

BNews Monthly

JANUARY 2025

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



Calling candidates

– Page 4



Season specials

– Page 11



Mardi Gras cuisine

– Biloxi Pulse
Page 10



Staying warm and safe

– Page 6



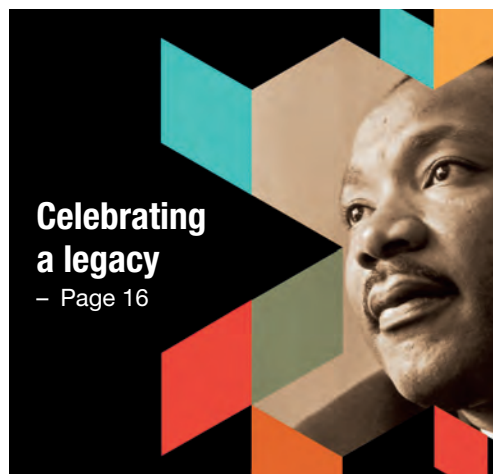
Touring the past

– Page 8



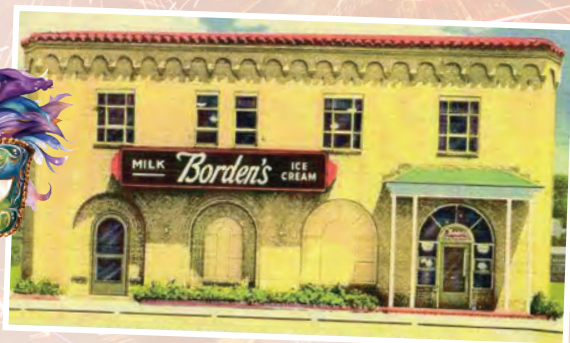
Celebrating a legacy

– Page 16



Welcoming in the New Year

– Back in the Day,
Pages 22-23



Even more inside

A Thousand Words	2
Back in the Day	22
BTV in January	21
Calendar	17
Infrastructure info	13
Keesler.....	12
Public meetings.....	19
Random notes	14
Shuckers	11

A Thousand Words



Causeway
crane

NEW STORES NOW OPEN



Bubbly Babes is a bath & body soap boutique featuring all-natural products that are handmade in small batches in Biloxi & Bay St. Louis.



Western Outfitters 574 is now open in Edgewater Mall. Stop by for all your western-wear needs! Located between Aeropostale and Bella Rose.



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

There's something for everyone!



Mall Hours: Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. | Sunday, 12-6 p.m.

EDGEWATERMALL.COM

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



Edgewater Mall



Calling candidates

Biloxi to hold municipal elections this year

Biloxi voters will be going to the polls in April and June to elect municipal leaders to serve terms from 2025 to 2028.

In fact, those considering seeking a position in Biloxi for Mayor or City Council will have from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31 to file a completed Statement of Intent and petition with Municipal Clerk Stacy Thacker at Biloxi City Hall. A \$10 filing fee is also required.

Those who wish to qualify as an Independent candidate must submit a Candidate Petition with 50 signatures of registered voters of the ward where the candidate proposes to run. Those signatures will then be validated before the would-be candidate is certified.

Any candidate for any municipal, county, or county district office shall be a resident of the municipality, county, county district, or other territory that he or she seeks to represent in such office for two years immediately preceding the day of election.

The first primary will be on April 1, and runoff elections, which are required if no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the votes cast, will be on April 22.

The general election will be June 3.

Key dates for candidates

- Qualifying dates Jan. 2 to Jan. 31
- First primary April 1
- Runoff (if necessary) April 22
- General June 3

Voters, make sure your information is up to date

If you have voted in a previous Biloxi municipal election, you are probably a registered voter. But, have you moved or changed your name? If so, you will need to update your information at the Harrison County Circuit Clerk's Office, at MLK Boulevard and Lameuse Street in Biloxi. Call 228-435-8276 or 228-435-8233. You may also register by mail as well.

Voters must be at least 18 years of age by the date of the general election and must be residents of the ward in which they wish to vote for at least 30 days before the election.

Questions? Email sthacker@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6254.

City Clerk's Office open for voter registration (140 Lameuse St.)

- Primary election, 8 a.m.-noon. March 1
- General election, 8 a.m.-noon. May 3

Voter registration deadlines

- Primary election March 3
- General election May 5

► See more information online at biloxi.ms.us

New Year, New Beginnings



Life's a journey they say, and there's no better place to make your way than The Peoples Bank. Whether you're buying your first home or upgrading to your dream home, our mortgage loans are here to turn resolutions into reality. The Peoples Bank. With you on the road of life.

Call or visit one of our 17 branches today.
thepeoples.com/resources/locations



THE PEOPLES BANK
MEMBER FDIC

Where **PEOPLE** come first!

thepeoples.com | 228.435.5511

With you on the road of life.

Visit



New York Inspired
Hand Tossed Deliciousness

Delivery & Pick-up
228-967-7223

Check our website for a 15% off code!
pisanospizza.com



Biloxi 12th Night Celebration

Sunday, January 5, 2025

5-8 p.m.

Biloxi City Hall, 140 Lameuse St., Biloxi, MS

Kick-off to Carnival season on the Gulf Coast!
Coastal Krewe royalty will parade through downtown
to City Hall before illuminating it in Carnival colors.

Festivities include: presentation of the 2025 flag-bearers,
music, merriment, and food.

Details: 228-314-4747

Cold weather heating safety reminders from Biloxi Fire

Winter is upon us which means cold and sometimes freezing temperatures are forecast for this time of year. And, many people will be using heating equipment to stay warm.

This is the season for home heating fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association, the leading cause of home fires in December and January is heating equipment. Cooking equipment is a leading cause year-round, while the third-leading cause of home fires is electrical equipment with three in 10 electrical fires occurring between November and February.

During this time of year, the Biloxi Fire Department is reminding residents to keep safety in mind when heating their home or business.

Here are some tips to help reduce the risk of a home fire as winter sets in.

- Make sure all heating equipment is in good working order.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, or space heaters.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away from your home as possible.
- Make sure space heaters are in good working order and used by the manufacturer's instructions.
- Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.
- Make sure every bedroom and common area outside the bedrooms has a working smoke alarm. Be sure to check the smoke detectors monthly.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance, like a space heater, into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. It is a safety hazard and can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.
- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blowtorch or other open flame. The pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the inside of the wall. Use hot water or a UL-labeled device such as a hand-held dryer for thawing.
- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event of a fire. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of obstacles so it can be easily located. Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.

► For more safety tips, call the Biloxi Fire Department at 228-435-6200 or visit online at biloxi.ms.us/winterfiresafety.



According to the National Fire Protection Association, the leading cause of home fires in December and January is heating equipment.

Many people still have holiday decorations and Christmas trees up during this time of year. Dry Christmas trees can be a potential fire risk. Firefighters recommend getting rid of the tree after Christmas because dried-out trees will burn more quickly than a well-watered one. It should also not be left in the garage or placed against the home.

News & notes

Christmas Tree Recycling:

Residents can drop off green trees after Christmas through Jan. 12, 2025, at the Rodenburg Avenue parking bay on Beach Boulevard. Remember to remove all decorations, lights, and stands before depositing. For more info, contact the Harrison County Beautification Office at 228-896-0206.



Trash/recycling: Waste Management and Pelican will not run on New Year's Day. All routes will run one day behind.

City holiday closings for New Year's:

All non-emergency municipal offices will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 in observance of New Year's Day. The Biloxi Visitors Center will be open on New Year's Day.

Fireworks: It is unlawful to shoot fireworks within city limits except for on the Fourth of July as well as December 31 after 6 p.m. through 1 a.m. on January 1, and the first, second, and third day of Tet only in conjunction with the Dragon Dance, which requires a special permit from the Biloxi Fire Department.



B connected

The City of Biloxi has developed a robust communications plan over the years, and it's available for you to use.

See a live stream from the Lighthouse.

See the same agenda and all supporting documents used by the Mayor and City Council.

Find anything and everything on the city website. Just name it.

We're multi-lingual. English, Spanish and Vietnamese are among the 100+ translations we offer instantly.

Current Biloxi weather conditions and advisories from the National Weather Service.

Watch City Council meetings as they happen.

Agendas for Planning, Architectural and Historical Review and Development Review, and Tree Committee plus info on permits, land use and zoning.

Use Crime mapping to alert you to what's happening in your city and in your neighborhood.

Stay prepared before, during, and after a storm with our comprehensive Storm & Flood Preparedness section.

See the listing of city rental facilities.

Yes, infrastructure work is continuing. See a monthly video update and detailed maps.

See information from city departments on development permits, improvement projects, work order requests, calls for service, and more.

Visit online at biloxi.ms.us



• For B-Alerts, text BILOXI to 99411



History on exhibit in Biloxi

From big to small, old or new, museums give us a place to learn about history, reflect on events of the past, and can inspire creativity. In Biloxi, we have several museums that showcase the city's heritage and culture.

Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd.

The Biloxi Visitors Center is a 24,000-square-foot welcome center with two-story porches, a grand staircase, and floor-to-ceiling windows. Built in the shadow of the historic 1848 Biloxi Lighthouse, it is a melding of the city's architectural heritage with state-of-the-art technology. Inside, you'll find a museum that provides a timeline of Biloxi's rich history, a gift shop offering a variety of Biloxi memorabilia, and on the second floor is a 67-seat movie theater with continuous showings of the 10-minute film "We Are Biloxi."

The Center is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us.

Biloxi Lighthouse, 1050 Beach Blvd.

The cast-iron lighthouse, erected in 1848, was one of the first in the South. It has been a beacon of welcome for tens of thousands of sailing vessels to Biloxi's shore and witnessed the departure of tens of thousands more. It has weathered the effects of more than a dozen hurricanes. The lighthouse was civilian-operated from 1848 to 1939 until the U.S. Coast Guard assumed responsibility. In 1968, the Biloxi Lighthouse was deeded to the City of Biloxi. It eventually opened for public tours.

The Biloxi Lighthouse is the city's signature landmark and a symbol of the city's resolve and resilience. It is open for daily guided tours from 9 to 10 a.m., weather permitting. Fees do apply. Contact the Biloxi Visitors Center at 228-374-3105.

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library, 2244 Beach Blvd.

Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library, is the nation's most comprehensive site dealing with the American politician and first and only president of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis.

A National Historic Landmark, the complex includes the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library, the restored antebellum home, the Confederate Museum, and the veterans cemetery on 51 landscaped acres fronting the Gulf of Mexico.

Beauvoir is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission fees apply. Visit online at visitbeauvoir.org.

Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum, 792 Howard Ave.

Located in the heart of downtown, the Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum preserves and celebrates the unique history and tradition of Mississippi Mardi Gras. The museum has been in operation since the 1980s and features costumes, photographs, videos, and memorabilia of carnival celebrations along the coast.

The museum is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays by appointment. Admission fees apply. Visit online at coastalmardigras.com.

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum, 115 1st St.

Located on the eastern tip of the Biloxi peninsula, the Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum preserves the maritime history and heritage of Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. It is housed in a more than 19,000-square-foot building with exhibits, gallery spaces, meeting rooms, and a gift shop. The main atrium is designed around the Nydia, a 30-foot wooden vessel built in the late 1800s on Biloxi's Back Bay.

The museum was established in 1986 to preserve and interpret maritime history and heritage. It accomplishes this mission through an array of exhibits containing historic photographs and objects. The museum has brought Biloxi's maritime history to life by replicating two full-size Biloxi schooners, which sail the Gulf waters daily.

The museum is open Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission fees apply. Visit online at maritimemuseum.org

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Blvd.

The Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art is located on Beach Boulevard on a campus designed by award-winning architect Frank Gehry. The campus includes four buildings and the reconstructed home of Pleasant Reed, all connected by a brick plaza and majestic Live Oaks. The museum is dedicated to preserving and promoting the legacy of Biloxi potter George E. Ohr and the diverse cultural heritage of the Gulf Coast. It offers exhibits, ceramic classes, art and mixed media classes, special events, and rental space.

The museum is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Admission applies. Visit online at georgeohr.org.

The Dusti Bonge Art Foundation, 370 Meaut St.

The museum is located in a quaint cottage in East Biloxi behind the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art. The museum offers a wide range of information on the art and life of Modernist artist Dusti Bonge. A native of Biloxi, Dusti Bonge, showed with the Betty Parsons Gallery in New York from the 1940s through the 1970s.

Visit online at dustibonge.org for more information.

West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire Museum, 1046 Howard Ave.

The museum is located in a historic 1937 firehouse. The exhibits feature historic photographs as well as antique fire equipment that documents the history of the Biloxi Fire Department, dating back more than 120 years.

The museum is operated by volunteers under the direction of a board of directors with the assistance of the City of Biloxi. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and by appointment. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/fire or email westend3@biloxi.ms.us.

WINNER PALOOZA \$60,000 CASH & POWER PLAY GIVEAWAY

SATURDAYS,
JANUARY 4, 11, 18
& FEBRUARY 1
8 PM - 11 PM

OVER 200 TOTAL WINNERS!

TOP 10 ENTRY EARNERS
WIN \$1,000 CASH EACH
ON FEBRUARY 1!

One free entry and one entry for every
100 slot points earned (or table games
equivalent) January 1 - February 1, 2025.

Visit kiosk for drawing check-in
after 7:30 PM each Saturday.

P
PALACE CASINO RESORT®

BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI
BILOXI'S ONLY SMOKE FREE CASINO
158 HOWARD AVE, BILOXI, MS • 1-800-PALACE-9
WWW.PALACECASINORESORT.COM

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



CRAB BUFFET INCLUDES ROYAL RED SHRIMP DAILY AND
WHOLE LOBSTERS EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

CRAB BUFFET LUNCH & DINNER

LUNCH: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10:30AM TO 1:30PM

DINNER: MONDAY-FRIDAY 2PM TO 10PM

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 10:30AM TO 10PM

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



Making Communities Brighter

Embrace the spirit of the season by giving to Project
SHARE. Adding a donation to your energy bill helps
your neighbors in need all year long. The Mississippi
Power Foundation will match your donation to
make our communities shine even brighter.

Mississippi Power

Give here:



Happiest time of the year

By Laurie Rosetti
Biloxi Main Street

There must be a million clichés about happiness: Happiness is a state of mind. Happiness comes from within. Happiness cannot be pursued. But deep in the heart of Mardi Gras country, we truly know where happiness exists and more importantly, WHEN it exists! It all begins on Twelfth Night – to be specific, Jan. 6 which is also known as the Feast of the Epiphany (when the three kings visited the infant Jesus). It signifies the end of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Mardi Gras Season!

We call it “The Happiest Time of the Year.” Mardi Gras season is filled with majesty, color, energy, and FUN. But even if you’re not a parade-reveler or a carnival ball enthusiast there’s one part of carnival-time that can’t be ignored and that’s the wonderful foods associated with this season. Here is a primer for those new to or visiting the region and some tips on where in Downtown Biloxi to find each iconic part of the celebration.

King Cake: a sweet, ring-shaped pastry associated with Mardi Gras. It’s a culinary party on a napkin! Fun facts: King cakes are baked in an oval shape to resemble jeweled crowns. The colored icing of King cakes are purple (justice), green (faith), and gold (power) which are the symbolic colors of Mardi Gras itself. And if you find a cute little plastic baby in your



slice, don’t be alarmed! It’s just part of the tradition and it is considered good luck! Look for some delicious King Cake and/or king cake goodies at Empanola On Howard, Jacked Up Coffee Bar, Greenhouse Biloxi, Brew Paddle Café, and even at Fly Llama Brewing.

Oysters: These locally harvested mollusks are an important part of Biloxi’s past and present as they’ve always been a cash crop for fishers of the Gulf of Mexico. The old adage goes: only eat oysters in months that end in “r.” Mardi Gras only falls in either February or March making it part and parcel to consuming delicious oysters. Check out fresh oyster offerings at Downtown Biloxi staples such as Half Shell Oyster House, Desporte Seafood, Adventures Pub & Spirits, Ole Biloxi Fillin’ Station, One Thirty One Lameuse, Parrain’s

Jambalaya Kitchen, and Quality Poultry and Seafood.

Crawfish: Yes, it just happens to also be the season of the “mudbug” too! They can be harvested as early as November but the majority of the crop comes in March through June. These delectable crustaceans are boiled up in a pot perfectly spicy along with corn, potatoes, smoked sausage, and just about anything else you want to throw in. Look for these seasonal treats at the same downtown eateries and seafood retailers mentioned above.

Remember, nothing good lasts forever so celebrate “The Happiest Time of the Year” and get happy and get your fill before the celebration culminates on Fat Tuesday (aka Mardi Gras Day) which falls this year on March 4.



Join the Fun with the Shuckers' Annual Job Fair, Create Your Own Mini Plan and More



Shuckers offer multiple ways to join the team for its 10th anniversary season

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

Happy New Year! As we welcome in 2025, the Biloxi Shuckers are hard at work crafting the perfect 10th anniversary season at Keesler Federal Park. With Opening Day just under four months away, it's time to take a look at how YOU can splash in on the fun in 2025!

SHUCKERS TO HOST ANNUAL JOB FAIR ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 23 AT KEESLER FEDERAL PARK

The Shuckers have announced that their annual Job Fair will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January, 23 at Keesler Federal Park. The Shuckers are looking for energetic, enthusiastic, friendly, and dependable employees to join their gameday staff for the 2025 season. As part of the job fair, interested applicants can interview for various gameday positions.

Available positions include ushers, ticket takers, ticket sellers, access control, camera operators, press box production, official scorer, game day stringer, mascot, retail, grounds crew, bat boys/girls, entertainment team, and on-field emcee. Interested applicants can visit the visitor's clubhouse entrance during the event to get an application.

CREATE YOUR OWN MINI PLAN FOR 2025

As we get closer and closer to the Shuckers' 10th anniversary season, which begins on Tuesday, April 8 at Keesler Federal Park, fans can secure their seats with a five or 10-game mini plan.

Fans can create their own ticket package and choose any combination of five or ten games that best fits their schedule. The options are endless! Plans begin at \$75 for a 5-game plan and \$140 for a 10-game plan, savings of over 25% on day-of-game pricing. All mini plans include tickets for the Dugout Box at Keesler Federal Park (sections 105-112).

Fans interested in purchasing more than two plans are encouraged to contact the Shuckers' sales team at sales@biloxishuckers.com or by phone at 228-233-3465.

2025 SHUCK NATION MEMBERSHIPS

Fans can also receive up to 50% off day-of-game prices with a Shuck Nation Membership



► For more information, fans are encouraged to contact the Shuckers sales team at 228-233-3465 or email the team at sales@biloxishuckers.com.

and tickets to all 70 Shuckers' home games, including the team's preseason exhibition game in 2025 and 69 regular season home games. A Full Shuck Nation Membership starts at \$630 for the Reserved Level, with options for the Home Plate Box, Dugout Box, Sparklight Club, and Kloud7 SkyBox. Fans can also purchase a Half-Shell Membership, which includes 35 tickets and starts at \$350. A Shuck Nation Membership for the Sparklight Club and Kloud7 SkyBox is only available for full-season purchase.

As part of Shuck Nation, fans receive the following perks:

- Flexible tickets that allow fans to exchange dates and quantities as needed
- Unique ballpark experiences exclusive to Shuck Nation Members such as taking batting practice or watching fireworks from the field
- VIP Access to Shuck Nation events and socials
- Receive \$100 off a private suite rental for a Sunday-Thursday home game
- Preseason Shuck Nation gift exclusive to members
- Refillable mug with \$3 Coca-Cola beverages for every home game, \$2 beer specials for select games
- Exclusive invitation to Meet the Shuckers before the season
- Gain special access to pre-game workouts on select game days during the season
- First right of refusal for Shuckers playoff tickets

► 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.

Command, controlling, and training

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

Command and control is the nervous system of a military installation, responsible for ensuring communication between units, and directing resources to accomplish military operations in the most efficient way possible.

The 334th Training Squadron opened a new command and control study room at Erwin Manor, one of the non-prior service dorms on base, Dec. 9, 2024. It's expected to help with education outside the classroom, enabling NPS Airmen to take control of their own mission readiness before entering the operational field.

What once consisted only of desks, chairs and a few white boards is now a fully operational simulator for students to access checklists, scenarios and communication equipment. Demetria Santiago, 334th TRS training manager, said the room provides an opportunity to perform actions and procedures in a modernized, simulated, command post environment.

In October 2023, 2nd Air Force released a technical training transformation memorandum, targeting the necessity of a holistic learning environment for this generation of Airmen. A key emphasis was placed on legacy environments and information systems, including processes, to better meet the demands required for the Great Power Competition, Santiago said.

The study room incorporates the different learning styles of NPS Airmen, providing an academic experience that affords each individual equal opportunities for success.

This new room helps students familiarize themselves with material outside the formal environment of a classroom while keeping themselves academically ready for what they'll encounter



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Grant Welsh, 334th Training Squadron Instructor, communicates a simulated emergency notification message to a student in the new command post study room. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman 1st Class Kurstyn Canida)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Grant Welsh, 334th Training Squadron Instructor, right, leads students through an emergency notification training scenario at Keesler Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman 1st Class Kurstyn Canida)

throughout their training, said Patrick Myers, 334th TRS all-domain command and control instructor supervisor.

Not only does the study room help the students, but the instructors are also looking forward to the impact the study room can have on students, said Staff Sgt. Grant Welsh, 334th Training Squadron ADC2 instructor.

"We are excited for students to be able to use the study room, as it will give them more hands-on time with challenging material and introduce them to more realism," he said.

Feedback provided by instructors after simulator scenarios assist in identifying objectives students need to review. The trainer in the study room helps bridge potential areas of concern, added Myers. Using the trainer may also reduce the number of academic days, getting Airmen to the field sooner.

Overall, the study room offers a more realistic experience to students who are practicing emergency or aircraft mission management operations, said Welsh.

"These are two areas that can be very stressful for a new command post controller," he said. "Hopefully, more time in a life-like environment will better prepare new command post operators

to act with confidence and proficiency when released into the career field."

Anyone interested in shaping the next generation of command post operators and becoming an instructor can access Talent Marketplace on MyVector to apply for the position or for more information.

"Our students are being equipped with the best equipment they can have to succeed," said Welsh. "You have the opportunity to use this equipment to prepare them for the future."

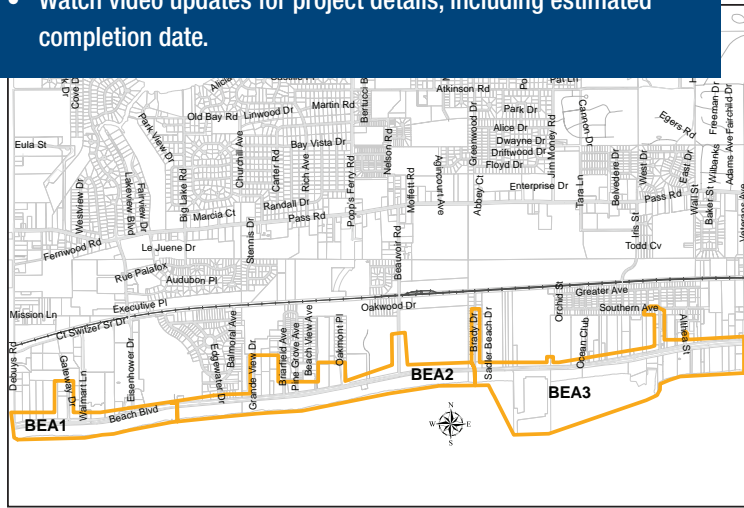
► See more photos at www.keesler.af.mil
Watch the Keesler Update daily at 7:45 a.m.,
1:45 p.m., and 7:45 p.m. on BTV at biloxi.ms.us/btv

The infrastructure work in Biloxi

Project: BEA1, 2, & 3

Adjacent to Beach Blvd. from Debuys Road to Veterans Avenue
(Contractors: Necaise Brothers Construction)

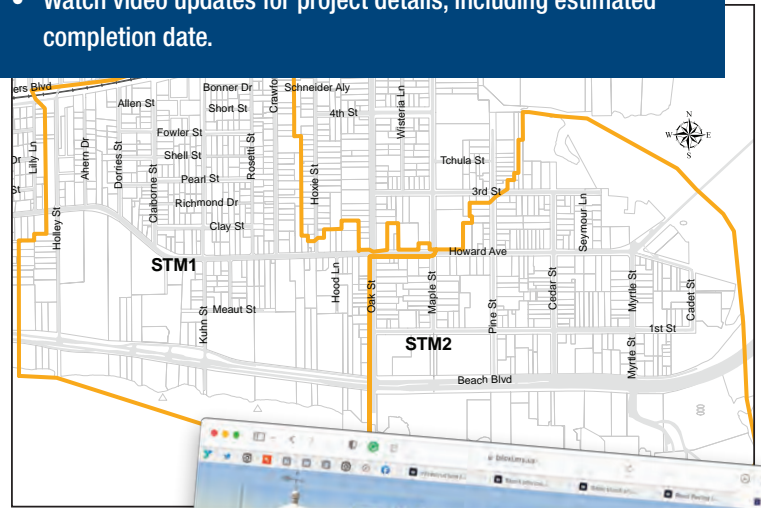
- Installation of new water, sewer, drainage
- Work began June 2022
- Watch video updates for project details, including estimated completion date.



Project: STM1 & 2

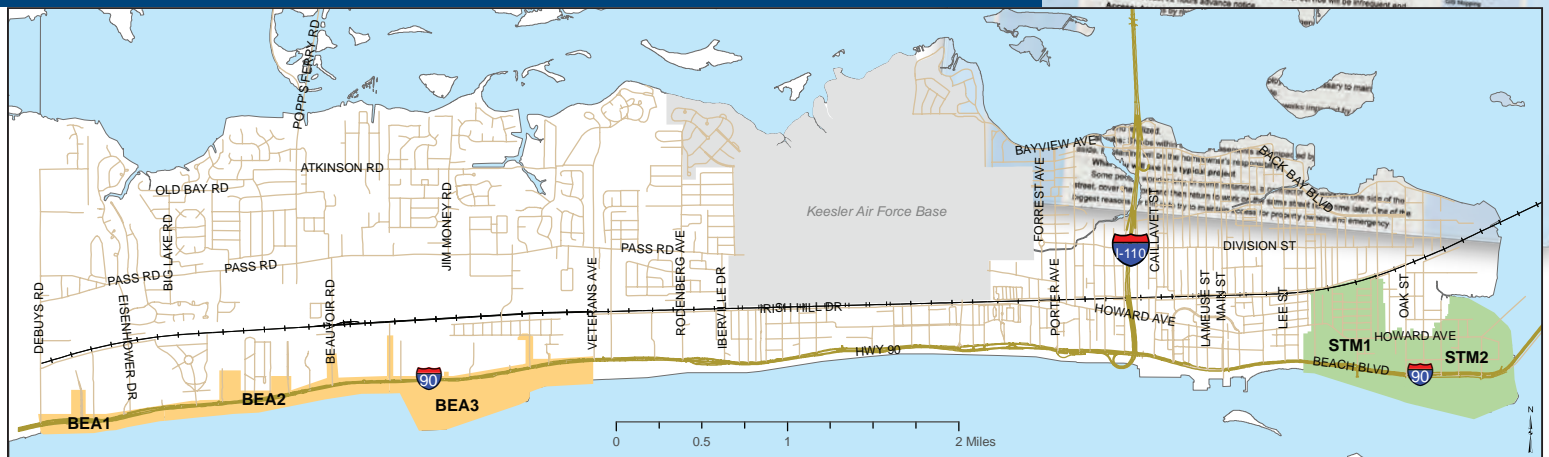
Between Holley Street & Point Cadet, south of CSX railroad
(Contractors: Necaise Brothers Construction)

- Installation of new water, sewer, drainage
- Work began Jan. 4, 2021
- Watch video updates for project details, including estimated completion date.



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

Areawide map of infrastructure work



Random Notes



TIME CAPSULE:



Shoreline celebrations

In days gone by, the sounds of New Year celebrations could be heard echoing across the water from the La Vista dance pavilion. The popular venue was unique in that it was built over the water providing a magnificent view of the shoreline and gulf waters. This octagon-shaped convention hall was constructed in 1926 on the south side of Highway 90 across from the Buena Vista Hotel and could accommodate up to 1000 patrons.

In 1946 La Vista Pavilion was renamed the Victory Room in honor of the American victory in World War II. The Victory Room continued to serve as a gathering place for big band performances, dances, and variety shows until it was destroyed by the 1947 hurricane.

Photograph provided by the Pat Byrd Collection.



New pier seating provides an unobstructed view of Biloxi Bay.

Simple pleasures

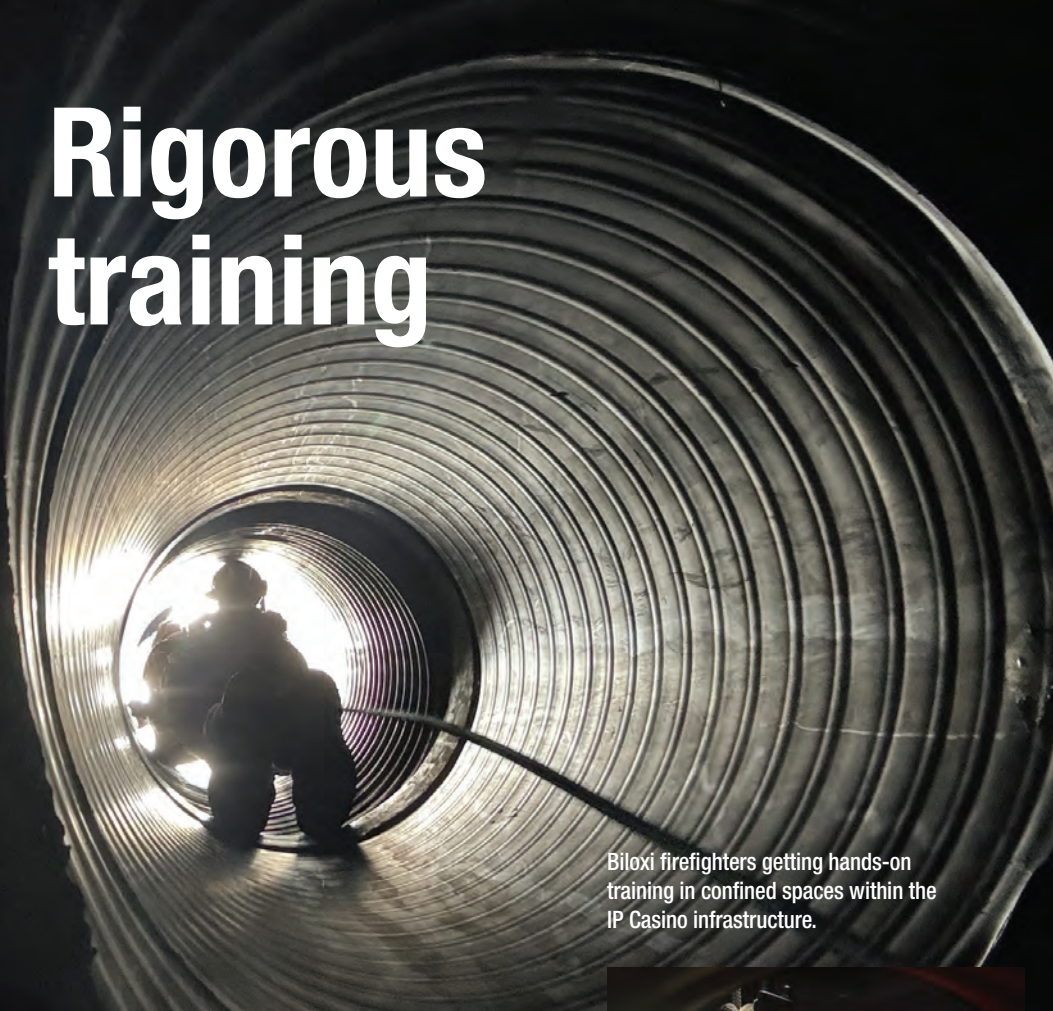
As another new year begins, it's a good time to take in the beauty that surrounds us every day. The daily routine can distract us from the fact that we live and work in the most beautiful area of the state. Within minutes of any drive through Biloxi, we are greeted with stunning views of open water that stretch into the distance. These are views that visitors travel for hours to experience.

The Ports and Harbors staff continually service and maintain the city piers for citizens and visitors. The Causeway has several piers for fishing and for viewing Biloxi Bay. Seating on a Causeway pier was recently refurbished providing a comfortable spot for taking in a beautiful sunset.

Ole Miss sinking baskets in Biloxi

Men's college basketball traveled to Biloxi last month for a neutral ground game at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum. This was the 26th meeting between the Ole Miss Rebels and the USM Golden Eagles with Ole Miss continuing their winning streak in a 77 to 46 point victory. Ole Miss arrived in Biloxi the day before the game and made use of the extra time for some practice at the Salvation Army Kroc Center.

Rigorous training



Biloxi firefighters getting hands-on training in confined spaces within the IP Casino infrastructure.

The Biloxi Fire Department firefighters continually train to always be prepared for an emergency response when seconds count. The International Association of Fire Fighters recently conducted a class on Confined Space Rescue where Biloxi firefighters were pushed to the limits where space was very limited.

The City of Biloxi is currently accepting applications for first responders, including both firefighters and police. For information on this and other city job opportunities, visit the Human Resources page of the city's website, biloxi.ms.us/jobs.



The Ole Miss team practicing at the Salvation Army Kroc Center before the big game.

JANUARY TRIVIA Oysters & other traditions

By Jane Shambra



Why do Biloxians eat black-eyed peas and cabbage on New Year's Day? This southern tradition encourages consumption of both black-eyed peas and cabbage for good luck and wealth in the upcoming year.

Is January one of the months in which oysters are extra tasty? January, having an "R" in its spelling is one of the months in which our local oysters are best to eat.

Can you name an animal that is talented for opening oysters with its bare claws? Monsieur d'Iberville's early 1700s journals mention the discovery of oyster-eating raccoons on Cat Island. Raccoons reminded him of the cats back in France, leading him to name Cat Island as we know it today.

Are local oysters healthy? Yes. Oysters are low in fat and calories, high in protein, and rich in zinc, copper, B12, and selenium.

What were recycled Biloxi oyster shells used for in the 1920s in Biloxi? Crushed oyster shells were often used to pave Biloxi's roadways and resident's driveways. The sharp shells were a detriment to the rubber tires on cars, trucks, and bicycles, not to mention barefoot pedestrians.

What was the material produced at Biloxi's grist mills? At these mills, oyster shells were crushed into a powder for use in chicken feed and fertilizer. John McGuire operated a grist mill in Biloxi on the north side of present-day Howard Avenue west of Lameuse Street.

With what tool does an oyster shucker use to open oysters? A specially designed "oyster knife" is used to open oysters by hand. This locally made item has been available for purchase in Downtown Biloxi at Ellzey's Hardware Store for decades.

Who are the original Biloxi shuckers? In Biloxi, we associate shuckers as those seafood workers who open oysters with special knives.

Are oysters harvested with bait, like fish and crabs? No. Oysters were originally gathered with tongs which are described as 12-foot-long scissor-shaped poles with rakes at the ends forming baskets. Later, a V-shaped iron frame dredge was used that could reach into deeper waters.

What do Biloxi baseball and oyster shuckers have in common? In 2014, Biloxi's very own minor league baseball team adopted the Shuckers as its logo. In a "Name the Team" contest, 60,000 votes were tabulated and it was announced that "Shuckers" was the winning name. The Shuckers logo depicts an open oyster shell with its pearl-shaped eyes peering from within.

**MARTIN
LUTHER
KING**

2025

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

FREE | OPEN TO PUBLIC

PRESENTED BY



The
**LEGACY
BUSINESS
LEAGUE**



COMMUNITY **resource expo**

SAT., JAN 11
9 AM – 2 PM

**BILOXI CIVIC
CENTER**

RESOURCE EXPERTS + COMMUNITY SUPPORT

DREAMS *IN Harmony*

SUN., JAN 12

3 PM

**BILOXI CIVIC
CENTER**

INSPIRING PANELS + ENTERTAINMENT



A **MARTIN
LUTHER
KING** CELEBRATION OF

ART & CULTURE

SPECIAL EXHIBIT + LIVE ARTISTRY

THUR., JAN 16

5 PM – 8 PM

OHR-O'KEEFE MUSEUM

FOR DETAILS GO TO IAMLEGACY.ORG

**PREMIER
SPONSORS**

Goodwill
South Mississippi

Memorial
HEALTH SYSTEM

94.5
THE PEOPLE'S STATION

EECHO
EDUCATION, ECONOMICS, ENVIRONMENTAL,
CLIMATE & HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Beau Rivage
RESORT & CASINO • BILOXI

Best Bets!

Mississippi Sea Wolves

Mississippi Coast Coliseum
2350 Beach Blvd.

Admission begins at \$10 per person.
Details: 228-594-3700

- VS Watertown Wolves
Jan. 3-5, game times vary
- VS Binghamton Black Bears
Jan. 24-26, game times vary



Celebrate outside with a walk or a run

Celebrate the new year by going outside for a fun run! Altered Reality Brewing at 969 Howard Ave. hosts a Biloxi Fun Run on Thursday, Jan. 2 at 6 p.m. The run is an open course along the scenic streets of Biloxi with 2 or 3-mile options. Walk, run, crawl, or wheel! This event continues each Thursday from the brewery!



And, on Saturday, Jan. 4, the Salvation Army Kroc Centers hosts the Frosty Kroc Race. The event features a 1-mile, 5K, and 10K, each from the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino and traveling over the Biloxi Bay Bridge. The runs begin at 8:30 a.m. Registrar fees range from \$15 to \$20. Check out the calendar entry for more details on both events.



Dec. 31, New Year's Eve Events:

- **Ice Skating New Year's Eve Party**, MS Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd.
- **NYE 2025 Party with Kat Riggins and The Shaelyn Band**, Ground Zero, 814 Howard Ave.
- **New Year's Party Hard Rock Live**, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 777 Beach Blvd.

Biloxi Fun Run, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 6 p.m., Altered Reality Brewing, 969 Howard Ave. Weekly fun run takes place every Thursday. Open course along the scenic streets of Biloxi with 2 or 3-mile options. Walk, run, crawl, or wheel! Meet at the brewery. Free admission. Details: Altered Reality Brewing on Facebook.

Mississippi Sea Wolves, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Admission begins at \$10 per person. Details: 228-594-3700

- VS Watertown Wolves, Jan. 3-5, game times vary
- VS Binghamton Black Bears, Jan. 24-26, game times vary

Frosty Kroc Race, Jan. 4, Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, 8:30 a.m. Tickets: \$15-20. Races for all levels and ages. Hosted by the Salvation Army Kroc Center. Details: 228-207-1218, <https://krocmscoast.org>

Biloxi Twelfth Night Celebration, Jan. 5, 5-8 p.m., 140 Lamuese St. (across from City Hall). It's the kick-off to Carnival season on the Gulf Coast! Coastal krewe royalty will parade through downtown to City Hall where the building will ceremoniously illuminate in carnival colors, and present the 2025 flag-bearers. Music, merriment, and food. Details: 228-314-4747

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration 2025, Jan 11, 12 & 16. Open to the public. Free admission. Details: IAMLEGACY.ORG



- **Community Resource Expo**, Jan 11, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave.
- **Dreams in Harmony**, Jan 12, 3 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave.
- **Celebration of Art & Culture**, Jan 16, 5-8 p.m., Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Blvd.

Best Bet!

Two-wheeling through Biloxi

Take a ride, bicycle ride that is, through Downtown Biloxi each month with Biloxi Main Street's Bike Biloxi Program. The free group ride, set for the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., weather permitting, travels from the Biloxi Visitors Center through the downtown streets – along available bike lanes – and ends at a downtown restaurant at the cyclist's expense. Cyclist just need to bring their own bike, helmet, and lights, and follow the same traffic regulations as motor vehicles. For more information, call Biloxi Main Street at 228-435-6339.



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

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 80th 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

Softball Registration, Jan. 18, 9 a.m.-noon, Biloxi High School Softball Field (BHS Girls Softball Coach and Players will host a FREE clinic). Feb. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal Synder Sr. Community Center. Ages 5-12. Practice starts in Feb. Coaches needed. Details: 228-388-7170, biloxisoftball.com



Bike Biloxi, Jan. 21, 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

Main Street Book Club

Jan. 23, 5:30 p.m.
Pisano's Pizzeria/Empanola on Howard
1036 Howard Ave.
January's selection: "The Love of My Life"
by Rosie Walsh. Details: 228-435-6339

Baseball Registration, Feb. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, Biloxi High School Baseball Field (BHS Baseball Team RED/WHITE Scrimmage FREE ENTRY). Feb. 8, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal Synder Sr. Community Center. Ages 4-12. Practice starts in Feb. Details: 228-388-7170, biloxiyoungbaseball.com

Coming in March!

First Friday Downtown Biloxi

First Fridays RETURN on March 7! Details: 228-435-6339



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

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

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

Biloxi Tour Train
Biloxi Lighthouse Park parking lot, south of Biloxi Visitors Center, traffic light #40, 228-374-8687, biloxitourtrain.com
• Call in advance for tour availability

Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum
792 Howard Ave., 228-314-4747, museum@coastalmardigras.com
• Open weekdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., open Saturdays by appointment

Edgewater Mall

2600 Beach Blvd., 228-388-3424

Friends of the Biloxi Libraries

Margaret Sherry Library, 2141 Popp's Ferry Road

- **Fossils**, Jan. 6, 6 p.m. Dive into the fascinating history of Mississippi's fossils! Free event. Light refreshments. Details: 228-388-1633

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

- **Frosty Kroc Race**, Jan. 4, Golden Nugget, 8:30 a.m. race begins. Tickets \$20. Races for all levels and ages. To register: krocmscoast.org/KrocMSCoast/events/frosty-kroc-race-2

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.

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

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

- **Celebration of Art & Culture**, Jan 16, 5-8 p.m. Part of the MLK Celebration!
- 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**, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31 Doors open at 4 p.m.; Card Sales at 5:30 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

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

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, Jan. 10, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m. \$20, dine-in or carry out. 228-392-9345

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

591 Howard Ave. (2nd floor)

- Details: 228-438-4636

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, Jan. 6, 13, 20, & 27, 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 Bingo

870 Howard Ave., 228-374-1717

- **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. (Call for holiday hours) Details: 228-374-1717

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: Cheryl Bell at 228-388-7170.

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: **first Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m.**; Biloxi Community Development conference room, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31 Community Market Ice Skating NYE Party MS Coast Coliseum NYE Party with Kat Riggins and Shaelyn Band Ground Zero NYE Party Hard Rock	1	2 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	3 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Sea Wolves vs Watertown Wolves MS Coast Coliseum KAFB Farmers Market	4 Frosty Kroc Race Golden Nugget Sea Wolves vs Watertown Wolves MS Coast Coliseum
5 Sea Wolves vs Watertown Wolves MS Coast Coliseum Biloxi Twelfth Night Celebration City Hall	6 Fossils Margaret Sherry Library Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	7 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	8	9 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	10 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night Joppa Shrine	11 MLK Celebrations Community Resource Expo Biloxi Civic Center Rickey Smiley Beau Rivage
12 MLK Celebrations Dreams in Harmony Biloxi Civic Center	13 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	14 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	15	16 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing MLK Celebrations of Art & Culture Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art	17 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Herman's Hermits IP Casino	18 Softball Registration Biloxi High School Football Fields
19	20 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	21 Community Market Bike Biloxi Downtown Biloxi Blues Traveler IP Casino Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	22	23 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Main Street Book Club Pisano's Pizza/Empanola on Howard	24 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Sea Wolves vs Black Bears MS Coast Coliseum	25 Sea Wolves vs Black Bears MS Coast Coliseum
26 Sea Wolves vs Black Bears MS Coast Coliseum	27 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	28 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	29	30 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	31 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge	1 Baseball Registration Biloxi High School Football Fields Softball Registration Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center

BTV January Schedule

Sparklight 56 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!" Chicken Parmesan - Doe's Eat Place, Margaritaville (9 min)
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special presentation: Replays of Christmas parades
9 a.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Afternoon	
Noon	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," B&W, 1950s travelogue (9 min)
12:10 p.m.	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," 1960s travelogue (14 min)
12:25 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
1 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Chicken Parmesan - Doe's Eat Place, Margaritaville (9 min)
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special presentation: Replays of Christmas parades
3 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Evening	
6 p.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 p.m.	Inside BTV
6:10 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!" Chicken Parmesan - Doe's Eat Place, Margaritaville (9 min)
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
8 p.m.	Special presentation: Replays of Christmas parades
9 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Midnight	National Anthem by Ronny Broussard (2 min)



You can view individual programs on the city's YouTube channel.

The foundation of BTV

Unedited replays of Biloxi City Council meetings are the mainstay of programming on BTV.

It's your chance to see public policy being discussed and made. City Council meetings are regularly held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. and the third and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at Biloxi City Hall.

You can see replays of City Council meetings each day on BTV at 9 a.m., 3 p.m., and 9 p.m.

Meetings are also streamed on the city's LIVE channel. Click on the live icon on the front page of the city's website at the meeting time.

Dining at Doe's Eat Place

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

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

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



This month's recipe:

Chicken Parmesan Doe's Eat Place, Margaritaville

Ingredients:

- 6-ounce Chicken Breast
- Fryer oil
- All Purpose flour
- Eggwash
- Breadcrumbs mixture
- 6 ounces of Marinara
- 2 ounces of Parmesan and Mozzarella
- 10 ounces 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 chicken 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 350 degree 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 (or broil in over/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



Welcoming in the New Year

By Jane Shambra

The end of the Christmas holidays is by no means a signal to cease festivities in Biloxi. In fact, Biloxi's celebrations have always continued into the New Year, and beyond.



Celebrating with food

Culinary Delights

For generations before us, Biloxi families always expected the January 1 menu to include black-eye peas and cabbage (hoping for good luck and prosperity for the upcoming year). Black-eyed peas are not new to this area and are specifically described in Le Page du Pratz's 1700s History of Louisiana. [Le Page is famous for his three-volume work documenting the people, plants, animals, climate, and customs he encountered upon his arrival on our shores.] These legumes are said to be of African origin. Its benefits, besides luckiness, are numerous. They are easily grown, even in poor soil, and are known also as "forty-day beans," since they can successfully be planted, grown, and cooked to a delicacy in 40 days. These beans are also healthy and contain no fat, and are high in protein, fiber, and calcium, as well as rich in vitamins A and K. The little "eyes" on peas are marks where they were once attached to the pods.

Eggnog

Eggnog is the tasty holiday beverage that continues into January. Its origins go back to the British Isles. The official ingredients include eggs, sugar, milk/cream, nutmeg, and cinnamon, a recipe resembling custard. Whether served hot or cold, this local culinary traditional beverage has continued on through Biloxi's generations and can currently be purchased in the dairy department of local grocery stores.

Eggnog
10 Fine, Fresh Eggs.
1 Quart of Creamy Milk.
2 Cups of White Granulated Sugar.
1 Cup of Fine French Cognac.
Beat the yolks to a cream, add the sugar, and beat to a cream. Blend all thoroughly, beating till very, very light. Now pour over the boiling milk, stirring well. When thoroughly blended add the whites of the eggs, beaten to a stiff froth, and the liquor, and serve hot. This eggnog is also served cold by the Creoles at New Year's receptions. At the famous Christmas and New Year reveillons it is served hot. The liquor may or may not be added, according to taste.



Getting ready for Mardi Gras

A few days after the calendar pages are turned into the new year, Biloxi visitors and locals get super-excited to plan a trip to Downtown Biloxi to celebrate the Twelfth Night. Biloxi's Twelfth Night celebration has traditionally been held on January 5th. This Downtown yearly event was organized soon after Hurricane Katrina to end the Christmas season and to welcome in the Mardi Gras season. Celebrated with a parade, music, carnival dignitaries, and King Cake, this newer evening historic event has grown in popularity and is instrumental in guaranteeing uplifted spirits for the new year.

(Twelfth Night is not to be confused with William Shakespeare's romantic comedy written in the early 1600s, way before Biloxi was discovered.)

Elvis's connection to Biloxi

Happy Birthday, Elvis!

In the month of January, Biloxi continues to celebrate its special connection to Elvis Presley's biography. Although Elvis was born in Tupelo, MS on January 8, 1935, he visited Biloxi in the mid-1950s and treated local audiences to his amazing voice. It is well documented that Elvis even dated one of Biloxi's residents, June Juanico.

Elvis loved Biloxi and continued to visit for many years, even treating his parents to fun-filled vacations here. Locals fondly remember the shows he did at the Slavonian Lodge, Sie's Place (on Division Street), the Community House, and Keesler Air Force Base's Airmen's Club. Little did people realize at that time that Elvis would eventually become one of the most iconic personalities in entertainment history!



Biloxi Community House where Elvis Presley often performed

Post-Holiday housekeeping

After all the holiday festivities have come to an end, families often begin an early "spring cleaning" in January, which includes many fun-less activities. Dismantling our Christmas trees has been one task on the list. For over three decades, Biloxi residents have been given an option for the disposal of their live indoor holiday trees. Specific Biloxi locations are announced each year for drop-off points. This recycling program has many worthwhile results. Some trees are ground up for mulch to stop erosion or for use in public parks. Some are dropped by helicopters into waterways to help saltwater from flowing into fresh water. Others are sunken into ponds and lakes to provide new "homes" for aquatic creatures. This worthwhile project reduces landfill space, as well.

Finally, as we gather our yearly collections of Christmas cards, consider saving those with special handwritten messages and photos from friends and family. Long before online resources, family trees, and historical detailed family genealogy were in place, Grandma was our first family historian and often saved these in old cigar boxes as treasures, documenting the past in her own special way.



Christmas Tree recycle program supports the ecosystem, Sun Herald photo

BNews Monthly

JANUARY 2025

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council
George Lawrence • Felix O. Gines
Dixie Newman • Rodney McGilvary
Paul A. Tisdale • Kenny Glavan
David Shoemaker

Visit us online
at biloxi.ms.us



Sign up for Bmail
at biloxi.ms.us

For B-Alerts, text
BILOXI to 99411



P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

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

ECRWSS

Local Biloxi Postal Customer

LIVE LIKE A ROYAL

Experience luxury and excitement like never before at Scarlet Pearl Casino Resort. With breathtaking views, renowned dining venues, and an unparalleled gaming experience, we offer the perfect getaway for those seeking both relaxation and thrills. Make Scarlet Pearl Casino Resort your number one travel destination on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.



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

Must be 21 or older. Scarlet Pearl Casino Resort reserves all rights. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-522-4700.