

BNews Monthly

MAY 2025

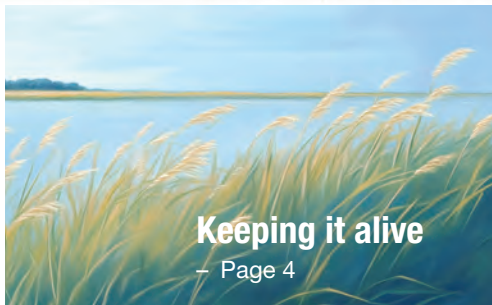
A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi

Biloxi
established 1699



Don't miss the vote

– Page 4



Keeping it alive

– Page 4



Filling the stadium

– Page 10



Preservation in May

– Pages 8 and 16



Lighthouse fair

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Tail-wagging upgrades

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Reaching the decades

– Page 11



Katrina sculpture

– Random Notes
Pages 14-15

Extra, Extra: Read all about it!

– Back in the Day,
Pages 22-23



THEY CAME FROM DALMATIA

PETAR'S TREASURE

CLARA INGRAM JUDSON
Illustrated by
EMILIA BARRING

THE RUNNER LITERARY SALON, NEW YORK
and
BILLOUXI MEYER COMPANY, BOSTON

HURRICANES
OF THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

BY CHARLES E. HEDGECOCK

Published by Gulf Publishing Company, Houston
The Gulf Publishing Company, Houston

WHEN BILOXI WAS
THE SEAFOOD CAPITAL
OF THE WORLD

**DAVID A. SHEFFIELD
DARNELL L. NICOVICH**

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A Thousand Words



Remembering with Honor

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Edgewater Mall

Preserving and conserving the living shoreline

A living shoreline is a natural way of protecting, managing, and even restoring an area's habitat along the waterfront. Wind-driven waves from storms and sea level rise greatly impact shorelines, creating a need to restore the Gulf's natural resources.

Natural infrastructure solutions, such as plants, oyster reefs, or other natural elements, stabilize and restore shoreline habitats and ecosystem services.

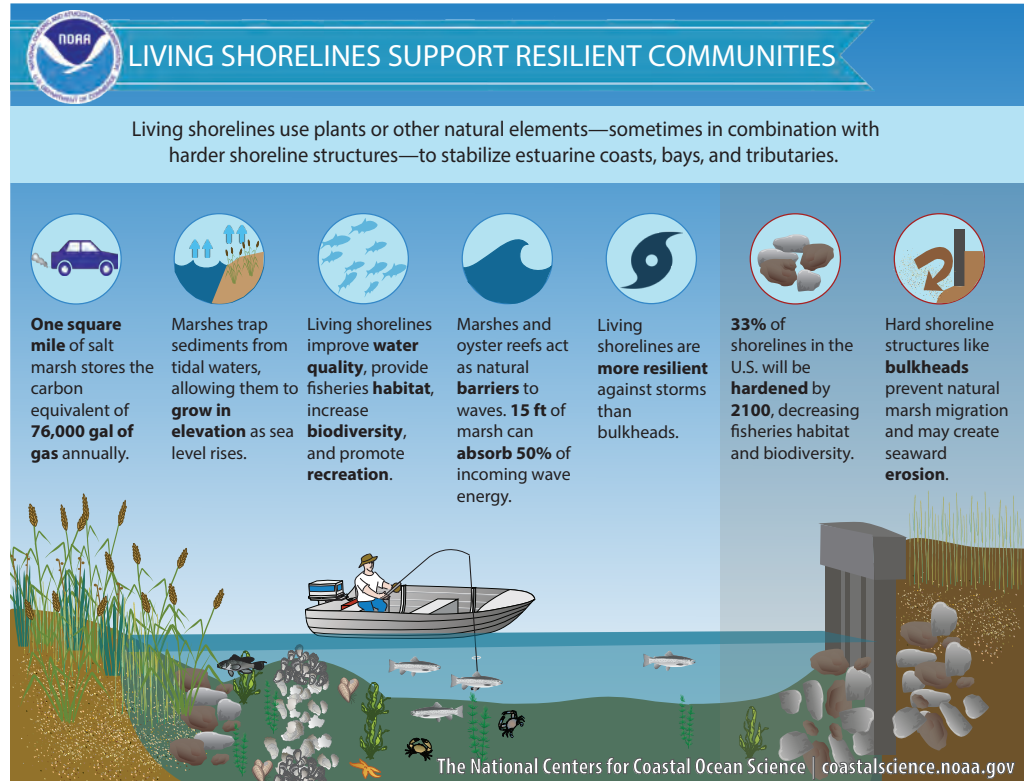
According to Mississippi State University Coastal Research and Extension Center, "Living shorelines are alternatives to hardened shoreline techniques, such as bulkheads and seawalls, which stabilize shorelines, while also providing the benefits of a natural shoreline.

Protecting shorelines can lessen erosion and create new fish and wildlife habitats, as well as benefit other coastal habitats and communities.

This graphic from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration illustrates the benefits of preserving and conserving our shorelines.

Biloxi has a number of living shorelines, including one at the Old Brick House and another at Camp Wilkes.

To learn more about our living shorelines, their benefits, and how you can help care for or improve them, you can attend an upcoming workshop. The Mississippi State University Coastal Research and Extension Center, along with Coastal Conservation & Restoration, and the Mississippi Sound Estuary Program, is offering various workshops throughout the month and is hosting one in Biloxi on June 9. Visit online at msucoastal.com/living-shorelines/ for details.



► For more information on how you can learn about living shorelines and help preserve them, contact Kristen Greger or Rick Stickler in the City of Biloxi Community Development Department at 228-435-6280.

Municipal general election deadlines and polling places

Voting deadlines:

- May 3 – City Clerk's Office, 140 Lameuse St., open, 8 a.m.-noon for voter registration
- May 5 – General election voter registration deadline
- May 24 – City Clerk's Office, 140 Lameuse St., open, 8 a.m.-noon for absentee voting
- May 31 – City Clerk's Office, 140 Lameuse St., open, 8 a.m.-noon for absentee voting
- June 3 – General Election Day – Polls open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- June 10 – Absentee ballots returned by mail receipt deadline, 5 p.m. Absentee Ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day.

Polling places:

- Ward 1 – Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave.
- Ward 2 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Municipal Building, 676 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
- Ward 3 – West Biloxi Library, 2047 Pass Road
- Ward 4 – Margaret Sherry Library & Fire Station Complex, 2139 Popp's Ferry Road
- Ward 5 – Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road
- Ward 6 – A.J. Holloway Sports Complex, 765 Wells Drive
- Ward 7 – Woolmarket City Center, 13034 Kayleigh Cove

► See a ward map and more deadlines: biloxi.ms.us/voting

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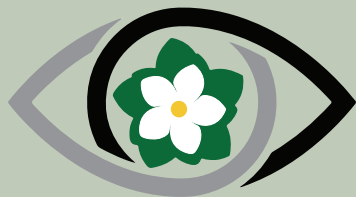
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Artists on show at the Biloxi Visitors Center

The Biloxi Visitors Center will host its 8th annual Biloxi Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Fair on May 3.

The event, set on the lawn and inside the Biloxi Visitors Center, will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month and includes free admission.

The fair attracts hundreds of visitors each year, which creates a great opportunity for vendors to exhibit and sell their goods. It also gives shoppers a one-of-a-kind selection.

"The fair showcases our local talent while offering visitors a chance to visit the center and the lighthouse," said Hospitality Manager Onnie Gazzo.

In addition to supporting local artists, visitors will have the chance to tour the Biloxi Lighthouse during one of the free tours offered every 30 minutes throughout the event. There will also be Mother's Day crafts for children.

Added Gazzo: "We call it the lighthouse festival because we are proud of our Biloxi heritage and want to showcase what our community has to offer as well as show off the city's most beloved landmark, the Biloxi Lighthouse."

► See more about the Biloxi Visitors Center at biloxi.ms.us/visitors.



News & notes

Kids fire academy: The Biloxi Fire Department is accepting applications for its annual Fire Academy for Kids. The five-day program takes place in June at the Biloxi Fire Station No. 1, Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave. Spots are limited and open to ages 7 to 12. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/kidsacademy.



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. Call your insurance agent for information. You may also reach out to the city's floodplain staff at 228-435-6280. Details: biloxi.ms.us/stormandflood

Street sweeping: Did you know that the city lists a citywide street sweeping schedule online? It does so each month. Just visit online at biloxi.ms.us/traffic and scroll to the bottom to see the areas being street swept each month.

Citizen issues: If citizens see a street light out, want to request road work on their street, or have a question about work being done in Biloxi, reach out to the City of Biloxi Citizen Service Representative Craig Ross. Email him at cross@biloxi.ms.us or call weekdays at 228-435-6271.

Holiday closures: All non-emergency municipal offices will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.





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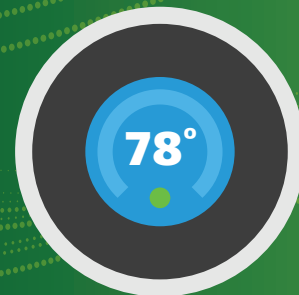
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Preserving history throughout May



By Mandy Hornsby
City of Biloxi Historical Administrator

The Preserve Biloxi Committee kicks off its 18th annual Preservation in May series with free weekly educational events every Thursday throughout the month. The program is open to the public in celebration of the diverse and unique heritage of our city.

May is National Historic Preservation Month. The honor began nationally in 1973 with a week-long event and was extended to an entire month in 2005. Biloxi's Thursdays in May series began in 2008, featuring the newly relocated and restored Bond-Grant House as the first program. Throughout the years, programs have been held all over the city presenting various aspects of Biloxi's history and culture. Even the famous Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour has roots as a program originally in the Thursdays in May lineup.

This year's theme is centered around Biloxi's nature and trees, with events set mostly outdoors and among our lovely historic trees. Each program is held from

5:30 to 7 p.m. and takes place at various locations around Biloxi.

The first of four programs begins May 1 with an evening stroll down the Rue Magnolia to complete a scavenger hunt. The hunt focuses on the architectural features of historic buildings down the charming walkway.

The second event will be a downtown tree tour that will begin at Biloxi City Hall under the Guice Oak off Lameuse Street and end at the West End Hose Co. No. 3 on Howard Avenue to discuss Biloxi's Majestic Tree Program. (Note: if the weather during this event is rainy, it will completely take place at the West End Hose Co. No. 3.)

At the third event, participants are invited to learn about the history and restoration plan for the Old Brick House, one of Biloxi's oldest residential structures. Take a nod back to the days of Garden Club programming with a tea party in the back garden. For this event, garden party clothing is welcome, but optional.

The final program is on May 22 at Camp Wilkes in North Biloxi, where everyone

is invited to enjoy the outdoors, as many youths have done so in the past. This event is in conjunction with a dinner fundraiser by the Board of Trustees of Camp Wilkes, who will be selling jambalaya plates for \$10 each to support facility upkeep.

This year, the Passport to History program returns. Each participant will receive a passport and earn stamps at each event they attend. If they attend three of the events, they will earn a special gift distributed on the final evening.

Please feel free to call (228) 435-6280 with any questions about the Thursdays in May programming. More information is also available on the Preserve Biloxi Facebook page.

Preserve Biloxi is a collaborative committee of groups invested in Biloxi's history, with current members including the City of Biloxi, Biloxi Main Street, Biloxi Fire Department, Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area, and the Mississippi Coast Historical and Genealogical Society.

► See more on page 16.



Dog Park to receive amenities

The Biloxi Dog Park on Popp's Ferry Road will soon see some fun and functional amenities.

Recently, the Biloxi City Council approved a bid from Magnolia Recreation for the purchase and installation of several much-needed equipment items at the popular Biloxi dog park.

The \$22,257 project will include hoops, steppers, a dog walk ramp, two dog fire hydrants, two dog resting tables, a jump over, a water fountain, and three waste stations.

The city is currently in the process of scheduling the work at the

time of this writing, but hopes to begin installation soon and have the amenities available for use for some four-legged summer fun!

The Biloxi Dog Park is one of three the city currently has. In addition to the large park off Popp's Ferry Road, the city has two smaller dog parks. One is at Hiller Park off Pass Road, and the other one is at Savarro Park off Irish Hill.

Each park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and is overseen by the Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department.

2025 DAILY PROMOS



T-SHIRT TUESDAY 

MILITARY WEDNESDAY 

THIRSTY THURSDAY™   

FIREWORKS FRIDAY

SHUCK YEAH SATURDAY

FUN DAY SUNDAY 

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Get to the Ballpark!

Shuckers Baseball Returns!



Shuckers fans family photo
by Sierra Gatz

Photo by Sierra Gatz

Get set for a full month with Hockey Night, the Biloxi King Cakes, Player T-Shirt Giveaways and more

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

Baseball is in full swing and so are the Biloxi Shuckers! After a thrilling start to their 10th anniversary season, the Shuckers are set for 13 games at Keesler Federal Park during May. The Shuckers are set to welcome the Pensacola Blue Wahoos (Miami Marlins) from May 6-11 and the Knoxville Smokies (Chicago Cubs) from May 20-25 as part of Memorial Day Weekend! Multiple promotions highlight the schedule and kids can run the bases following every game presented by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Mississippi.

On Tuesday, May 6, the first 250 fans are set to receive a blue alternate Josh Hader name and number shirsey presented by Coca-Cola. Hader, a former Biloxi Shucker, is a three-time Trevor Hoffman National League Reliever of the Year Award winner and a former National League All-Star.

Make sure to grab your skates on Saturday, May 10, with Hockey Night! Drop the puck and get ready to hit the ice with a Shuckers Hockey Jersey presented by Coca-Cola for the first 1,000 fans. Then, make sure to celebrate Mother's Day with the Shuckers at Keesler Federal Park on Sunday, May 11!

The Shuckers return to Biloxi on Tuesday, May 20, with a No. 45 Freddy Peralta Shuckers name-and-number shirsey giveaway for the first 250 fans presented by The Peoples Bank in celebration of the 2021 National League All-Star.

Bark in the Park returns on Wednesday,

May 21. Fans and their four-legged friends can purchase tickets for \$16 in advance and sit in dog-friendly Sections 117 and 119. Fans must sign a waiver for their pets to enjoy the game. Fans can also splash in with deals at the Corona Premier Tiki Bar with Happy Hour from 5:30 until 6:35 p.m.

The Shuckers will also show their appreciation to educators across the Coast with Educator Appreciation Night on May 23. Educators can receive \$2 off Reserved and Dugout Box tickets with a valid ID. It's also Strike Out the Stigma Night in a joint effort between Minor League Baseball, the Biloxi Shuckers, RADical Hope, and several other organizations to raise awareness and support for mental health, as May is National Mental Health Month.

Finally, the Biloxi King Cakes return on Saturday, May 24 with a King Cakes Drink Sleeve presented by Beau Rivage for the first 1,500 fans! The Shuckers will also transform into the King Cakes with specialty jerseys and hats.

Daily specials also highlight the monthly calendar. Tuesdays are T-Shirt Tuesday for the first 250 fans. T-shirts throughout the year will honor various Shuckers who have gone on to have success at the highest levels of the sport, including fan favorites such as Jackson Chourio, Jacob Misiorowski, Corbin Burnes, and Brandon Woodruff. 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 nights 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 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 Gardens. Fans can also cash in on almost 60% 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 Shuckers will also honor a local military organization as part of their Heart of a Shucker Community Fund during every Saturday home game as part of Shuck Yeah Saturday.

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% 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.



THE MAJESTIC LIVE OAK AT THE OLD BRICK HOUSE

By Susan Peterson
City of Biloxi Tree Committee, Chairperson

Step off the old beaten path to find a hidden treasure off Back Bay at the Old Brick House, located at 622 Bayview Ave.

While walking along the property towards the bay, you will find an incredible Majestic Live Oak. This tree is one of the most unique and beautiful growing in our city. The size is immense with a trunk girth of 166 inches, an enormous canopy stretching over 125 feet across the yard, and literally a jungle of huge branches spreading underneath the overhead foliage – absolutely stunning.

Over the years, I had driven past the Old Brick House many times and knew the tree was there, but decided to stop and take a closer look one morning. I immediately thought this had to be one of the city's "registered" majestic trees. And to my surprise, it wasn't. That's when I got busy and learned the process established by Société des Arbres and the City of Biloxi. It's really pretty easy. The process is described on the City of Biloxi website under the Tree Committee section at biloxi.ms.us/majestictrees.

Based on Société des Arbres aging guidelines, the tree is judged to be approximately 150 years old, meaning it was planted circa 1875. That fits perfectly with the age of the house, which was initially

constructed in 1843 – probably a beautification effort undertaken by one of three owners in that time frame. I say beautification, because the house actually faces Back Bay, and the tree would have been central to the view from the porch.

The three owners over that period included John Henley, owner from 1850 to 1873, best known as a former City of Biloxi mayor, and later for leading Biloxi's coastal defenses during the Civil War. Later, the house and property were owned by Jacob Elmer from 1872 through 1878, and finally by Dr. Edward Bell of New Orleans, who used the home as a summer residence through 1921.

The tree is now named after its home, the Old Brick House Oak. Please drop by and take a close look, just as I have. There is plenty of parking, and because it's on city property, you can walk around the tree, take photos, and enjoy the moment!

- Learn more about the Old Brick House and the Majestic Live Oak Tree during the Preservation in May series. See more on pages 8 and 16.
- Visit discover.biloxi.ms.us for more on the Old Brick House
- Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/majestictrees for more information on the tree designation

Larcher Chapel reopens at Keesler: a revitalized space for worship and community

By Airman 1st Class Kurstyn Canida
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

The Larcher Chapel at Keesler reopened Feb. 28 with a ceremony and fellowship event.

The multipurpose facility went through an extensive three-year, \$4.4 million renovation project and will serve as a community fulcrum for permanent party Airmen.

"The chapel and lighthouse ministry center are a sanctuary for all operational Airmen, so they can build upon their spiritual and social pillars, while also connecting with one another," said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jason Siacunco, 81st Training Wing religious affairs Airman. "We want to truly return to the term sanctuary with this space."

The Larcher Chapel will feature an Airman Ministry Center with amenities like gaming consoles, a movie room and a music studio providing Airmen a space to relax, connect and build resiliency away from the dorms.

In addition to the Ministry Center, the facility will house offices for chaplains and religious affairs personnel, as well as an interfaith chapel that accommodates diverse religious traditions.

"This is a big deal because on a lot of bases, you may have an interfaith discussion group, but we have actual worshipping groups," said Col.

Dallas Little, 81st TRW wing chaplain. "They're actually practicing the First Amendment right to religious expression by having worship in their tradition, right here in an Air Force chapel."

Designated religious leaders will host worship services for both the Norse Pagan and Wiccan communities, making Keesler one of only a few bases to offer such inclusive religious accommodations.

Beyond spiritual support, the chapel and lighthouse ministry center will offer a versatile multipurpose room for squadron events, promotions, retirements and even personal celebrations all available at no cost to the base community.

The reopening of Larcher Chapel represents more than just a renovation; it's a meaningful addition to the Keesler community. As Maj. Reuben Covos, 81st TRW wing chaplain, put it, "I wish I had something like this when I was starting out." That sentiment alone proves that the time, effort and investment poured into this project were well worth it.

With its doors finally open, Larcher Chapel is ready to fulfill its mission-welcoming Airmen home.

- Read more online at <https://www.keesler.af.mil/About-Us/News/>.

Biloxi Main Street: Who we are and what we do

What exactly is Main Street? What do we do? How does Main Street operate? If any of these questions have crossed your mind, here are the answers and info you need to know!

What exactly is Main Street? It is a locally operated non-profit organization led by community members. There are six local Main Street organizations along the Mississippi Gulf Coast and 48 in the State of Mississippi. The national organization, Main Street America, has roughly 860 nationally accredited Main Street programs. Biloxi Main Street has existed since 1990, and Kay Miller serves as the executive director.

Biloxi Main Street's mission statement: It is Main Street's primary objective to be the catalyst in promoting, preserving, revitalizing, and enhancing the economic growth of the Downtown Biloxi area.

What does Biloxi Main Street do? Biloxi Main Street strives to bring that mission statement to life. Every event is strategically designed to promote and revitalize the downtown. Every economic program is undertaken to grow the downtown area and downtown businesses. Every design project enhances the downtown, which in turn fosters economic growth.

Events: First Fridays at HowHop (10 per year) which highlight great local live music and locally brewed beverages; Clover & Kilts Fest (March of each year during the Hibernia Society St. Patrick's Day Parade) and Christmas In The City (a Christmas-themed street festival featuring local area choirs, cultural foods and over 100 arts and crafts vendors).

Economic programs: Biloxi Main Street has implemented façade grants, tax abatement projects, downtown housing incentive programs, and get-together programs that match up property owners with likely investors. They've produced and disseminated available property guides for investors and downtown maps to assist tourists, which include restaurant and retail guides.

Design projects include the highly successful and award-winning public art project (murals, etc.). These murals drive foot traffic through downtown. A mural map was produced to help visitors and locals find all of the murals and to learn the Biloxi history

surrounding each piece of art. The larger versions of the map are in kiosks in prime downtown locales and on the City of Biloxi's website. Design projects in the works include the art installations and lighting at HowHop, wayfinding signage, and seasonal street banners.

How does Biloxi Main Street operate? All Main Street organizations operate under the 4-point approach: committees representing economic vitality, promotions, design, and organization are formed and headed by a Biloxi Main Street board member acting as committee chair. They plan monthly meetings and help shape the goals of each committee.

Who are the committee members? They can be other board members, business owners in the downtown area, residents of the downtown area, employees of downtown anchors, and just about anyone who has an active interest in and appreciation for downtown.

Colby Cantrell, Biloxi Main Street Board President, was asked about what she's learned about this organization since becoming president: "I had no idea just how much work and time Main Street puts into making our downtown thrive and improve day after day."

The structure of the organization: an executive director and one staff member guided by a board of trustees, which meets monthly and is informed by the committee chairs. Main Street is supported by several sources: grants, event revenue, merchandise sales, but primarily by sponsors.

Who are the sponsors? There are corporate sponsors, individual sponsors, and, of course, the City of Biloxi. Each sponsorship is important. Yes, families and individuals can sponsor! Sponsorship begins at \$50. Use the QR code on this page to complete a sponsorship form and show your support of downtown Biloxi!

The Main Street Program demonstrates that if a community maintains a good quality of life, economic development will follow! The Main Street Program has been one of Mississippi's most effective and cost-efficient economic development tools over the past 40 years! It has enhanced the tax base, fostered entrepreneurship, built community capacity, and created community partnerships.



Thank you to
all Main Street
volunteers and
community
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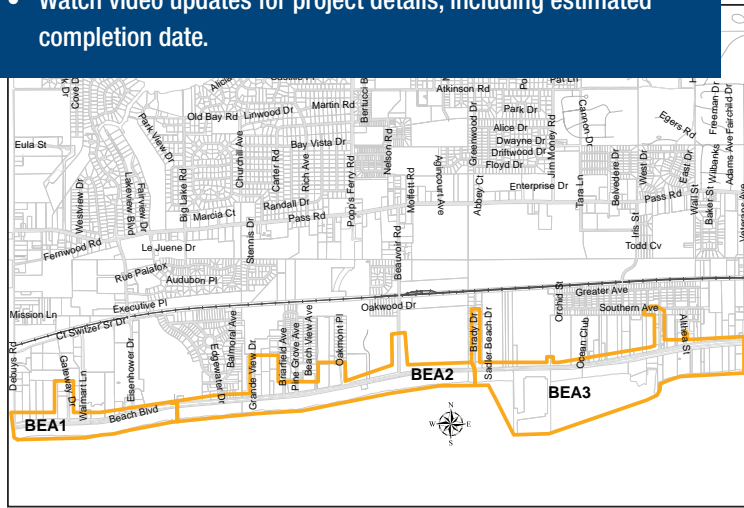


Infrastructure work in Biloxi

Project: BEA1, 2, & 3

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

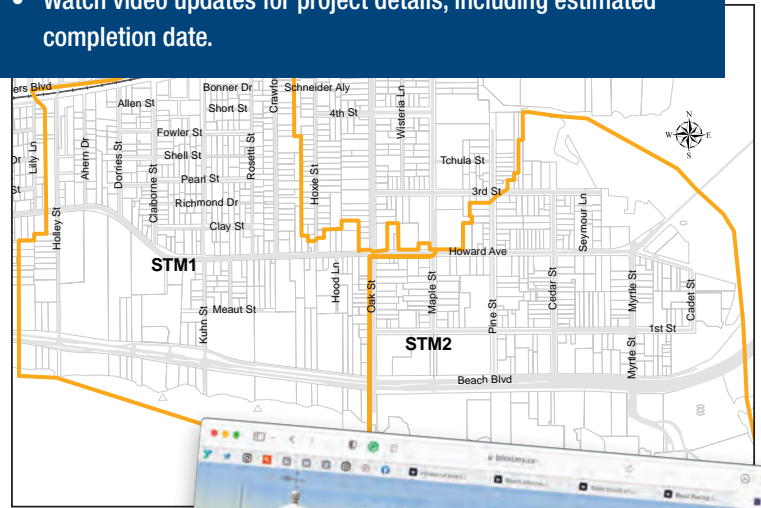
- Installation of new water, sewer, drainage
- Work began June 2022
- Watch video updates for project details, including estimated completion date.



Project: STM1 & 2

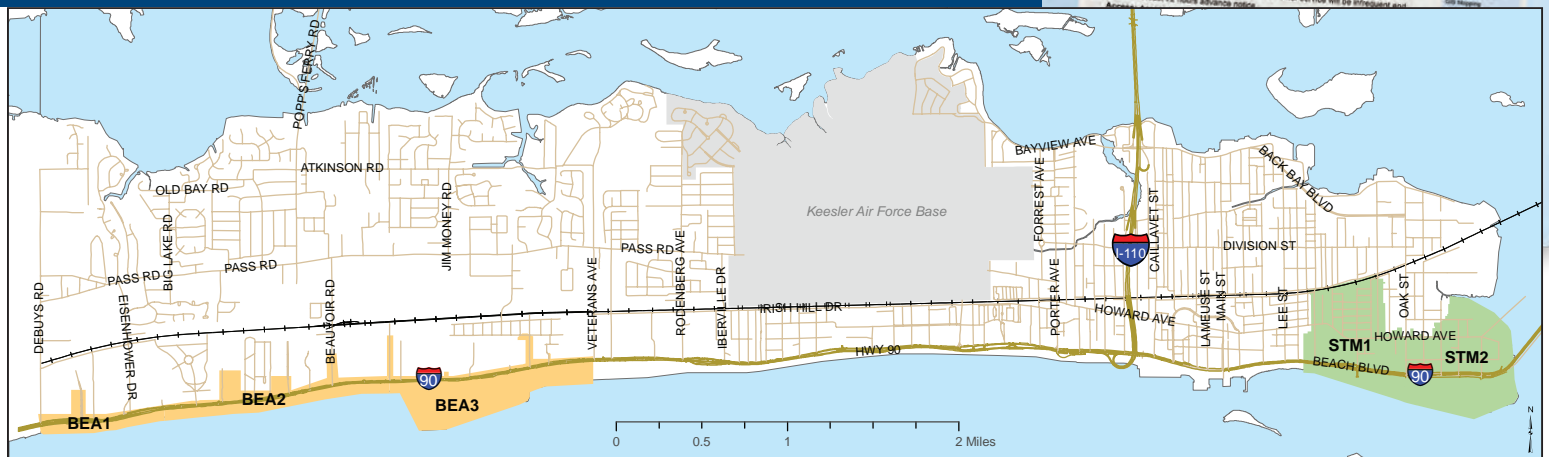
Between Holley Street & Point Cadet, south of CSX railroad
(Contractors: Necaise Brothers Construction)

- 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:



Main Street Garden as it appeared in 1966.

Main Street Garden

Spring is in the air and marks the time many spend in gardens or parks enjoying the May flowers. Some may remember the colors of springtime beautifully displayed in the Main Street Garden back in the day.

The garden was constructed by the Public Works Department at the corner of Main Street and Howard Avenue where the original City Hall building once stood. There was no missing this floral focal point in that it was 150 feet long and 20 feet wide and raised about two feet from the surrounding area. In the center of the garden was a giant letter “B” for Biloxi that was composed of pansies marking the heart of the downtown area.



New Katrina Memorial Sculpture display at the Biloxi Visitors Center.



Rescued artifacts left by the storm surge waiting for reassembly into the Katrina sculpture.

Revisiting Katrina

The Katrina Memorial sculpture was relocated from the Biloxi Town Green to the Biloxi Visitors Center last month. With hurricane season, June 1 to November 30, the memorial serves as a reminder of the devastation of hurricanes and how important it is to prepare.

The Katrina Memorial at the Biloxi Town Green was dedicated on Feb. 6, 2006, to those who lost their lives during Hurricane Katrina. A sculptural collage was created using found items donated by locals and installed in a glass case at the memorial. Additional items that were donated but not used in the glass memorial case are buried in a time capsule on the original site.

Over the years the glass display case at the Biloxi Town Green was damaged needing extensive repair. Biloxi Historical Administrator Mandy Hornsby organized an effort to relocate

the sculpture to the Biloxi Visitors Center where it could be seen by the thousands that visit there each year. The items were carefully removed and reassembled in a newly constructed glass display case which will help preserve the individual artifacts for future generations to see.

The water level marks on the flagpole outside the center show the height of the storm surge during both Hurricane Camille in 1969 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. There are water level marks inside the Historic Biloxi Lighthouse as well.

“Having the Katrina sculpture inside the center adds yet another layer of visual perspective. Some of these items were all that was left of Biloxian’s homes,” said Historical Administrator Mandy Hornsby. “These items serve as an example of how a hurricane can touch resident’s lives.”

A Hurricane Katrina documentary film plays twice daily at the Biloxi Visitors Center theater providing a visual recollection of the disaster experienced on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

“I am very excited about having the Katrina sculpture featured in the west foyer of the Biloxi Visitors Center,” said Hospitality Manager Onnie Gazzo. “I hope that both visitors and locals will stop in to appreciate this sculpture and what it means to Biloxi and other residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.”



Biloxi Historical Administrator Mandy Hornsby and Jon Lambert reassemble the Katrina Memorial.

Remembering Ed Bossier

Reginald “Ed” Edwin Bossier was born in Madisonville, LA on Jan. 20, 1944. His early years were spent with family in Louisiana, but after settling in Mississippi in the late 1960s, Biloxi became his home.



Reginald “Ed” Edwin Bossier

Ed had an eye for business and was very successful in Biloxi. Ed and his family established Bossier’s Gifts on Beach Boulevard and that was only the beginning. In 1972, Ed and his father opened Bossier’s Grill, which in 1978 became “The Hook, Line and Sinker” Restaurant and “Anchor Lounge.” You could always find Mr. Bossier behind the bar shucking oysters and sharing a local history story with a tourist or a fellow Biloxian.

Over the years, Ed owned and operated many businesses with his family, including the Biloxi Travel Inn, Bossier’s Arcade, Bossier’s RV Park, all within walking distance from the restaurant.

He even rented sailboats and paddle boats on the beach so that visitors to his beloved Biloxi could experience the warm gulf waters. Ed understood business and tourism which drove him to provide amenities that would bring the visitors in. Ed loved his Biloxi home and the tourists that returned year after year to enjoy it.

Gov. Ray Mabus recognized Ed’s passion for the coastal ecosystem preservation and appointed him to the MS Tidelands Commission in the early 1980s. The list of his achievements continued for decades while being active in many civic organizations that worked to improve the Gulf Coast community. He was also a driving force in bringing dockside gaming and Cruisin’ The Coast in the early 1990s.

Ed Bossier retired in 2005, after Hurricane Katrina, to spend time with family and



The Hook, Line, and Sinker Restaurant on Beach Boulevard in the 1990s.

friends. He was able to enjoy the life he had created for himself and family. He was a charter member of the Krewe of Neptune and served as the first King in 2010 to bring the Krewe back to life after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He enjoyed riding with the Krewe of Neptune for over 40 years, especially in his later years.

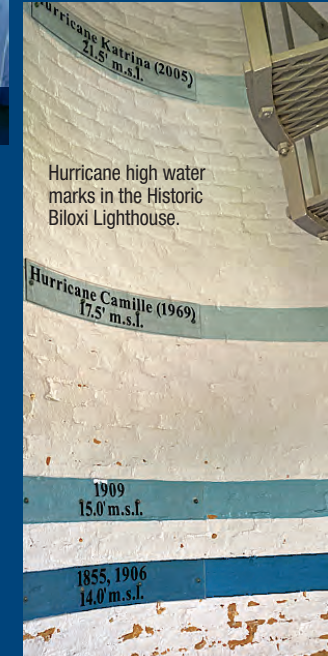
Ed was considered Biloxi’s “Mr. Hospitality” and left this world, and Biloxi, as a better place on April 6, 2025.



The Travel Inn



Storm surge water levels are marked on the Biloxi Visitors Center flagpole.



Hurricane high water marks in the Historic Biloxi Lighthouse.

MAY TRIVIA By Jane Shambra

What is the abbreviation for May? Unlike all the other months, May has no abbreviation and has the least number of letters in its spelling.

Is May one of the months with the most days? Yes. May has the most days (31) accompanied by January, March, July, August, September, October, and December.

When is Mother’s Day? In 1909, Mother’s Day was officially declared to be on the second Sunday in May. This year, we celebrate Mother’s day on Sunday, May 11.

What is the official flower of Mother’s Day? The carnation was originally chosen as the official Mother’s Day flower.

When is Memorial Day this year? Memorial Day is a federal holiday and is celebrated this year on Monday, May 26, the fourth Monday in May. Traditionally, volunteers place American flags on the gravesites in Biloxi National Cemetery, honoring and mourning the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Is May part of hurricane season? No, officially hurricane season lasts from June 1 through November 30, but there is no guarantee that severe weather cannot occur in other months as well.

When should we begin to prepare for a hurricane? This year NOAA has announced that Hurricane Preparedness Week will be May-10. With the Mississippi Gulf Coast’s history of hurricanes, now is the best time to beginning thinking about a hurricane evacuation plan. This should include your destination and the route to get there with alternates, what you intend to bring along including medications, and any contact lists and important documents.

What is NOAA? NOAA is an acronym for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It is a branch of the Department of Commerce. Its purpose is to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, and oceans and to manage coastal, and marine and ecosystems and resources.

How did we get important weather alerts 100 years ago? In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, signal flags were used to alert U.S. residents about weather conditions. In the 1870s, the Army Signal Service’s Weather Bureau began flying coded flags at 20 ports on the Atlantic, the Great Lakes, and the Gulf Coast.

What did Biloxians pay for eggs at the grocery store 100 years ago? In May 1925, the A & P grocery store on Howard Avenue in Downtown Biloxi sold eggs for 23 cents a dozen. Bacon was sold for 29 cents a pound, and a large bar of Octagon laundry soap sold for 5 cents.

Who was Biloxi’s mayor 100 years ago? John Joseph Kennedy (1875-1949) was mayor of Biloxi from 1919-1933. He became the first mayor to govern the city under a commission form of government. He was the proprietor and occupant of the famous Kennedy Hotel which was located near the Biloxi L & N Train station. Mayor Kennedy is buried in the Old Biloxi Cemetery and was featured in the Annual Cemetery Tour of 2016.



2025 Preservation in May

Celebrating Biloxi's Nature and Trees

May 1 – Rue Magnolia Tour and Scavenger Hunt

5:30-7 p.m. at Rue Magnolia entrance, 136 Rue Magnolia

Take a stroll through the historic Rue Magnolia. Enjoy a scavenger hunt and learn about the history of Biloxi's historic buildings in the area.

May 8 – Meet Me Under the Magnolia

Downtown Biloxi Tree Tour

5:30-7 p.m., Meet at Biloxi City Hall, 140 Lameuse St.

Downtown historic tree tour beginning at Biloxi City Hall and ending at the West End Fire Museum. Learn about the Majestic Tree Program! In case of rain, the event will be held at the West End Hose Co. No. 3, 1046 Howard Avenue.

May 15 – An Evening at the Old Brick House

History Presentation in the Garden

5:30-7 p.m., Old Brick House, 622 Bayview Ave.

For decades, the Biloxi Council of Garden Clubs hosted events at the Old Brick House. Come to enjoy learning about the history and preservation of one of Biloxi's oldest structures with a garden style tea party. Garden party attire welcome but not required.

May 22 – Does Camp Wilkes Ring a Bell?

History of Camp Wilkes Program

5:30-7 p.m., Camp Wilkes, 2109 Camp Wilkes Road

Many youths have spent time enjoying the outdoors at Camp Wilkes overlooking Back Bay Biloxi. Come learn about Camp Wilkes' past and future. Enjoy a hot plate for dinner being sold by the Board of Trustees for the camp to raise funds for upkeep. They will be selling jambalaya plates that include French bread, salad, and a drink for \$10.



Participants in the Preservation in May programs will be given a Biloxi Passport through History, which can be stamped at each event. Everyone who collects at least three stamps and attends the May 22 program, will receive a special gift.

All events are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served at events. Note the final event, food will be for sale as a fundraiser for Camp Wilkes.

For more information, call (228) 435-6280.

Preservation in May is organized by the City of Biloxi, Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Biloxi Main Street District, Biloxi Fire Department, Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area, and the Mississippi Coast Historical and Genealogical Society.



Visit online at biloxi.ms.us •  

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

Best Bets!

Biloxi Shuckers Baseball

Keesler Federal Park

105 Gaillavet St.

Shuckers VS Blue Wahoos

May 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11 (times vary)

Shuckers VS Knoxville Smokies

May 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, & 25 (times vary)

Admission: Ticket prices vary. Gates open 65 minutes prior to start of game.

Details: 228-233-3465, biloxishuckers.com



Treading at the Nat

Swimming is an important and essential skill to have, and living on the coast elevates the need to know how to reach and pull. The water instructors at the Biloxi Aquatics Division want to help youngsters and adults this summer learn the fun, healthy, and potentially life-saving art of swimming. The team will be offering a number of morning and evening sessions at the Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave., for ages five and older throughout the summer. Spots fill up quickly. So, get your swim gear ready and visit the Biloxi Natatorium on May 3 from 8 a.m. to noon (Biloxi residents) and May 5 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. (non-Biloxi residents and late registration). Each two-week session is \$30 per person for Biloxi residents and \$50 per person for non-Biloxi residents. Details: 228-435-6205 or biloxi.ms.us/aquatics

Biloxi's Preservation In May 2025 Series – Celebrating Biloxi's Nature and Trees, May 1, 8, 15, & 22, various locations. Get your "Passport Through History" and collect at least three stamps to receive a special gift at the end of the series. Series presented by Preserve Biloxi. Admission to all four events is free. See more on pages 8 & 16.

National Day of Prayer, May 1, Noon, Biloxi City Hall, 140 Lameuse St., 2nd floor Council Chambers. Annual observance prayer ceremony open to people of all faiths to pray for the nation. Free admission

Biloxi Fun Run, May 1, 8, & 15, 6 p.m.; 969 Howard Ave. Thursday night fun run. Run along the scenic streets of downtown; 2-mile or 3-mile options. All welcome. Free admission. Details: Facebook@alteredrealitybrewing

Biloxi Chamber of Commerce First Responder Appreciation Cook-Out, May 2, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Biloxi Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave. The event is open to all first responders and their support staff. Details: 228-604-0014

First Friday, May 2, 5-9 p.m. HowHop Entertainment District, corner of Howard Ave. and Hopkins Blvd. Live music from the Biloxi High Show Choir – Sound Surge and headliner, Howlin' Grace, food, refreshing Fly Llama beverages, and the First Friday Fun Bike ride that leaves HowHop at 6:15 p.m. Details: 228-435-6339

8th Annual Biloxi Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Fair, May 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Lighthouse tours every 30 minutes, food trucks, arts & crafts vendors, and crafts for the kids. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

Wire Wrap Bracelet Class, May 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Gallery 782 – An Artists' Co-op, 773 Jackson St. Participants will make the "original darling bracelet" suitable for men or women. Cost: \$65, includes materials and use of tools to complete project. Instructor: Artist Sue West. Details: 228-860-0448

Ties and Tiaras, May 3, 4-6 p.m., The Kroc Center, 575 Division St. Parent and child couples dance (formerly known as Daddy & Daughter Dance). Parents can enjoy a glamorous Hollywood evening out with the most important boy or girl in their lives. DJ, dinner, dancing, photo ops, and a dance contest. Admission: \$25 per couple, plus \$10 per additional child. Pre-registration required. Details: 228-374-9110

City of Biloxi Parks & Recreation Summer Swimming Lessons Registration, May 3, 8 a.m.-noon (Biloxi residents) & May 5, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. (late registration & non-Biloxi residents), Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave. Open to various ages and various times. Fees apply. Registration continues weekdays until classes are full. Details: 228-435-6205, biloxi.ms.us/aquatics

Fallen Officer Memorial Ceremony, May 7, 10-11:30 a.m., Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave. Ceremony to honor Biloxi Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty will be held on front steps. Refreshments provided. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6100

Biloxi Red Tide Swim Team Registration, May 3, 8 a.m.-noon, Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Ave. Late registration continues weekdays from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. throughout the summer. Summer swim team open to ages 18 and younger. Swimmer must be able to swim 25 yards efficiently without stopping. Fees apply. Details: 228-435-6205, biloxi.ms.us/aquatics

Pottery Exhibition Reception, May 8, 5-7 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Details: 228-435-4192

2nd Annual Biloxi Skate Fest, May 9, 5-8:30 p.m. & May 10, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., DIY Skatepark, 205 Hopkins Blvd. Two-day festival celebrating skateboarding, community, and culture. Event features skate contests, live music, food trucks, and after-parties. Free admission. Details: www.gulcoastskateparksassociation.org

Billy Creel Memorial Gulf Coast Wooden & Classic Boat Show, May 17-18, Schooner Pier Complex, 367 Beach Blvd. View and tour the beautiful collection of wooden and classic boats. Schooner sails every hour on the hour beginning at 11 a.m. (\$20), shrimp plates, full bar, music, demonstrations, exhibits, and contests. Admission: Adults – \$8, Students ages 13-18 – \$3, and

Best Bet!

Fallen Officer ceremony



The public is invited to join the Biloxi Police Department on the front steps of the Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center, 170 Porter Ave., on Wednesday, May 7, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. to pay homage to all law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. The Biloxi Police Department, along with fallen officers' families and friends, will gather to show that the fallen are not forgotten and that they continue to be heroes for their service and sacrifice. The ceremony is free to attend and will include cake and refreshments. Details: 228-435-6100

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

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 84th 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

children 12 and younger – free. Details: 228-435-6320

Viking Knit Bracelet Class, May 18, 1:30-4 p.m. Gallery 782 – An Artists' Co-op. 773 Jackson St. Learn a delightful wire weaving technique. A maximum of five students (ages 16 and up) will be accepted. Cost: \$50 (includes supplies). Instructor: Artist Julie Boudreaux. Details: 504-578-8192

Learn a delightful wire weaving technique, 773 Jackson St. A maximum of five students (ages 16 and up) will be accepted. Cost: \$50 (includes supplies). Instructor: Artist Julie Boudreaux. Details: 504-578-8192

Pickleball tournament, May 20, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Details: ldavis@smpdd.com, 228-868-2311

Golf cart inspections and registration day: May 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Biloxi High School, 1845 Tribe Drive. Drive. Make your golf cart legal. Visit with golf cart for inspection and pay \$75. Details: 228-435-6100, biloxi.ms.us/golfcarts

Bike Biloxi, May 20, 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

3rd Annual Dance Competition & Health Fair, May 22, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Ave. Open to ages 55 and older. Details: gmsmith@co.harrison.ms.us, 228-241-2007

Main Street Book Club, May 22, 5:30 p.m., Patio 44, 124 Main St. May's selection: "The Husbands" by Holly Gramazio. Drinks/dinner at participants' expense. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Annual Gulf Coast Oyster Cook-off & Festival, May 24-25, Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet St., Live music, Corvette show, oyster cook-off, and Point Cadet Bar. Admission prices vary. Details: 228-388-2443



Biloxi Little Theatre
220 Lee St., 228-432-8543
www.4blt.org
• **Newsies By Disney**
May 2-4

Center Stage
2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258
centerstagebiloxi.com
• **Misery,** May 1-4
• **A Celebration of Musical Memories,** May 30-June

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. (Partial tours at this time. Upper inside deck repairs in process. Call for details.)
• **8th Annual Biloxi Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Fair,** May 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts & crafts vendors, food trucks, children's activities, free lighthouse tours every hour.

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 & \$20/child ages 3-12, check website for dates
• **Billy Creel Memorial Gulf Coast Wooden & Classic Boat Show,** May 17-18, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Admission: Adults-\$8, Students age 13-18-\$3, Children 12 & under-free
• Reserve your space today for 4th of July Fireworks aboard the schooner. \$45 for adults; \$25 for ages 3-12

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
• **Red Cross Blood Drive,** May 12 and 29, 1-6 p.m.
• **Auburn Raptor Center Event,** June 16, noon and 1 p.m. Outside JCPenney

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
- **Pottery Exhibition**, May 8-31, Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. View the beautiful pottery made by the seniors of the East Biloxi Senior Center. Free admission

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

- **Water & Boater Safety Day**, May 17, 10 a.m.- noon. Vendors, food trucks, prize drawing, demonstrations, games. Free admission.
- **Homeschool Field Day**, May 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., games, team-building, and friendly competition. Admission: Families enrolled in the 2025 Kroc Homeschool Program, free. Others, \$10 per person.
- **National Senior Fitness Day**, May 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., fitness class, vendors, wellness, boxed lunch. Free admission. Call Chere at 228-374-9129 to register.
- **Karaoke Night by the Pool**, May 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Admission is free for members, \$10 for guests.
- **Floating Sound Bath**, May 31, 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Float on air mattresses while experiencing soothing sounds for stress relief and relaxation

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.

- **Gulf Coast Vietnamese Narratives, through June 30**, Joe Moran Gallery on the 3rd Floor. Exhibit features the journey of the Vietnamese community from the Fall of Saigon through their integration with the Gulf Coast's Seafood Industry and Traditions, to the Crowning of Vietnamese American Shrimp Royalty. Reception May 3, meet the founders and creators of GCVN and tour the museum. Enjoy light refreshments.
- **Sea-n-Sail Adventure Camp 2025 Registration**. Now open. Camp for students ages 6-12 years, 7 weeks to choose from in June and July; \$275 per week. Registration forms online: www.maritimemuseum.org

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

386 Beach Blvd., 228-374-5547, www.georgeohr.org Check the website for events and classes!

- **Fire Under the Oaks Firing Workshop**, May 2-4; 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission: \$575
- **Date Night Wheel**, May 9, 6-9 p.m. Admission \$45 per person
- **Biloxi Yacht Club**, 228-374-6344

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 4, 11, 18, & 25. 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**, May 9; 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold at 7:15 p.m., \$20, dine-in or carry out. 228-392-9345
- **Harrison County Gem & Mineral Show**, May 17-18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$6
- **Military Collectible Show**, May 23-24, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

591 Howard Ave. (2nd floor) • Details: 228-438-4636

- **Preservation in May** series, May 1, 8, 15, 22. See page 16

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, May 5, 12, 19 & 26, 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: Biloxi Parks & Rec., 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:**

biloxi.ms.us/publicmeetings

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
27	28	29 Community Market	30	1 Community Market	2 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	3 Ties & Tiaras Kroc Center
				Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge KAFB Farmers Market First Friday – HowHop First Responder Appreciation Cookout Biloxi Public Safety Center Newsies – Biloxi Little Theatre Misery – Center Stage Jake Owen – Beau Rivage Midland – IP Casino Dueling Pianos – Beau Rivage	Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Fair – Biloxi Visitors Center Wire Wrap Bracelet Class Gallery 782 Swimming Lessons and Red Tide Registration Biloxi Natatorium Newsies – Biloxi Little Theatre Misery – Center Stage
4	5	6 Community Market	7	8 Community Market	9 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	10
Newsies Biloxi Little Theatre Misery Center Stage			Fallen Officer Ceremony Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park	Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Pottery Exhibition Reception Biloxi Visitors Center Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Preservation in May Meet at City Hall Coin Show - Coliseum	Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night – Joppa Shrine Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Biloxi Skate Fest DIY Skatepark Coin Show - Coliseum Smokey Robinson – Beau Rivage Dueling Pianos – Beau Rivage	Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Coin Show MS Cost Coliseum
	Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral				
11	12	13 Community Market	14	15 Community Market	16 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	17
Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park	Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima			Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Preservation in May Old Brick House	Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Billy Creel Wooden & Classic Boat Show Schooner Pier Complex Fab Four Hard Rock Dueling Pianos – Beau Rivage	Water & Boater Safety Day – Kroc Center Billy Creel Wooden & Classic Boat Show Schooner Pier Complex Harrison County Gem & Mineral Show Joppa Shrine Theory of a Deadman Beau Rivage
		Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral				
18	19	20 Community Market	21	22 Community Market	23 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	24
Viking Knit Bracelet Class Gallery 782 Harrison County Gem & Mineral Show Joppa Shrine		Bike Biloxi Downtown Biloxi Pickleball Tourney Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	Golf Cart Inspections & Registration Day Biloxi High School Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park Homeschool Field Day Kroc Center	Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Dance Competition & Health Fair Biloxi Civic Center Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park Preservation in May Camp Wilkes Main St. Book Club Patio 44	Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park Oyster Cookoff/Festival Point Cadet Plaza Black Stone Cherry Beau Rivage Dueling Pianos – Beau Rivage	Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park Oyster Cookoff/Festival Point Cadet Plaza
	Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima					
25	26	27 Community Market	28	29 Community Market	30 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society	31
Shuckers vs Smokies Keesler Federal Park			National Senior Fitness Day Kroc Center	Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall	Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Karaoke Night by the Pool Kroc Center Dueling Pianos – Beau Rivage	A Celebration of Musical Memories Center Stage Pottery Exhibition Last Day Biloxi Visitors Center Floating Sound Bath Kroc Center Seether – Hard Rock Happy Together IP Casino
	Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral				

BTV May 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!" Smoked Brisket Sliders, MGM Golf & Lux Lounge at Beau Rivage
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
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!" Smoked Brisket Sliders, MGM Golf & Lux Lounge at Beau Rivage
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
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!" Smoked Brisket Sliders, MGM Golf & Lux Lounge at Beau Rivage
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
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.

Biloxi Television available to everyone

BTV, Biloxi Television, is the city's municipal TV channel offering an array of programming for not only Biloxi residents but for anyone online.

Biloxi Public Affairs creates, produces, and schedules programming for BTV. BTV is a mix of current events, such as City Council meeting replays, Biloxi A to Z, Shuckers Insider, Inside BTV, and other presentations; safety reminders from the Biloxi Police and Fire departments; monthly infrastructure updates; and a mix of local history and local favorites including "Biloxi Cooks!", "Postcards from Biloxi", Biloxi Through the Ages", and more.

BTV is available to Biloxi residents with Sparklight. Just tune into channel 56. But anyone, anywhere, can watch BTV by streaming it online at biloxi.ms.us/btv. Many of the programs are also available on demand on the City of Biloxi YouTube channel.

Serving up some mini cuisine

Multi-sport simulation and mini cuisine go hand in hand this month on "Biloxi Cooks!"

MGM Golf and Lux Lounge at the Beau Rivage offers visitors a multi-sport, multi-player experience along with a variety of mouth-watering dishes. Chef Therese Martin takes viewers into the popular entertainment venue and prepares some Smoked Brisket Sliders.

The popular game-day mini sandwiches pair well with dozens of sports, activities, and entertainment available at the lounge. The sliders demonstration also offers an easy way for anyone to slide into some tasty cuisine at home. The simple recipe is available below.

Watch this month's "Biloxi Cooks!" and see how Chef Martin prepares the sliders. The May 2025 episode airs at 7 a.m., 1 p.m., and 7 p.m. throughout the month. It is also available on demand on the City of Biloxi's YouTube channel.



This month's recipe:

Smoked Brisket Sliders

MGM Golf and Lux Lounge
Beau Rivage

Ingredients: (Recipe yields 3 sliders)

- 6 oz – Smoked Brisket
- 3 oz – Creamy Coleslaw
- 3 slices – Smoked Gouda Cheese
- 3 ea – Bread & Butter Pickles
- 3 oz – BBQ Sauce
- 3 ea – Hawaiian Rolls

Instructions:

1. Heat the brisket with Gouda slices on top in the oven.
2. Toast Hawaiian buns in the oven.
3. Spread BBQ sauce on both sides of the buns.
4. Place hot brisket and cheese on each bottom bun.
5. Top brisket with slaw, pickles, and buns.
6. Serve on a plate.



Biloxi reads

Extra, Extra!

Read All About It

By Jane Shambra

The first National Preservation Month in the United States was celebrated in May 1973. The purpose was to promote historic places, heritage, and tourism while demonstrating the social and economic benefits of historic preservation. Reading through Biloxi’s past is an excellent way to understand how amazing Biloxi’s heritage has evolved through time.

Journals of Monsieur D’Iberville and Fr. Du Ru

We can learn much about the history of Biloxi through hand-written journals of early explorers, including Monsieur D’Iberville and Father Du Ru. Reading these accounts is a fascinating way to learn firsthand what it was like to visit Biloxi in the early 1700s. Little did these men realize that we would still be reading their notations hundreds of years later. Originally written in French, they both described details such as the weather, encounters with Native Americans, narrations about our mainland and nearby islands, and their simple diet and cooking regimens. We can also learn the importance of religion and faith in their daily lives.

Along the Gulf

In the mid-1800s, steamboats along the Mississippi Sound provided east-west passenger transportation for Biloxians. By 1870, however, rail service introduced a better option for travelers. In 1895, the Biloxi Railway was established, and coastal rail service was offered

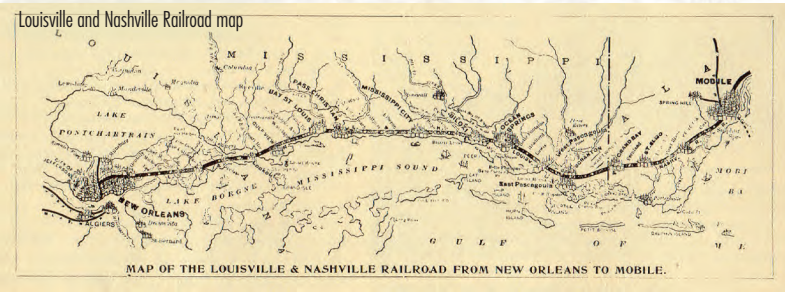
from New Orleans to Mobile, via the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, with stops along the way, including Biloxi. “Along the Gulf” takes the reader along that rail trek with descriptions and photographs of towns and cities along its path. This publication was so popular that in November 1971, the Women of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Pass Christian supported its third printing.

Petar’s treasures

One of the outstanding publications written about Biloxi’s Croatian heritage is found in a little-known children’s book published in 1945:



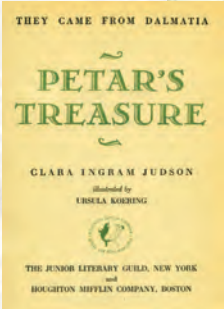
A page from “Along the Gulf”



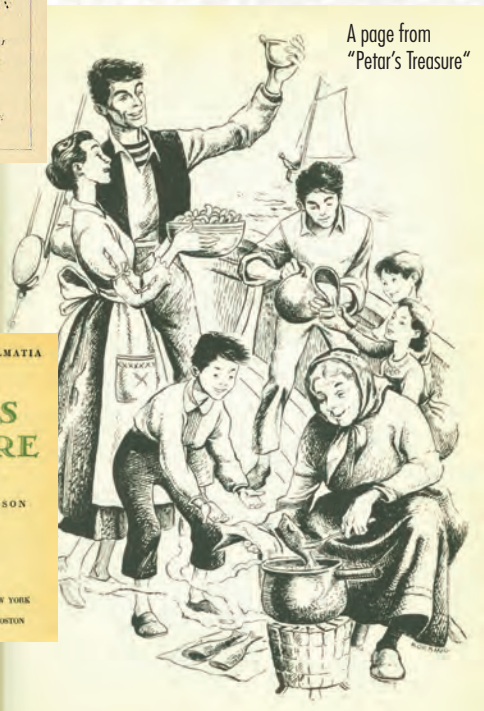
Louisville and Nashville Railroad map

“Petar’s Treasure.” It was written by Clara Ingram Judson (1879 – 1960), a well-known children’s author from Illinois. To prepare for her story, she made several trips to Biloxi with her daughters to learn about the culture and workforce that contributed to the seafood industry in East Biloxi. Croatian names such as Nona, Papa, Petrovich, Luka, Anka, and Kovech are found throughout the book.

Throughout the story, the reader wonders if Petar finds his treasure and what exactly he finds. A delightful conclusion encourages the reader to want to learn more about Petar, his family, and his amazing Biloxi adventure. Although this publication is out of print, it can be accessed online through the Mississippi Gulf Coast Museum of Historical Photography’s website: <https://www.msmohp.com/petars-treasure.html>.



Cover of “Petar’s Treasure”



A page from “Petar’s Treasure”



FLYING COWS OFF FOR DEER ISLAND.

Illustration from “Flying Cows in Biloxi”

Flying cows

Perhaps the most bizarre publication dates back to 1907, when Benson Bidwell (1835 – 1911), a native of New York, wrote a fictitious story, “Flying Cows of Biloxi,” relating to days when Biloxi cows had wings, allowing them to reach dangling Spanish moss which they would feed upon from our trees. These wings not only allowed the cows to access their food, but they also flourished into bushes, producing oranges! These cows would fly to Deer Island, where they eventually resided. The 1893 (fictitious) Mayor of Biloxi, City Council, and Chief of Police “expressed their warmest approval” of this new species introduced to Biloxi.

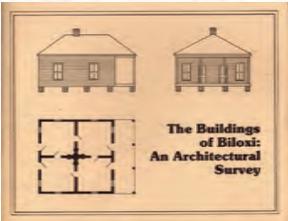
Seafood central

In 1979, under the direction of Julia Guice, City of Biloxi Historian, “When Biloxi Was The Seafood Capital Of The World” was written by David Sheffield and Darnell Nicovich. It is a fascinating account of the history of the Biloxi Seafood Industry and its climb in popularity to rightfully become the “Seafood Capital of the World.” The City of Biloxi is the proud publisher of this copyrighted, historical account, which includes basic information about its early history, its factories, and

biographies of the businessmen who contributed to the successful economy. The City of Biloxi again republished this title in 2014, in memory of Julia Guice.

Biloxi Buildings

In 1977, the City of Biloxi was proud to announce the publication “Buildings of Biloxi: An Architectural Survey.” Following the devastation of Hurricane Camille in 1969, it was an important movement to accent Biloxi’s architecture and historic structures. Through the collaboration of surveyors and historians, more than 500 buildings were identified as significant, and 219 of them were featured in this first edition. The project, under the direction of Julia Guice, cost less than \$7,500. The City of Biloxi updated this valuable resource with reprints in 2000 and 2010. The 2010 edition identifies the featured properties that were lost during Hurricane Katrina.



Cover of “Biloxi Buildings”

Historical journals

The Mississippi Coast Historical and Genealogical Society had its official organizational beginning in Downtown Biloxi in 1968. Realizing the importance of preserving Biloxi’s past, the society began publishing journals that included interesting topics relating to history, people, cemeteries, events, and genealogical articles. They were published from the 1960s through 2017, and continue to be a unique resource when looking back into the history and families of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.



Journals by the Historical Society



History of the seafood industry in Biloxi, available at the Biloxi Visitors Center.

Biloxi memories

In 2014, WYES-TV, an affiliate of PBS, released the film “Biloxi Memories and The Broadwater Beach Hotel.” Produced by Barbara Sillery, this well-documented video of Biloxi’s memorable hotel and resort on Hwy. 90 just east of Beauvoir, includes local family videos and interviews supporting fun times at Biloxi’s favorite vacation destination. This film is still available for viewing online. Soon after the movie was released, the producer (Barbara Sillery) compiled a magnificent easy-to-read book relating the film’s topics, including the

Biloxi Lighthouse, Keesler Air Force Base, the Isle of Caprice, Barq’s Root Beer, Gus Stevens, memorable old hotels, and George E. Ohr, just to mention a few. The book “Biloxi Memories” was released in 2015 and continues to inform and entertain readers today.

Coast hurricanes

In 1987, Charles Sullivan (1942 – 2023) compiled his first comprehensive history of Gulf Hurricanes, “Hurricanes Of The Mississippi Gulf Coast,” dating back to 1717. Mr. Sullivan, a well-known local historian and professor, assembled this fascinating publication, which includes maps, photographs, and dialogue to help document the history of hurricanes in our area. In 2009, after Hurricane Katrina, this accomplished historian updated the hurricane history book: “Hurricanes of the Mississippi Gulf Coast: Three Centuries of Destruction.” Both editions are available at several local public and university libraries.



The book filled with history of hurricanes

Council minutes

From 1856 through the present, the City of Biloxi has published minutes from its council meetings. They are available online on the City of Biloxi’s website, biloxi.ms.us/citycouncil. Minutes from early years, when Biloxi was still designated as a town, are displayed in its original cursive handwriting.

Collection of recipes

A visit to Grandma’s kitchen would not be complete without browsing through her cookbook collection. These old local cookbooks are not only instrumental in preparing special meals for family and friends, but also allow us to peek into their pages, sometimes revealing snippets of saved photos and stories about Biloxi’s rich cultural heritage. Hidden between the pages, one might discover family treasures, such as handwritten recipes, grandkids’ school pictures, and even love letters!

Biloxi news

The Biloxi BNews Monthly magazine, published by the City of Biloxi, made its debut in 2018. It includes information about events, infrastructure repairs, water quality, a monthly calendar, Keesler Air Force Base news, and even a look back at Biloxi history in its Back in the Day articles.

The BNews Monthly magazine continues to be delivered to Biloxi addresses and is also available at the Biloxi Visitors Center, City Hall, and by digital format online at biloxi.ms.us/bnews.

BNews Monthly

MAY 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

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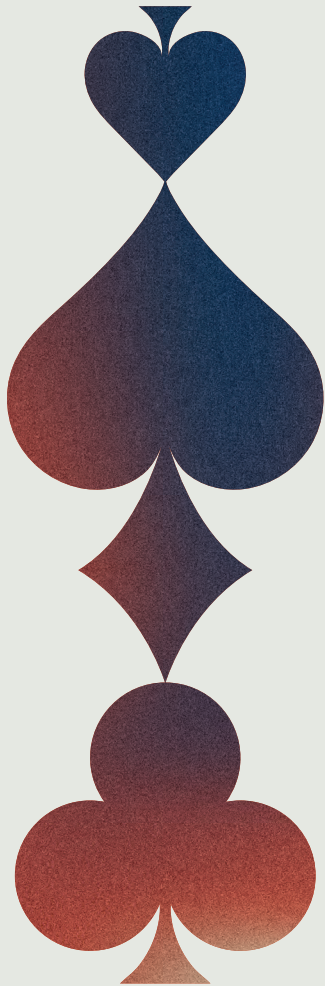


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