

BNews Monthly

OCTOBER 2025

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



An orange of a different color

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Budget message from the Mayor

– Page 6

– Page 9



Developing an easy way

– Page 8



Gearing up for Cruisin'

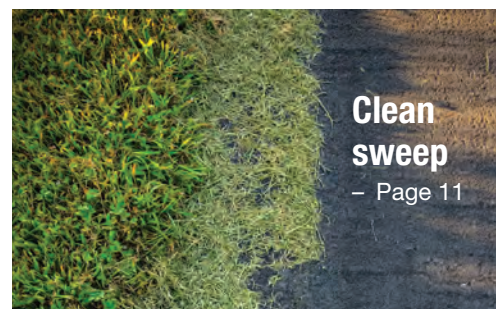
– Page 4, Block Party details

– Page 9, RV parking



Clean sweep

– Page 11



Maintaining memories

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Rip'n Hot Chicken

– "Biloxi Cooks!"

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A sampling of some of Biloxi's cemeteries

– Back in the Day,

Pages 22-23



Even more inside

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A Thousand Words



Weather
Witch

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Saturday, October 18
11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Near JCPenney

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Edgewater Mall

*Cruise into
Downtown
Biloxi!*



Wednesday, October 8

- **Biloxi Block Party**
Downtown Biloxi, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

See event details in the calendar, page 17.



Parking Plan:

- Parking areas will be filled in numerical order as they are reached during curbside parking
- Curbside parking (yellow) on Lameuse St. will be backed in at 45 degrees (noses facing south)
- Curbside parking in all other yellow areas (Jackson, Howard, MLK and Main) will be nose to tail
- Overflow parking (green) will be Esters from CTA bus station parking entrance to Main (backed in at 45 degrees, noses facing east)
- No other parking will be police managed/parked
- Entry point for parking will be Reynoir at MLK
- Inside the Biloxi Block Party, cars parked in lots 1, 2, 4, & 6 will be required to remain until event ends at 3 p.m. Cars parked in lots 3 & 5 will be able to leave event before 3 p.m.



Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich

Biloxi
established 1699



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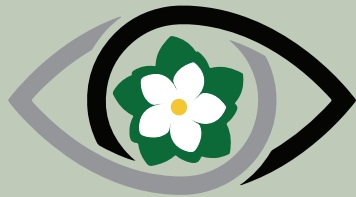
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City Budget, Taxes, and Financial Statement

On September 9, the Biloxi City Council approved the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, after careful review and discussion over the past two months. The administration, department directors, and City Council have worked together to ensure a responsible budget that meets the needs of our city while maintaining fiscal health.

A workshop was held to review Biloxi's non-departmental budget before the regular City Council meeting. The non-departmental budget includes funding for libraries, museums, the Coast Transit Authority (public bus routes), and many other important programs and services across Biloxi. After reviewing each request for the coming year, the total non-departmental budget approached \$2 million.

Every year, the need to close the gap between revenues and expenses is acknowledged. A budget is an estimate — a projection of revenues, expenses, and balances nearly 15 months into the future. Over the past nine years, we've successfully met similar challenges.

During one of the workshops, it was pointed out that a 3-mill increase to the city's ad valorem tax rate (or property taxes) would generate more than \$2 million in additional revenue, which would help close some of the gaps between projected revenues and expenses. After careful consideration and with the feedback of the City Council and our residents, it was decided not to increase the tax rate this year.

I want to thank the City Council for their collaboration in making the final decision. We both appreciate the feedback from the residents of Biloxi, who always play a vital role in shaping the direction of our city. Your concerns and input are important to me, and I remain committed to transparency and keeping you informed about the decisions that impact our beloved Biloxi.

In past year's budgets, as many as 60 vacant positions were included in the budget across the departments. This year's budget maintains the current number of positions in each department ensuring **no reduction of services** you receive. Let me be clear, for the police and fire department's budget, there will be **no reduction of positions**. The new budget does not carry these unfilled positions on the books, but this does not mean that vacancies will not be filled if an officer or firefighter leaves unexpectedly or retires. We will continue to maintain the necessary staffing levels to ensure the safety of our community.

- Biloxi remains in strong financial shape, holding an S&P Global AA- credit rating — the only city in Mississippi to do so. We've successfully navigated significant challenges over the years, including the \$344 million FEMA Katrina infrastructure project, the Bonnet Carré Spillway opening, Hurricane Zeta, tropical storms, the COVID-19 pandemic, and inflation. We've also taken advantage of the lowest possible interest rates to fund improvements like the A.J. Holloway Sports Complex and the Popp's Ferry Road extension.
- Our fire rating is the best insurance rating in the state, which translates into lower fire insurance premiums for our businesses and residents. Our firefighters are well-equipped and among the highest-paid along the Coast.
- Our police officers are near the top of the pay scale for Mississippi police forces, which is essential for recruiting and retaining the best personnel to keep Biloxi safe.
- Water and sewer rates remain lower than all neighboring communities. Additionally, you'll see a "HCUA Debt Reduction" credit on your monthly bill, reflecting savings we passed on from renegotiated bonds.

In conclusion, with the City Council's budget approval, we will once again move forward to carry on the business of the city all the while maintaining our strong financial position.

I'm grateful for the support of the City Council and the residents of Biloxi. As many of you already know, my door is always open if you have questions or if you need help. Thank you for your trust in me and for letting me set the record straight. Be assured that every decision I make is driven by **what's best for Biloxi**.

▶ See the FY 26 revenue and expenditures pie chart on page 9.



News & notes

Need to report an issue: Biloxi residents should reach out to the Biloxi Citizens Service Representative, Craig Ross, by emailing cross@biloxi.ms.us or by calling 228-435-6271 weekdays.

Road closures: The City of Biloxi Engineering Department updates the Traffic page on the City of Biloxi's website each weekday with information on road closures. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/traffic to stay in the know.

Be prepared: Even though hurricane season ends in November, residents still need to have a plan. Prepare emergency kits, review evacuation plans, plan for pets, and communicate with family. Visit the Storm & Flood page at biloxi.ms.us/stormandflood for help with a plan.

Thunderbirds: The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds return to Biloxi for the Thunder Over the Sound Air Show on Nov. 1 and 2. A static display of aircrafts will be located on Keesler, and the performances will take place over the Mississippi Sound just south of the White House Hotel. The best viewing will be between the I-110 loop and Iberville Drive. Details: thunderoverthesound.com.





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
8 PM - 11 PM

**30 WINNERS PICK
CANDY FILLED WITH
POWER PLAY PRIZES!**

One entry for every 100 slot points
(or table game equivalent)
September 29 - October 4, 2025.

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

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Building a checklist

Builders in Biloxi can stop at one convenient location for their building needs and get expert guidance from friendly, knowledgeable staff. That place is the Biloxi Community Development Department, located at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Stop by the department weekdays or call 228-435-6280 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to make sure all requirements are followed and nothing is missed.

To make sure you are on track with your future development, here is a step-by-step checklist. Note: Each project may have small differences depending on the circumstances, before making a huge purchase always call the Planning office at 228-435-6266.

Residential Building

- ☐ 1) Review the city maps to check for the zoning, including flood zones, historic districts, and easements, biloxi.ms.us/maps.
- ☐ 2) Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/resources/code-of-ordinances/, click Land Development Ordinance, and review Article 23-4 to determine if the proposed use is allowed within the current zoning district.
- ☐ 3) If the property does not fall under a zoning standard, a zoning change may need to be requested through the Planning Commission and City Council, or if a variance is needed, it will need to be requested through the Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA), and both must be approved before submitting construction plans. (Per Land Development Ordinance Article 23-3, biloxi.ms.us/resources/code-of-ordinances/). Once approved, continue with steps three through seven.
- ☐ 4) If the property is historic, in a historic district, or in the context area of a landmark property, it needs to be first approved by the Architectural & Historical Review Committee (AHRC). Contact Biloxi Community Development at 228-435-6280 for AHRC procedures.
- ☐ 5) If the property falls under the correct zoning, submit two full sets of 24'X36' construction drawings to the Planning Division in the Community Development, with a separate site plan showing all proposed structures, setbacks, and driveway on the lot, and a survey if available.
 - ☐ a. Check with the building department at 228-435-6270, for all current building codes. Details at ICCsafes.org.
 - ☐ b. Construction drawings need to include the following: floor plan with dimensions, foundation plan and details, elevation drawings, wall section, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC plans.
- ☐ 6) The Planning Division reviews and signs off on the permit.
- ☐ 7) The Building Division reviews and signs off on the permit.
- ☐ 8) Notification will be given of approval. Pick up the permit from the Biloxi Community Development Department and begin construction.

Notes:

- Site control documentation is required for all permits.
- A homeowner can pull their own permit to build or repair their own home, but all subcontractors need to be licensed by the state.
- Depending on the flood zone, more documentation may be needed.
- Short-Term Rentals are not allowed in Single-Family zoned properties.

Commercial Building (Including New Subdivisions)

- ☐ 1) Look at the city maps to check for the zoning, including flood zones, historic districts, and easements, biloxi.ms.us/maps.
- ☐ 2) Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/resources/code-of-ordinances/, click Land Development Ordinance, and review Article 23-4 to determine if the proposed use is allowed within the current zoning district.
- ☐ 3) The project goes to the Development Review Committee (DRC). This process may include multiple sessions. (Agenda posted online, biloxi.ms.us/departments/community-development/)
- ☐ 4) If Planning Commission, City Council, or AHRC approvals are needed, the project will get their approvals next.
- ☐ 5) After DRC has released the project, it goes to the Planning Division for review (Two full sets of 24'X36' construction drawings and a site plan are required).
- ☐ 6) Next, the request goes to the Building Division and Biloxi Fire Department for building plan review.
- ☐ 7) After review and approval, the permit can be picked up from Biloxi Community Development by a licensed contractor, and construction can begin.

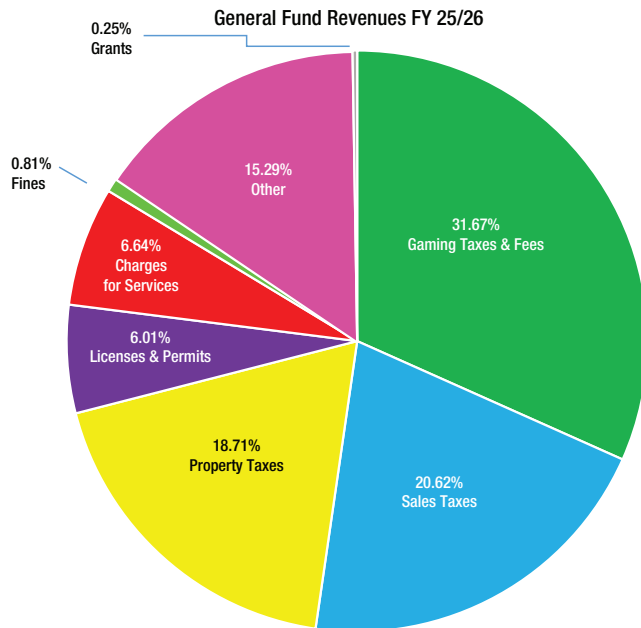
Notes:

- Every project is different! You will have more direction after each DRC meeting
- If projects are within the context area of a Historic Landmark or in a Historic District, AHRC approval is required
- If projects do not meet all of the development standards within the LDO, Planning Commission approval is required
- Development Standards may be found online at biloxi.ms.us/resources/code-of-ordinances/, click Land Development Ordinance, Article 23-6

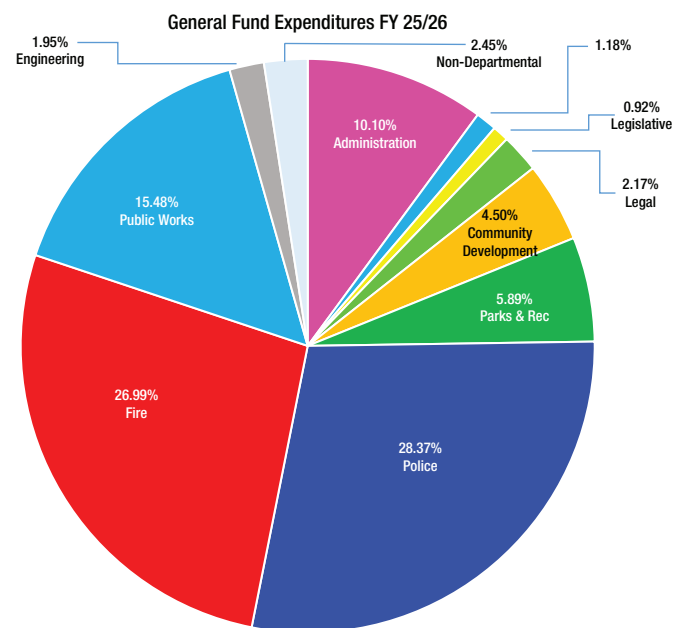
Cut here.

New operating budget categories

Revenue sources



Expenditure sources



The new city budget for Fiscal Year 2026 begins on Oct. 1.

City operations are funded by three primary revenue streams, gaming taxes, sales taxes, and property taxes. The chart above shows how the budget is broken down through percentages.

One thing to keep in mind: the city budget is it is a living document. It's a piece of paper that is amended dozens of times throughout the year, based on unanticipated changes in revenue and unanticipated changes in expenditures.

► To see a more details breakdown of the budget, visit online at biloxi.ms.us and click on Financial Report.

RV parking during special events

Property owners, if you are planning to allow a recreational vehicle, also known as an RV, to park on your property during Cruisin' The Coast, make sure you are following the city's Special Events Ordinance.

The easiest way to gather the information you need is to visit online at biloxi.ms.us/specialevents. There, you will find an online basic guide to special events, including information for property owners who want to allow RVs on their property for Tier 1 events such as Cruisin' The Coast.

Property owners who plan to allow visitors to park an RV on their property at no charge during a Tier 1 event must obtain an affidavit for RV Parking from the Biloxi Community Development Department and return it to

the department. An affidavit is available at the department or online at biloxi.ms.us/specialevents.

Property owners who intend to rent or lease space for RVs during Tier 1 events are required to obtain a parking permit of \$50 from Biloxi Community Development and comply with certain standards.

The standards include, and not limited to, such regulations as a maximum density of one recreational vehicle per 750 square

feet; a parcel's setbacks clear of any recreational vehicle; a minimum of eight feet separation of vehicles from each other and from other structures, and \$10 per space per night. See the detailed list online at biloxi.ms.us/specialevents.

For more information, contact Biloxi Community Development weekdays at 228-435-6280.



► **Mobile food vendors** must follow specific requirements before setting up at a special event. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/specialevents or call 228-435-6280.

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

Shuckers Announce 2026 Schedule, Season Memberships, and Ballpark Rental Options

Start marking your calendar for the 2026 season now!

2026 Shuckers SCHEDULE

| APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|--|---|--|
| <p>APR 3: CHA</p> <p>APR 4: CHA</p> <p>APR 5: CHA</p> <p>APR 6: CHA</p> <p>APR 7: CHA</p> <p>APR 8: CHA</p> <p>APR 9: CHA</p> <p>APR 10: CHA</p> <p>APR 11: CHA</p> <p>APR 12: CHA</p> <p>APR 13: CHA</p> <p>APR 14: CHA</p> <p>APR 15: CHA</p> <p>APR 16: CHA</p> <p>APR 17: CHA</p> <p>APR 18: CHA</p> <p>APR 19: CHA</p> <p>APR 20: CHA</p> <p>APR 21: CHA</p> <p>APR 22: CHA</p> <p>APR 23: CHA</p> <p>APR 24: CHA</p> <p>APR 25: CHA</p> <p>APR 26: CHA</p> <p>APR 27: CHA</p> <p>APR 28: CHA</p> <p>APR 29: CHA</p> <p>APR 30: CHA</p> | <p>MAY 1: CHA</p> <p>MAY 2: CHA</p> <p>MAY 3: CHA</p> <p>MAY 4: CHA</p> <p>MAY 5: CHA</p> <p>MAY 6: CHA</p> <p>MAY 7: CHA</p> <p>MAY 8: CHA</p> <p>MAY 9: CHA</p> <p>MAY 10: CHA</p> <p>MAY 11: CHA</p> <p>MAY 12: CHA</p> <p>MAY 13: CHA</p> <p>MAY 14: CHA</p> <p>MAY 15: CHA</p> <p>MAY 16: CHA</p> <p>MAY 17: CHA</p> <p>MAY 18: CHA</p> <p>MAY 19: CHA</p> <p>MAY 20: CHA</p> <p>MAY 21: CHA</p> <p>MAY 22: CHA</p> <p>MAY 23: CHA</p> <p>MAY 24: CHA</p> <p>MAY 25: CHA</p> <p>MAY 26: CHA</p> <p>MAY 27: CHA</p> <p>MAY 28: CHA</p> <p>MAY 29: CHA</p> <p>MAY 30: CHA</p> <p>MAY 31: CHA</p> | <p>JUNE 1: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 2: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 3: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 4: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 5: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 6: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 7: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 8: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 9: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 10: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 11: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 12: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 13: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 14: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 15: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 16: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 17: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 18: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 19: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 20: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 21: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 22: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 23: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 24: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 25: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 26: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 27: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 28: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 29: CHA</p> <p>JUNE 30: CHA</p> |



Shuckers ballfield photo by A. J. Williams.

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

It seemed like just yesterday that the Biloxi Shuckers began their 2025 campaign after traveling almost two hours east to Pensacola, Florida, but after over 140 games, celebrations, thousands of fans, and a playoff appearance, the season has come to an end. As the Shuckers turn the calendar to the off-season and preparations for the 2026 season, it's time to look ahead at what's next for Mississippi's only Minor League Baseball team.

2026 SCHEDULE RELEASE

The Shuckers' home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, against the Pensacola Blue Wahoos (Miami Marlins). Game times, promotions, and single-game tickets will be announced at a later date.

Premier home games include July 3 and 4 against the Chattanooga Lookouts (Cincinnati Reds), Mother's Day on May 10 against the Columbus Clingstones (Atlanta Braves), Memorial Day Weekend on May 22-24 against the Birmingham Barons (Chicago White Sox), and Father's Day on June 21 against Columbus. The Shuckers will begin the season on the road on Friday, April 3, with Opening Day against the Rocket City Trash Pandas. The Shuckers' longest homestand is scheduled for 12 games in 13 days between August 25 and September 6 and includes matchups on Labor Day Weekend.

"Not only are we excited to finish our 10th anniversary season with a chance to win our first Southern League title, but we're already planning for a fun-filled 2026 season in Biloxi," Shuckers General Manager Hunter

Reed said. "We're looking forward to 69 fun-filled dates at Keesler Federal Park, including July 3 and 4 as we celebrate America's 250th birthday!"

The Shuckers will play 81 of their 138 games against divisional opponents, including 30 games against the Columbus Clingstones, 27 games against the Pensacola Blue Wahoos, and 24 games against the Montgomery Biscuits. The Shuckers will play 57 games against North Division opponents, including 18 against the Birmingham Barons, 15 against the Rocket City Trash Pandas, and 12 games against the Chattanooga Lookouts and the Knoxville Smokies (Chicago Cubs). The Shuckers' 81 divisional games are the most out of any team in the South Division and tied for the most in the Southern League.

2026 SEASON TICKET MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

Fans can experience the best of Shuckers baseball by placing a deposit TODAY for a 2026 Season Ticket Membership! Fans can pick their way to be at the ballpark for every big home run, late rally, and get-out-of-your-seat moment for the 2026 season starting as low as \$29/month. Season Ticket Memberships include flexible tickets, exclusive discounts, early access to games, unique experiences, lasting memories, and more!

Full Season Members have access to VIP social events, discounts at the ballpark and around the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and more. They also receive the first right to guaranteed discounted seats for the Shuckers postseason games and access to the Sparklight Club Lounge at Keesler Federal Park. In addition to

VIP experiences, all members receive a 20% discount at the Shuckers Shop, including Nike, Peter Millar, and Columbia products.

BALLPARK RENTALS NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE OFF-SEASON!

The Shuckers are excited to offer opportunities to host team-building events, wedding ceremonies, company softball games, and much more! With the Kloud7 Yacht Club, the Sparklight Lounge, the Corona Premier Tiki Bar, Schooner's Splash Zone presented by Gulf Breeze Landscaping, and more, the ballpark has space to fit every need!

The Kloud7 Yacht Club offers a premier experience for guests seeking luxury and entertainment at our venue. Situated high above the crowd, the Yacht Club provides stunning views of the event while offering exclusive amenities. Catered food prepared by our chef tantalizes the taste buds, complemented by a full bar serving a wide selection of beverages. Multiple TVs, including a large 86" TV, ensure that guests never miss a moment of the action, whether it's the main event or other important games. With its combination of gourmet dining, top-shelf drinks, and state-of-the-art entertainment, the Kloud7 Yacht Club delivers a memorable and immersive experience for all attendees.

Local youth and travel teams can also reserve the batting cages at Keesler Federal Park, providing a professional environment where players feel like they're just steps away from the big leagues.

► 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.



It's illegal to sweep lawn clippings into the street

Chances are, you've seen it done or even done it yourself: You cut your lawn, rake up the trimmings and pile them near the curb in front of your home. Or, you'll sweep the trimmings into the street, where you hope they'll be carried away by the wind.

These two scenarios result in one of the biggest causes of flooding in the city – blocked storm drains.

These careless or unthinking actions negate the millions of dollars in improvements that the city is making citywide to drainage systems.

Piling leaves at the curb or sweeping trimmings into the street means that they will eventually find their way into the city's storm drains. Either bag the leaves for pickup or compost them. A stopped-up storm drain or ditch cannot carry run-off water as it is intended to do. When it rains, that water can flood streets, your property or your neighbor's property.

It's actually a violation of city ordinance to dump any material into storm drains, ditches, culverts, streams or waterways (Sec. 9-1-15, Code of Ordinances, 1992).

If you see anyone dumping debris into storm drains, ditches, culverts or streams, please contact the Public Works Department at 228-435-6271, or email Craig Ross, the citizens service representative at cross@biloxi.ms.us, or the Code Enforcement staff in the Community Development Department at 228-435-0841.



THURSDAY, OCT. 16

Indian Nation Homecoming Parade
DOWNTOWN BILOXI - 5:30 PM

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

5 PM
to
7 PM

Tailgate with the Indians!

7 PM

Kickoff!



vs



BILOXI'S OSAGE ORANGE TREES

By Susan Peterson
City of Biloxi, Tree Committee Chairperson

What are those knobby, round, green, softball-sized pieces of fruit you find on the ground? Of course, they're from the Osage Orange trees you occasionally find along the coast. We believe the Osage Orange located on the old Tullis Manor property may be the oldest one in the state. I'll bet you haven't seen it.

Osage Orange trees aren't native to the Gulf Coast. Ours were originally imported about two hundred years ago by early settlers. The trees are found in the Missouri and Red River basins, and were used extensively by Native Americans. I'll tell you why in the following paragraphs.

For recent arrivals to our city, the "Tullis-Toledano Manor" property sits just adjacent and east of the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art. The manor was a red brick mansion constructed in the 1850s and served as a summer home for a cotton and sugar cane broker from New Orleans. It passed through many owners and was finally acquired 50 years ago by the City of Biloxi as a museum and community center.

Damaged by Hurricane Camille in 1969, but later restored by the city, it was finally destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. A casino barge was pushed ashore by the storm and completely flattened the house. The site remains a beautiful property on our coastline, covered in many large live oak trees, and of course, the Osage Orange Tree.

The fruit of the Osage Orange tree isn't one you would find at the dinner table, but it has some amazing uses. Reportedly, Native



Americans (including the Osage and Comanche tribes) used the very strong wood to make bows and arrows. They also used the fruit, spread around their dwellings, as a bug and rodent repellent, and used the fruit juice mixed with water as a treatment to soothe sore eyes.

Imported to Mississippi by early settlers, it served important purposes as a very strong fencing material. It quickly grew to shoulder height, and its thorns kept sheep, goats, horses, and pigs well corralled – perfect before barbed wire was available. The wood itself is stronger than oak and was used for wagon wheel hubs and rims. It is rot-resistant and ideal for uses such as mine timbers and posts.

What about Biloxi's tree? We aren't certain of our tree's age, but it is certainly over 100 years old. A cousin tree in Virginia is 350 years old. Ours is difficult to find and not easily visible from the beach highway. I found it by parking in the Ohr-O'Keefe parking lot and hiking through the grass, where it is overshadowed by several towering live oaks. Ours has also had a tough time of it. It's listing to the south, and supported by several steel guy wires

anchored to the surrounding oaks. The "list" was probably a result of Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane George, whose eye passed right over Biloxi in 1998. The City of Biloxi installed those guy wires following one of those hurricanes. You can immediately identify it as our Osage Orange due to the unique knobby green fruit spread all around it. See if you can find it the next time you are nearby.

October VENDOR SHOWCASE

Biloxi Visitors Center Lobby

Every Saturday & Sunday in October • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Discover the Gulf Coast's finest artists and craft makers every weekend in October. From unique artwork to one-of-a-kind gifts, it's the perfect place to shop early for the holidays while enjoying refreshments and the beauty of the Biloxi Visitors Center.

SHOP EARLY. SHOP LOCAL. Shop Biloxi.

Free admission & complimentary refreshments.



Something cooking at the Old Biloxi Cemetery

By Laurie Rosetti

Biloxi Main Street, City of Biloxi Downtown Services

Preserve Biloxi takes an in-depth look at all those Biloxi restaurants and other food-related businesses you wish were still here.

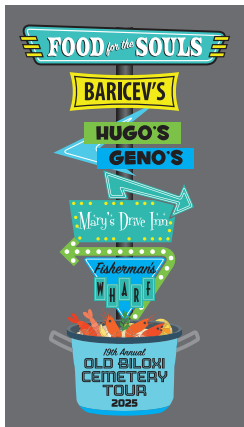
You've seen the social media discussions and all those nostalgic photos, and thought you could almost taste that "Vanceleave Special." The Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour 2025 is entitled "Food for the Souls." This year's tour will take place on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 2-4 p.m. and will repeat on Tuesday, Oct. 21, from 5-7 p.m. The Old Biloxi Cemetery is located at 1166 Irish Hill Drive. Parking is available in and around the cemetery, along Irish Hill, and in the adjacent parking lot of the Biloxi Elks Lodge.

"As always, the event is free to the public, but your donations are gratefully accepted and are used to

preserve the oldest sections of this important, historic place," stated Tina Ross-Seamans, Director of the Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Food and memories go hand in hand. Think of

all the special occasions you celebrated at great old Biloxi establishments that are now just a memory. What about your wedding cake? Which Biloxi baker made it? Think of all the hands it took to prepare and serve all those fabulous seafood dinners, or pizzas after the Friday night games.



Here's a list of who you will meet at this year's tour:

- Gladys Ladner & Victor Ladner (Ladner's Fisherman's Wharf), portrayed by Kathe Newcomb and Clayton Winters
- Devoy Colbet & Hugo Runo (Geno's Pizza House and Hugo's), portrayed by Chris Griffin and Brennan Prince
- Andrew Puzs (Elektrik Maid, Klein's, and Quality bakeries), portrayed by Wayne Stephens
- Wayne Milles (Milles Sno Cones), portrayed by Boyce Deaton
- Lucien Brown, Sr. (Mary Mahoney's), portrayed by Eric Funches
- Vincent "Vicci" Rosetti (Rosetti's Café), portrayed by Damien Rosetti
- Jacob Stanovich (Stanovich Grocery), portrayed by David Delk
- Jacobina Gilich (Foodland Supermarket), portrayed by Andrea Gilich
- Mary Miguez (Mary's Drive Inn), portrayed by Brandy Mills
- Inez Thomas (Inez Café), portrayed by Toi Smith
- Joseph & Jessie Baricev (Baricev's), portrayed by Cree Cantrell and Mollie McCarroll

The Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour is in its 19th year. Our cast, known as the "Not Ready for the Afterlife Players," comprises Little Theater actors from the area and actual descendants of those being portrayed. Event goers will enter the cemetery and find volunteers handing out programs with maps. Attendees will be able to self-navigate this year's eleven portrayals. Each actor will perform the same role for the entire length of the event. Event-goers are encouraged to wear light, comfortable clothing and walking shoes. Refreshments will be served on both days.

Preserve Biloxi is a collaborative organization dedicated to preserving the rich cultural history of Biloxi. It consists of: City of Biloxi, Biloxi Main Street, Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, and Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area.



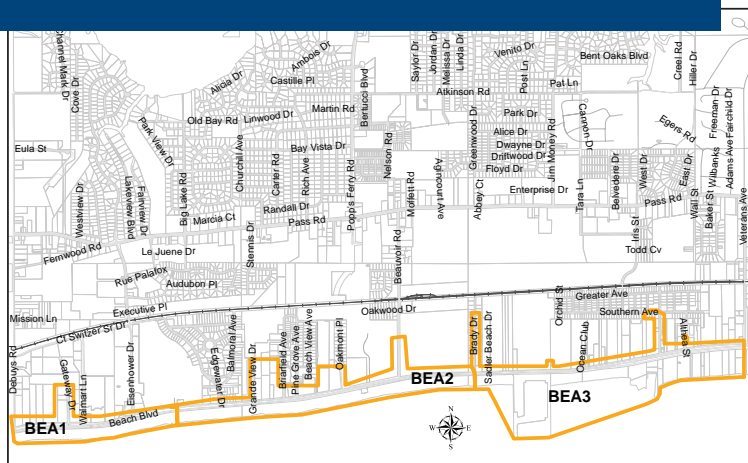
Infrastructure work in Biloxi

Project: BEA1, 2, & 3

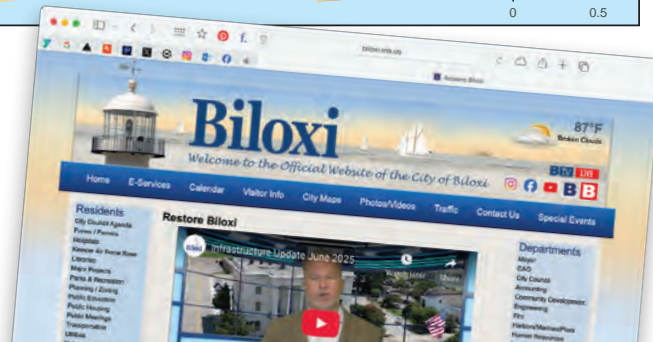
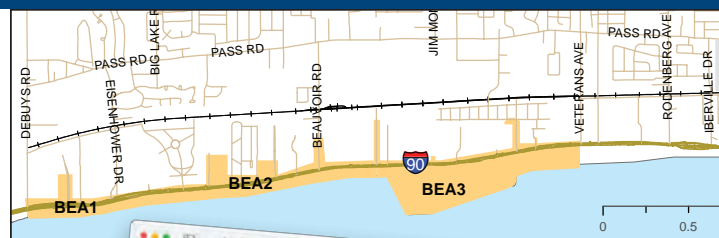
Adjacent to Beach Blvd. from Debuys Road to Veterans Avenue

(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's past residents

There are more than 15,800 interment records for the Biloxi Cemetery in the city's searchable database. The older section, closer to Beach Boulevard, has more than 1,000 headstones, leaving plenty of opportunities for haunting legends and stories. Several 19th-century above-ground monuments and barrel-vaulted crypts are located throughout the cemetery, reflecting the ties between Biloxi and New Orleans.

The southern section, between Beach Boulevard and Irish Hill Drive, is known as the Old Biloxi Cemetery, with the earliest marked burials dating back to the early 1800s.

This 1967 photograph was captured of the Old Biloxi Cemetery before the wrath of Hurricanes Camille and Katrina. Old oak trees with Spanish moss hanging from their branches provided a cooling canopy for visitors. Both above-ground and below-ground burials are seen, as well as remnants of old iron fencing.

See more about the cemetery online biloxi.ms.us/cemetery.

Photograph courtesy of the Chauncey Hinman Collection at the Local History and Genealogy Department.



▲ George Collins of the U.S. Postal Service with Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich

250 years of delivery

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich presented George Collins of the United States Postal Service with a proclamation marking 250 years of service at City Council meeting last month. It recognized the significant role the U. S. Postal Service has played in the historical communication and development of the United States of America, with September marking 250 years of service.

The U. S. Postal Service continues to faithfully serve the City of Biloxi through the delivery of BNews Monthly, utility bills, essential government communications, and personal correspondence. The City of Biloxi gratefully recognizes, honors, and salutes the dedication of postal workers while affirming its support for a robust and thriving public Postal Service for generations to come.



Maintaining a creative memory

Dozens of once-beautiful live oaks lost in Hurricane Katrina along Beach Boulevard were transformed into sculpted works of art in the year following the hurricane's landfall and destruction.

Recently, these works of art received a new coat of stain and sealant to help preserve them for future generations to enjoy.

Biloxi Community Development contracted with T.J. McClain tree service for the work. The project took just a few days to complete and cost less than \$5000, paid by the city.

Award-winning wood sculptors, Dayton Scoggins of Mississippi, Marlin Miller of Florida, and Dayle Lewis of Indiana, sculpted a variety of sea life-related objects out of what was left of dead oak trees. These sculptures continue to stand as a monument to the Gulf Coast residents' resilience and rebuilding of what was left behind after Hurricane Katrina's massive devastation.



OCTOBER TRIVIA A scavenger hunt of some of Biloxi's famous mysteries

By Jane Shambra

A gargoyle, a decorative architectural feature for redirecting water off rooftops, once set atop a downtown business. Do you know where? Atop Ellzey's Hardware Store on Howard Avenue.

Where is the Biloxi Gargoyle now? After its fall during Hurricane Katrina, it was repaired and is currently on display inside The People's Bank on Howard Avenue.

In which Biloxi downtown building was a mysterious tunnel discovered? During the renovation process of the old S & H Kress Store on Howard Avenue, a mysterious tunnel was discovered in the floor of what is now Ground Zero Blues Club. It was suggested that it was a remnant of the illegal days of gambling and liquor decades ago.

Where is Biloxi's famous witch weather vane perched? She is clearly visible atop Ellzey's Hardware store at the corner of Howard and Lameuse Streets, where it has stood since the building was built in 1897.

Did she fly away during Hurricanes Camille in 1969 and Katrina in 2005? She struggled to fly during those tumultuous hurricanes, but remains solid and is one of Biloxi's most curious and photographed icons.

In which Biloxi hospital were there sightings of two little ghostly girls appearing to patients who were very ill? Family stories passed down through the years tell of two young ghostly girls appearing at the old Howard Memorial Hospital on Lafayette Street. The building still stands and is occupied by the Department of Marine Resources.

In the 1970s, during the construction of a building, human skeletons from an unmarked cemetery were discovered. Which building is this, and what was the name of that unlisted cemetery? It was the Coast Coliseum, and the cemetery was locally known as the WAIF cemetery, a place that provided interments for orphans and neighbors who lived in the vicinity.

What unexpected pieces of ironwork were unearthed during the repair of Biloxi's streets after Hurricane Katrina? Trolley tracks from 1905 were discovered by Biloxi crews, right below the surface of Howard Avenue.

Twelve miles south of the Biloxi shoreline, a thriving casino once stood, renowned for its gambling, picnicking, swimming contests, and music. It disappeared, like a thief in the night, never to resurface since. When did it sink, and what was its name? This was the famous Isle of Caprice, built on Dog Key Island in 1925. By the summer of 1932, the island was found to be completely underwater.

Special Needs Halloween Costume Ball

Friday, Oct. 24, 2025
6-9 p.m.



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

- Admission is free!
- Awards to the top three winners in the costume contest, youth group & adult group!
- Snacks and security will be provided.

RSVP to 228-388-7170

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

Open to all ages with physical
and mental disabilities.



Halloween on Howard!

Saturday, Oct. 25
5-6:30 p.m.

Trick or treating drive-thru event

Vehicles lineup starting at 4 p.m. at the
intersection of Howard and Lameuse St.

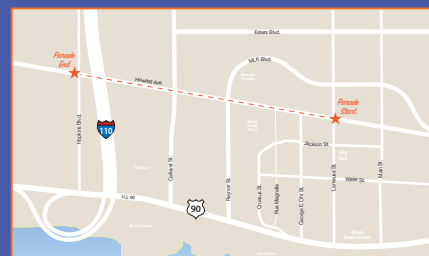
Vehicles travel west to Hopkins while
trick or treating with local businesses
and vendors along the way.

Free admission.

Participants must remain in vehicles.

Vehicles must be in line by 5 p.m.

Details: 228-388-7170,
programs@biloxi.ms.us



Best Bets!

Muster up

Visitors will be able to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the Civil War era during a three-day event, Oct. 17-19, when Beauvoir hosts the annual Fall Muster. The event, one of the Jefferson Davis shrine's biggest events of the year, takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and includes presentations, campground and battle re-enactments, a church service, a cemetery tour, and a memorial ceremony. Admission ranges from \$7 to \$30. The event is free for children five and younger. Details: www.visitbeauvoir.org



Get crafty

Talented local senior citizens will be selling their handmade crafts, unique gifts, and creative creations during the Harrison County East Biloxi Community Senior Center Craft Fair on Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This special event, taking place at the senior center on Parker Street, is a wonderful opportunity to support our senior community in Biloxi and Harrison County while finding one-of-a-kind items made with care and experience. In addition to the crafts, there will be a cake walk, healthcare vendors, a raffle and door prizes. Hamburgers and BBQ Pork sandwich plates, and baked goods will be available to purchase. All of this makes a fun and festive outing for the whole family! Stop by and enjoy a day filled with creativity, community, and connection — everyone is welcome! Details: 228-435-4192

October Vendor Showcase, Oct. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Every Saturday and Sunday throughout the Gulf Coast artists and craft makers will be showcased, offering one-of-a-kind gifts for purchase. Details: 228-374-3105



First Friday Downtown Biloxi, Oct. 3, 5-9 p.m., HowHop Creative District (Under the I-110 Interstate near 932 Howard Ave.) Food trucks, fun, and live entertainment by Ty Taylor & Gram Rea, 5-6:30 p.m., and The Network, 7-9 p.m. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Yard Sale, Leggett Memorial UMC, 1410 Beach Blvd., Oct. 4, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Indoor Yard Sale. Details: 228-331-0761

Walk to End Alzheimer's, Oct. 4, 8:15 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. walk starts, Point Cadet Plaza, 121 Cadet St. Details: 601-917-5795, or sodom@alz.org

Howard Helpers Cleanup, Oct. 4, 9 a.m., Altered Reality Brewing, 969 Howard Ave. Clean up event along Howard Avenue from Porter to Caillavet. The Argus Building Co. will provide buckets, gloves, and grabbers for litter pickup. Please RSVP to kim.goodman@argusbuilds.com

Skatin' The Coast, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 205 Hopkins Blvd. Skateboarders welcome to enjoy music, contests, lessons, raffles, & food! Details: www.gulfcoastskateparksassociation.org

Gallery 782 Art Opening, Oct. 4, 2-4 p.m., 773 Jackson Street, Debra Baldinger & Sue West will showcase their beautiful landscape paintings of the MS Gulf Coast and wire wrap jewelry. Refreshments will be served. Details: 228-436-7782

Biloxi Block Party, Cruisin' The Coast, Oct. 8, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Lameuse and nearby streets. Downtown car show and block party with thousands of cars and car aficionados, live entertainment, and awards. Performances begin at 8:30 a.m. across from Biloxi City Hall and include Ty Taylor and Gram Rea, Garry Wesley – Elvis Tribute Artist, and D.D. Thunder Band. Free admission. See more on page 4. Details: 228-435-6339

Cruisin' at First Baptist Church Biloxi, Oct. 8, 4-7 p.m., First Baptist Church Biloxi, 1560 Popp's Ferry Road. Live music, food, and classic cars. Details: 228-396-8500, www.fbcbiloxi.org/singingchristmastree

Old Biloxi Cemetery Cleanup, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-noon, 1066 Irish Hill Dr. Families are invited to clean their family and ancestors' gravesites and make the cemetery look its best. Groups, families, and individuals are invited to volunteer. Details: 228-435-6339

39th Annual Fall Muster, Oct. 17-19, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Beauvoir, 2244 Beach Blvd. Experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the Civil War era. Event features presentations, campground and battle reenactments, camp life, ladies' tea, period music & dance, & a small muster. General admission: Ages 18 and older \$20 daily and \$30 weekend pass; Ages 6-17 \$7 daily and weekend pass \$10. Ages five and younger are free. Details: www.visitbeauvoir.org or 228-388-4400

Harrison County East Biloxi Community Senior Center Craft Fair, Oct. 17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 461 Parker St. Many wonderful items will be for sale, including Fall and handmade pottery, painted ceramics, and other holiday items. Event includes hamburger and BBQ pork sandwich plates, baked items, a cake walk, healthcare vendors, a raffle, and door prizes. Free admission. All proceeds benefit the Senior Center. Details: 228-435-4192

Llamapalooza, Oct. 18, 1 p.m.-until sundown, Fly Llama Brewing, 186 Bohn St. 5th Annual Llamapalooza event with art vendors, food trucks, special beer, and more! Entertainment provided by Black Water Brass, Leo Lovechild & Sam Donald. Free-Family-Friendly event. Details: 228-207-7757

Annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup, Oct. 18, 8-10 a.m., locations in Biloxi to clean include West Beach Boardwalk and Lighthouse area. Every October, thousands of volunteers gather across the coast in an effort to rid our waterways, beaches, and bayous of marine debris. To volunteer, register on: msucoastal.com/COASTAL-CLEANUP

Trunk or Treat, Leggett Memorial UMC, 1410 Beach Blvd., Oct. 18, 4:30-6:30 p.m., free admission. Details: 228-331-0761

Moonlight Masquerade Netherween Ball, Oct. 18, 6-10 p.m., White Pillars, 1696 Beach Blvd. Live event featuring food, live performers, and live music from Symone French, two free signature cocktails, a costume contest, and a silent auction. Costume or cocktail attire required. Presented and benefiting the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence. Admission: \$85 per person or \$150 per couple. Details: tickets-gccfn.org/MM25

6th Annual Harley Half Marathon, Oct. 18-19, Golden Nugget Casino, 151 Beach Blvd. 5K Run/Competitive Walk on Saturday and Half Marathon on Sunday. Medals and T-shirts given to the first

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 89th 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

300. Entertainment by DJ Blayze. Details: harleyhalf.com.
- 19th Annual Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour,** Oct. 19, 2-4 p.m. and Oct. 21, 5-7 p.m., 1066 Irish Hill Dr. Self-guided, continuously performed portrayals with 14 characters and 11 stops. This year's theme: "Food for the Souls". Free admission, but donations welcome. See more on page 13. Details: 228-435-6339
- Bike Biloxi,** Oct. 21, 6 p.m. downtown ride. Begins at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd., and ends with refreshments and food at a downtown restaurant at cyclists' expense. Wear your favorite superhero's shirt! Helmets and lights recommended. Details: 228-435-6339
- Main Street Book Club,** Oct. 23, 5:30 p.m., One Thirty-One, 131 Lameuse St. The selection for October is "The Wrong Daughter" by Dandy Smith. The public is welcome and encouraged to purchase refreshments at the restaurant. Details: 228-435-6339
- Senior Halloween Bash,** Oct. 23, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Biloxi Civic Center, 578 Howard Avenue. Lunch provided at noon. Wear your best costume! Event includes a costume contest, stage performances, door prizes, and vendor booths. Free for all seniors 55 & up. Hosted by Harrison County & the City of Biloxi. Details: 228-392-9988
- Special Needs Halloween Costume Ball,** Oct. 24, 6-9 p.m. Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to all ages with physical and mental disabilities. Event includes a costume contest, stage performances, door prizes, and vendor booths. Security will be provided. Free admission. Details and to RSVP: City of Biloxi Parks & Recreation, 228-388-7170
- Kroctoiber Fest,** Oct. 24, 6-8 p.m., Kroc Center, 575 Division St. The Salvation Army Kroc Center celebrates Kroctoiber Fest, a community-wide event for all ages featuring trunk or treating, a costume contest, bounce houses, a vendor fair, food trucks, & much more! Free admission. Details: <https://krocmscoast.org/KrocMSCoast/events/kroctoiber-fest-2025> or 228-207-2761
- Halloween Scare at Haunted Fire House #13,** Oct. 24-25 & 30-31, 6-9 p.m., Biloxi Fire Museum, 1046 Howard Ave. Join if you dare for a Halloween Scare at Haunted Fire House #13. Admission is \$10 per person, \$5 for children under 8 years old. Details: 228-435-6119
- 67th Annual Nativity BVM School Halloween Carnival,** Oct. 25, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., 1046 Beach Blvd. Join Nativity BVM for lots of games, a presentation, and a costume contest. This is a fun, family-friendly event open to the public. Details: nbvmcarnivalchair@gmail.com
- Halloween on Howard,** Oct. 25, 5-6:30 p.m. Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department drive-thru trick or treating event. Vehicle line-up at 4 p.m. at intersection of Howard and Lameuse. Vehicles west along Howard to Hopkins under the I-110, while trick-or-treating from their vehicle. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170
- 3rd Annual Fall Foam Fest,** Oct. 26, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Biloxi Town Green, 710 Beach Blvd. All-Day Foam Party with face painting, a bounce house, obstacle course, food trucks, craft vendors, music, trick or treating at 6:30 p.m., costume contest from Noon to 3 p.m. Admission: \$5 for adults, kids are free, and \$5 all-day bracelets for bounce houses & foam pits. Presented by Gulf Coast Foam Party. Details: 228-364-3441
- Boo on the Rue,** Oct. 30, 5-8 p.m., Rue Magnolia. Family & fur-friendly outdoor Halloween Party. Halloween costumes are encouraged. Costume contest, adult, kid, & pet, and group prizes. Also: entertainment and a chili cook-off with \$5 fee to be a taster. Pets must be on a leash. Details: Biloxi Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, 228-435-6149



Biloxi Little Theatre
220 Lee St., 228-432-8543
www.4blt.org
• **The Rocky Horror Picture Show,** Oct. 25

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

- Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library**
2244 Beach Blvd., 228-388-4400, www.visitbeauvoir.org
• **39th Annual Fall Muster,** Oct. 17-19, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- 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 Museum792 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

- **Gulf Coast Artists Unlimited Art Show**, Oct. 3-5
- **Kids Haunted House**, Oct. 15-Nov. 1
- **Sonic the Hedgehog Meet & Greet**, Oct. 18, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Spells & Stories with the Sanderson Sisters**, Oct. 25, Noon – 3 p.m.

Harrison County East Biloxi Senior Center461 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 Market625 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 Army575 Division St., 228-207-1218, krocmscoast.com

- **Goat Yoga, Members**, Oct. 4, 9 a.m., \$20/Guest \$25
- **Camp Kroc "Fall Break Edition"** Oct. 6-10, \$125, for ages 5-12
- **KrocOctoberfest**, Oct. 24, 6-8 p.m. Free
- **Pumpkin Poolooza** Oct. 25, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., for ages 3-12, members \$5/guest \$10

Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum115 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.

- **Nominations accepted for the Heritage Hall of Fame**, deadline is Oct. 1st. Details: maritimemuseum.org

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art386 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 Museum1046 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
- **Haunted Fire House**, Oct. 24 & 25 and 30 & 31, 6 to 9 p.m., admission charged

Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31. Doors open at 4 p.m.; Card sales at 5:30 p.m., Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts. Concessions available. Kitchen open until 8 p.m.

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

- **Bottle Show**, Oct. 3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Oct. 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission
- **Steak Night**, Oct. 10, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m. \$20, dine-in or carry-out. 228-392-9345
- **Trunk or Treat**, Oct. 18, 1-3 p.m.
- **Dance**, Oct. 18, 7-11 p.m., D.J. Eddie McDaniel, \$10
- **Halloween Bunco**, Oct. 21, doors open 5:30 p.m. Food at 6 p.m., \$10

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

Dr. Frank Gruich Sr. Community Center, 591 Howard Ave. (2nd floor), 228-438-4636

- **Meeting**, Oct. 26, 2-4 p.m., Guest Speaker: Mary Ott Tremmel Davidson. Open to the public.

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, Oct. 6, 13, 20, & 27; doors open at 5 p.m., Early birds at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Bingo

870 Howard Ave., 228-374-1717

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

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

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 a.m.-2 p.m. under the I-110 overpass on the corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. Details: 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 |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
|  October VENDOR SHOWCASE Biloxi Visitors Center Lobby Every Saturday & Sunday in October 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | | | 1 | 2 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing | 3 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Bottle Show – Joppa Shrine KAFB Farmers Market Marina Park First Friday – HowHop Art Show – Edgewater Mall Michael Halat Pop's Pizzeria Grand Funk Railroad Hard Rock | 4 Yard Sale Vendor Showcase Walk to End Alzheimer's Point Cadet Plaza Howard Helpers Cleanup Altered Reality Brewing Skatin' The Coast 205 Hopkins Blvd. Art Show – Edgewater Mall Goat Yoga – Kroc Center Justin McIendon Pop's Pizzeria Hairball-XXV – IP Casino |
| 5 Art Show Edgewater Mall Vendor Showcase Biloxi Visitors Center Tinh Dau First Love Celebrating Moon Hard Rock | 6 Camp Kroc Fall Break Kroc Center Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima | 7 Community Market Camp Kroc Fall Break Kroc Center Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral | 8 Cruisin' at First Baptist Church Biloxi Camp Kroc Fall Break Kroc Center Biloxi Block Party Cruisin' The Coast Downtown Biloxi Britishmania Beau Rivage | 9 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Camp Kroc Fall Break Kroc Center Brandon Bennett Elvis My Way IP Casino | 10 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night – Joppa Shrine Camp Kroc – Kroc Center Old Biloxi Cemetery Cleanup Jamey Johnson – Beau Rivage Michael Halat – Pop's Pizzeria Tucker Wetmore – IP Casino | 11 October Vendor Showcase Biloxi Visitors Center |
| 12 Vendor Showcase Biloxi Visitors Center | 13 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima | 14 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral | 15 Kids Haunted House Edgewater Mall (through Nov. 1) | 16 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing | 17 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge 39th Annual Fall Muster Beauvoir East Biloxi Community Senior Center Craft Fair 461 Parker St. Michael Halat – Pop's Pizzeria Jeffrey Osborne – IP Casino | 18 Llamapalooza Vendor Showcase Harley Half Marathon MS Coast Cleanup 39th Annual Fall Muster Sonic Meet & Greet – Mall Trunk or Treat/Dance – Joppa Shrine Brandon Green – Pop's Pizzeria Moonlight Masquerade Ball – White Pillars Katt Williams – Coliseum Demetri Martin – Beau Rivage |
| 19 Harley Half Marathon Coliseum to Golden Nugget Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour 1066 Irish Hill Drive 39th Annual Fall Muster Beauvoir Vendor Showcase Biloxi Visitors Center | 20 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima | 21 Community Market Old Biloxi Cemetery Tour 1066 Irish Hill Drive Bike Biloxi Downtown Halloween Bunco Joppa Shrine Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral | 22 | 23 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Main Street Book Club One Thirty One Senior Halloween Bash Biloxi Civic Center | 24 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Special Needs Halloween Costume Ball Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center Kroctober Fest – Kroc Center Halloween Scare Biloxi Fire Museum Lonestar –Hard Rock | 25 Pumpkin Poolooza Kroc Center Vendor Showcase Nativity BVM Halloween Halloween on Howard Line up at Howard/Lameuse Rocky Horror Picture Show Biloxi Little Theatre Sanderson Sisters – Mall Halloween Scare – Fire Museum Hank Berumen – Pop's Pizzeria Kevin Gates – MS Coast Coliseum Gladys Knight – Beau Rivage |
| 26 Foam Fest Biloxi Town Green MS Historical Society meeting Gruich Center Vendor Showcase Biloxi Visitors Center | 27 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima | 28 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral | 29 | 30 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing | 31 Dinner & Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Monroe Moccasins at Biloxi Breakers MS Coast Coliseum Happy Halloween!  | 1 Monroe Moccasins at Biloxi Breakers MS Coast Coliseum |

BTV October 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!" Rip'n Hot Chicken |
| 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?" replays |
| 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!" Rip'n Hot Chicken |
| 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?" replays |
| 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!" Rip'n Hot Chicken |
| 7:30 p.m. | Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min) |
| 7:45 p.m. | Keesler Update |
| 8 p.m. | Special Presentation: "R U Ready?" replays |
| 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 October on BTV.



Dipping delight

This month, "Biloxi Cooks!" visits Rip'n Hot Chicken in the heart of Downtown Biloxi. Rip'n Hot Chicken was founded by Nashville transplants Rip and Erica, who wanted to bring the true culinary spirit of "Nashville Hot Chicken" to the Gulf Coast. They also brought a popular sauce, the Rip'n Hot Chicken Comeback Sauce, to their restaurant. Mississippi comeback sauce originated in Jackson, MS, likely in the 1920s, initially intended to keep customers returning. And from its humble beginnings in Greek-run Jackson eateries, the tangy, spicy sauce spread throughout Mississippi's food scene, eventually becoming a defining element of the state's cuisine.

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



This month's recipe:

Rip'n Hot Chicken Comeback Sauce and Beach Bum

Recipes by Rip'n Hot Chicken



Comeback Sauce

Ingredients:

2 cups of mayonnaise
1 cups of ketchup
1/2 cup of Worcestershire sauce
4 tsp of garlic powder
2 tsp of fine black pepper
2 tsp of salt

Instructions:

Thoroughly whisk all ingredients together and savor the robust sauce!

Beach Bum

Ingredients:

1/2 can of Kona Brewery Big Wave beer
1/2 can of Golden Road Mango Cart beer

Instructions:

Mix the two beers together into a single pint glass and enjoy!

A Sampling of Some of Biloxi's Cemeteries

By Jane Shambra

Now that the autumn breezes begin to refreshen the air and cooler temperatures are on the way, Biloxians begin the anticipation of the customs of All Saints Day cemetery gatherings. It is much like the traditional “spring cleaning,” except outside and focusing upon the cleanliness and decoration of loved ones’ plots in our cemeteries. The placing of fresh floral bouquets, the cleaning of tombstones, and tidying of the surrounding ground are a part of this yearly family process.

This southern custom is not practiced in all our cemeteries. The VA National Cemetery, for example, has strict guidelines for uniform appearance throughout the year.

Biloxi City Cemetery

The history of our Old Biloxi Cemetery did not begin with the landing of Monsieurs Bienville and d’Iberville. It took time to get our cemetery organized. In 1844, the heirs of Louis Fayard deeded this cemetery property to what was then the Town of Biloxi for the purpose of a burying ground in the village of Biloxi. The actual recordation of burials began about 1841. Old Biloxi Cemetery Books A-E register early burials beginning at that time. The Local History and Genealogy Department at the Downtown Biloxi Library is the repository for those older listings. The City of Biloxi does, however, maintain a unique online database and map of burials searchable at biloxi.ms.us and by clicking on the cemetery tab. There are at least 16,000 burials on record.

The Biloxi Cemetery has unique features that should be mentioned. Note the above-ground tombs which feature multiple burials in levels, much like a two- and three-story house, sometimes with an added basement. The



Spanish moss hanging from branches at the Old Biloxi Cemetery

above-ground concept is also found in New Orleans, as well. With the water table very close to the surface in our area, burying above-ground is a safer and more sanitary means of preserving our loved ones.

Years ago, Biloxians also adapted the unique architectural feature of constructing moss-laden tent-like structures above their family members’ in-ground plots. This genius feature allows a simple (and organic) way to visit cemetery sites, alleviating the harsh sunshine and providing a little tunnel effect through which the cool breezes of the Mississippi Sound could provide a more refreshing visit. If you look closely, you can still spot the idle poles extending over burial sites. They were originally constructed of thin water pipes and/or iron pieces.

Back in the day, and before our recent major storms, our cemetery’s oak trees had abundant Spanish moss hanging from their branches. This plant was supposedly named after the beards of the previous Spanish explorers who came to Biloxi before 1699. This type of moss does not harm the tree. It takes its nourishment from the air. Spanish moss is related to the pineapple family and also provides a safe harbor for insects and small animals in the area. Once a source for the stuffing of old car cushions, Spanish Moss is now a popular item for home decorations.

Our city cemetery also has remnants of little wrought iron fencing around some tombs. This unusual, multipurpose feature delineated the property lines and prohibited roaming animals from disturbing the deceased lying within.

Upon visiting our cemetery, take note of the amazing architecture. Sadly, not all plots are identified with tombstones. However, some tombstones tell a little about the person’s life, but they can also add a little more information, such as a person’s connection to military units, participation in civil groups, or even a talent such as sewing.

For a very long time, it was thought that the

oldest tombstone was that of Michel Batet. Because of his tombstone etchings, we have always concluded that this Frenchman died in Biloxi in May 1811. But a closer look at his very unique stone and a little more genealogy sleuthing, it was discovered that Michel actually died in 1841 (an error on the stone caused by erosion). He likely was born in Spain, spoke French, and arrived in Biloxi via a river steamboat. In the 1840 Census, it appears that his Biloxi neighbors were Ladnier, Holley, Pradat, Elmer, Bellman, and Lameuse. A thorough search revealed that his youngest daughter was likely born in Biloxi. After his death, his wife and children moved to New Orleans, where she and two of their daughters are buried in Greenwood Cemetery. What an exciting, but unfinished, cemetery puzzle!



Michel Batet tombstone at the Old Biloxi Cemetery

Biloxi Mausoleum Cemetery

Located on Robertson Street, the Biloxi Mausoleum Cemetery can be found just east of the tracks. The Biloxi Mausoleum is the newest cemetery in our area. It can accommodate about 250 caskets and 540 urns. The new burial option is constructed with Spanish granite and steel-reinforced concrete, a design to withstand weather and age.

Southern Memorial Cemetery

The Southern Memorial Park Cemetery is located on Hwy. 90 is just a short distance east of Beauvoir Road. This property was once known as “Holmhaven” and was owned and occupied by Robert H.

Holmes and his family. Southern Memorial was formerly opened in April 1935 on a total of 13 acres. It currently features both a mausoleum and in-ground burials. There is estimated to be over 6,000 interments at this site.



Southern Memorial Park Cemetery on Beach Boulevard



Biloxi National Cemetery

The Veterans Administration National Cemetery is located at the intersection of Veterans Avenue and Pass Road on the grounds of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and within close proximity to Keesler Air Force Base. This cemetery was established in March 1934, and its first burial was held on March 24, 1934, with the interment of Private Edgar A. Ross. This national cemetery currently occupies about 54 acres.

Within its grounds, a general information kiosk, which is available during visitation hours, provides the names of interred individuals with a map to identify the location of the plots.

Beauvoir Cemetery

The Beauvoir Memorial Cemetery is located just north of the Beauvoir house and can be seen on Beauvoir Road on its westernmost boundary. There are over 780 men and women buried there. This cemetery opened in 1904. The last interment was held on April 7, 1958. Jefferson Davis is not buried here. He died in New Orleans in 1889 and is buried in Richmond, Virginia.

Jewish Cemetery

In the mid-1800s, several Jewish families came to live in Biloxi. They thrived in the retail business in Downtown Biloxi. In 1853, a tract of land on the west side of Reynoir by Elder Street was sold to the Congregation of the Hebrew Society of New Orleans to be utilized as a Jewish Cemetery. The first trustees for this cemetery included the surnames of Klopman, Marks, and Friedlander. In 1958, the local newspaper reported that only about ten or twelve bodies had been laid to rest there. One name identified was Michel Levy, who died at the age of 17 of yellow fever. In 1991, a historical marker was erected, inscribed with “Original Biloxi Jewish Cemetery. One of the oldest Jewish cemeteries in the south – Established in 1855.” The City of Biloxi’s “Essence of Biloxi: Driving and Bicycling Trail” features this Hebrew Rest/Jewish Cemetery in its video and is available



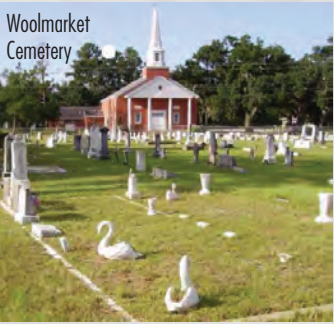
Jewish Cemetery on the west side of Reynoir by Elder Street

online at discover.biloxi.ms.us or by going to biloxi.ms.us and clicking on Tours.

Woolmarket Cemetery

The community of Woolmarket wasn’t added to the corporation of the City of Biloxi until 1999. One of the significant community cemeteries there is the Coalville United Methodist Church Cemetery, located at 12556 Lorraine Road. There are more than 2,000 burials recorded at this location. Those interred include soldiers, farmers, loggers, tradesmen, mariners, and schooner captains.

On May 9, 2024, the City of Biloxi’s Preserve Biloxi team hosted an opportunity to visit, learn, and meet at its “Walking in Woolmarket History” event, as a part of its yearly Preservation in May series.



Woolmarket Cemetery

The Moran Site

The French Colonial Memorial Garden Moran Site cemetery is located next door to the Biloxi Visitors Center, at the corner of Hwy. 90 and Porter Avenue. It was accidentally discovered after Hurricanes Camille (1969) and Katrina (2005), when erosion from the storms’ violent thrashing uncovered skeletal remains from the early 1700s. It is deemed the oldest French Colonial cemetery in the south and the second oldest in the United States. Sadly, no one knows the names of these individuals. After Hurricane Katrina, a respected team of historians, scientists, and archaeologists gathered to study what lay beneath the surface. Approximately 30 individual burials were identified. Most were young males, and many had endured injuries and serious health episodes during their lifetimes. A Catholic crucifix was discovered with one of the individuals. They likely died homeless, poor, and in ill health.

In 2012, the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources acquired this burial site and, in 2013, a formal funeral and burial were provided for those individuals. Today, visitors can learn more about Biloxi’s French Colonial Garden by viewing its informational kiosks provided near its identifiable weeping angel statue and carefully landscaped garden.



French Colonial Memorial Garden Moran Site by the Biloxi Visitors Center

Weeping angel statue at the French Colonial Memorial Gardens

The Historical Waif Cemetery

The mysterious Waif Cemetery was once located where the Coast Coliseum is today. (A “waif” is an archaic term for a neglected, homeless, and abandoned person, usually a child.) The land was the location of an orphanage from 1900 to around 1910. There, children lived, worked, and played, and were well cared for by Dr. Alfred Clay. Children of all ages came from far and near; many had no known surnames.

When the Coast Coliseum was being constructed in the 1970s, burials were discovered, but left in place, never to be seen again.

There was once an undocumented and unmarked cemetery at that location, associated with residents and workers of the orphanage, but no records survived through time.

Family cemeteries

Long before the establishment of specific Biloxi cemeteries, families would inter their loved ones respectfully on an area of their properties. During the 1990s, when there was the initial boom of new development north of the Popp’s Ferry Bridge, there was the discovery of a few small cemeteries, including the Sunkist-Holley-Blackwell Cemetery and the Hamilton Cemetery.

Lagniappe

Stay tuned to this year’s City of Biloxi Cemetery Tours. This annual Old Biloxi Cemetery event, produced by Preserve Biloxi, will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 19, and Tuesday evening, October 21. It’s all free and open to the public. Visit and learn more about Biloxi’s amazing history. This year’s theme will be “Food for the Souls.”

See past cemetery tours online at discover.biloxi.ms.us/old-biloxi-cemetery-tour/.

BNews Monthly

OCTOBER 2025

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council
Wayne Gray • Anthony Marshall
Mike Nail • Jamie Creel
Paul A. Tisdale • Kenny Glavan
David Shoemaker

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at biloxi.ms.us



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