

BNews Monthly

NOVEMBER 2025

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



Circle the dates

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Straight from the Mayor

– Page 6



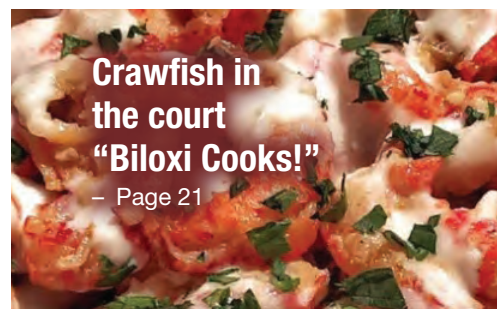
Holiday feast without the flames

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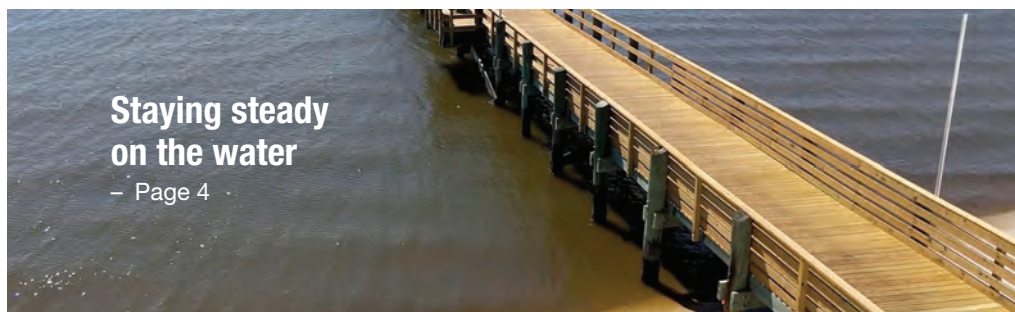
Crawfish in the court "Biloxi Cooks!"

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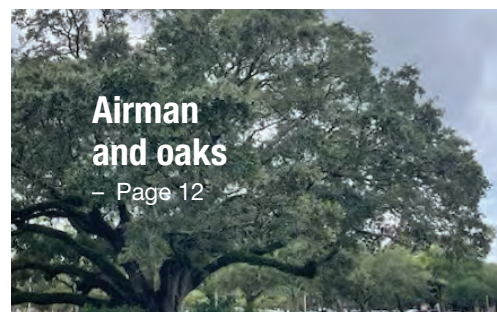
Staying steady on the water

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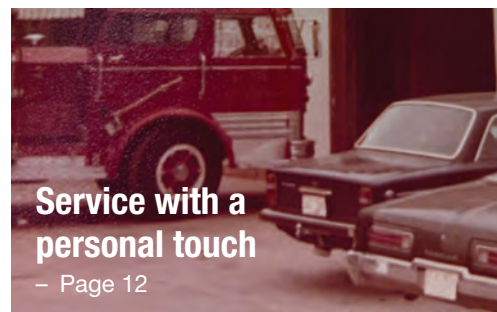
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A Thousand Words



City Hall
Lantern



Santa Arrives!

Saturday, November 8 at 11 a.m.

Visit Santa daily through Christmas Eve during mall hours, located at Santaland in front of Dillard's.

Visits are free, and 'Santa & Me' photo pricing applies.

MEET THE GREEN HOLIDAY VILLAIN!

Saturday, Nov. 15 & 22
and
Saturday, Dec. 6 & 13
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

He will be joining Santa in front of Dillard's at Santaland.

'Santa & Me' prices apply.



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

EDGEWATERMALL.COM

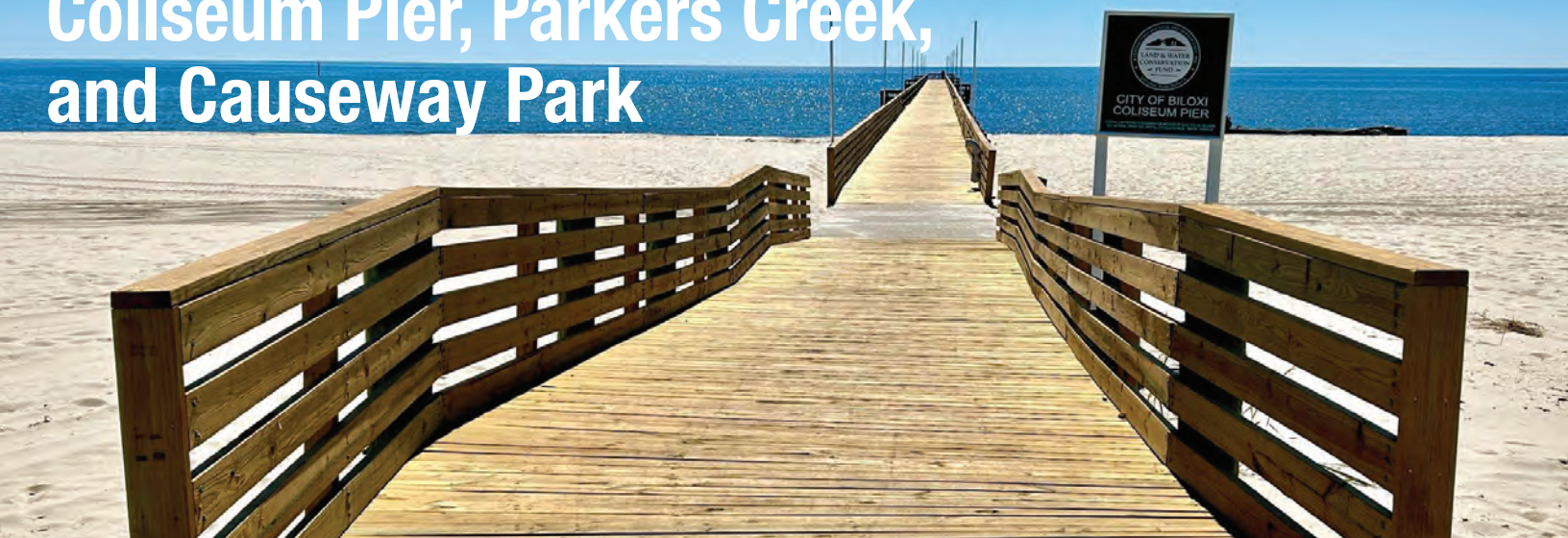
DILLARD'S | JCPENNEY | BELK | FOOD COURT
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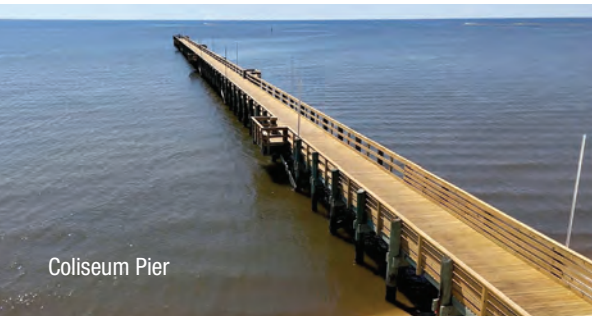
Edgewater Mall

WATERFRONT RENEWAL:

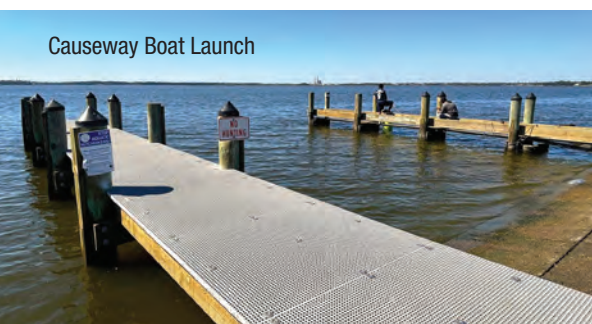
Coliseum Pier, Parkers Creek, and Causeway Park



Coliseum Pier



Coliseum Pier



Causeway Boat Launch



Parkers Creek

The City of Biloxi's Port Division continues to invest in the restoration and maintenance of the city's piers, boat ramps, and waterways, ensuring these vital public facilities remain safe, functional, and welcoming for residents and visitors alike. Through a combination of repair projects and infrastructure upgrades, the city is enhancing access to its waterfront while preserving the character of its coastal community.

In mid-August, work began on the Coliseum Pier Restoration Project, one of Biloxi's most notable recent improvements. Over the course of three weeks, J.E. Borries Marine Construction replaced the broken and rotten substructure, installed new decking and handrails along the entire 908-foot pier, fabricated and installed sixteen new light poles, and built new benches to replace deteriorated ones. The project was completed under the Port Maintenance and funded through the Port Division.

Lighting enhancements are also planned for the pier. The Biloxi City Council approved a lease agreement with Mississippi Power to provide and maintain sixteen solar-powered lights, each producing over 2,700 lumens, at a cost of \$434 per month. Mississippi Power will also handle repairs, replacements, and storm-related removals and reinstallations. Once the lights arrive, installation is expected within two to four weeks.

At Parkers Creek off East Oaklawn Road, boat ramp restoration and dredging projects have been completed. At the boat launch, contractors removed and replaced rotten pilings and damaged wooden components beneath the ramp structure, and upgraded the decking to fiberglass flow-through decking, a more durable and storm-resistant material. Contractors also completed dredging along the area

last month. This project improved area drainage and increased water depth to allow for better boat access.

Now underway over at the Causeway Park, is a significant improvement project that includes upgrades to three areas: the boat ramp, fishing pier, and overlook fishing pier. The work will include:

- Boat ramp repairs: demolition and replacement of three existing 45-foot finger piers with new wooden substructures and fiberglass flow-through decking. Safety bumpers will also be installed on the courtesy pier near Yul's Place for safer docking.
- Fishing pier repairs: the 152-foot pier will be rebuilt with new timber components, decking, and handrails, including replacement of all broken and rotten materials with stronger, longer-lasting ones.
- Overlook fishing pier repairs: measuring 45 feet by 24 feet, this structure will be fully rebuilt with fiberglass flow-through decking and new timber framing.

The Causeway Pier project has a total cost of \$412,486, funded by a Tidelands Grant designated specifically for pier repairs at the Causeway, and carried out by the Port Maintenance contractor, J.E. Borries. The project is expected to be completed within 60 to 90 days.

"These restoration projects represent our ongoing commitment to maintaining Biloxi's waterfront for future generations," Port Manager Christina Johnson said. "By improving the safety, durability, and accessibility of our piers and waterways, we're ensuring that Biloxi continues to be a place where residents and visitors can enjoy the beauty of our local waters."

With these combined improvements, Biloxi is reinforcing its reputation as a vibrant coastal community that values its public spaces and maritime heritage.



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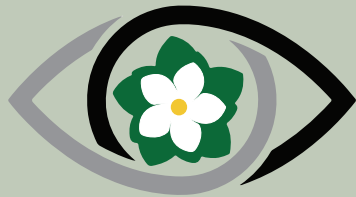
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Where's the Action

Popp's Ferry Road Extension

In 2024, even before the City of Biloxi and Necaise Brothers Construction broke ground on the \$34.1 million road extension, the transformative results of the project started and now continue.



Most notably, the new Rouses Market at Popp's Ferry and Pass Road has already proven to be a great success. Nearby, a new Chick-fil-A is in the final planning stages, with

construction targeted to begin in 2026. Five Below is now open, and a number of other retail businesses are on the drawing boards. Across the street, the former Office Depot space has been transformed with a new Dollar Tree and Hair & Beauty Supply 4.

Construction in the area has cleared major obstacles like the CSX railroad, and the overall project completion date is anticipated ahead of schedule by the end of 2026. With momentum building, the future business growth along and near the new extension is limited only by imagination.

Lighthouse Pier

In 2020, Hurricane Zeta rendered the most iconic public pier on the coast unusable for the third time since I have been Mayor of Biloxi. Zeta, other hurricanes, and near misses also destroyed a great number of Biloxi's piers. The City of Biloxi bit the bullet and repaired them with little outside financial support. However, in Zeta's case, for the first time, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) indicated that additional financial support (cost mitigation) could be provided for the Lighthouse Pier to be rebuilt at a higher standard. As soon as that was confirmed, we got to work.

In order to determine the additional amount of mitigation, FEMA required the city to submit an estimate of the cost to replace the pier "as it was" before Zeta. A certified third-party engineering firm was engaged to determine the Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC).

The initial OPC (\$1.2M) was submitted to FEMA for approval in December 2021. We have come to realize



that navigating this process could be described as never-ending.

We proceeded with the design of the new pier immediately after submitting the OPC. With the goal of never having to replace this 780-foot pier again because of storm damage, it was to be constructed with concrete pilings, flow-through decking, 320-foot stone breakwater, stainless steel fasteners, and more. In 2022, the total estimated cost of the project was \$4.2 million, with an anticipated \$2.2 million to be covered in FEMA funding.

Literally, after years of FEMA questions, submitting responses and appeals, FEMA reduced the project to much less than our engineer's estimate, thus reducing the amount of anticipated mitigation of the project to approximately \$520,000. After numerous trips to Washington, meeting with FEMA, and with the support of our U.S. Senators and Congressmen, our second and final appeal resulted in increased project funding for mutually approved materials, bringing the anticipated mitigation amount to approximately \$849,000.

We are still short more than \$1 million of the expected FEMA funding, but the next step is to refine the completed design and submit it to FEMA for approval of the mitigated project. That process is now ongoing with submission to FEMA by the end of November.

Looking ahead

In the future BNews Monthly issues, I'll be sharing an update on the Saenger Theatre and Katrina Infrastructure projects.



News & notes



Splash pads: The splash pads at the Margaret Sherry Library and John Henry Beck Park will close on Monday, Nov. 3. The splash pads will reopen in the Spring. The splash pads are maintained by the Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department. Details: biloxi.ms.us/pr

New directors in Parks and Public Works:

The City of Biloxi has appointed Jamie Lee as the new director of Biloxi Parks & Recreation. Jamie previously served as the department's assistant director. Christy LeBatard has been appointed as the new director of Public Works. LeBatard is also the director of the City's Engineering department. Both appointments comes after the retirement of the previous department directors.

Biloxi municipal clerk honor:

Stacy Thacker, Municipal Clerk of the City of Biloxi and Certified Municipal Clerk in Mississippi, has earned the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Inc. Thacker completed the extensive education programs required for the certification and provided a record of significant contributions to the local government, community, and state. The City of Biloxi is proud of Thacker's achievement and continued service to the community.

Mobile food vendors:

All mobile food vendors participating in a special event in Biloxi must follow specific requirements before setting up at a special event. Call Biloxi Community Development at 228-435-6280 or visit online at biloxi.ms.us/specialevents.

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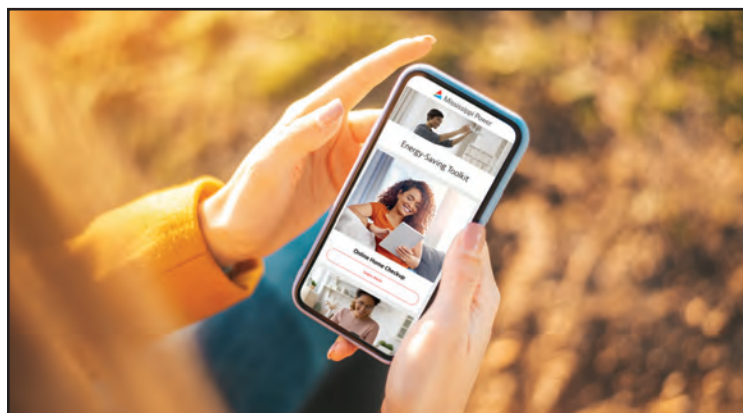
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Cook with care this Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving holiday is this month, and that means family gatherings and lots of cooking will be taking place. It can also mean more fires.

With more activity and people in the home, especially around the kitchen, preparing that holiday meal can become a little hectic. Safety in the kitchen is then that much more important, especially on Thanksgiving Day.

According to the National Fire Prevention Association, cooking is the leading cause of home fires, and Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.

This Thanksgiving, the Biloxi Fire Department wants to remind residents of some safety tips to keep in mind while preparing the feast.

Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Keep children away from the stove. Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen such as games, puzzles, or books to keep them busy.

Here are some key fire cooking safety tips:

- 1. Safe Cookware:**
 - Choose a safe location for your cooking activities, away from flammable materials and structures.
 - Use appropriate cooking equipment such as grills and stoves that are in good working condition.
- 2. Pay attention:**
 - Never leave your cooking unattended, especially when using an open flame or hot equipment.
- 3. Fire Extinguishers:**
 - Have a fire extinguisher nearby and know how to use it. Different types of fires (grease, electrical, wood) require different extinguishing methods.
- 4. Flammable Materials:**
 - Keep flammable materials like paper towels, dishcloths, and aerosol cans away from the cooking area.
- 5. Clothing and Hair:**
 - Avoid loose clothing that can catch fire and tie back long hair.
- 6. Proper Ventilation:**
 - Ensure proper ventilation when cooking indoors to prevent the buildup of harmful gases.
- 7. Children and Pets:**
 - Keep children and pets at a safe distance from cooking areas and hot surfaces.
- 8. Flame Control:**
 - Be mindful of controlling flames and flare-ups when grilling.
- 9. Oil and Grease:**
 - Be cautious when using oil and grease; they can splatter and cause fires. Use a deep fryer for deep-frying and keep a lid nearby to smother grease fires.
- 10. Proper Storage:**
 - Store propane tanks and other flammable materials in a safe place, away from direct sunlight and heat sources.
- 11. Emergency Plan:**
 - Have an emergency plan in place, including knowing how to call for help and the nearest exit or escape route in case of a fire.

- ▶ Watch fire safety videos on the city's YouTube channel under Police and Fire videos
- ▶ Contact the Biloxi Fire Department at 228-435-6200

By following these fire cooking safety guidelines, you can minimize the risks associated with cooking and enjoy your culinary endeavors while keeping yourself and others safe.

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This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$41,324,849 with 75% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.

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*Congrats to our students, staff,
parents and community!*

Banana Ball Coming to Biloxi, Ayrault Awarded Manager of the Year



World-famous baseball entertainers set to come to the Coast in September 2026

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

With the Milwaukee Brewers making another playoff run, featuring a number of former Biloxi Shuckers stars, many future stars finished the season on a high note at Keesler Federal Park. The season saw the Shuckers reach the playoffs for the second consecutive season after their first South Division title since 2019. Multiple Shuckers earned awards following the season, including Joe Ayrault as the Southern League Manager of the Year, Luke Adams, and Brock Wilken as league All-Stars, Tyson Hardin and Jesús Made as the organization's Minor League Pitcher and Player of the Year.

BANANA BALL IS HEADED TO BILOXI!

As the Shuckers continue preparations for the 2026 season, set to begin in April, the team has announced that additional events are slated to come to the stadium next season, including Banana Ball in September!

Keesler Federal Park will host The Firefighters and the Loco Beach Coconuts for two games on Friday, September 25, and Saturday, September 26, 2026, as part of the 2026 Banana Ball Championship League. All ticket sales for the seating bowl will be conducted through the Savannah Bananas and Fan First Entertainment. Suite and hospitality options are available by contacting the Shuckers Front Office and Sales Team at 228-233-3465 or sales@biloxishuckers.com.

"We're excited to partner with Coastal Mississippi and Visit Mississippi to bring Banana Ball to the Coast," Shuckers General Manager Hunter Reed said. "We've seen throughout Minor League Baseball how popular Banana Ball is in growing the game of baseball, and we're excited to showcase our ballpark to new and returning fans across the Coast."

Banana Ball has become the fastest and most entertaining game in sports. With its



fast-paced rules and emphasis on continuous play, Banana Ball strips away the often-criticized lulls and lengthy pauses typical of traditional baseball, delivering a high-octane and entertainment-packed game that keeps both players and fans on their toes. Banana Ball has 11 unique rules. The most notorious rule is that if a fan catches a foul ball, it counts as an out.

ADAMS, AYRAULT, WILKEN EARN SOUTHERN LEAGUE HONORS

Minor League Baseball announced in late September that Shuckers manager Joe Ayrault, infielder Luke Adams, and third baseman Brock Wilken have earned Southern League honors. Ayrault was named the Southern League Manager of the Year, becoming the first Shuckers manager to earn the award since Mike Guerrero in 2018. Adams was named the league's All-Star at first base, and Wilken earned the honors as the designated hitter. It marks the third consecutive season that the Shuckers have had multiple Southern League All-Stars and the fifth time in franchise history.

Ayrault returned to the helm as Shuckers manager after a battle with cancer forced him to miss the second half of the 2024 season. Now cancer-free, Ayrault guided the Shuckers to the first-half title in the South Division, the franchise's first division title since 2019. Ayrault managed a team that led the Southern League in runs (639), doubles (197), home runs (111), walks (621), on-base percentage

(.337), slugging percentage (.362), and OPS (.699). The team also ranked among the franchise single-season leaderboard in stolen bases (2nd, 190), walks (2nd, 621), runs (3rd, 639), and home runs (5th, 111).

Adams, the Milwaukee Brewers' No. 7 prospect by Baseball America, earned All-Star honors for the second time in his career and first since 2023 in the Carolina League. Despite missing 66 games with an injury, Adams tied his career-high with 11 home runs, held a .232/.409/.450 slash line and recorded an .859 OPS. Adams finished the season among the Southern League leaders (min. 250 PA) in wRC+ (1st, 160), on-base percentage (1st, .409), OPS (2nd, .860), isolated power (3rd, .218), slugging percentage (5th, .450), and walk rate (6th, 15.5%). Adams led all Double-A players after being hit by a pitch 21 times in 64 games, the sixth-most by a Southern League player since 2005. The 21-year-old also set the Shuckers franchise record by reaching base in 39 consecutive games between April 29 and June 19.

Wilken, the Brewers' No. 13 prospect by Baseball America, earned All-Star honors for the first time in his career. Despite missing 50 games on the Injured List during the second half, Wilken set a career-high in home runs (18) and extra-base hits (35). Wilken finished the season among the Southern League leaders in home runs (3rd, 18) and extra-base hits (T-7th, 35). Among players with at least 300 plate appearances, Wilken was among the leaders in OPS (1st, .876), slugging percentage (1st, .489), wRC+ (1st, 159), walk rate (1st, 20.1%), isolated power (1st, .263), wOBA (1st, .413), and on-base percentage (4th, .387). His 159 wRC+ is tied for the 14th highest in a single Southern League season (min. 300 PA) since 2006 and the highest for any Brewers Double-A player over that span.

► For more info: biloxishuckers.com

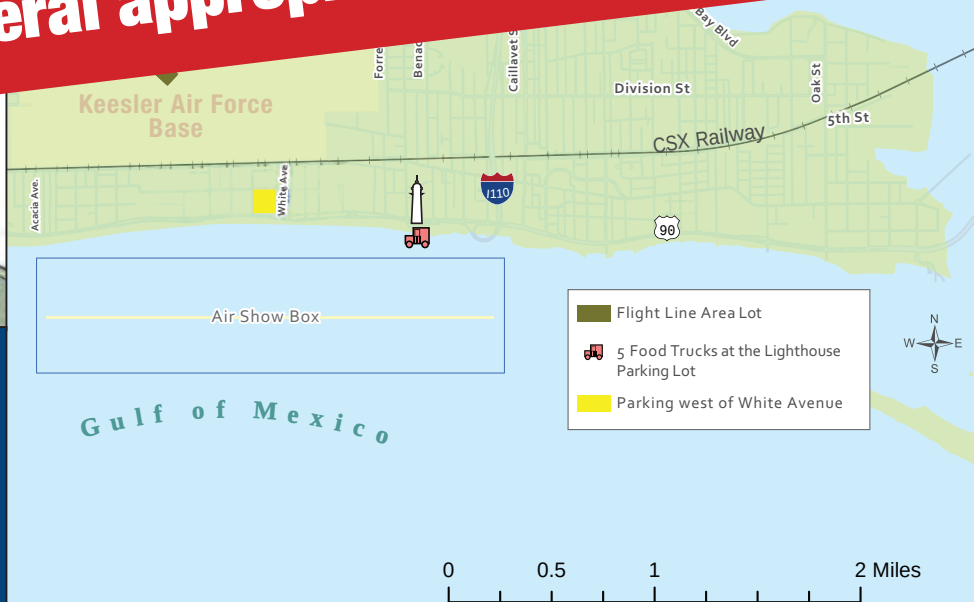
► Javik Blake is the Media Relations Manager and voice of the Biloxi Shuckers. See "Shuckers Insider" daily on BTV at 6:15 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

NOV. 1-2
2025
KEESLER AFB, BILOXI MS

THUNDER OVER THE SOUND

**Canceled due to lapse
in federal appropriations**

Thunder Over The Sound Air Show Area Map



thunderoverthesound.com

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THE TREES OF KEESLER

By Susan Peterson
City of Biloxi, Tree Committee Chairperson

On the eve of Veterans Day 2025, I thought we should look at the stewardship Keesler and the U.S. Air Force have maintained in protecting and promoting the native trees of our Gulf Coast home.

As many will recall, when the onset of World War II became imminent, the citizens of Biloxi recognized that the land just west of downtown, and north of the railroad tracks offered an ideal location for an Army Air Corps training field. In 1941, they transferred more than 1,500 acres of valuable, high ground to the military. At the time, the area wasn't entirely empty, with the Naval Reserve Park located along the northern edge on Back Bay, and the Biloxi Country Club, along with a small golf course, at the end of Howard Avenue, now Judge Sekul Avenue.

To construct the airfield, much of the original forest had to be cleared, leaving behind a stark landscape on the Biloxi peninsula. Beginning in the 1950s, a major beautification effort was launched, leading to the planting of hundreds of live oak trees across the base. Today, their legacy is unmistakable with long rows of trees lining the main thoroughfares along Larcher Boulevard with more than 100 live oaks lining the main entrance to the base, extending north of White Avenue, and along Meadows Avenue where nearly 70 trees stand.

Tree planning continued along the perimeter road, and with each new facility built, young native trees – primarily live oaks – were added as part of the landscape. The dormitories that once stood at the site of the soon-to-be-built Cyber Center were surrounded by more than two dozen oaks. When the new center is constructed, only one of those



The Airman's Oak is estimated to be more than 300 years old

70-year-old trees will be removed. The Cyber Center is being built by Mississippi State University, who enlisted the aid of the State Arborist to design the building and preserve as many trees as possible.

The original WWII barracks of the Triangle Area were replaced in the late 1990s with modern dormitories. Those dorms are surrounded by dozens and dozens of new trees planted at the time of construction. Landscaping, to include new trees is a key element of any new construction project on Keesler AFB.

Touring the base today, you can still find approximately 1,000, live oak trees, each over a century old. Among them, 309 trees are more than 150 years old, and 21 that are more than 240 years old. My favorite is the "Airman's Oak" estimated to be more than 300 years of age, which sits at the intersection of Meadows Drive and 1st Street.

Today, the efforts to preserve and protect the base's native environment remains ongoing. In fact, a manager from the civil engineering squadron is the wing's "Tree Czar." That person is responsible for the more than 8,000 mature trees on the installation and housing areas (2,800 are protected species). Every one of them is mapped, identified and tagged. If you have an opportunity, take a close look at any of the trees on base. A small metal numbered tag is located on the trunk at about eye level. The registry is continually updated, and is filed at the base, as well as with the Mississippi State Forestry Commission.

Keesler has been designated as a "Tree City USA" for more than 33 years. Just like every Biloxian, the Air Force loves its trees.

I'd like to thank Keesler AFB for assistance with this tree article and David Randolph, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron (Tree Czar) and Emily Wilson, Biologist.

Biloxi Pulse

Spotlight On Downtown Biloxi Businesses

By Laurie Rosetti
Biloxi Main Street, City of Biloxi Downtown Services

Downtown Biloxi is home to some great, locally owned and operated businesses. Over the next several months, Biloxi Main Street would like to introduce as many as possible. This month, we showcase Hammett's Auto Electric.

Located at the corner of Main Street and Esters Boulevard, this 51-year-old business (est. 1974) specializes in rebuilding starters, alternators, and other auto-electric services. Hammett's operated for about 25 years on Division Street, next door to Hugo's – an Italian restaurant that closed in 2003 – before moving to its current location. The shop is owned Buddy Hammett, who personally greets most customers as they walk through the door.

Cruisin' The Coast has become one of the busiest times of year for Hammett's. During the year's event in early October, one cruiser made this post on the Cruisin' The Coast Facebook page: "Had to share my experience today with a couple of local shops. I experienced an alternator failure on a brand-new alternator. First stop was Ronnie's Automotive. Figured out a too small charging wire probably strained my alternator to death. Then he got me pointed towards a real gem, Hammett's Auto Electric in Biloxi. Hammett's rebuilt the impossible to find single wire alternator in less than an hour. Back to Ronnie's to install and we were back on the road. Small shops like these two are becoming harder and harder to find. Honest people who understand their craft and go above and beyond to help their customers."

It is increasingly difficult to find small, specialized auto electrical shops in the U.S. due to fundamental shifts in the automotive industry. The growing complexity of modern vehicle technology and the rise of electric vehicles have made it harder

for small shops to stay competitive and profitable. With the help of loyal customers, locals, commercial businesses, cities, counties, and school districts, Hammett's is surviving! If you're looking for honest, dependable and knowledgeable, look no further than Hammett's in downtown Biloxi!

- Hammett's back in the day
- ▼ Hammett's at the corner Main and Esters



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CITY OF BILOXI PUBLIC NOTICE

Combined Notice of Public Hearing, Availability of Draft and Comment Period for the 2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program

Notice is hereby given that the City of Biloxi will conduct a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public hearing regarding its 2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). Information about the City's performance and expenditures for program year ended September 30, 2025 will be presented at the hearing. Availability of a public review draft of the 2024 CAPER also will be discussed at the hearing.

1. The public hearing is scheduled for **5:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 12, 2025** in the Auditorium of the Community Development Department located at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., in downtown Biloxi.
2. A draft of the Program Year 2024 CAPER will be available for public review and comment for at least 15 days, from Thursday, November 13 until 4 p.m., Monday, December 1, 2025.
3. In addition to being available for review on the city's website www.biloxi.ms.us, a copy of the draft document will be available for review during regular office hours at the following locations: Biloxi City Hall 140 Lameuse Street; Biloxi Community Development Department 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.; all Biloxi Library Branches; and the Biloxi Housing Authority.

The City encourages the participation of minorities, non-English speaking residents, the disabled, low-to moderate-income persons, public housing residents and all other interested parties at the hearing and through written comments. Individuals who wish to participate but may be hindered by disabilities or are non-English speaking are urged to call the Biloxi Federal Programs Office at 228-435-6269 at least three (3) working days prior to the hearing so special arrangements may be made.

Oral and written comments will be received at the public hearing and written comments also may be delivered to the Federal Programs Office at 214-A Delauney Street, Biloxi, MS; mailed to the Federal Programs Division at P.O. Box 429 Biloxi, MS 39533; or emailed to psnyder@biloxi.ms.us. Comments must be received by the City by 4 p.m., December 1, 2025.

For more information about Biloxi's CDBG Entitlement Program, visit www.biloxi.ms.us/cdbg/.

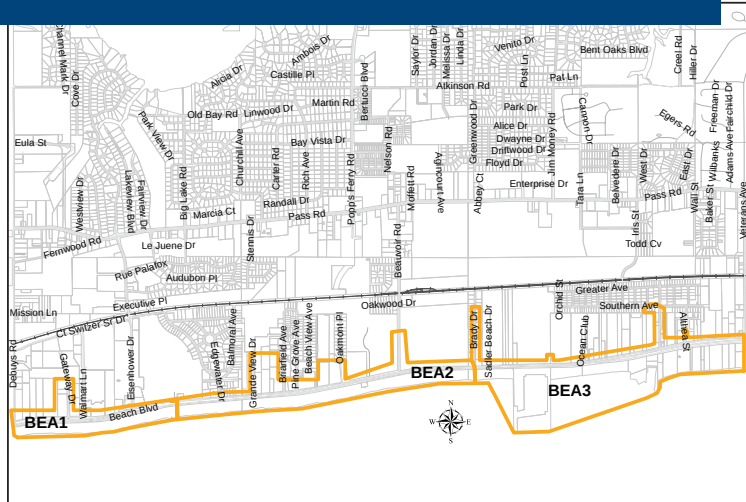


Infrastructure work in Biloxi

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:



This postcard, dated 1909, shows Beach Road, also known as the Shell Road, located where Beach Boulevard is today, with the Biloxi Lighthouse in the background. The original roads were made with oyster shells, which gave substance and stability to the sandy soil. The seafood factories produced such enormous piles of shells that they were a defining feature of the Biloxi waterfront.



Harvesting oysters in 1957

In early Biloxi, oyster shells were repurposed in numerous ways beyond road construction, including as a building material, agricultural fertilizer, and a source for regenerating oyster reefs. In 1957, oyster factories were required to replant at least 50 percent of the shells in the Gulf for reef restoration. Oyster shell recycling keeps the shells out of landfills and provides new oysters with the old oyster shells as a foundation for growth.

So, the story of oysters doesn't end on the plate. To this day, local restaurants and volunteers are giving discarded oyster shells a new purpose by rebuilding the very reefs that once sustained them.

Photograph of Shell Road from the Walter Fountain Collection at Local History and Genealogy. Shuckers in 1957, from the Lyle Bonge Collection at Local History and Genealogy.

Riding Forward: Biloxi Bicycle Works and the spirit of coastal adventure

When the sun rises over the Gulf and brightens the streets of Biloxi in the morning light, there's a special kind of freedom that comes from two wheels and an open coastal breeze. That feeling is what Biloxi Bicycle Works has always stood for – and with the new owner, Duncan Perkins, that legacy continues to roll forward with even more energy and passion.

For years, the Biloxi Visitors Center Bicycle Rental Program has offered travelers a unique opportunity to experience the city in a whole new way – cruising along the shoreline, pausing at the historic lighthouse, and exploring the vibrant neighborhoods that make Biloxi truly shine. Behind those smooth rides and friendly smiles stands a proud local partner: Biloxi Bicycle Works, the shop that keeps the wheels turning.



Biloxi Bicycle Works on the boardwalk

When Duncan Perkins took the helm earlier this year, one of his first commitments was to continue the strong relationship with the Visitors Center. This partnership embodies the city's welcoming spirit and love for outdoor adventure.

"The Visitors Center is where people fall in love with Biloxi," Duncan says. "We just make sure they have the perfect ride to experience it."

Together, the Visitors Center and Biloxi Bicycle Works offer visitors an easy, eco-friendly, and unforgettable way to explore the Gulf Coast. Whether it's families pedaling down Beach Boulevard, couples discovering quiet corners of downtown, or solo travelers catching sunset views along the Biloxi Bay Bridge, every ride becomes part of the city's story.

Behind the scenes, Duncan and his team meticulously maintain every bike, offer local insight on scenic routes, and ensure that every rider feels safe, comfortable, and ready for adventure. The Visitors Center makes it easy for guests to rent bikes right where their journey begins – with friendly staff, helpful maps, and a deep knowledge of Biloxi's charm.



Biloxi Bicycle Works maintenance



1050 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39530
228-374-3105 • 1-800-BILOXI-3
visitors@biloxi.ms.us



984 Howard Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530
228-400-0280
biloxibicycleworks.com



Duncan Perkins, owner of Biloxi Bicycle Works on Howard Avenue

Experience Biloxi in a new way.

Rent a bicycle at the Biloxi Visitors Center and explore this historic city at your own pace.

This service is offered in partnership with Biloxi Bicycle Works.

Bicycle rentals available for a few hours or a full day.

Bicycle Rental Rates:

2-hour rental.....	\$ 17.00
4-hour rental.....	\$ 23.00
Full-day rental.....	\$ 32.00
Service charge (per transaction).....	\$ 5.00
Late fee (per hour or partial hour)	\$ 15.00

Credit card required. All bikes must be returned by 4:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER TRIVIA Fall is finally here!

By Jane Shambra

When is All Saints Day? November 1.

What's the connection between cemeteries and All Saints Day? Traditionally, locals prepare the gravesites of their loved ones in anticipation of All Saints Day. Families place flowers near family tombstones and clean and clear the area. On November 1, Biloxi families from generations past would visit their loved ones' burial sites and meet with other families there as well.

When does daylight savings time end this year? It officially ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 2.

When can we plan for Daylight Savings Time to begin again? It will officially begin at 2:00 a.m. on March 8, 2026.

Which two states do not adhere to Daylight Savings Time? Hawaii and most of Arizona.

How can we remember in which direction to change our clocks? The phrase: "Fall Back...Spring Forward" helps us to remember which direction our clocks should be adjusted.

Today's digital devices automatically adjust time for daylight saving time. How was this handled before the digital age? Wind-up table clocks and wristwatches were manually wound by hand, which occasionally required climbing step stools to reset wall clocks.

Can you find any round clocks in Downtown Biloxi? Yes. There are two noticeable clocks located along Howard Avenue. One is near Elzey's hardware store on the corner of Howard Avenue and Lameuse Street. The other is located high in the bell tower of the Nativity Cathedral, situated on the corner of Howard Avenue and Fayard Street.

These clocks in Downtown Biloxi display letters instead of numbers. What are they? The hours on these clocks are displayed in Roman numerals, instead of traditional numbers. V is represented as 5, and X means 10; this is a simple mathematical puzzle that is usually taught in elementary school.

At this time of year, local nurseries and retailers sell pots of mums. What's a "mum"? A mum is a nickname for a chrysanthemum. This flowering potted plant is frequently the foliage of choice in Biloxi when decorating for fall at our cemeteries and our homes and businesses.

What does the word chrysanthemum mean? Its name comes from a Greek word meaning "gold" and "flower."

Besides mum plants, what other interesting types of vegetation might we find when visiting Biloxi cemeteries in November? Looking up, we can usually spot gray Spanish moss hanging from older trees.

Spanish moss is actually a flowering plant. When can we see its tiny flowers? Spanish Moss has tiny blue, pale-green flowers with three petals. They bloom from spring to fall each year.

Why do weather enthusiasts get excited about November 30? Ideally, November 30 marks the end of hurricane season. However, there is no guarantee that Mother Nature won't surprise us with one of her torrential storms after that date.

The City of Biloxi
Parks & Recreation Department presents

Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Breakfast and Fellowship

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center
2520 Pass Road

Coffee Hour: 8 a.m. • Breakfast: 9:30 a.m.

- Open to ages 55 and older
- Speakers – City of Biloxi representatives
- Door prizes
- RSVP: 228-388-7170 by Nov. 10, 2025

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



Special Needs & Family Thanksgiving Dinner

**Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025
11 a.m.-2 p.m.**

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

- Games, food, & fun
- All ages, with physical and mental disabilities,
are welcome
- Sponsored by City of Biloxi, Oran Caravan #67,
and the International Order of Alhambra

For more information and to RSVP by Nov. 19, 2025,
call Rob Stewart at 228-388-7170,
or email rstewart@biloxi.ms.us.





Thunder Over the Sound

Nov. 1-2, 10:30 a.m. Co-hosted by Keesler Air Force Base and City of Biloxi, this event celebrates aviation with thrilling aerial performances featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. Static displays and tours on Keeler AFB. Parking available but parking pass required to park in dedicated parking locations. For maps, details, and to reserve free parking, visit <https://thunderoverthesound.com/>

(Event was canceled on Oct. 20)



The Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey

Nov. 1, 8, 14, 29, 7 p.m., Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Admission and details: 228-594-3708

Biloxi Basketball Youth League Registration, Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 25520 Pass Road. Open to ages 6-12. Fees required. Details: biloxi.ms.us/pr, 228-388-7170.



First Friday Downtown Biloxi

Nov. 7, 5:30-9:30 p.m., HowHop Creative District (under the I-110 near 932 Howard Ave.). Food trucks, fun, and live entertainment by Dueling Pianos at 5 p.m. and Meet The Press at 7 p.m. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

Ron Meyer's Christmas City Gift Show, Nov. 7-9, times vary, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Event features three days of holiday shopping, including Shoppers Paradise and Breakfast with Santa. Admission: \$11-\$30, Free for ages 15 and younger accompanied by an adult. Details: christmascitygiftshow.com

Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Breakfast and Fellowship, Nov. 13, 8 a.m., Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Open to all ages 55 and older. Event includes coffee, breakfast, speakers, and door prizes. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

Autism Spectrum Disorder Family Resource Fair

Nov. 15, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Families, caregivers, and professionals, mark your calendars. Vendors and resources from across the state, expert speakers, open to the public. Free admission. Details: 228-396-4434



Bike Biloxi, Nov. 18, 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

Biloxi Chamber of Commerce presents Breakfast with the Mayor, Nov. 21, Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m., program at 8 a.m., Edgewater Mall, 2600 Beach Blvd. Admission: Chamber members are free, non-Chamber members: \$25. Details: <https://mscoastchamber.com>

Christmas Open House at the Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum, Nov. 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 115 1st Street. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, tour the museum and shop in the museum gift shop and with an array of local vendors. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6320

Special Needs & Family Thanksgiving Dinner, Nov. 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Games, food and fun for all ages with physical and mental disabilities. Free admission. Details: 228-388-7170

CHRISTMAS 2025 PREVIEW:

Lighting of the Biloxi Lighthouse, Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m., south of the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105

Annual Christmas On The Water Children's Parade and Lighting of the Town Green, Dec. 5, 6-8 p.m. To register children for the parade or for details: 228-388-7170

Christmas In The City, Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Howard Ave., Rue Magnolia, Water Street, & GE Ohr Street area. Vendor spots available but limited. Details: 228-435-6339



Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 90th 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



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

- **Shakespeare In Love**, Nov. 7-9 and 14-16
- **The Sound of Dreams**, Nov. 21-22

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

- **All My Sons**, Nov. 6-16
(No shows on Nov. 10 and 11)



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

Biloxi Excel By 5
Lopez School, 140 St. John Ave., 228-297-6808

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

Biloxi Lighthouse & Visitors Center
1050 Beach Blvd., 228-374-3105, biloxi.ms.us. Open daily, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

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

- Group charters available, up to 44 people
- Walk on Sails, minimum of 6 passengers, \$30/adult & \$15/child ages 3-12, check website for dates
- **Sail Aboard the Biloxi Schooner for Christmas On The Water**, Dec. 6, 4:30-8 p.m.
Tickets: \$50 adults and \$30 children (3-12). Details: 228-435-6320



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

- **Santa's Arrival**, Nov. 8
- **Santa & The Green Holiday Villain**, Nov. 15 & 22

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

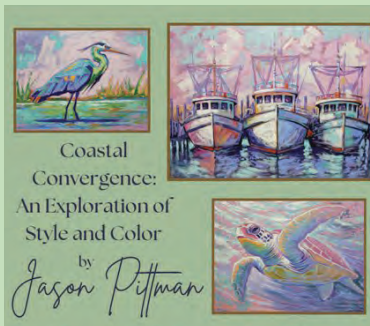
- First Friday of each month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Marina Park (open to those with base access)

Kroc Center, MS Gulf Coast, The Salvation Army575 Division St., 228-207-1218, krocmscoast.com**Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum**

115 1st Street, 228-435-6320,

www.maritimemuseum.orgHours of operation: Monday-Saturday,
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

- **Christmas Open House**, Nov. 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission.
- **Art Exhibit by Jason Pittman**, Nov. 1-Dec. 19. "Coastal Convergence – An Exploration of Style and Color." (Included with admission to 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!

- **Holiday Sip'n'Shop**, Nov. 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Shop one-of-a-kind works of art, made in the Biloxi Center for Ceramics for holiday gifts! Food and beverages provided by the Biloxi Yacht Club.

**West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire Museum**1046 Howard Ave., 228-435-6119, 228-435-6200, www.biloxi.ms.us

- Historic 1937 firehouse open Saturdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment

Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Nov. 7, 14, 21, & 28. Doors open at 4 p.m.; Card sales at 5:30 p.m., Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts. Concessions available. Kitchen open until 8 p.m.

**Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)**

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

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

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, Nov. 14, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m. \$20, dine-in or carry-out. 228-392-9345
- **Dance**, Nov. 15, 6-10 p.m., \$10 admission

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

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

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, Nov. 3, 10, 17, & 24; 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
		Community Market		Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing		1 Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Jason Pittman Art Exhibit Begins Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Kumar Sanu & Sadhana Sargam Beau Rivage
2	3 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	4 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	5	6 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing All My Sons Center Stage	7 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge First Friday – HowHop KAFB Farmers Market Marina Park All My Sons Center Stage Shakespeare in Love – BLT Midland – IP Casino Ron Meyers Christmas City Gift Show MS Coast Coliseum	8 Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Santa Arrives! Edgewater Mall All My Sons Center Stage Shakespeare in Love – BLT Tiffany Haddish Beau Rivage
9 All My Sons Center Stage Shakespeare in Love Biloxi Little Theatre	10 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	11 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	12 All My Sons Center Stage	13 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Breakfast and Fellowship Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center All My Sons Center Stage A Day to Remember MS Coast Coliseum	14 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night – Joppa Shrine Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum All My Sons – Center Stage Shakespeare in Love – BLT Kem Beau Rivage	15 Dance – Joppa Shrine Autism Spectrum Disorder Family Resource Fair Biloxi Visitors Center Santa & The Green Holiday Villain Edgewater Mall All My Sons – Center Stage Shakespeare in Love – BLT Blues Traveler IP Casino
16 All My Sons Center Stage Shakespeare in Love Biloxi Little Theatre	17 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	18 Community Market Bike Biloxi Downtown Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	19	20 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Disney On Ice MS Coast Coliseum	21 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Breakfast with the Mayor Edgewater Mall The Sound of Dreams Biloxi Little Theatre Disney On Ice MS Coast Coliseum Aaron Lewis Beau Rivage	22 Christmas Open House Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Santa & The Green Holiday Villain Edgewater Mall The Sound of Dreams Biloxi Little Theatre Disney On Ice MS Coast Coliseum ZZ Top IP Casino
23 Disney On Ice MS Coast Coliseum Special Needs Thanksgiving Dinner Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center	24	25 Community Market Holiday Sip’n’Shop Ohr-O’Keefe Museum of Art	26	27 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing 	28 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Mike Epps Beau Rivage	29 Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum The Green Holiday Villain Edgewater Mall
30 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima		Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral				



November 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!" Belgicans Fries, Edgewater Mall
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
9 a.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Afternoon	
Noon	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," B&W, 1950s travelogue (9 min)
12:10 p.m.	A vintage vignette: "America's Riviera," 1960s travelogue (14 min)
12:25 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
1 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Belgicans Fries, Edgewater Mall
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
3 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Evening	
6 p.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 p.m.	Inside BTV
6:10 p.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 p.m.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 p.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
7 p.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Belgicans Fries, Edgewater Mall
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
9 p.m.	City Council meetings and other bonus public affairs programming (3 hours)
Midnight	National Anthem by Ronny Broussard (2 min)



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

Crawfish queso fries

Treat yourself to the bold new flavor everyone's talking about, Crawfish Queso Fries, Biloxi-style! This month, "Biloxi Cooks!" visits the Edgewater Mall Food Court, where Belgicans Fries prepares their famous crawfish queso fries, a Biloxi favorite. This southern-style combination of spicy crawfish tails, nacho cheese sauce, Cajun seasoning, garlic, Rotel tomatoes, butter, and onions, served over a bed of crispy fries, is sure to please.

Watch the November 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:

Crawfish queso fries

Recipes by Belgicans Fries

Crawfish

Ingredients:

- 1 lb crawfish tails
- 3 tbs butter
- 1 tbs minced garlic
- 1 tbs Cajun seasoning
- 2 tsp liquid crab boil
- 1 tsp onion powder

Queso/Cheese Sauce:

Ingredients:

- 12 ounce can evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 tsp Cajun seasoning
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1 cup shredded Muenster
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack
- 1/2 cup shredded Mozzarella
- 30-32 oz frozen fries of choice
- Fresh parsley to garnish

Instructions:

1. Melt butter in pan
2. Add garlic and sauté for 30 secs
3. Add the crawfish
4. Sprinkle the crab boil, Cajun seasoning, and onion powder over crawfish
5. Sauté over medium heat for 4-5 minutes.
6. Remove from pan and keep warm.
7. In the same pan as the crawfish, pour in the evaporated milk and heavy cream
8. Bring to a low simmer. Do not boil.
9. Sprinkle in the Cajun seasoning and onion powder
10. Add the cheeses and stir constantly until cheese melts and sauce coats the spoon.
11. Turn off the heat after 4 minutes of simmering
12. Sauce will thicken as it stands
13. Prepare the fries according to package instructions
14. Top the fries with the crawfish, cheese sauce, and parsley



Thanksgiving at Grandma's: A Tradition of Love and Gatherings

By Jane Shambra

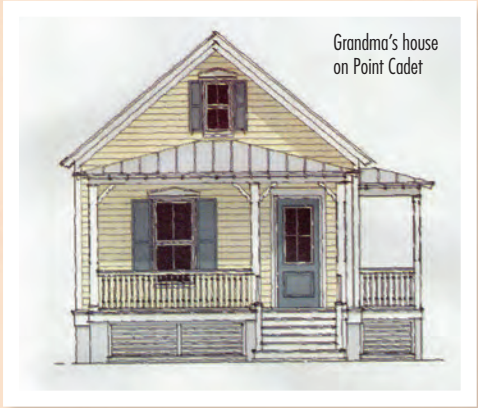
With Thanksgiving around the corner, I find myself reminiscing about the times I spent with my Grandma during the holidays. The four-day school break gave us the perfect opportunity to not only spend time with Grandma, but also gather at her beautiful home in Biloxi with the whole family.

Grandma's house was very interesting. It was a neat wooden house on Point Cadet. Everything was made of wood: the wooden floors squeaked when we walked; the sides were covered with horizontal wooden planks, perfectly overlapping, and called weatherboards; and the walls and ceilings were made of wood, not sheetrock or plaster like we have today. Those walls were called tongue and groove, with each piece of wood perfectly interlocked with the next, just like a puzzle. In today's modern home designs, many have wooden flooring of this type.

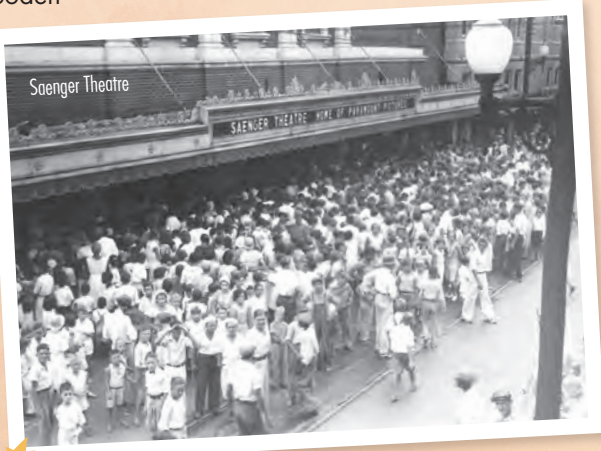
The house stood elevated a few feet above the ground, with wooden steps at both the front and back entrances. This design prevented the house from flooding in bad weather and allowed the plumber to crawl underneath to fix broken pipes. Grandma even stored things under the house, like her clay flower pots and garden tools.

The front of the house was designed with a wonderful wooden porch. This breezy outdoor "room" was a busy place, indeed. She had a huge wooden rocker there. Grandma spent much of her day rocking, singing, knitting, hulling her home-grown beans, and talking with neighbors as they walked along the sidewalk past her house. The overhang of the porch provided a shield from the glaring sun and pouring rain.

Every window of the house had wooden shutters. Not only were they ornamental, but they were also functional and could be closed tightly during the threat of a hurricane. Each window and door had a screen covering, which was a great feature to ward off pesky gnats and mosquitoes.



Grandma's house
on Point Cadet



Saenger Theatre

What's inside

Grandma's home at Thanksgiving was filled with glorious aromas. She cooked everything from scratch. The cast-iron cooking pots on her stove always made the best gumbo! Believe it or not, Grandma shopped at the old City Hall Market building for her Thanksgiving dinner. Both vegetables and meats could be purchased there. This is the previous City Hall that was once located at the northern intersection of Main and Howard.

Gaming back in the day

In anticipation of her young holiday guests, Grandma always kept her wooden toy chest well-stocked with fascinating old-fashioned toys. Her collection, far from today's electronic gadgets, offered plenty of options to keep us entertained for hours. Glass marble games, story books, rag dolls, chalk for sidewalk hopscotch, jump ropes, ball and jacks, checkers, Parcheesi, and Old Maid card games are just a few of the entertainment collectibles she had for the grandkids. She even had a set of wooden blocks and a jack-in-the-box for the little folks. Wedged among the toys were a few decks of tattered playing cards kept for Grandpa and his guests to play Boo-Ray and poker. Grandma liked these cards, too, but preferred her quiet games of solitaire.

Often, Grandma would add an extra toy surprise to her collection, one that she purchased from the Kress Department Store on Howard Avenue. Today, we recognize this building as Ground Zero Blues Club.

Grandma didn't always have a television set. Her first source for news, music, and storytelling was her electric radio, complete with turn knobs and the occasional static, especially on stormy days. Grandma loved to sing along with Hank Williams songs. Her special love of music came from her visits to Biloxi's Saenger Theatre with its magnificent organ. The Saenger is where she and grandpa had their first date!



Factories along the Point called workers by whistle

Noises in the night

Late nights at Grandma's were filled with games, laughter, and her irresistible snacks – but no matter how late we stayed up, we always woke early, gently roused by the unique sounds of her neighborhood. In the mornings, you could hear the loud and distinct tones of the seafood factory whistles summoning their worker crews. The whistle of the Hummingbird train traveling in its east-west course was also often heard as it entered and exited the Biloxi peninsula. In those days, Biloxi's downtown train station was near the intersection of Reynoir Street.

Grandma had fresh milk delivered right to her front door, and the gentle clink of those glass bottles created a sound unlike any other. Each morning, a newspaper boy would pedal up on his bicycle to drop off the Daily Herald. The rhythmic thump of the paper hitting the wooden porch was a sign for Grandpa to begin brewing the morning coffee. In the distance, the trolley car's bell rang softly as it made its way along the tracks through town. And not to be missed were the clear, resonant chimes of St. Michael's bells, ringing each early morning, echoing all the way to Grandma's house.

Voices in the kitchen

Outdoor sounds weren't the only sounds our family could hear. Early in the morning, Grandma and her visiting family would start bustling in the kitchen, preparing the meals of the day. The unique voices of each aunt could be identified. Some conversed in the languages of their native countries, such as Croatia. The Louisiana relatives would speak in their distinct French Cajun tongue, and others, who spoke English, would have that special accent that you seldom hear today. None of the present-day generation learned those melodious languages... if only we could play back those voices.



Trolleys ran downtown ringing the bell.



The Hummingbird train ran
through Biloxi back in the day.

What's in the yard

Grandma's yard was like no other. We had so much fun playing baseball and kickball with our cousins. We also picked pecans from her trees in hopes she would make some of her special pecan pralines! She even had satsuma bushes that had the sweetest and juiciest fruit on the planet!

There were also clothes hung along a line in the yard. Grandma didn't have an electric or gas dryer. Instead, she hung her clothes outside to dry, clipped to wire ropes with worn wooden clothespins. Her Mississippi Sound air-blown laundry is a wonderful memory of visits to grandma's house.

Sadly, Grandma's special home is no longer there. In spite of Grandpa's tireless efforts to build and secure their house, hurricanes took a toll, but our special Thanksgiving holiday family memories will always be with us.

BNews Monthly

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