

BNews Monthly

SEPTEMBER 2025

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



Biloxians remembered

– Page 8



History on fire

– Page 8



Swearing to serve

– Page 6



Business is bustling

– Page 4



Twelve Palms

– Page 11



Vendors on scene

– Page 6



The Finch of Woolmarket, "Biloxi Cooks!"

– Page 21



Golf carts get legit

– Page 11



Shuckers slide into September

– Page 10



Downtown murals part three

– Page 12



A visit to some of Biloxi's neighborhoods

– Back in the Day, Pages 22-23



Even more inside

A Thousand Words	2
Back in the Day	22
BTV in September	21
Calendar	17
Infrastructure info	13
News & Notes	6
Public meetings	19
Random notes	14
Shuckers	10

A Thousand Words



Steel rails over Biloxi Bay

princess MAKEOVER MAGIC

Saturday, September 20

11 a.m.-3 p.m. • Near JCPenney

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Edgewater Mall

A bustling lineup of businesses

With development continuing to be seen throughout the city, one often asks what is being developed in a certain area or what new businesses have recently opened. From innovative retail to thriving local startups and modern residential complexes, the city continues to expand to meet the demand of its dynamic population of residents and visitors.

This ongoing development highlights the area's appeal to entrepreneurs and future residents. Here is a list of current construction projects and new businesses who have recently opened their doors.

Current development under construction:

- White House Hotel addition, Beach Boulevard and White Avenue
- Saenger Theatre, 170 Reynoir Street
- Hammered Harrys, (former Margaritaville), 5th Street
- Barq's Building renovations, Howard Avenue and Reynoir Street
- The Current Apartments, Beach Boulevard, west of Treasure Bay
- Coast ENT Surgery Center build out, Tommy Munro Drive
- MS Cyber and Technology Center, 236 White Ave.
- Beach Front Wedding Venue, 1785 Beach Blvd.
- Biloxi Billups Hotel on Caillavet Street
- Biloxi Dollar Tree, 1673 Popp's Ferry Road
- Home 2 Suites, 612 Beach Blvd.
- Brodie Wells multifamily, Tribe Drive
- The Retreat Apartments, Tribe Drive
- Five Below build out, Pass Road and Popp's Ferry
- Fairfield & TownePlace by Marriott, Cedar Lake Road

Recently opened businesses (receiving a Privilege License in July and August)

- Salon Boudreaux, 110 Rue Magnolia St. B
- Jackson 12, 524 Howard Ave.
- Still Waters Spa, 9259 Woolmarket Road A
- Hair & Beauty Supply 4, 2412 Pass Road
- First Command, 175 Lameuse St. B & C
- Maison Du Sud, 989 Howard Ave. B
- Office on Demand, 12268 Shriners Blvd.
- Great Clips, 2378 Pass Road
- Coastal Infusion Services, 767 Howard Ave.
- High Tide Nutrition, 871 Howard Ave. B
- Ten Eleven Boutique, 2600 Beach Blvd. 62
- The Razor's Edge Barbershop, 12450 Shortcut Road A
- Legends Ink, 2600 Beach Blvd. 51
- The Refuge Spa and Skincare, 2598 Pass Road C
- Finch Coffee Co. (building), 8244 Woolmarket Road

Biloxi Dollar Tree



Development off Tribe Drive



Maison Du Sud



High Tide Nutrition



MS Cyber and Technology Center



Finch Coffee Co.



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From left to right: Officers Walters, Lee, Wesserling, Carter, Hendry, Hadley, and Rogers. We're proud to have them as part of the BPD family.

The Biloxi Police Department recently welcomed seven new officers, three laterals coming from other agencies and four brand

new police officers. Each of the officers has sworn an oath to serve and protect the citizens of Biloxi with integrity and professionalism.



The Biloxi Fire Department recently held a graduation ceremony for its Recruit Class 2501. The graduating class of ten individuals – seven for Biloxi Fire, two for Gautier Fire and one for Diamondhead Fire – have completed a rigorous training program and are ready to serve the community with bravery and commitment.

▲ Back row from left: FF III Cory Mooney, Fire Lt. Mike Williams, and Deputy Chief of Training Nick Dubuisson

Middle row from left: Nathaniel Mooney, Kevin Hadley (Gautier FD), Shiloh Snow, and Kevin Alexander

Front row from left: Jake Parker, Gabriel Burse (Gautier FD), Kaela Nokes, Spencer Krebs, Truman Carver (Diamondhead FD), and Jakob Punzo

Call to vendors for annual community festival

The Biloxi Police Department is hosting its Annual Community Festival Against Crime on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Point Cadet Plaza and is inviting vendors to participate in the popular event.

The festival attracts hundreds of visitors, which creates a great opportunity for vendors to showcase their goods and services. The free event allows visitors to get a close-up look at the city's emergency-response equipment, meet police officers and firefighters, and receive useful safety tips in a fun-filled environment.

"We want our citizens to know our police officers and see what services we provide," said Biloxi Police Captain Joey Payne. "We want everyone to come out, relax and have a good time."

Among the first responders participating in the affair are the Biloxi Police Department's

dive and rescue team, bomb squad, and the traffic and bicycle divisions. There will also be K9 demonstrations. Members of the Biloxi Fire Department will be in attendance showing off emergency vehicles and equipment.

Visitors will have a chance to spend the day learning more about operations in the police and fire departments, see their high-tech equipment, and learn how to avoid becoming a victim of crime and prevent fires in the home. There will also be plenty of free food and activities for the entire family.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the application and return it to jmorgan@biloxi.ms.us or athompson@biloxi.ms.us, or mail Community Relations, 170 Porter Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530. There is no charge to register.

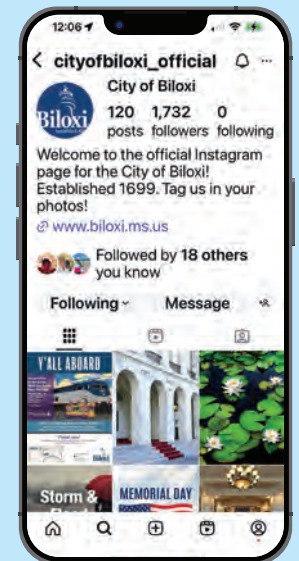
Applications are due by Friday, September 12.

Fall swimming: The Biloxi Natatorium is now operating under its fall/winter weekday hours. Adult swimming is from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., and recreation swimming (open to all ages, including those 17 and younger) is from 3-7 p.m. The pool is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Details, including fees: 228-435-6205

Lighthouse live stream: Did you know you can get a Lighthouse view of Biloxi 24/7? Just go online to biloxi.ms.us, then click on the lighthouse at the top left. The link will take you to a live stream of Biloxi streaming from the top of the Biloxi Lighthouse.

Boil water notice: If your area is put under a precautionary boil water notice, the notice is listed online. Just go to the city's website and click on the boil water notice tab at the bottom. It will take you to the page listing active and lifted boil water notices.

Instagram: Did you know the City of Biloxi has an official Instagram page? Check it out [@cityofbiloxi_official](https://www.instagram.com/cityofbiloxi_official).





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Biloxi Fire Museum 25th anniversary

Friday, Sept. 19, 5 to 7 p.m.

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\$25 per person

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Biloxi Fire Museum to mark 25 years

The Biloxi Fire Museum observes its 25th anniversary Sept. 19 and the centerpiece of the celebration will be the museum's home, a 1937 firehouse chockfull of exhibits and memorabilia.

Anniversary guests will enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, Fly Llama craft beer, wine and other refreshments, music by Hank Berumen, all amidst the backdrop of the wooden walls of the historic firehouse-turned-museum. Tickets are \$25 each.

The gathering – a gala – is a celebration of Biloxi history, the 120-plus year history of the Biloxi Fire Department and the occasion harkens back to a day when the Biloxi firehouses stored hose carts, not fire engines, and were staffed by volunteers.

In fact, the firehouse itself was once known as West End Hose Company No. 3, as it was situated on what was then the west end of Biloxi. A firehouse had stood on the site as far back as 1901 and was torn down in 1936 to make way for the current structure, which was dedicated a year later. Volunteers operated out of the firehouse until 1952, when two paid firefighters manned the building.

"That's the way it was back then, volunteers," says Biloxi native and former Fire Chief Joe Boney. "And until about 1915 or so, the city only had one fire pumper, a horse-drawn steamer, and hand-drawn hose carts that were stored at different areas of the city so firefighters could pull the steamer quickly to a fire and volunteers would already have the carts there. In fact, we have a hose cart that will be on display during our 25th anniversary."

The celebration is also recognition of a preservation idea that started nearly 30 years ago, when Boney and the late Larry Smith, a Biloxi firefighter, received city approval to explore the idea of establishing a fire museum. "As long as it didn't cost too much money," Mayor A.J. Holloway said at the time.

Boney said that he had seen dozens of antique fire helmets, old firefighting gear, and other apparatus tossed out for lack of storage over the years. Today, visitors see that memorabilia, along with funnel-shaped buckets and "fire grenades," water-filled glass orbs that firefighters would toss into a burning structure.

The museum, which is open every Saturday and by appointment at other times, averages about 100 visitors a month. The interior is dominated by two engine bays. There's also a small kitchen, a restroom and a bedroom. Walls display dozens of photographs of infamous Biloxi fires and firefighting gear through the years. Volunteers host fish fry fundraisers from time to time and there's the annual haunted house. Said Boney: "We're hoping that the anniversary will be a gathering where people can not only celebrate the museum, but take a moment to celebrate the history of our city."

There was a time that neighborhood fire stations in Biloxi were focal points of the community, neighborhood community centers.

"That's the beauty of this museum and its location," Boney added: "It tells the story of how our community evolved through the growth of the Biloxi Fire Department over the years – in an actual firehouse. It's a fascinating story, and you can feel the history while in this museum."

In the years since Katrina, the fire museum volunteers, primarily retired firefighters and friends of the department, have also made dozens of community-funded relief trips to help victims of disasters across the country.

"We generally focus on helping these smalltown first responders," said Boney, whose Katrina-damaged home was repaired by volunteer first responders. "Over the years, we have forged a relationship with the folks from New Sharon, Iowa, and together we're paying it forward on behalf of Biloxi and the help we received."

"That's what this museum is about: Preserving the past and educating the future, all in honor of Biloxi and the Biloxi Fire Department."

In Memorium

Brenda Johnston

Leader of the team

For three decades, Brenda Johnston was a cornerstone of Biloxi City Hall, a steady and trusted presence, one of Biloxi's star players and team leaders.

From 1982 to 2012, Brenda served under three mayoral administrations. She worked as an executive secretary to Mayor Gerald Blessey, served as the municipal tax collector/treasurer and oversaw billing in the water department during the administration of Mayor Pete Halat. And, served as an office manager and municipal clerk for Mayor A.J. Holloway.

Her attention to detail and unmatched knowledge of the municipal process made her the go-to person for colleagues and residents alike. She carried out her duties with quiet excellence, always ensuring that the wheels of local government turned smoothly and fairly.

Her passion for being a public servant was something she was born with, according to her brother and Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise,

"Brenda and I were blessed to be born and grow up in the Biloxi community," Haise said. "We were allowed to roam the city with the only restriction being to be home by dusk. Brenda and I had adventures following our Father during World War II to Chicago and Key West. She clearly figured out the talent that she had been born with and used it with a career to help many during her years working for our home town."



Peter Roy Elder

Biloxi's Lord of the Rings

When the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art was putting together a major baseball exhibit a few years ago, a significant portion of the exhibit highlighted the affable Peter Roy Elder. And his six World Series rings!

Peter Roy died unexpectedly in August, but what a life!

After his playing days at Biloxi High and Perk and after a stint in Vietnam, Peter Roy went on to become one of the premier scouts in Major League baseball, earning three World Series

rings with George Steinbrenner's

New York Yankees and three with the San Francisco Giants.

Rarely had all six rings been out of the safe deposit box, but Peter Roy let it happen for the Ohr-O'Keefe for several months in 2013 (they were returned to the bank nightly).

Peter Roy, who was inducted into the Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame in 2013 and honored by Biloxi First just a few years ago, relished the attention from his beloved Biloxi. "You know what my hometown thinks of me?" he asked a few baseball friends, with a smile. He'd show them the Lord of the Rings billboard on side of the CTA bus! You were a grand slam, Peter Roy.



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**'25
SCHEDULE**

*[HC] -- HOMECOMING
*[SN] -- SENIOR NIGHT

AUGUST 29	HOLMES COUNTY CENTRAL BILOXI, MS
SEPTEMBER 5	PASCAGOULA BILOXI, MS
SEPTEMBER 12	PICAYUNE PICAYUNE, MS
SEPTEMBER 19	HATTIESBURG HATTIESBURG, MS
SEPTEMBER 26	OCEAN SPRINGS OCEAN SPRINGS, MS
OCTOBER 3	ST. MARTIN BILOXI, MS
OCTOBER 17	HARRISON CENTRAL *[HC] BILOXI, MS
OCTOBER 24	GULFPORT GULFPORT, MS
OCTOBER 31	WEST HARRISON *[SN] BILOXI, MS
NOVEMBER 6	d'IBERVILLE d'IBERVILLE, MS

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Time to Win a Title! September Baseball is Here!

Shuckers set for up to 10 home games, including up to 4 playoff games at Keesler Federal Park and Bluey, Bingo Appearance

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

The season winds down with the final month of play, but it's the biggest month of the year! The Biloxi Shuckers, after winning the first-half title in the South Division, enter September with a chance to win their first-ever Southern League title. Not only would it be the franchise's first, but no Milwaukee Brewers Double-A affiliate has won an outright league championship since 1994. The Shuckers are set to host games 2 and 3 (if necessary) of the Southern League Division Series at Keesler Federal Park on Thursday, September 18, and Friday, September 19. The Shuckers will host games 2 and 3 (if necessary) of the Southern League Championship Series, if they advance, on Tuesday, September 23, and Wednesday, September 24. Both rounds of the 2025 Southern League Playoffs will be a best-of-three series.

Fans can purchase a playoff ticket package that includes tickets to all games potentially held at Keesler Federal Park during the playoffs, with savings up to 53%. If fewer than four home games are played during the playoffs, any unused tickets will be automatically converted into a credit towards the 2026 season. The credit will be applied directly to accounts.

The Shuckers' final homestand begins with a special Monday game on Labor Day, September 1. The first 250 fans will receive a No. 32 Jacob Misorowski Shuckers name-and-number shirsey in celebration of our 10th anniversary season and 2025 National League All-Star. It's also Brew Crew Tuesday presented by Coors Light, where fans can purchase a 20-oz souvenir tumbler for \$13 with \$7 refills at the first and third-base Beer Gardens. Fans can also join the fun with a pregame block party at Shuckers Plaza from 4:30-5:30 with live music from DJ Howze and food and drink for purchase. Gates will open at 5:30 for the first pitch at 6:35 p.m.

On Friday, September 5, fans can join the Shuckers as they pay their thanks to the men

and women who serve at Keesler Air Force Base during Keesler Appreciation Night and the team's final Fireworks Friday of the season. The Shuckers will wear their alternate camo jerseys.

The homestand continues with Margaritaville Night on Saturday, September 6, with a Margaritaville-themed tumbler cup giveaway for the first 1,000 fans. The Shuckers will also pay tribute to Jimmy Buffett with specialty jerseys.

The Shuckers will finish their regular-season home slate with Fan Appreciation Day on Sunday, September 7, with the return of Bluey and Bingo. Bluey and Bingo will be available throughout the game, including meet-and-greet opportunities.

Daily specials also highlight the monthly calendar. 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. Fans can also arrive early to the Corona Premier Tiki Bar from 5:15-6:35 for Happy Hour deals with \$4 16oz Corona Premier, Corona Extra, Modelo, Pacifico, \$6 High Noon, and \$8 well cocktails. 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! It's also Friday Night Flight presented by Yuengling Flight. Fans can



pick up a passport at nine different locations throughout Keesler Federal Park and grab a \$6 Yuengling or Yuengling Flight (one per stop). Fans can get a stamp at each stop, and after five stamps, they can claim their free embossed Shuckers souvenir cup. Passports can be used on multiple Friday games during the season.

The Shuckers will also recognize and donate to local family-based organizations 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.

TWELVE PALMS

By Susan Peterson
City of Biloxi, Tree Committee Chairperson

Biloxi has always honored its heroes, whether they be military, first responders, public servants, or generous citizens. We always remember what they gave.

Following the “War to End All Wars” (WWI), the twelve young Biloxi servicemen who lost their lives were honored with the planting of twelve palms in a small park located on Reynoir Street in a 1919 ceremony. A small monument was erected alongside. Although palms are not “protected trees” and are not native to our area, they are located everywhere along the coastline. In ancient times, palm branches symbolized victory and triumph. At 100 years, those palms would have been long past their expected life span, and the park at Reynoir and Esters also no longer exists. So, to recreate the event, our Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, along with Errol Bradley, chairman of the 12 Palms Project, found a perfect location to rededicate the memory.

The Businessmen’s Park at Bayview and Forrest was the right location. On Veterans Day 2013, twelve young palms were dedicated, and the monument was relocated to its new home. There were seven existing palms at the park. Windy Swetman, Harrison County Supervisor at the time, planted five more palms to recreate the twelve original palms. Cleophan Club President, Bonnie Luft, read the same dedication speech used at the 1919 ceremony.

These were not the only trees dedicated to our past heroes. Anyone can sponsor a tree to remember someone deserving the lasting recognition. Dedicating a tree to members of our community is relatively easy. Ten years ago, following my father’s death, I had two young live oak trees dedicated in Todd Miguez Park, one to my father, Noel Obert, and the other to Jackie Wilson, wife of long-time Biloxi resident, Lt Col Dick Wilson. I visit them often; they are thriving in their new home.

Please visit the Twelve Palms at Businessmen’s Park. It’s perfect for a family visit or picnic. It hosts a small playground, water fountain, a covered pavilion with a beautiful grass lawn, and a walking path perfect for strollers. It overlooks Back Bay at the corner of Bayview and Forrest Avenues. It is easy to access and well worth the time you spend there.



► Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/majestictrees for more information

Golf Cart Inspection and Registration Day

Wednesday, Sept. 24 • 3-7 p.m.

Edgewater Mall, west parking lot, 2600 Beach Blvd.

Bring your golf cart and make it legal for the roadway

On-site Inspection

- Pay annual \$75 fee
- Receive decal

- Download maps of approved roads for golf carts: biloxi.ms.us/golfcart
- Details: Call 228-435-6100, lsvregistration@biloxi.ms.us
- For more info, including what equipment is needed on your golf cart, visit online at biloxi.ms.us/golfcart.



Part Three: The Stories Behind the Downtown Murals

By Laurie Rosetti

Biloxi Main Street, City of Biloxi Downtown Services

During our final installment, let's look at the newest murals to join the collection. We will explore their purpose and their significance.

Mural Name: Welcome Mural

Location: North of the tracks, south-facing wall of a storage facility. Amtrak passengers, and motorists headed north on Caillavet Street and east/west on Esters Blvd. will have excellent views of the newest mural.

Artist: Julia Reyes

It is one of the largest downtown murals to date. The inspiration was to spruce up a space. "As soon as Amtrak started talking about coming back to Biloxi, we knew that we needed to add another beautiful mural to our downtown collection," said Kay Miller, Biloxi Main Street Executive Director. "We wanted it to be very welcoming and be a representation of the past and present. We knew that Julia Reyes was the right person to make this welcome mural come to life!"

What's it all about: Symbols of Biloxi create the colorful collage. The "Biloxi sign" is the focal point along with a vintage engine. Interestingly, the Biloxi sign now resides on the Biloxi Town Green but at its beginning was placed in Pizzati Pavilion, which was just across the street from the Amtrak platform! Earlier Biloxians probably placed it there so travelers by train would know exactly where they'd landed. Biloxians of

today had the same goal! Mullet, also known as "Biloxi Bacon," shells, and sunbeams suggest our life on the water, both the Gulf and the Biloxi Bay. And there's a familiar face, that of the original Golden Fisherman!

Why this may matter to you: These symbols inform train passenger how important seafood was and remains to Biloxi. It is also a nod to Biloxi hospitality.

Mural Name: Murals At HowHop

Location: HowHop Creative District (at the corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard). The two tri-sided works of art face Howard Avenue at the I-110 overpass.

Artists: Lucinda L'Enfant (Biloxi's Musical Connections) and Rhonda Rigby (Biloxi's Bounty)

The murals are a way to add art, cultural history, and color to the area. Recently added colorful lighting under the overpass is also part of creating ambience for an outdoor venue that is getting love and praise from First Friday attendees and the neighborhood.

What's it all about: "Biloxi's Musical Connections" by artist, Lucinda L'Enfant, portrays musicians Jelly Roll Morton, Elvis Presley, and Jimmy Buffett, all which have ties to Biloxi during the formative years of their illustrious careers. Jelly Roll Morton, known as the "father of jazz," was born in New Orleans in 1890, but lived two years in Biloxi with his godmother, Laura Hunter, because his grandmother disapproved of his career choice. While in Biloxi, he played the Flat Top, a honkytonk on Reynoir Street as well as private parties for William K.M. Dukate, now considered a father of Biloxi's seafood industry. Elvis Presley needs no introduction except to say he was the "King of Rock 'n' Roll." He spent the summers of 1956 and '57 here

in Biloxi playing all the famous spots of the day, including Sie Simon's Place, the Slavonian Lodge, The KAFB Officers' Club, the Biloxi Community Center, and others. Those summers are still the subject of much conversation as longtime Biloxians fondly recall their Elvis encounters. Jimmy Buffett, the singer/song-writer, born in Pascagoula, educated at USM Hattiesburg, began his professional career at Biloxi! He was hired for his first paid gig by Jake Mladinich, to play at Trader John's on the beach. When Jimmy opened Margaritaville, he saw Jake in the audience and recalled to the entire crowd that Jake and Biloxi began his career.

"Biloxi's Bounty" by artist Rhonda Rigby, illustrates Biloxi's most proud product – SEAFOOD! Boiled shrimp, live crabs, and oysters on the half-shell adorn each side of the mural. The seafood is so lifelike!

Why this may matter to you: Entertainment and seafood are part of tourism/hospitality, one of Mississippi's largest industries. And, many Biloxians are employed in these industries.



► See a map of the murals online: <https://biloxi.ms.us/residents/major-projects/>

NOV. 1-2
2025
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The Biloxi Bay Area Chamber will help us celebrate our milestone with a ribbon cutting!

Friday, September 19

5-7 p.m. • 1046 Howard Ave., Biloxi

• Refreshments! • Music by Hank Berumen! • 50/50 Raffle!

\$25 per person donation, limited space available.

- Venmo: @biloxifiremuseum
- Mail Check to: Biloxi Fire Museum
1046 Howard Ave., Biloxi MS 39530



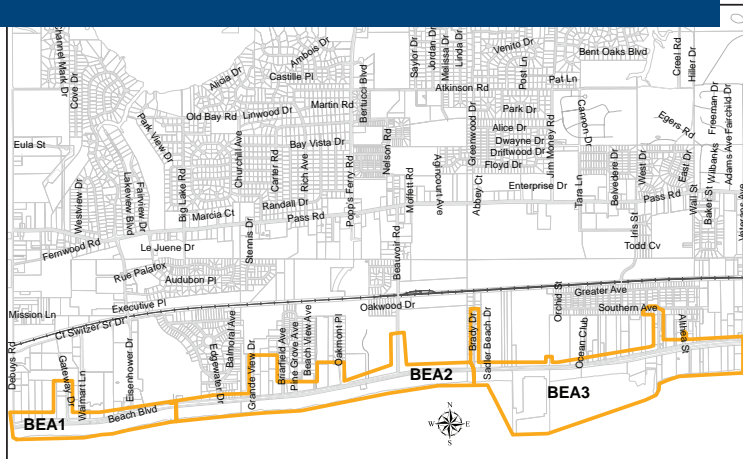
The Biloxi Fire Museum is open Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by appointment. 228-435-6119.

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.



Areawide map of infrastructure work



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

Random Notes



TIME CAPSULE:

Biloxi Bay Bridge after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.



Bridge back to Biloxi

Preparing for a storm every year is a task every coastal resident knows all too well. Stocking up on bottled water, batteries, generator fuel, and even hurricane snacks is a rush made every time a hurricane has the Mississippi Gulf Coast in its sights.

Dealing with the aftermath of a hurricane's landfall is a challenge, but nothing could have prepared us for the devastation left by Hurricanes Camille in 1969 or Katrina in 2005. Those who evacuated for the storm came back to what looked like a war zone. Those who stayed either lost their life or were forever changed by the experience.

Many residents and businesses were met with immeasurable damage or even a total loss of their property. If the wind didn't get it, the rising waters did.

The bridges to the Biloxi peninsula were no exception. The Biloxi Bay Bridge was deemed a total loss and required redesign as a much higher, wider, hurricane-resistant bridge, which took 20 months to complete. The bridge that stands today is a shining example of the coast coming back stronger after the impact of the most costly natural disaster ever to hit the United States.

Riding the rails to Biloxi



Amtrak welcomed at the Biloxi rail platform during the Mardi Gras Service Inaugural Run event.



Amtrak Mardi Gras Service train welcomed into Biloxi.



Amtrak President Roger Harris presents Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich with the official Amtrak destination sign.



Amtrak is back on the Mississippi Gulf Coast with the new Mardi Gras Service, offering train service between Mobile and New Orleans and stopping at four cities in Mississippi. Many elected officials, local leaders, state legislators, and Amtrak officials rode the Amtrak Inaugural Run together on August 16 to celebrate the return of rail service to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

As the Amtrak Mardi Gras Train arrived in Biloxi, it was met with a vibrant celebration that embodied the city's community spirit, music, and carnival tradition!

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich spoke briefly to the crowd, introducing Senators Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith, and Amtrak President Roger Harris, who expressed their eagerness to launch the new Mardi Gras Route. During the ceremony, Harris presented Mayor Gilich with a sign marking Biloxi as an official Amtrak destination.



Marcus Dupree meeting Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich at Biloxi City Hall.

An eye on the ball and Biloxi

Marcus Dupree was in Biloxi last month and dropped by City Hall to meet Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich.

Dupree, a Mississippi native, was a former professional football player who was a running back in the United States Football League and the National Football League. He gathered national attention in the 1980s for his exceptional speed, power, and achievements.

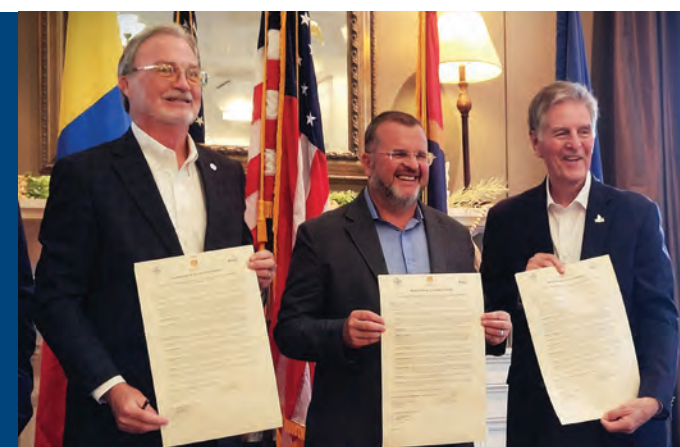
Marcus Dupree is a motivational and inspirational speaker and co-founded Marcus Dupree MVP College Recruiting & Consulting. Dupree is also a business promoter with an eye on the ball of progress. Biloxi is pleased to know he also has his eye on Biloxi as a business marketplace.

International business connection

The mayor of Rionegro, Colombia, visited Biloxi to sign a sister city agreement at the Biloxi Visitors Center. Biloxi Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich and Gulfport Mayor Hugh Keating welcomed Mayor Jorge Rivas and his family for the official signing. The partnership, which started in 2019 to support business and tourism in both cities, was delayed by COVID. Now, the cities are moving forward once again.

Rionegro, like Biloxi, has a rich history and a strong tourism industry. As the cities work together, Rionegro's flower industry will begin shipping products through the Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport. The strong tourism market shared between the cities is expected to boost travel relations in the future.

In an added effort to serve her community, Colombian-born Biloxi Police Officer Dayana Lyons served as a translator during the visit, which significantly eased communication between the parties.



Gulfport Mayor Hugh Keating, Mayor Jorge Rivas of Rionegro, Colombia, and Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich at the Biloxi Visitors Center.



Biloxi Police Officer Dayana Lyons, Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, Mayor Jorge Rivas of Rionegro, Colombia, and Gulfport Mayor Hugh Keating.

SEPTEMBER TRIVIA Paving the road

By Jane Shambra

The many streets of Biloxi all have individual stories to tell. Here are a few fascinating facts to ponder:

What was the previous name of Eisenhower Drive located between Edgewater Village and Edgewater Mall? In the 1970s, local maps labeled that street as "Edgewater Gulf Drive."

The old Barq's Root Beer bottling factory was once located on Keller Ave. and is currently being renovated and repurposed. Who is Keller Avenue named after? John Henry Keller (1830-1908), a prominent soap manufacturer from New Orleans and organizer of the Seashore Campgrounds in Biloxi.

Is Lee Street in Biloxi named after Robert E. Lee? No. It is named after Gottlieb Frederick "Lee" Keller (1862-1909), who was the son of John Henry Keller.

What is a neutral ground? A grassy raised area of land dividing a street, also known as a median. The Biloxi lighthouse is centered on a neutral ground. Caillavet Street and Father Ryan Avenue also have a neutral ground.

A new roadway has recently been opened in West Biloxi originating at Pass Road. What is the name of this new thoroughfare? W. C. Fore Parkway, named for the person that donated the property for the road.

There was once a street in East Biloxi called Howard Lane. What is its current name? Lilly Lane.

A portion of Railroad Street in Downtown Biloxi is named Esters Blvd. Who is that street named after? Esters Boulevard is named after Michael Laverne Esters (1951-1983), who was Biloxi's first Africa-American councilman and represented Ward 2.

When did Biloxi alter its street numbers, and some street names, to accommodate for its new 911 emergency calling system. On June 18, 1987, under the leadership of Mayor Gerald Blessey, Biloxi's City Council adopted this major mapping modification providing another layer of public safety.

What was the previous name of Veterans Avenue? Harrison Avenue. Today the road commences at Beach Boulevard and leads to the Veterans Administration property on Pass Road.

Does Biloxi have any streets commemorating United States astronauts? Yes. Haise Street, formerly known as Church Street, is named after the family of our native son, Fred Haise, Apollo 13 astronaut.

What was the previous name of Nichols Drive? It was once known as Bellman Street. In 1987, this street section north of the railroad tracks was renamed in honor of Franklin Marshall Nichols (1882-1945) and Fannie Birch Nichols (1894 -1982), who are remembered as leaders in education for Biloxi's African American community.

What was the previous name of Sunkist Country Club Road? Prior to 1987, it was called Ancient Oaks Boulevard.

The City of Biloxi Police Department Invites you to join us for...

THE ANNUAL BILOXI Community Festival Against Crime

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025

11 a.m.-2 p.m. • Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet St.



Music • Games & Activities
Displays & Demonstrations
Free Food & Drinks
Free Parking



ROCK n ROLL *Senior Bash*

Friday, Sept. 26, 2025
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

"Oldies-but-Goodies" Music!
Door Prizes! • Food!
Wear your 40s, 50s & 60s attire!

*Open to age 50
or older!*

Free admission!

RSVP before Sept. 20 to
Biloxi Parks & Recreation
Department Office,
228-388-7170.

For information, call the
department at 228-388-7170,
or email, seniors@biloxi.ms.us,
or programs@biloxi.ms.us

Cruise Into Fall SPECIAL NEEDS DANCE

Friday, Sept. 26, 2025
6-9 p.m.

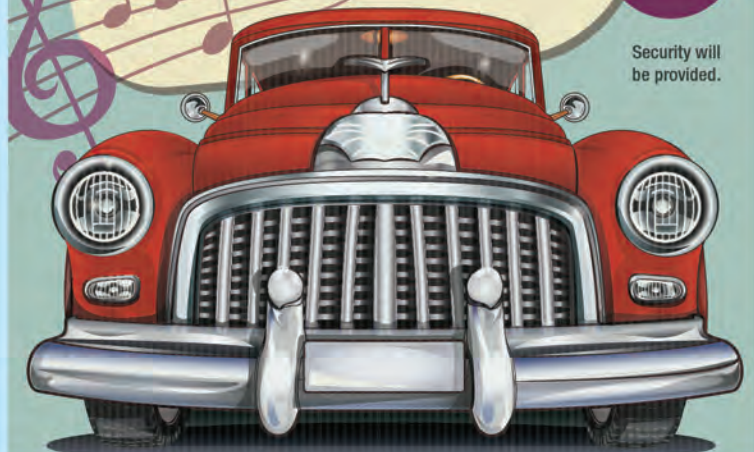
Donal M. Snyder Sr.
Community Center
2520 Pass Road, Biloxi

- Door Prizes • Food Available
 - All ages, with physical and mental disabilities, are welcome
 - RSVP to 228-388-7170 by Sept. 20, 2025
- Wear Your 40s, 50s, & 60s Attire!*

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

*Free
Admission!*

Security will
be provided.



Best Bets!

Biloxi Shuckers Baseball

105 Caillavet St.

Admission prices begin at \$9 for standing room tickets, and all other tickets begin at \$15

Detail: 228-2333465, biloxishuckers.com



- **vs. Pensacola Blue Wahoos**
Sept. 1 & 3-7 (starting times vary)
- **vs. TBA, Division Series Game 2**
Sept. 18 & 19

Run, walk, and climb to honor our brave

The annual Tunnel to Towers 5K Run and Climb, which honors the sacrifices of our first responders and military, takes place on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 5 p.m. The event takes place at the Margaritaville Family Resort and includes a 5K and, if desired, a climb of 22 floors five times, symbolic of the 110 floors in the World Trade Center. The event was created in honor of Firefighter Stephen Siller, who made the ultimate sacrifice when saving lives on Sept. 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center. Details: runclimbbiloxi.t2t.org



Friends of the Biloxi Libraries Annual Book Sale, Sept. 5-6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Margaret Sherry Library, 2141 Popp's Ferry Road. Hardcover books are 50 cents, and paperback books are 25 cents. Details: 228-388-1633



First Friday, Sept. 5, 5-9 p.m., HowHop Creative District, corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. Live music from Cat 3 Boogie Band at 5 p.m. and Fever Dream at 7 p.m. Great food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, and refreshing Fly Llama beverages. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

44th Annual Biloxi Seafood Festival, Sept. 13, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. The one-day celebration of seafood in Biloxi features live entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, kids' activities, and lots of seafood from the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Admission: \$5 entry fee, children 10 and under free. Details: 228-604-0014



Annual Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Climb, Sept. 13, 5-10 p.m., Margaritaville Family Resort, 195 Beach Blvd. 5K run and a stair climb of 22 floors five times. Registration fee varies. Born from the tragedy of 9/11, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation carries forward a legacy of courage and heroism. The Foundation supports the nation's fallen and injured first responders, military heroes, and their families. Details: runclimbbiloxi.t2t.org



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

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society event, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Membership drive and journal sale. Details: 228-438-4636

Annual Biloxi Community Festival Against Crime, Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet St. Games and activities, demonstrations, displays, music, free food and drinks, and tips to make your neighborhood a safer place. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6204 or 228-385-3033

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum 40th Annual \$10,000 Drawdown

Sept. 20, 6 p.m., 115 1st Street. Seafood buffet, open bar, split the pot, and silent auction online. Admission: \$100 admits 2. Details or to purchase tickets: 228-435-6320



Main Street Book Club

Sept. 25, 5:30 p.m., Jacked Up Coffee Bar, 999 Howard Ave. September's selection: "Them Bones" by Carolyn Haines. Meet this month's author, Carolyn Haines! Free admission. Drinks/dinner is at participants' expense. Details: 228-435-6339



Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 88th 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

Senior Rock and Roll Bash, Sept. 26, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to ages 55 and older. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

Special Needs Cruise into Fall Dance, Sept. 26, 6-9 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to all ages with physical and mental disabilities. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

Annual Faery Court Fantasy Masquerade Ball

Sept. 27, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., Joppa Shrine, 13280 Shriners Blvd. Admission fee charged. Details: faery-ball.com



Biloxi Little Theatre

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

- **Ride the Cyclone,** Sept. 5-7 & 11-14



Center Stage

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

- **The Women,** Sept. 18-28



Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library

2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, www.visitbeauvoir.org

Biloxi Excel By 5

Lopez School, 140 St. John Ave., 228-297-6808

- Community-based certification program to improve child's overall well-being by age 5

Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center

1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, biloxi.ms.us. Open daily, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

- **Lighthouse tours daily,** 9-10 a.m., weather permitting. Admission: \$5 for ages 12 and older; \$2 for ages 6-11; free for ages 5 and younger

Biloxi Schooners

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

- Group charters available, up to 44 people
- Walk on Sails, minimum of 6 passengers, \$30/adult & \$20/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

- **Red Cross Blood Drive,** Sept. 6, 1-6 p.m.
- **Princess Makeover Magic,** Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- **Red Cross Blood Drive,** Sept. 29, 1-6 p.m.

Gallery 782 – An Artists Co-op

773 Jackson St., 228-436-7782

Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Saturday

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., 228-376-2821, 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

- **Kroc Center 14th Anniversary**, Sept. 15-21. See website for details

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.

- **\$10,000 Museum Drawdown**: Sept. 20, includes open bar, buffet, silent auction. Tickets are \$100 and admits two people
- **Heritage Hall of Fame**: nominations accepted through Oct. 1. Nomination forms available at www.maritimemuseum.org or the Museum

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

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

- Check the website for events and studio classes at OOMA!

West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire Museum

1046 Howard Ave., 228-435-6119, 228-435-6200

www.biloxi.ms.us

- Historic 1937 firehouse open Saturdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment
- **Ribbon Cutting to Celebrate 25 Years**, Friday, September 19, 5-7 p.m.



Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and 26. 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.

Biloxi Yacht Club

386 Beach Blvd. (In the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art), 228-374-6344

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

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

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, Sept. 12, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold at 7:15 p.m., \$20, dine-in or carry out. 228-392-9345
- **Annual Sportsman's BBQ and Raffle**, Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$20 per ticket at the Joppa Shrine Center or at the door. No carry-outs

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

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

- Details: 228-438-4636
- **Membership Drive & Journal Sale**, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Details: 228-438-4636

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; doors open at 5 p.m., Early birds at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish 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. (Holidays may be closed.) 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
	1 Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	2 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	3 Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park	4 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park	5 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge KAFB Farmers Market Marina Park First Friday – HowHop Book Sale – M. Sherry Library Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre	6 American Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre Book Sale Margaret Sherry Library Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park Luke Bryan MS Coast Coliseum Joseph Lewis Thomas Beau Rivage
7 Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre Shuckers vs Blue Wahoos Keesler Federal Park	8 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	9 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	10 	11 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre	12 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night Joppa Shrine Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre Brad Williams IP Casino	13 Seafood Festival Biloxi Town Green Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Climb Margaritaville Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre
14 Ride the Cyclone Biloxi Little Theatre	15 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	16 Community Market Bike Biloxi Downtown BBQ and Raffle Joppa Shrine Judas Priest/ Alice Cooper MS Coast Coliseum Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	17 	18 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Shuckers Division Series Game 2 Keesler Federal Park The Women Center Stage	19 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Shuckers Division Series Game 2 Keesler Federal Park Ribbon Cutting Celebrating 25 Years Biloxi Fire Museum The Women – Center Stage Home Free – IP Casino	20 Festival Against Crime Point Cadet Plaza Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society Event Biloxi Visitors Center Princess Makover Magic Edgewater Mall The Women – Center Stage \$10,000 Drawdown Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Great White & Slaughter IP Casino
21 The Women Center Stage	22 The Women Center Stage Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	23 Community Market The Women Center Stage Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	24 Golf Cart Inspection and Registration Day Edgewater Mall The Women Center Stage	25 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Main Street Book Club Jacked Up Coffee Bar The Women Center Stage	26 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge The Women Center Stage Seniors Rock N Roll Bash and Special Needs Cruise Into Fall Dance Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center MercyME MS Coast Coliseum	27 Faery Court Fantasy Masquerade Ball Joppa Shrine The Women Center Stage
28 The Women Center Stage	29 American Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	30 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	1 	2 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	3 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge	4



September 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!" Finch Coffee Co.
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
8 a.m.	Special Presentation: R U Ready?
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!" Finch Coffee Co.
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
2 p.m.	Special Presentation: R U Ready?
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!" Finch Coffee Co.
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
8 p.m.	Special Presentation: R U Ready?
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.

Stay ready for hurricane season?

As hurricane season continues, the City of Biloxi wants residents to continue to stay prepared. To help, the city is airing replays of its "R U Ready?" program all month on BTV. Each program features a host of disaster preparation and response authorities that offer how-to advice to help you stay ready for hurricane season.

The programs airs at 8 a.m., 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. in September on BTV.

"Biloxi Cooks!" at Finch Coffee Co.

Finch Coffee Co., known by many for its mobile coffee trailer, now has a shop in Woolmarket. With its warm, minimalist aesthetic and bright color branding, Finch Coffee Co. aims to become a go-to spot for coffee enthusiasts and casual sippers alike. Beyond the expertly crafted espresso drinks and small-batch pastries, Finch Coffee is setting itself apart by creating a space for the community to connect, sip, and snack. And this month on "Biloxi Cooks!" the public will be introduced to the Finch family as they showcase their new brick and mortar location by serving up a latte and cookies.

Watch the September episode of "Biloxi Cooks!" daily on BTV at 7 a.m., 1 p.m., and 7 p.m. throughout the month. The episode may also be watched on demand on the City of Biloxi YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/@CityofBiloxi.

This month's recipe:

GoldFinch Latte, and Chocolate Chip Cookies with Sea Salt

Recipes by Finch Coffee Co.

(Makes 1 latte and 12 cookies)

GoldFinch Latte: A Finch Coffee Co. original, the GoldFinch Latte shines with earthy turmeric, warming spices, and a soft cinnamon finish. Made with our house-crafted Golden Turmeric Syrup, it's a Woolmarket favorite that's spreading across Coastal Mississippi.

Ingredients:

- 1 double shot espresso (about 2 oz)
- 8 oz steamed milk (whole milk or oat milk)
- 1 oz Golden Turmeric Syrup
- Ground cinnamon, for garnish

Instructions:

1. Brew the espresso. Pull a fresh double shot into a mug.
2. Add the syrup. Stir in Golden Turmeric Syrup until blended.
3. Steam the milk. Froth milk until smooth and silky, then pour over the espresso mixture.
4. Finish. Dust lightly with ground cinnamon for a golden touch.

Serving Suggestion: Pair the GoldFinch Latte with Finch Coffee's Chocolate Chip Cookies with Sea Salt – a perfect balance of golden spice and rich chocolate.

Chocolate Chip Cookies with Sea Salt: At Finch Coffee Co., a Woolmarket favorite that's winning hearts across Coastal Mississippi, these cookies are a signature treat. Soft and chewy with pockets of rich chocolate, they're finished with a touch of flaky sea salt – a simple twist that keeps customers coming back for more. Now, you can bake a batch of this café favorite right in your own kitchen.

Ingredients:

- 10 tbsp unsalted butter (1 ¼ sticks), softened
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 large egg + 1 egg yolk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ tsp baking soda
- 2 cups chocolate chips + chopped chocolate bar
- Flaky sea salt, for finishing

Instructions:

1. Chop the chocolate. Cut the chocolate bar into small squares.
2. Cream the butter and sugars. In a stand mixer, beat the butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and salt until light and fluffy.
3. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat in the egg, egg yolk, and vanilla until smooth.
4. Mix the dry ingredients. Add flour and baking soda; mix until just combined. Stir in the chocolate.
5. Rest the dough. Scoop portions of dough, place in a container, and refrigerate until firm.
6. Bake. Arrange 6 cookies on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake at 300°F for 12–13 minutes, until golden at the edges but soft in the center.
7. Finish. While warm, sprinkle lightly with flaky sea salt. Cool slightly, then enjoy.

Pro Tip: Chilling the dough before baking gives these cookies their thick, chewy texture and helps deepen the flavor.



A Visit to Some of Biloxi's Neighborhoods

By Jane Shambra

Biloxi's First Neighborhood

Back in the day, when Monsieurs D'Iberville and Bienville first began their settlements on Biloxi's shoreline, there were no neighborhoods. There were no grocery stores, no light bulbs, no schools, no libraries, and few people. It was an outdoor community. Candles and the moon supplied evening light, and campfires provided warmth, a place to cook, and to deter threats from wild animals and fierce insects. Biloxi's first neighborhood began with a simple fort design surrounded by woods. Evening concerts were supplied by singing (probably lots of church hymns), and the Native Americans added percussion with their hand-crafted drums and shakers. Even though there were no theaters, the Native-Americans expressed their feelings in the form of dancing, chanting, and rhythmic objects. Costuming was designed with natural ink, feathers, leaves, and animal skins. D'Iberville and his crew gifted them with glass beads from France to add to their costume décor.

Adding to the costuming custom was the common practice of tattooing. The process was painful, at the least, utilizing needles sometimes made of thorns, and dyes from the earth. Bienville was covered with tattoos, which signified his connection with Native American communities, his beliefs, his fearless spirit, and his accomplishments. That body art, indeed, told an illustrated story of his life: the storybook never left behind on our Biloxi shores. In today's touristy world, we collect souvenirs of places we visit. Bienville collected iconic illustrations from various cultures and neighborhoods he visited. His artistic skin paintings never revealed his unique story. He was always fully dressed in public. His companions and historians later told of his interesting collection. Bienville died in 1787 in Paris, France at the age of 87.

Lighthouse Park

The Lighthouse Park area was likely the location of the first organized neighborhood in Biloxi. Diagrams from the 1720s illustrate an area which coincides with the topography of where the Visitors Center Park is today, at the northwest corner of Porter Avenue and Hwy. 90. Its ravine, which is still in place on its northern end, is similar to the old plans. There is also a feature in the plan suggesting that a small inlet opening at the beginning of Porter Avenue allowed small skiffs to travel into that little waterway. It would have been the perfect entry point for old town Biloxi, with a clearing at the water's edge, the ideal spot to anchor into our little settlement.

One of the oldest homes in Biloxi, in fact, was made of materials common to the early 1800s. Constructed of walls made of mud and moss, the Old Fayard House was once located behind the Visitors Center. Time destroyed that house relic years ago.

West End

Just north of that area was a neighborhood called West End. Years ago, West End was actually the westernmost end of the City of Biloxi, with Porter Avenue listed as the city's boundary line. A few remnants of that neighborhood remain. West End Fire Station Museum still retains with the area in its name. The old West End School was located where our Food Giant supermarket is today.

Downtown Biloxi

Every city has a downtown area. Biloxi is no exception. With the main east-west paved thoroughfare going through this neighborhood, it was easily the optimal place for the heart of Biloxi to expand. Although downtown Howard Avenue did have some stately homes, it developed into the area where everything was available for everybody. Streetcar lines, parade routes, banks, department stores, doctors' and lawyers' offices, grocery stores, retail stores, and restaurants are some of the amenities that have always provided the ideal flavor of Biloxi. Howard Avenue even had pharmacies. Its City Hall was complete with a market and a jail and was located right in the middle of the northern intersection of Main St. and Howard Ave. Today, the heart of Downtown Biloxi continues the evolution process of presenting a modernized neighborhood for tomorrow.



Map of the Lighthouse Park area



Old Fayard House once located behind the Visitors Center



West End School at Porter and Irish Hill



1929 Downtown Mardi Gras

Point Cadet

Today's residents still affectionately call the easternmost part of the Biloxi peninsula "The Point." Back in the day, before seafood factories occupied its shoreline, that area was marshy, forested, and not the ideal place to construct residential housing. It's no wonder streets still bear the names of trees (e.g., Cedar, Pine, Oak, Maple, and Myrtle). The construction of seafood factories prompted not only a housing and population boom there, but also created jobs and a family environment with the fondest memories ever. Sadly, Hurricane Katrina took away a vast majority of family homes, but neighborhood histories remain in the hearts and scrapbooks of those who grew up on The Point.

In 1992, after legalized dockside gambling entered Biloxi's Point Cadet, the renowned seafood factories were replaced with casinos. This row of casinos became the birthplace of Casino Row, along Hwy. 90.

West Biloxi

In the 1960s, the westernmost boundary line for Biloxi migrated to DeBuys Road. Thus, the West Biloxi neighborhood prospered even more, adding additional benefits for Biloxi's western population, including more subdivisions, a fire station, shopping, grocery stores, doctors' offices, schools, and a library, just to mention a few.

With the extension of Popp's Ferry Road under construction, West Biloxi is sure to thrive even more.

Sunkist

Just north of the Popp's Ferry bridge is a neighborhood called Sunkist. It was originally inhabited by John Popp, a native of Denmark and a lumber entrepreneur. The road is still named after Mr. Popp. Before the days of bridges in West Biloxi, he established a little ferry system to convey his lumber from place to place. It was a simple flatbed ferry and utilized a pulley system for movement from one shore to the next. Today, that neighborhood is proud to provide a great golf course and country club.

North Biloxi

The neighborhood of North Biloxi is considered north of Popp's Ferry Bridge to the Interstate. It was annexed in the 1970s. That section of the City, which was once very rural, evolved into a thriving area with Biloxi's newer subdivisions, a library, restaurants, medical facilities, shopping, and recreational activities. The main Biloxi Public Schools campus is located in North Biloxi, and includes state-of-the-art school buildings for grades 7-12. North Biloxi is also the ideal location for Biloxi Schools' newest facilities, including its sports complex. In 2020, the Biloxi Schools campus in North Biloxi opened its new Biloxi Schools Performing Arts Center.

Woolmarket

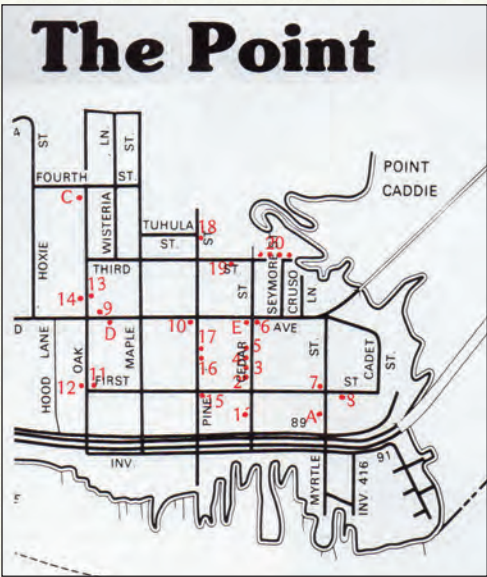
Biloxi's northernmost neighborhood is Woolmarket. In 1893, it was listed as a village and was considered the center for the wool industry in this area. Not only did the sheep provide wool for commerce, but it also provided families with food and sheepskin for bedding and batting from which warm quilts were made. Adjacent waterways provided an optimal means of transportation for commercial wool. Woolmarket was officially annexed into the City of Biloxi in 1999.

Keesler

Keesler Air Force Base is Biloxi's proudest neighborhood. Where once the Naval Reserve Park stood, Keesler Field opened in 1941. It is truly a city within a city providing housing, training, medical care, and services for Biloxi's military population. It is also the home of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron "Hurricane Hunters."



Coast Guard Base at Point Cadet, 1940s



Map of the Point

Growth in Biloxi continues with single-family home development as well as multi-family home development. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/weeklyreports to see the weekly Community Development report.

BNews Monthly

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Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council
Wayne Gray • Anthony Marshall
Mike Nail • Jamie Creel
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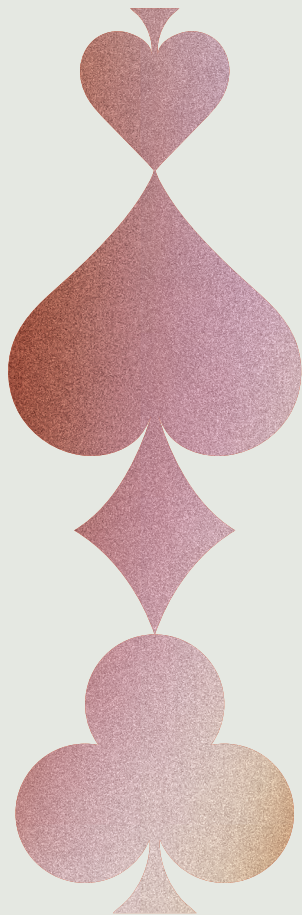


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