

BNews Monthly

JANUARY 2026

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



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Biloxi's Fountains of Youth

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A Thousand Words



**Once upon a
snowfall**

January 2025

NEW STORES NOW OPEN

VISIT EDGEWATER MALL TODAY AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW STORES:

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Edgewater Mall

The final step before opening the doors

Understanding Certificates of Occupancy and Certificates of Development Compliance

Opening the doors to a new home, business, or moving into a freshly renovated space is exciting – but before anyone can turn the key, there's an important approval that must be in place: a Certificate of Occupancy. This certificate verifies that a building meets safety standards and local regulations, protecting both occupants and the community. Here's what you need to know before you move in.

A Certificate of Occupancy, or CO, as it is often referred to, is approved and issued by the Building Official, who, for Biloxi, is Community Development Director Jerry Creel. The approval is made in accordance with review procedures and construction standards listed in the Building Code and Fire Code. Approval also verifies that all other applicable city regulations comply.

A CO goes hand in hand with a Certificate of Development Compliance or a CDC. This certificate verifies that a new development complies with the city requirements for the construction project, ensuring everything from site work to landscaping and lighting is adequate. In order to receive a CDC, the city ordinance states that a development must be completed in compliance with the Certificate of Zoning Compliance, Public Works Permit, Tree Permit, Temporary

Use Permit, or Sign Permit authorizing the development as appropriate; the development complies with all applicable standards of the city's Land Development Ordinance; and that the development complies with all other applicable city regulations. To assist with the compliance process, the Biloxi Community Development is staffed with employees who can guide residents and developers with the procedure.

Once both are issued, a business can open. However, a temporary CO and CDC may be issued by the Director for up to 90 days to allow a structure to be partially or fully occupied. Temporary certificates are issued only when appropriate conditions and safeguards are in place to protect the safety of occupants, users, and the public. If there is good cause, the Director may approve a second temporary certificate.

These certificates are an important step in ensuring that a structure is safe, compliant, and ready for use. By understanding when a certificate is required and how the process works, property owners and businesses may avoid delays and help projects move forward smoothly while

protecting the safety of everyone who lives, works, and visits our community.

- ▶ See the Land Development Ordinance online at biloxi.ms.us/ordinances.
- ▶ Visit Biloxi Community Development at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Under construction in Biloxi

- 7 Brew (in front of Rouses)
- Home 2 Suites (Redeemer property on Beach Blvd.)
- Shaggy's/Old Lucy's Expansion and renovation (Beach Blvd.)
- The Current Apartments (Beach Blvd.)
- Express Oil Change (Popp's Ferry Road)
- Stennis Drive Adult Day Care

Information of note:

- Plans have been completed for Chick-fil-A (in front of Rouses). The permit is expected in the spring.
- Biloxi has seen 56 months in a row of sales tax revenue exceeding \$1 million, with an average of \$1.25 million.
- Within the first 11 months of 2025, Biloxi has exceeded 15 million dollars, with December yet to be calculated. This has not occurred in more than two decades.
- Building Permit valuations for 2025 are currently 50 million dollars over calendar year 2024.





Fresh Start Better Money Moves

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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.

Looking ahead to 2026

A new year brings new opportunities to build on our progress and focus on what lies ahead. As we move forward, our vision is clear: to continue strengthening our city, supporting our neighborhoods and businesses, and investing in a future that benefits every resident.



We are looking ahead with purpose and optimism. We are committed to collaboration, growth, and opportunity in this city. By continuing to focus on good governance, community input, and strategic planning, the city is destined for great things.

At the heart of our city's progress is a commitment to open dialogue and shared decision-making. I encourage every resident, business owner, and community partner to stay informed with facts directly from the city, provide feedback, and take a positive and active role in shaping the future of Biloxi. Whether it's a new development downtown, enhancements to public spaces, or improvements to our streets and infrastructure, your voice is essential in building a city that is safe, vibrant, and thriving for generations to come.

Biloxi is not only a great place to live – it's a destination that reflects our rich history, coastal charm, and community spirit. With new developments, continued investment in infrastructure, and a focus on safety and accessibility, 2026 promises to be a year of growth, opportunity, and shared success for all who call Biloxi home or visit our vibrant city.

A stylized, handwritten signature of "FoFo" in black ink.



Blast into the New Year safely

Fireworks and New Year's Eve go hand in hand, but not everywhere, and not every day. In Biloxi, fireworks are typically banned inside city limits, with only select dates permitted. New Year's Eve is one of those exceptions.

Fireworks are allowed on December 31 after 6 p.m. through 1 p.m. on January 1.

Other days when people are allowed to shoot fireworks in the city limits are the Fourth of July and the first, second, and third days of Tet, only in conjunction with the Dragon Dance, which requires a special permit from the Biloxi Fire Department.

The Biloxi Fire Department is reminding everyone to put safety first when celebrating the New Year with fireworks. Fireworks should only be used outdoors, kept away from children unless supervised by adults, and never ignited near buildings or wooded areas.



City holiday closings: All non-emergency municipal offices will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026, and Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, in observance of New Year's.

Visitors Center:

The Biloxi Visitors Center will close early on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025, and will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1, 2026, in observance of New Year's.

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

Christmas Tree Recycling:

Through Jan. 10, 2026, at the Rodenburg Avenue parking bay on Beach Boulevard. Remember to remove all decorations, lights, and stands before depositing. For more information, contact the Harrison County Beautification Commission at 228-896-0206.

Cold weather safety for pets:

Remember, if it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet. Keep them inside, in a warm place, off the floor, and away from all drafts.





HALF PRICE LUNCH OR DINNER BUFFET

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MONDAY - THURSDAY IN JANUARY

Earn 15 Slot Points or 20 Minutes Rated Table Play for **HALF PRICE LUNCH BUFFET** or 30 Slot Points or 40 Minutes Rated Table Play for **HALF PRICE DINNER BUFFET!**

Print Half Price Lunch Buffet voucher at the kiosk 10 AM - 2:30 PM or Half Price Dinner Buffet voucher 3 PM - 8 PM.

Voucher valid only on date issued and nontransferable. Points earned and rated table play must be the same day. One voucher per day with qualified slot or rated table play that day. Valid Monday - Thursday. Holidays excluded. **Not valid January 1 or 19.**



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CITY OF BILOXI PUBLIC NOTICE

Combined Notice of Public Hearing Regarding City of Biloxi Substantial Amendment #5 to the 2019 CDBG Action Plan, Substantial Amendment #7 to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, Availability of Public Review Drafts & 30-Day Comment Period

Notice is hereby given that the City of Biloxi will conduct a public hearing regarding proposed substantial amendment #5 to its 2019 Action Plan and substantial amendment #7 to its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program.

The substantial amendments to the 2019 Action Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan propose to budget the balance of the City's unexpended CARES Act allocations of \$309,463 to purchase filtered water stations to be installed throughout the City to prepare for future disaster events by providing improved public access to filtered drinking water at all eligible City public facilities. The proposed filtered water stations will be installed in primarily residential, low- to moderate-income areas and will be implemented in compliance with HUD CDBG-CV regulations, policies and procedures.

The public hearing will be held in the Community Development Department Auditorium, located at: 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in downtown Biloxi, MS at 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 29, 2025.


All interested citizens are encouraged to attend the hearing, particularly those of low, very low and extremely low-income, minorities, residents of public housing and those with mobility, visual and hearing impediments. If special accommodations are needed to participate in the hearing, please call Paula Snyder, Biloxi Federal Programs Manager, at 228-435-6269, at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.

Drafts of the 2019 Action Plan with proposed substantial amendment #5 changes and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan with substantial amendment #7 changes will be available for public review on the City's website <https://biloxi.ms.us/cdbg/> on Tuesday, December 30, 2025 and at:

- Biloxi City Hall 140 Lameuse Street
- Biloxi Engineering Department 214-A Delauney Street
- Biloxi Community Development 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
- Biloxi Public Libraries All 4 locations
- Biloxi Housing Authority 330 Benachi Avenue

Written comments regarding the proposed substantial amendments will be received by the City for a 30-day period, from Tuesday, December 30, 2025 until 4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 29, 2026, and may be delivered to the Biloxi Federal Programs Office, 214-A Delauney Street in downtown Biloxi; emailed to psnyder@biloxi.ms.us; or mailed to the Biloxi Federal Programs Manager at P.O. Box 429, Biloxi, MS 39533.

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




Upcoming Mardi Gras Parades

DATES TO KNOW

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Biloxi Children's Mardi Gras Walking Parade

✦

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Second Liners Mardi Gras Club Parade

✦

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Krewe of Neptune Parade

✦

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Gulf Coast Carnival Association Parade

Chief John B. Miller leaves a legacy of leadership

For thirty-five years, Chief John B. Miller has answered the call to serve the City of Biloxi – not just as a law enforcement professional, but as a steady presence, a trusted leader, and a compassionate advocate for the community he calls home. This month, Chief Miller retires, bringing to a close a career defined by dedication, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to protecting others.

Chief Miller began his journey with the Biloxi Police Department more than three decades ago, learning the job from the ground up. Through hard work and quiet determination, he rose through the ranks, serving as Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain before being appointed Director of Police in December 2009. Along the way, he earned the respect of his fellow officers and the trust of the community, leading by example and never losing sight of the responsibility that comes with wearing the badge.

Throughout his career, Chief Miller has believed that strong communities are built through collaboration and compassion. His service extended far beyond Biloxi, as he worked alongside local, state, and federal partners to address some of law enforcement's most complex challenges. He served as Board Chairman of the Regional Organized Crime Information Center and held leadership roles as President of the Gulf Coast Center for Non-Violence, the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Harrison County Emergency Communications Commission. He was also a member of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Attorney General's Mental Health Task Force, and he continues to serve on the Board for the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. As a past Keesler Air Force Base Honorary Commander, he strengthened ties between military and civilian agencies, always focused on the greater good.

Chief Miller's commitment to excellence never wavered. He pursued

ongoing training and professional development, graduating first in his class from the Southeastern Command and Leadership Academy and attending the Drug Enforcement Agency Training Academy. His career has been marked by numerous honors, including the Medal of Merit, the Medal of Valor, two Distinguished Service Medals, and the Mississippi Crime Stoppers Lifetime Achievement Award. He was also recognized for his advocacy and compassion with the Victim's Advocate Award from the Gulf Coast Victims' Rights Coalition and the Jane Philo Award of Excellence from the Gulf Coast Center for Non-Violence – awards that speak to the heart behind the badge.

Yet, those who know Chief Miller best will say his greatest pride has always been his family. He married his wife, Vondell Ware Miller, in 1987, and together they raised two children, Gretchen and Wesley. John will now be able to enjoy undivided time with his five grandchildren, who represent a proud and personal legacy alongside his professional achievements.

As Chief John B. Miller prepares to begin a well-earned retirement, the City of Biloxi offers its most profound gratitude for a lifetime of service. His leadership has shaped generations of officers, strengthened community partnerships, and left an enduring mark on the city he faithfully served. While his tenure as police chief may be coming to an end, his legacy of service, compassion, and leadership will continue to guide Biloxi for years to come.



Cold weather heating safety reminders from Biloxi Fire



As winter arrives and temperatures dip – sometimes below freezing – more residents will be relying on heating equipment to keep warm. This can cause the risk of home fires to rise sharply.

The National Fire Protection Association states that heating equipment leads all home fire causes in December and January. Cooking fires remain common throughout the year, while electrical issues account for the third-highest number of home fires, nearly one-third of which happen between November and February.

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

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

- Make sure all heating equipment is in good working order.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, or space heaters.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away from your home as possible.
- Make sure space heaters are in good working order and used according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.
- Make sure every bedroom and common area outside the bedrooms has a working smoke alarm. Be sure to check the smoke detectors monthly.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance, like a space heater, into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. It is a safety

hazard and can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.

- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blowtorch or other open flame. The pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the inside of the wall. Use hot water or a UL-labeled device such as a hand-held dryer for thawing.
- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event of a fire. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.

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

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

Stay active with Biloxi Parks & Rec



It has become a commonality for people to flock to the gym and focus on getting in shape for the New Year. By making those resolutions to commit to a healthier lifestyle, a challenge usually ensues. How can I fit in the time?

Well, in Biloxi, city leaders have made it easier to schedule time to be fit.

Did you know that the two city swimming pools open up early in the morning on weekdays? The Biloxi Natatorium on Father Ryan Avenue opens at 5 a.m., and the Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center pool opens at 6 a.m. The thinking behind that was so that citizens could get in a swim before going to work and beginning the hustle and bustle of the day.

The Biloxi Natatorium offers several lap lanes for those wanting to get in the meters, a shallow end of four feet for the walkers and splashers, and a deep end of 13 feet for the treaders or the synchronized swimmers.

The pool is heated in the winter, in the water, and along the deck and dressing rooms, and has a retractable roof to let the sunlight in during the warmer months. The Nat, as many call it, is open weekdays from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. for adults and 3 p.m., when the kiddos get out of school, to 8 p.m. for ages 17 and younger. Admission is a mere \$3 per adult and \$1 per child. As for the programs, there is a year-round swim team for ages five and older and a summer swim team for ages 18 and younger.

If swimming is not your thing, then check out the Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center on Pass Road. It is a community center, which means it offers an array of amenities. The center, named for the longtime Biloxi Recreation Director Donal Snyder Sr., is open weekdays and includes a fitness center, basketball courts, racquetball courts, and numerous active programs. There is also a smaller lap

pool for adults with a pool temp that stays around a toasty 86 degrees and a small therapy pool with an average water temperature of 90 degrees.

The center even has an indoor walking track that looks over the basketball courts. Sixteen times around makes a mile. That may seem a little monotonous, but the action from the b-ballers below can create an entertaining trek. And best of all, access to the walking track is free and available weekdays from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. That makes it easy to get in a quick walk during your lunch break or while the children play an after-school sport.

If you're fonder of swinging the racket, the center has two racquetball courts. For a one-hour use, you can drive a serve for \$4. There are also challenge days. Those are Tuesdays and Thursdays when you can stop by and challenge a friend or foe in a game. Challenges are \$2 per person.

Pickleball courts are also set up weekdays from 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 4:30-7 p.m. in the gymnasium and Friday nights from 5 to 7 in the gymnasium.

The Snyder Center is also a hub for senior activities. At various times throughout the week, those age 55 and older can attend free exercise classes, arts & crafts, ceramics classes, and a weekly game of Bridge.

If outdoor activities are more your thing, a popular alternative to the traditional gym, then check out one of the city's numerous parks. The parks are open daily from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. except for the dog parks, athletic fields, and outdoor walking tracks, which are open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

So whatever your fitness plan looks like, remember that Biloxi's Parks & Recreation Department offers programs and facilities to help you stay active, healthy, and happy.

► For more information about the Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department's facilities and programs, visit online at www.biloxi.ms.us/pr.

Shuckers Continue Preparations for 2026 Season



Two college games set for March, 69-game home schedule to begin in April

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

With 2025 coming to a close and the beginning of 2026, it means the Coast is one month closer to the return of Biloxi Shuckers baseball! The team is busy preparing for the 2026 season, including the announcement of tickets, promotions, and giveaways, set to be announced later in January.

SHUCKERS TO BEGIN 2026 SEASON IN APRIL

The Biloxi Shuckers are slated to begin their 69-game home schedule on Tuesday, April 7, at 6:35 p.m. against the Pensacola Blue Wahoos. Premier home games include July 3 and 4 against the Chattanooga Lookouts, Mother's Day on May 10 against the Columbus Clingstones, Memorial Day Weekend on May 22-24 against the Birmingham Barons, and Father's Day on June 21 against Columbus. 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.

The Shuckers will play 81 of their 138 games against divisional opponents, including 30 games against the Clingstones, 27 games against the Blue Wahoos, and 24 games against the Biscuits. The Shuckers will play 57 games against North Division opponents, including 18 against the Barons, 15 against the Rocket City Trash Pandas, and 12 games against the Chattanooga Lookouts and the Knoxville Smokies. 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.



MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOGS SET TO RETURN TO BILOXI

The Biloxi Shuckers have announced that the Mississippi State Bulldogs will return to Biloxi for the 2026 Hancock Whitney Classic on Tuesday, March 10, against the Tulane Green Wave. It marks the fifth consecutive season and eighth season total that the Bulldogs have visited Keesler Federal Park. Tulane previously visited Keesler Federal Park during the 2016 season with a game against Southern Miss.

"Mississippi State fans are some of the most passionate in college baseball, and partnering with Hancock Whitney to continue these games is an honor," Shuckers General Manager Hunter Reed said. "We're excited to welcome the Bulldogs and their fans back for another year and showcase our ballpark to Green Wave fans. It will truly be a special night at our ballpark."

The matchup marks the 114th all-time meeting between the two programs, and the first since 2022. Mississippi State holds the advantage in the series, with a record of 79-32-2. The programs have not met in a neutral-site game since the 1998 Winn-Dixie Showdown at the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans.

GOLDEN EAGLES SOAR TO KEESLER FEDERAL PARK

The Southern Miss Golden Eagles will face the Nicholls Colonels at Keesler Federal Park on Tuesday, March 17, at 6:00 p.m. as part of the Hancock Whitney Classic. Gates will open at 5:00 p.m. The teams previously met at Keesler Federal Park in 2017, 2024, and 2025.

"The Golden Eagles are one of the top programs with great history and some of the best fans in the area," Reed said.

"We're thrilled to partner with Hancock Whitney for a game featuring two terrific teams, including a talented Nicholls team. We're excited to welcome both teams back for another year and continue our great partnership with Coach Ostrander and the Southern Miss program."

Southern Miss holds an 8-3-1 record against Nicholls, including a 5-3 record in the state of Mississippi. Six of the last seven matchups between the two teams, dating back to 2015, have been played at a neutral site.

BANANA BALL IS HEADED TO BILOXI!

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. Biloxi Shuckers Season Ticket Members will also have access to an exclusive presale. Suite and hospitality options are available by contacting the Shuckers Front Office and Sales Team at 228-233-3465 or sales@biloxishuckers.com.

► 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.

B connected

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

See a live stream from the Lighthouse.

See a monthly calendar of events.

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

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

Request visitor information about Biloxi.

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

See boil water notices throughout the city.

Submit a service request to report issues from potholes and litter to traffic signal outages and water services issues.

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

Watch City Council meetings as they happen.

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

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

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

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

See the listing of city rental facilities.

Visit online at biloxi.ms.us



Edgewater Park Live Oak

FINALLY, OUT OF THE DARKNESS AGAIN!

By Susan R. Peterson,
Chairperson, City of Biloxi Tree Committee

A 350-year-old live oak stands in plain view, though remarkably few Biloxians notice it. Located just north of the beach in Edgewater Park, this modest City of Biloxi park seems designed to showcase the tree, whose size and presence are undeniably majestic.

Just a few months ago, a citizen contacted his city council representative, seeking help for a neighborhood icon that had been all but forgotten. There was a time when this centerpiece of the community had been lighted, sharing its towering branches and foliage during evening hours. Somehow, that glow faded, and this display was lost to time.

The lighting was installed at the request of the Edgewater Neighborhood Association. In 2001, the tree was lit and dedicated in celebration of the Edgewater Park Heritage Neighborhood's 75th anniversary (1926 – 2001).

Previously, the tree was formally dedicated with the Society Des Arbres on April 2, 1974, representing the community. The dedication was sponsored by the Edgewater Park Garden Club, which was active from 1953 to 1978. A plaque at the foot of the tree tells the story.

But, how did this park and its surrounding homes all begin? The Edgewater Gulf Hotel, "Queen of the Coast," opened its doors on February 26, 1926. It offered 400 luxurious rooms, a pool, gardens, and even a golf course. It quickly became a coveted destination for visitors from the north. Soon after, an upscale housing development took

shape just to the east, Edgewater Park. The designers were very careful to protect the beauty and ambience of the coast as they laid out the street network and began building homes.

The design included two small parks: a central roundabout located on Connery Circle with a gazebo and another small piece set aside to honor and reveal a then 250-year-old live oak. Nearly a century later, we still have this majestic tree to enjoy.

Armed with his constituent's request, Biloxi Councilman Paul Tisdale got to work. After heading down a couple of dead ends, he asked the City of Biloxi Tree Committee to lend a hand. The committee researched the history, identified what needed to be done, and helped Paul reach out to the City of Biloxi Park and Recreation director, Jamie Lee, for help to recreate the nighttime splendor. Within a matter of a few weeks, new lighting was installed, a contract with the power company was in place, and the tree was revealed for all of us to enjoy.

On December 3, 2025, the City of Biloxi Tree Committee voted to designate this live oak tree a "City of Biloxi Majestic Tree." Remember, it's easy to register your "Majestic Tree" with the City of Biloxi. Bald Cypress, Southern Magnolias, and Live Oaks can all be registered as City of Biloxi Majestic Tree. To do so, go to the City of Biloxi Tree Committee page on the city website, www.biloxi.ms.us, for instructions. If you need additional help, contact your ward tree committee representative or visit one of our tree committee meetings held monthly. (See page 19 for meeting details.)

Daytime or nighttime, the tree is worth a visit. It's located just off Edgewater Drive and Barq Avenue.

Biloxi Pulse

Coffee and Conversations

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

Biloxi Main Street is launching a community-wide discussion called "Coffee and Conversations." This monthly meet-up is designed to update local businesses and residents on downtown happenings. The conversations will center on walkability and small business support, but any topics related to Downtown Biloxi are welcome.

We will meet at different coffee shops in downtown. Our January meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 21, at 8 a.m., at the Greenhouse on G E Ohr Street, and will feature Tomeka Wiley with Mississippi Power Company. Tomeka will discuss incentives available through MPC.

"We hope this will open up dialogue on important topics in

a very respectful, positive way, said Biloxi Main Street Executive Director Kay Miller. "It should be a great way to gather ideas and gain information about what is going on in downtown."

This new monthly informational meeting was the idea of Corey Christy, longtime Biloxi Main Street Board member and downtown advocate.

"It should be a great way to learn about new development initiatives and resources," said Christy. "We hope it will be an opportunity to gather input and open a line of communication on what Biloxi Main Street is doing."

Another goal of "Coffee and Conversations" is to connect people who share an interest in downtown. By bringing together a diverse group of residents, business owners, and stakeholders, the series aims to spark meaningful dialogue and collaboration – all for the continued vitality of Downtown Biloxi.



Report it with B-Connect

B-Connect, formerly known as Citizens Services, is open for business.

For years, citizens have called the Citizens Services Representative to report various issues from potholes and litter to traffic signal outages and water service issues. Now, B-Connect centralizes these requests through a modern call center, allowing the city to track concerns more efficiently and respond faster.

Citizens can continue using the same phone number, **228-435-6271**, to report an issue, but now, they have more options for reporting issues and even an opportunity for follow-up updates on their requests. For added convenience, the city has added an online form available accessible at biloxi.ms.us/bconnect, and an email, bconnect@biloxi.ms.us, allowing citizens to submit requests quickly and easily from any device. Through both routes, citizens can also request updates about their requests.

Whether it's a routine maintenance request or an urgent issue, B-Connect ensures that connecting with city services is simple, reliable, and effective – helping Biloxi continue to serve its community.



228-435-6271 • bconnect@biloxi.ms.us • biloxi.ms.us/bconnect

Connect with the City of Biloxi

@cityofbiloxi_official



@cobiloxi/

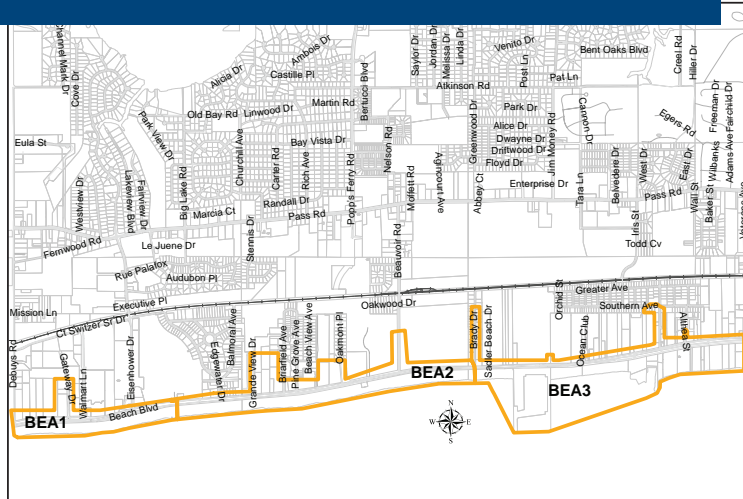


Infrastructure work in Biloxi

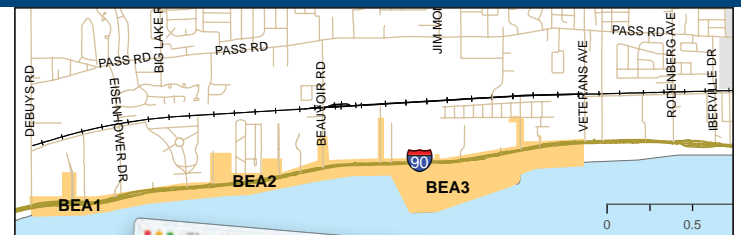
Project: BEA1, 2, & 3

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:



The show must go on!

This vintage photo captures Biloxi's iconic Saenger Theatre, which opened on January 15, 1929, with a 1,500-seat capacity, a stage, and dressing rooms. Built in 1928 at a cost of \$200,000, it debuted with Paramount's first all-talking movie, "Interference," to a sold-out crowd. The Saenger quickly became a hub for vaudeville, traveling shows, and community gatherings. Over the years, it has hosted concerts, plays, operas, symphonies, dance recitals, beauty pageants, and more. Acquired by the City of Biloxi in 1975 and renovated several times, the theater now seats 975 and is in the final stages of recent restoration.

Photograph from the Walter Fountain Collection at the History and Genealogy Department.



Major Larry Murphy Retires After 35 Years of Service

After over 35 years of dedicated service, Major Larry Murphy retired from the Biloxi Police Department in December, concluding a career marked by professionalism, leadership, and a deep commitment to public safety.

Murphy began his career as a patrol officer and later served in Criminal Investigations, where he helped protect the community through complex, demanding work. He later advanced through the ranks of Lieutenant and Captain, earning a reputation as a dependable leader and trusted mentor.

Murphy's service earned him numerous honors, including the Medal of Valor, Distinguished Service Medal, Officer and Supervisor of the Year, multiple Director's Awards, and the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Officer for 2025.

Promoted to Major in 2017, Murphy has spent the past several years providing command-level leadership and operational oversight, helping guide the department while supporting and developing the next generation of officers. His commitment extended beyond the department through community service with numerous local charities and civic organizations.

The City of Biloxi and the Biloxi Police Department extend their sincere appreciation to Major Larry Murphy for his 35 years of service and wish him every success in a well-earned retirement.



Standing well over six feet tall, Major Murphy served the community as the gentle giant of the Biloxi Police Department.



Back Row: Dawson Wicker (Ocean Springs FD), Jonathan Creswell, Mason Colan, Chance Moise, Brendon Tillman, Jason Picard, Joseph Estopinal.
Front Row: Jack King (Ocean Springs FD), Nick Ross, Justin Harris, Chase Friedhoff, Skyler Saba (Diamondhead FD), Gabriel Bosarge.

New First Responders Join the Biloxi Family

It takes a special kind of dedication to answer the call to serve others, and the City of Biloxi is proud to welcome its newest first responders. Biloxi Police Chief John Miller recently administered the oath of office to the department's newest police officers, along with a new dispatcher, all of whom will soon be responding to calls for service and supporting public safety throughout the city.

At the same time, the Biloxi Fire Department celebrated the graduation of 13 new firefighters who have earned their Firefighter I certification. These men and women have completed rigorous training and are now prepared to protect lives and property while serving the community with professionalism and pride.

Together, these new officers, dispatcher, and firefighters represent the next generation of Biloxi's first responders. Their commitment strengthens the city's ability to respond in times of need and reflects a shared dedication to service, teamwork, and community safety.



▲ Police Chief John Miller, Matthew Ross, Jeremy Evans-Porter, and Tristan Davis



▲ Christine Rodrigues (dispatcher), Abby Nollman, Jared Bellew, and Matthew Chouest.

JANUARY TRIVIA Birth of the Biloxi Saenger Theatre

By Jane Shambra

When was the Biloxi Saenger Theatre opened? Tuesday, January 15, 1929, at 2 p.m.

Upon its opening, what nickname did it have? The Gem of the Gulf Coast

Who is it named after? The Saenger Theatre was founded by the Saenger brothers, Abraham and Julian Saenger.

What was its first featured movie? "Interference," an 83-minute black and white film.

What was special about the movie? It was Paramount's first 100 percent talking movie.

How many seats were available opening day? 1500-1020 seats downstairs and 480 seats upstairs.

How much did it cost to build? \$200,000

What special sweet treat was given to its first moviegoers? Goodness Ice Cream

Who was Mayor of Biloxi during its opening? John J. Kennedy, who served as Biloxi's mayor from 1919 to 1933.

Who was the original architect for the Saenger Theatre? Roy A. Benjamin (1888–1963) from Jacksonville, FL.

Which company furnished the carpets and draperies for the theatre? Maison Blanche in New Orleans. Carpets were described as an inch thick, adding to the magnificent acoustics of the performances.

Who was the Saenger's first manager, and where was he from? Harold S. Orr, a native of Illinois.

Besides movies, what other events were hosted in the Saenger? Vaudeville, concerts, plays, operas, symphonies, dance recitals, beauty pageants, magic shows, and other community events.

When did the City of Biloxi purchase the Saenger? In 1975, from ABC Theaters for \$10.

MLK Coastwide Celebration



Friday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.

Gospel Extravaganza

St. Paul United Methodist Church
696 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Biloxi, MS

Saturday, Jan. 17, Noon

Mental Health Luncheon

presented by Right Track Medical Group
St. Paul United Methodist Church
696 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Biloxi, MS

Sunday, Jan. 18, 3 p.m.

Speaker - Rev. William Barber

St. Paul United Methodist Church
696 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Biloxi, MS

Monday, Jan. 19, 11 a.m.

MLK Jr. Parade

Downtown Biloxi (Route TBA)
Followed by the Battle of the Bands
Location TBA



For more details, contact:
coastwidemlk1969@gmail.com

 /MLKcoastwide



New Year's Eve Events, Dec. 31

- **Ground Zero 2026 NYE Party** with Ra'Shad The Blues Kid & The Chitlins, 814 Howard Ave., 8:30 p.m., Admission: \$25-\$50
- **Hard Rock Live New Year's Eve Masquerade**, 9 p.m., Admission: \$50 (come in costume - full masks or face-coverings are not permitted at this event)



Biloxi Twelfth Night Celebration, Jan. 5, 5-9 p.m., 140 Lameuse St. (across from City Hall). It's the kick-off to Carnival season on the Gulf Coast! Coastal Krewe royalty will parade through downtown to City Hall where the building will ceremoniously illuminate in carnival colors. Flagbearers for 2026 will be presented. Music, merriment, and food. Details: 228-314-4747



Frosty Kroc Run, Jan 10, 8:30 a.m. Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino - Biloxi Bay Bridge. 5K, 10K, & 1-mile fun run. Registration: \$20 for adults, \$15 age 17 and under. Details: 228-207-1218

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration 2026, Festivities take place along MLK Jr. Blvd. and at St. Paul United Methodist Church. Parade will take place on Monday, Jan. 19 at 11 a.m. Details: Facebook/MLKcoastwide



Bike Biloxi, Jan 20, 6 p.m.; downtown ride. Begins at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd., and ends with refreshments and food at a downtown restaurant at cyclists' expense. Helmets and lights recommended. Details: 228-435-6339



The Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey

Jan 2, 3, 9, 10, 15, & 16, 7 p.m., Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. Admission and details: 228-594-3708

Main Street Book Club, Jan 22, 5 p.m. (please note new time), One Thirty One Lameuse, 131 Lameuse St. January's meeting is a meet and greet with local author, Kim Carter Kilgore. Kilgore will discuss her latest book: "Time Did Not Forget," the latest installment in the Clara & Iris Series. Details: 228-435-6339



City of Biloxi Baseball & Softball registration: Jan. 31, 2026, 9 a.m. to Noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Girls Softball open to ages 5-16. Baseball open to girls and boys ages 4-12. Details: 228-388-7170



First Friday Downtown Biloxi, on hiatus until March 2026. Details: 228-435-6339

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 92nd 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, follow on Facebook @cobiloxi/.

Website: The city's website, at biloxi.ms.us, is the comprehensive digest of city information. The website also has links to the city's Facebook and YouTube platforms.

BTv: Biloxi Television, city's municipal TV channel, is a mix of current events, local history and local flavor, and monthly updates. Visit online at biloxi.ms.us/btv, and on Sparklight Channel 56.

Contact:

Cecilia Dobbs Walton, Public Affairs Manager
cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us

John Majure, Public Affairs Specialist
jmajure@biloxi.ms.us

Frequently Called Numbers

Area code is 228 unless otherwise noted.

• Animal Control	392-0641
• Auto Tag/Property Tax Information	435-8242
• Birth Certificates	601-576-7960
• Building Permits	435-6270
• Business Licenses	435-6280
• Citizen services (streets, lights)	435-6271
• City Council	435-6257
• City Court	435-6125
• Code Enforcement	435-0841
• Drivers Licenses	396-7400
• Emergency Police and Fire	911
• Garbage Collection	701-9086
• Housing Authority	374-7771
• Human Resources	435-6259
• Mayor's Office	435-6254
• Museums Information	435-6244
• Parks & Recreation	388-7170
• Planning Commission	435-6266
• Public Schools	374-1810
• Streets and Drainage	435-6271
• Visitor Info	374-3105 or 1-800-BILOXI-3
• Water Service	435-6236

Children's Mardi Gras Parade Registration, Open to ages 12 and younger. Parade takes place in downtown on Saturday, Feb. 7. Registration forms will be available online at biloxi.ms.us. Presented by Biloxi Parks & Recreation Department. Details: 228-388-7170



Biloxi Little Theatre

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

- **Trouble The Mind**
Jan. 23-Feb. 1



Center Stage

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

- **Joe Turner's Come & Go**
Feb. 26-March 8

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
- **Gift shop**, featuring products from local artists

Biloxi Schooners

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

- Group charters available, up to 44 people
- Walk on Sails, minimum of 6 passengers, \$30/adult & \$15/child ages 3-12, check website for dates

Biloxi Shrimping Trip

693 Beach Blvd., 228-392-8645, www.biloxishrimpingtrip.com

Biloxi Tour Train

Biloxi Lighthouse Park parking lot, south of Biloxi Visitors Center, traffic light #40, 228-374-8687, biloxitourtrain.com

- Call in advance for tour availability

Coastal Mississippi Mardi Gras Museum

792 Howard Ave., 228-314-4747, museum@coastalmardigras.com

- Open weekdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., open Saturdays by appointment

Harrison County East Biloxi Senior Center

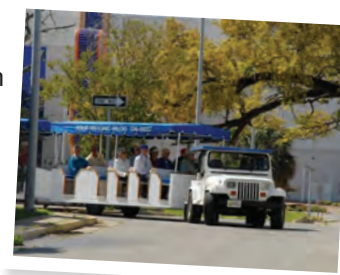
461 Parker St., 228-435-4192, co.harrison.ms.us/departments/senior/services

- Open 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

KAFB Farmer's Market

625 Marina Dr., 228-376-2821, BOS.81FSS.Vandenburg@us.af.mil

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



Kroc Center, MS Gulf Coast, The Salvation Army575 Division St., 228-207-1218, krocmscoast.com

- **Splash Into the New Year Swim Party**, Jan 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Members – free; guests - \$10
- **Frosty Kroc Run**, Jan 10, 8:30 a.m. 5K, 10K 1 mile fun run, Biloxi Bay Bridge. \$20 for adults, \$15 age 17 and under
- **Kroc Center/Red Cross Blood Drive**, Jan 13, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Painted Stories Toddler & Parent Art Workshop**, Jan 31, 10-11 a.m., \$15

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.

- **“Copper Meets Coast” art exhibit opening**, Jan 8-March 31, Moran Gallery on 3rd floor. The public is invited to the opening reception on January 8 from 5:30-7 p.m.; meet the artist and view the exhibit. Free admission.
- **Sea-N-Sail Adventure Camp 2026 registration** opens Jan. 19. Forms can be found at www.maritimemuseum.org. Camp Session (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) June 1-5, 8-12, 15-19 (6-8 years old only), 22-26. July 6-10, 13-17, 20-24. Cost \$275 per child per week. Deposit of \$50 per child required at time of registration. 20% discount for 3+ children in family.

**Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art**386 Beach Blvd., 228-374-5547, www.georgeohr.org

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

West End Hose Co. No. 3 Fire 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

Biloxi Elks 606 Lodge of Biloxi

1178 Beach Blvd., 228-374-0606

- **Friday Bingo**, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30. Doors open at 4 p.m.; Card sales at 5:30 p.m., Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts. Concessions available. Kitchen open until 8 p.m.

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

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

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, Jan. 9, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m. \$20, dine-in or carry-out. 228-392-9345

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

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

- Next meeting TBA

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, Jan 5, 12, 19, & 26; doors open at 5 p.m., Early birds at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7 p.m.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Bingo

870 Howard Ave., 228-374-1717

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

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

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 a.m.-2 p.m. 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: Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center and East Biloxi Senior Citizen Center. Details: Biloxi Parks & Rec., 228-388-7170

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 StreetPromoting, preserving, revitalizing and enhancing economic growth of downtown. Details and membership: 228-435-6339, mainstreetbiloxi.com**City of Biloxi Public Meetings**biloxi.ms.us/publicmeetings

- **Architectural Review Commission:** Regularly scheduled meetings: second and fourth Thursday of the month, 8:30 a.m.; Community Development, 676 MLK Blvd. Details: 228-435-6266
- **Biloxi Beautification Commission:** Regularly scheduled meetings on first and third Wednesday of month, 11 a.m., City Council room, Biloxi City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. Details: biloxi.ms.us/beautification
- **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		1 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Fencing Lessons Kroc Center	2 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Farmers Market Marina Park	3 Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum
4	5 Biloxi Twelfth Night Celebration City Hall Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	6 Community Market Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	7 Ground Zero 2026 NYE Party Hard Rock Live NYE Masquerade	8 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Cooper Meets Coast Art Exhibit Opens Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum	9 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night – Joppa Shrine Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Splash Into New Year Swim Party – Kroc Center Blue Man Group Beau Rivage	10 Frosty Kroc Run Golden Nugget Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Blackcat Zydeco Ground Zero
11	12 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	13 Community Market Red Cross Blood Drive Kroc Center Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	14	15 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum	16 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge MLK Events St. Paul United Methodist Church Biloxi Breakers Ice Hockey MS Coast Coliseum Minor League Pickleball The Picklr Ronnie Brooks – Ground Zero Lorrie Morgan/Pam Tillis Hard Rock	17 MLK Events St. Paul United Methodist Church Jason Aldean MS Coast Coliseum Sam Joyner Ground Zero
18 MLK Events St. Paul United Methodist Church	19 MLK Events Downtown Biloxi Sea-N-Sail Registration Opens Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	20 Community Market Bike Biloxi Downtown Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	21 Main Street Coffee & Conversations Greenhouse	22 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Main Street Book Club One Thirty One Lameuse	23 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Rodney Carrington Beau Rivage	24 Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre
25 Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre	26 Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	27 Community Market Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	28 Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre	29 Community Market Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing PCA Rodeo Finals MS Coast Coliseum	30 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Yacht Rock Hard Rock	31 Gulf & Knife Show MS Coast Coliseum Trouble In Mind Biloxi Little Theatre Painted Stories Toddler & Parent Art Workshop Kroc Center Kansas Beau Rivage

BTV January Schedule

Sparklight 56 or at biloxi.ms.us/btv

Morning	
6 a.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 a.m.	Inside BTV
6:10 a.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 a.m.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 a.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
7 a.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Southern Boy Po Boy Factory, 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!" Southern Boy Po Boy Factory, 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!" Southern Boy Po Boy Factory, 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.

"Biloxi Cooks!" Southern Boy Po Boys

"Biloxi Cooks!" is back at the Edgewater Mall Food Court, where Southern Boy Po Boy Factory is serving up a true Gulf Coast favorite: the Southern-fried shrimp po boy, piled high and fully dressed on classic French bread. Add a side of crispy onion rings, and you've got a satisfying combo that delivers big Southern flavor in every bite!

Watch the January 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:

Preparing a classic fried shrimp po' boy the Southern way

Recipe by Southern Boy Po Boy Factory



Make the remoulade

- Whisk together mayonnaise, Creole mustard, horseradish, lemon juice, and hot sauce.
- Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes to allow the flavors to meld.

Prep the shrimp

- Peel, devein, and rinse the shrimp; pat dry.
- Soak shrimp in buttermilk mixed with hot sauce for 15–20 minutes.

Prepare the coating

- Combine a 50/50 mixture of flour and cornmeal.
- Season with Creole seasoning, paprika, garlic powder, and cayenne.

Coat the shrimp

- Remove shrimp from the buttermilk, letting excess drip off.
- Dredge thoroughly in the seasoned flour-cornmeal mix, pressing gently to help the coating stick.

Fry to perfection

- Heat oil in a heavy pot or cast-iron skillet to 350°F.
- Fry shrimp in small batches for 2–3 minutes until golden and crispy.
- Drain on paper towels or a wire rack.

Prepare the bread

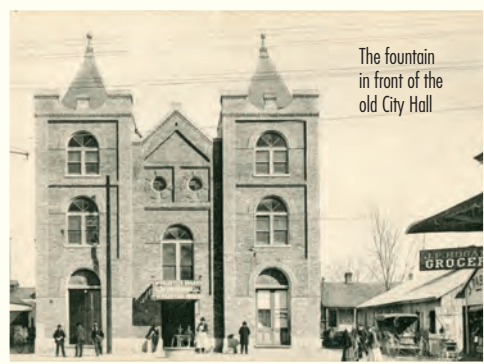
- Split French bread lengthwise.
- Lightly toast until warm and just crisp on the edges.

Assemble the po' boy

- Spread remoulade generously on both sides of the bread.
- Layer shredded lettuce, tomato slices, and dill pickles on the bottom half.
- Pile hot fried shrimp on top, close the sandwich, and serve immediately.

Biloxi's Fountains of Youth

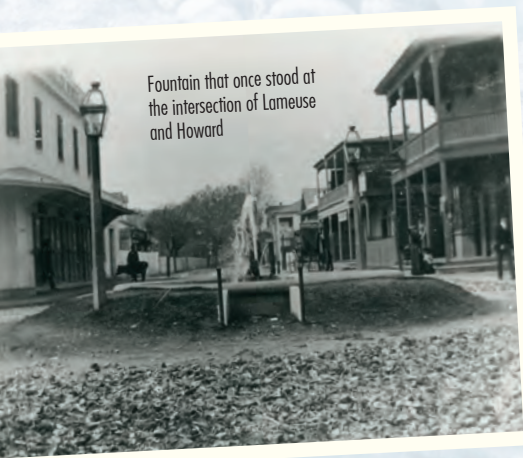
By Jane Shambra



The fountain in front of the old City Hall



Howard Avenue Fountain by Lameuse



Fountain that once stood at the intersection of Lameuse and Howard

Ponce de Leon

More than 150 years before Monsieur Bienville and D'Iberville landed on our Biloxi shoreline, another famous explorer set sail from Spain. His name was Juan Ponce de Leon. Some historical accounts tell us that one of his goals was to find the Fountain of Youth. A rumor had been circulating in Europe that there were special waters to be found in the New World. Bathing or drinking from these special waters was declared to give everlasting life to the partaker. Needless to say, he did not find these waters. Even though Señor de Leon sailed all around Florida, he never set foot on our Biloxi beaches. Had he landed in Biloxi, he might have at least discovered the clean, refreshing water in abundance in our area.

Biloxi's Fountains in Abundance

As seen in historic Biloxi photographs, fountains have remained a favorite theme in Biloxi design through the decades. In fact, downtown Howard Avenue once featured at least two fountains. One fountain stood in front of the former City Hall building at the corner of Howard and Main. Its deep well provided water for both household use as well as for horses, which, at that time, were major providers for transportation throughout the region.

Another downtown fountain once stood near the intersection of Lameuse and Howard, directly in front of what is now Ellzey's Hardware Store. In time, both of these free-flowing fountains were capped, and there is no evidence of them today.



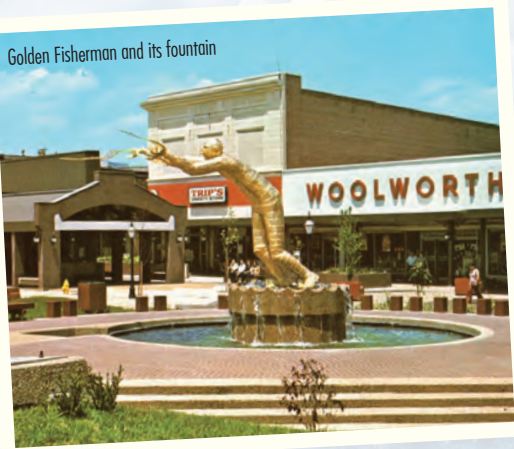
The fountain at the L&N Depot City Park

Fountain in the Park

Not far from these locations once stood the L & N Depot Park, where the Louisville and Nashville train would stop to service travelers. That park was situated near the site of today's Amtrak train stops in Biloxi. Also known as City Park, this picturesque Biloxi spot was thoughtfully landscaped, featuring walkways, benches, a bicycle rest stop, and a beautiful ever-flowing fountain. Nearby, the Kennedy Hotel was a popular lodging choice for travelers of the era.

The Fountain and the Fisherman

In the annals of historical Biloxi pages, we learn about the famous Golden Fisherman statue, which was originally designed as part of a flowing fountain on Howard Avenue, directly across from what is now the popular Skal Axe Throwing building. Both the fountain and the fisherman were constructed during Biloxi's downtown Urban Renewal revitalization efforts of the 1970s. While the fountain is long gone, remnants of the original Golden Fisherman rest in the Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum at Point Cadet.



Golden Fisherman and its fountain



The White House Fountain Back in the day

White House Fountain

Biloxi is proud to boast about its large, historical, still-flowing outdoor fountain. Located in the median just south of the White House Hotel, passersby can appreciate an older structure from years gone by. Known as the White House Fountain, it was built in 1926 by Walter White, the original owner of the White House Hotel, and designed by architect H. H. Roof.

Upon completion, this magnificently illuminated feature pumped two hundred gallons of water per minute into the air at 60 pounds of pressure. It originally utilized eighteen lights, each burning 500 watts. Although the fountain survived Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it required significant restoration before it could once again be utilized. In 2009, the City of Biloxi was awarded a \$113,000 grant to restore this historical landmark. It was completed and dedicated in May 2010.

Edgewater Mall

A favorite indoor fountain was once located inside Edgewater Mall. It provided a soothing indoor water atmosphere in the center of the open walkways. Rain or shine, shoppers would pause and relax to see this beautiful water feature. The Mall's indoor fountain is no longer flowing, but Biloxi is lucky to still have the rare opportunity to shop, eat, play, and meet at one of the few remaining successful indoor malls in the region.



Fountain that once stood in the Edgewater Mall

Isle of Caprice

About 11 miles south of Biloxi's downtown area, once existed an amazing resort island called the Isle of Caprice. Its original name can be spotted on older maps as Dog Key Island, between Ship and Horn Island. A popular summertime destination, the island is remembered for picnicking, swimming contests, bootlegging, and gambling.

The Isle of Caprice opened in 1926, but by the early 1930s, Mother Nature drowned the entire resort under the waters of the Gulf. Legends and older maps declare that it reappears throughout time. The only recent remnant of the island was the famous single rusted pipe which spewed fresh drinking water, like a fountain, above the surface of the water for boaters to refresh their pallets. Hurricane Katrina put a stop to this freshwater drinking fountain, and the rusty pipe is no longer visible.

Rue Magnolia

A casual walk through Biloxi's Rue Magnolia will lead to the discovery of two outdoor fountains gurgling fresh water. Located near Mary Mahoney's Restaurant, they are a reminder of the freshness and clarity of Biloxi's fountains throughout history.

Popp's Fountain

There is another fountain reminiscent of Biloxi's history. About 90 miles from Biloxi, in New Orleans City Park, there is an active fountain called Popp's Fountain. This faraway tourist attraction is named after the same John Popp that Biloxi recognizes for its street, bridge, Causeway Park, and its original ferry service dating back to the late 1800's.

Coins in a fountain

The custom of throwing coins into fountains can be traced back centuries in Europe. For generations, people have been throwing coins into fountains, accompanied by special wishes, similar to blowing out candles on a birthday cake. But what happens to all those coins? Traditionally, caretakers collect the coins to be utilized for the upkeep of the fountains.

Throwing coins into fountains was highlighted by the 1954 romantic comedy movie "Three Coins in the Fountain," along with the iconic theme song. This memorable film was set in Rome, and Frank Sinatra was awarded an Oscar for singing its theme song. That same year, in August, our Biloxi Saenger Theatre featured the CinemaScope presentation of the film.

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and the Biloxi City Council
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