening Reception & Book Signing, April 4, 5:30-7 p.m.
- **Sea-n-Sail Adventure Camp 2024**, June 3-7, 10-14, 17-21 (ages 6-8 only), 24-28 and July 8-12, 15-19, 22-26. Open to ages 6-12. Book early to reserve your preferred week. Price: \$275 per child/week (deposit of \$50 required at registration). 20% discount for 3+ children in family. Details: www.maritimemuseum.org

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**, April 5, 12, 19, & 26. Doors open at 4 p.m.; Card Sales at 5:30 p.m., Early bird games at 6:30 p.m.; and 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 at 6 p.m.
- **Karaoke with Kenny**, Fridays at 7 p.m.

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, April 12, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold by 7:15 p.m., \$20. Dine-in or carry-out. Details: 228-392-9345
- **Joppa Shriners Golf Tournament**, April 27, Details: 228-547-7276, 601-917-1027, or 228-669-1840

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

Dr. Frank Gruich Sr. Community Center, 591 Howard Ave. (2nd floor)

- April 21, 2-4 p.m., Speakers: Dan Lee, Doug Wall, and Michele Lee portraying Gov. Galvez and Oliver Pollack, MS Coast connection to the American Revolution. Details: 228-396-1543

Our Lady of Fatima Parish

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, April 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Doors open at 5 p.m., Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m. Details: 228-388-3887

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

- **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.

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 3:30 p.m.; Biloxi Community Development auditorium, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 	1 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	2 Community Market Gulf Coast Military & Civilian Job Fair Biloxi Civic Center Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	3 Pearl River Wildcats at Biloxi Shuckers (Exhibition) Shuckers Ballpark	4 Community Market Lynyrd Skynyrd & ZZ Top MS Coast Coliseum	5 Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge First Friday Block Party Downtown Biloxi MS Sea Wolves MS Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Biscuits Shuckers Ballpark Seafood Dinners Fleur de Lis Society Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society KAFB Farmer's Market Marina Park Mitchell Tenpenny Hard Rock	6 MS Sea Wolves MS Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Biscuits Shuckers Ballpark Home Free IP Casino
7 MS Sea Wolves MS Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Biscuits Shuckers Ballpark	8 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	9 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	10 Concerts on the Causeway Biloxi Causeway Park	11 Community Market	12 Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night Joppa Shrine Seafood Dinners Fleur de Lis Society Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	13 City of Biloxi Summer Camp Registration Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center MS Spring Break 24 MS Coast Coliseum
14	15 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	16 Community Market Bike Biloxi Biloxi Visitor's Center Blood Drive Kroc Center Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	17 Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark	18 Community Market Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark	19 Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Crawfish Music Festival MS Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark One Thousand Words Biloxi Little Theatre Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Seafood Dinners Fleur de Lis Society Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Gary Allan Beau Rivage	20 MSCANFEST Biloxi Town Green Tradition Triathlon The Village at Tradition Shamrockin' The Coast Biloxi Civic Center Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark One Thousand Words Biloxi Little Theatre Crawfish Music Festival MS Coast Coliseum Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage City of Biloxi Summer Camp Registration Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center Ashanti - IP Casino
21 Crawfish Music Festival MS Coast Coliseum Shuckers vs. Lookouts Shuckers Ballpark Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society Meeting Dr. Frank Gruich Sr. Community Center	22 Earth Day Celebration Cleanup Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	23 Community Market Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	24 Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage	25 Community Market Embroidery & Vinyl Tradeshow MS Coast Coliseum Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage	26 Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Special Needs Prom Donal M. Snyder St. Community Center Seafood Dinners Fleur de Lis Society Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Andy Grammer IP Casino Brawlin' In N'Awlins Hard Rock Celtic Woman Beau Rivage	27 Main Street Book Club Empanola One Thousand Words Biloxi Little Theatre Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage Joppa Shriners Golf Tournament Celtic Woman Beau Rivage
28 One Thousand Words Biloxi Little Theatre Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Center Stage	29 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	30 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral				

BTV April Schedule

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

Morning	
6 a.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 a.m.	Inside BTV
6:10 a.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 a.m.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 a.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
7 a.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Salt & Ivy, Beau Rivage (17 min)
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special presentation: Postcards and Images of Old Biloxi (1 hour)
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)
1 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Salt & Ivy, Beau Rivage (17 min)
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special presentation: Postcards and Images of Old Biloxi (1 hour)
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)
7 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Salt & Ivy, Beau Rivage (17 min)
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
8 p.m.	Special presentation: Postcards and Images of Old Biloxi (1 hour)
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.

Postcards, photos, and more

Take a trip down memory lane this month on BTV with a look at some Biloxi postcards and photos. It's an hour-long presentation that runs daily in April at 8 a.m., 2 p.m., and 8 p.m.

Southern cuisine with a twist

This month on "Biloxi Cooks!", you can see a replay of the Salt & Ivy episode. The Beau Rivage restaurant, Salt & Ivy, is nestled in the resort's atrium lobby and is touted as "A Coastal Kitchen." The restaurant offers a variety of coastal-inspired dishes. In this month's replay episode, the Salt & Ivy chef cooks up some light and savory Lump Crab Cakes with Hollandaise Sauce and poached eggs. "Biloxi Cooks!" airs at 7 a.m., 1 p.m., and 7 p.m. daily throughout April.

This month's recipe:



Lump Crab Cakes with Hollandaise Sauce and Poached Eggs

Salt & Ivy, Beau Rivage

Hollandaise Sauce

Ingredients: (Yield: 1 cup)

- 4 Egg Yolks
- 1 tbsp Fresh-Squeezed Lemon Juice
- ½ cup Unsalted Butter
- Pinch Cayenne Pepper
- Pinch Salt

Instructions:

1. Vigorously whisk egg yolks and lemon juice together in stainless-steel bowl until mixture is thickened and doubled in volume.
2. Place bowl over a saucepan containing barely simmering water, or use a double boiler. Water should not touch bottom of bowl. Continue to whisk rapidly. Be careful not to let eggs get too hot or they will scramble.
3. Slowly drizzle in melted butter and continue to whisk until sauce is thickened and doubled in volume.
4. Remove from heat, whisk in cayenne and salt. Cover and place in a warm spot until ready to use. If sauce gets too thick, whisk in a few drops of warm water before serving.

Poached Eggs

Ingredients:

- 1 Egg
- 1.5 tbsp Vinegar

Instructions:

1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil, then reduce heat to low.
2. While waiting for water to boil, crack an egg into a small fine mesh sieve over a bowl. Swirl egg in the sieve until all liquidy egg whites have been removed. Then, place egg in a ramekin.
3. Stir vinegar into the water and create a vortex. Add egg to the middle of vortex and cook egg for 3 minutes.
4. Remove egg with a slotted spoon and dab it on a paper towel to remove excess water. Serve immediately.

Crab Cake Recipe

Ingredients: (Yield: about 18, 2 oz portions)

- 1 lb Fresh Lump Crabmeat
- 10.5 oz Mayonnaise
- 1 1/3 tbsp Creole Mustard
- 1 1/3 tbsp Fresh Squeezed Lemon Juice
- 1 ½ tsp Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 ½ tsp Crystal Hot Sauce
- ¾ tsp Old Bay Seasoning
- 1 ½ tsp Granulated Onion
- 1 ½ tsp Granulated Garlic
- 6 ½ oz Oyster Crackers
- 2 oz Red Onion, small dice
- 2 oz Red Bell Pepper, small dice
- 2 oz Green Bell Pepper, small dice
- 2 oz Yellow Bell Pepper, small dice
- 1 ½ oz Cilantro, finely chopped
- 1 ½ oz Green Onion, finely sliced

Instructions:

1. Combine ingredients in large bowl, mix well.
2. Add crab meat (be sure to check meat for any hard and sharp cartilage) and Oyster Crackers; using a rubber spatula, gently fold mixture together until just combined, being careful not to shred crab meat.
3. Shape into cakes (each about 2 ounces) and place on prepared baking sheet. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. This helps them set.

The '47 Hurricane

By Paige Gutierrez



↳ The Buena Vista Hotel's Victory Room and pavilion were destroyed by the 1947 hurricane.

↳ During World War II, the Buena Vista Hotel transformed its 1920's over-the-water pavilion into the Victory Room, a popular venue for big band orchestras and variety shows.



In 1947, people in Biloxi remembered the hurricanes of 1915 and 1916. No storm had interrupted the growing economy of the 1920s. No storm had devastated the coast during the trying times of the Great Depression and World War II. The storm-free era ended the morning of September 19, 1947, when the eye of a category 4 hurricane passed over Canal Street in New Orleans, positioning the Mississippi coast in its most destructive quadrant.

Two days earlier this unnamed storm had crossed the Florida peninsula and entered the Gulf of Mexico. Warning flags flew from Pensacola to southeast Louisiana. Man-of-war birds glided overhead, a signal of bad weather offshore. Tarpon unexpectedly congregated in the Biloxi channel, attracting last-minute fishermen. Small planes were sent to drop warning messages to shrimpers in the Louisiana marshes.

Schools give shelter

Public and Catholic schools opened as shelters. *The Daily Herald* reported that "school officials estimated that 3,000 or more Biloxians went back to school Thursday night, but sessions were held in darkness, and students ranged from less than one-month babies to many aged grandmothers... men, women, and children slept on hard floors, in auditorium chairs, and in bare corridors." Two thousand people took refuge in Howard II on east Howard Avenue, where the water reached the steps of the school.

Cracked like eggshells

The next day's newspaper reported that beachfront buildings had "cracked like eggshells." The writer observed that "it wasn't the wind that did so much damage along the beach. It was the water — waves towering 20 feet high which smashed across the seawall and battered the coastline with tons of water. Nothing could withstand the impact of those waves. They surged irresistibly over the beach highway to hit factories on Point Cadet and smash into luxurious Gulf Coast homes." Half of Biloxi's seafood factories were in ruins, and 75 percent of Biloxi's boats were destroyed or damaged. Trains stopped running because the bridges were out.

Helping hands

The coast was isolated. Local short-wave radio operators worked with Keesler Field's communications office to contact the outside world. The first message went out from Biloxi Mayor G. B. Cousins to Governor Fielding Wright in Jackson.

Mayor Cousins "informed the governor that the loss had been terrific and called upon him for the aid of any state agencies which might be able to render assistance."

Keesler Field "immediately came to the assistance of city authorities when the scope of the damage became evident... three hundred or more soldiers were thrown into patrol duty," helping the Biloxi Police and the Mississippi National Guard keep a 24-hour vigil. Keesler loaned its heavy equipment and donated "vast quantities of food and medical supplies."

Local churches, hotels, the Elks Club, the Masons, the Red Cross, and others offered meals and shelter. Doctors and nurses from the Biloxi Veterans Hospital "made a continuous check of schools and homes from a standpoint of health and sanitation conditions."

The newspaper reported that "prompt and efficient actions were responsible for the low casualty list. At the height of the storm, Coast Guardsmen and Keesler Field personnel evacuated residents of beachfront homes and led them through lashing waist high water to safety."

Until Camille in 1969, the unnamed storm, known simply as "the '47 hurricane," was assumed to be the worst storm Biloxi would ever see.



↳ Popular restaurants and other businesses on central beach were washed away by the 1947 hurricane.



↳ The Biloxi Hospital with boat on lawn, Highway 90 east of Main Street.



↳ A landmark at the edge of highway 90 east of Bellman Street, the Baldwin Wood lighthouse was repaired after the 1947 storm. It was destroyed by Camille in 1969.

Source: *The Daily Herald*. Photos: Scholtes Collection, LHG Image Collection/Harrison County Library System.

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council
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