

BNews Monthly

MAY 2026

A compendium of what's happening in Biloxi



Checking your mail

BNews voting continues

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Chick-n-Sharks

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Movies, rails, & tourism

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Main Street counts

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Character nights

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Keeping it clean

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Hanging shadows

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Thinkin' about shrimpin' in Biloxi

– Back in the Day, Pages 18-19



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Mother's Day
MAY 10, 2026



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Edgewater Mall

MEET BLUEY & SINGO

BARK IN THE PARK

SpongeBob SQUAREPANTS MEET SPONGEBOB

FIREWORKS FRIDAYS

TWO FER TUESDAYS

TOP GUN NIGHT HAT GIVEAWAY

TIKI THURSDAYS

FAMILY SUNDAYS

Shuckers 6.3

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CRAB BUFFET INCLUDES CRAB LEGS DAILY, WHOLE LOBSTERS EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY, AND CRAWFISH DAILY (WHILE IT LASTS!)

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.

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

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From chicken to colorful keepsakes: Two new developments moving forward

Biloxi is set to welcome a long-awaited addition as developers for Chick-fil-A move forward with plans for a new location—bringing fresh energy and excitement to the city’s growing dining scene.

Developers for Chick-fil-A have officially received a building permit to begin construction on the Biloxi location along Pass Road, near Popp’s Ferry Road, and directly in front of Rouses Markets. This addition further strengthens what is quickly becoming a thriving commercial corridor. The area has already seen recent investment, including the opening earlier this year of 7 Brew Drive Through Coffee, bringing increased traffic and visibility to the Pass Road corridor.

Fueling much of this growth is the ongoing Popp’s Ferry Road extension, a transformative infrastructure project. The extension is on schedule for completion by the end of this year and is expected to serve as a major thoroughfare, improving connectivity and further accelerating development along the corridor.

Meanwhile, progress is continuing on a second location for Sharkheads, the well-known souvenir retailer recognized for its iconic pink building on Beach Boulevard. The new store is planned for a vacant lot across from the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Biloxi in

the heart of downtown.

The Sharkheads development has successfully cleared key approval stages, including review by the city’s Development Review Committee (DRC) and the Architectural and Historical Review Commission (AHRC), due to its proximity — within 250 feet — of the Biloxi Town Green. With zoning in place, developers are now coordinating with city officials on underground utility work, a necessary step before construction can begin.

“This development will add a popular shopping experience to downtown,” said Community Development Director Jerry Creel. “This will be the first major anchor for retail in the area.”

Positioned near Biloxi’s bustling casinos and hotels, the new development is expected to create a natural gateway for visitors, encouraging movement beyond the beachfront and into the heart of downtown.

Together, these projects reflect continued confidence in Biloxi’s growth, enhancing both everyday conveniences for residents and the overall visitor experience as the city heads into the busy summer months.



Bluey and Bingo, SpongeBob appearances highlight 12-Game Schedule in May



Shuckers to host Clingstones, Barons during May schedule, including Memorial Day Weekend games

By Javik Blake
Biloxi Shuckers

Baseball rolls into May at Keesler Federal Park as the Biloxi Shuckers continue their quest for a first-half title in the South Division! The Shuckers will play 12 games at home during the month, including a homestand against the Columbus Clingstones (May 5-10) and the Birmingham Barons (May 19-24) as part of Memorial Day Weekend.

On Tuesday, May 5, the first 250 fans will receive a patriotic-themed Shuckers t-shirt presented by Martin’s Famous Pastry Shoppe, Inc. On Wednesday, May 8, the Shuckers will host their first Bark in the Park Night of the year, and fans can bring their favorite four-legged friends to the game! Pups and their owners can hang out in designated dog-friendly sections 117 and 119.

Saturday, May 9, is Top Gun Night, complete with specialty jerseys. The first 1,000 fans can strap in and get ready for Top Gun Night with a jumpsuit cap giveaway. On Sunday, May 10, it’s Mother’s Day at the ballpark with an appearance from Bluey and Bingo! Meet-and-greet opportunities throughout the game at the ballpark. Fans can sign up for a special VIP meet-and-greet prior to the game or sign up for times throughout the afternoon.

During the Shuckers series against the Barons, it’s a specialty Fireworks Friday on Friday, May 22, presented by Island View Casino Resort. On Saturday, May 23, the Biloxi Mudbugs return, complete with specialty hats and jerseys! The first 1,500 fans will receive a Mudbugs-themed bucket hat presented by the Beau Rivage. On Sunday, May 24, the Shuckers round out Memorial Day Weekend with SpongeBob Night at the ballpark. SpongeBob will be in attendance for meet-and-greet opportunities throughout the game.

Daily specials also highlight the monthly calendar. Fans can enjoy specialty deals on Twofer Tuesdays, including 2-for-1 offers on merchandise, food, and drinks. The first 250 fans for every Tuesday home game will also receive a themed Shuckers t-shirt. It’s also Brew Crew Tuesday presented by Coors Light, where fans can purchase a 20-oz souvenir tumbler for \$13 with \$7 refills at the first and third-base Beer Gardens.

Wednesdays are Military Wednesdays, presented by Keesler Federal Credit Union. All military personnel can receive a \$3 discount on Dugout Box and Reserved Level tickets. Wednesdays are also Wild Card Wednesday with rotating food, drink, and retail deals throughout the season.

Thursdays are headlined by Tiki Thursdays presented by Coca-Cola, Kicker108, and PBR.

Enjoy live music at the Corona Premier Tiki Bar, a pregame happy hour, and \$2 beers, hot dogs, and Coca-Cola products throughout the ballpark. Plus, fans can also cash in on almost 60% savings with the ‘Tiki Thursday Deal’, which includes a Reserved Level ticket and two drink vouchers for \$17 in advance and \$20 day of game.

On Fridays, the Shuckers light up the skies over the ballpark with the best fireworks show in Minor League Baseball, which features different music, themes, and colors throughout the season. The Shuckers will also recognize and donate to local family-based organizations as part of their Heart of a Shucker Community Fund prior to the game.

Every Saturday is now Giveaway Saturday, with different bobbleheads, t-shirts, hats, jerseys, and promotions during every Saturday home game.

The weekend continues with Family Sunday presented by Chicken Salad Chick. Kid-friendly events will be available, including pregame autographs, character appearances, and kids can run the bases and have a catch on the field after the game. Fans can purchase a Sunday Fun Day Package, which includes four tickets, hot dogs, chips, and drinks for just \$76, with each additional ticket only \$19.

▶ For more info: biloxishuckers.com



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BNews Monthly

Delivery Survey!

We've heard you – thank you! Every voice matters. Take the survey online or mail it in, and make your voice count.

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- **Online:** Scan the QR code to complete a quick online form.
- **By phone:** Call 228-435-6336 or 228-435-6368 to share your preference.
 (For voicemail, leave your name, number, address, and delivery preference.)



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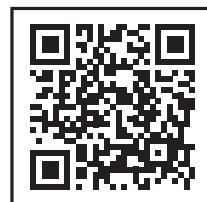
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Lights, camera, Biloxi!

Biloxi continues to earn recognition not only as a premier coastal destination but also as a sought-after location for the film industry.

Recently, many residents have been sharing posts and catching glimpses of John Travolta filming right here in Biloxi. Hollywood magic has and continues to sweep onto the coast. Recently, the Slavonian Lodge was transformed into a dazzling film set for the upcoming movie "That's Amore." For several unforgettable days, the Lodge came alive with production lights, cameras, and the excitement of a full-scale Italian wedding scene.

This production has brought a unique blend of cinematic romance and star power to our community, and it's been exciting to see our local landmarks take center stage. From elegant set designs to behind-the-scenes activity, Biloxi has truly been shining in the spotlight.

This is not the first time filmmakers have chosen Biloxi in recent years. Productions such as "Cash Out 2" and "Shark Lake" have also utilized our area, further solidifying Biloxi's reputation as a film-friendly city with a distinctive coastal setting.

Further proof of Biloxi's growing role as a destination came last month when the Amtrak Mardi Gras Service train marked an exciting milestone, celebrating its 100,000th rider in less than a year of operation — far surpassing initial projections of 75,000 riders. Ridership is now expected to reach 130,000 by the first year of operation, underscoring the continued demand for Gulf Coast rail travel. The celebration day itself highlighted strong local participation, with about four dozen passengers getting off the train in Biloxi. This achievement is another clear sign that Biloxi is not only a place people want to visit, but a destination people are actively choosing as part of their travel



Mayor Gilich, John Travolta, and Serena Gilich

experience. The growing success of rail service along the Gulf Coast further reinforces our city's role as a key hub for tourism, mobility, and regional connectivity.

Beyond the excitement, film productions and increased transportation access bring real benefits to Biloxi, supporting local businesses, creating jobs, and showcasing our community to audiences far beyond the Gulf Coast.

We are proud to see Biloxi continue to grow as a destination for the arts and entertainment industry. When the cameras roll and the trains arrive here, they help tell not only a story on screen, but also the story of a city full of opportunity, charm, and momentum.



Amtrak Mardi Gras Service train



Dozens boarded the train during rider celebration

News & notes

Flood insurance: It's that time of year again. Hurricane season is just around the corner, and the City of Biloxi is recommending that you purchase flood insurance. Call your insurance agent for information. You may also reach out to the city's floodplain staff at 228-435-6280. Details: biloxi.ms.us/stormandflood

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



Bike rentals: Want to explore Biloxi on a bike? The City of Biloxi and Biloxi Bicycle Works offer bicycle rentals for visitors and residents at the Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Rental details: biloxi.ms.us/bikerentals or 228-374-3105

B-Alert: A new B-Alert text messaging system is coming! Stay tuned and visit online at biloxi.ms.us/balert.

Holiday closures: All non-emergency municipal offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. The Biloxi Visitors Center will be open, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



BILOXI SAENGER

THE STAGE IS BEING SET.

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2026 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Public Water Systems 0240001, 0240036, 0240084, 0240255, and 240272



The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires community public water systems to develop and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report to customers each year. The City of Biloxi operates four water systems, which are served by nearly two dozen water wells throughout the city's 50 square miles.

The source water assessment for Biloxi's four public water systems has been completed to determine the overall susceptibility of the city's drinking water supply to identified potential sources of contamination. This report informs you about the quality of water the city delivers to you every day.

Water source: Biloxi's water source is from wells drawing from the Pascagoula Formation, Graham Ferry Formation and the Miocene Series Aquifer.

The findings: Water wells for the City of Biloxi public water systems have received lower to higher susceptibility rankings to contamination. What does this mean? To determine susceptibility rankings and findings for your neighborhood, consult the list of water wells in this report and then refer to the corresponding water system findings.

The bottom line: The results in this report show that Biloxi's water system had no violations. The drinking water supplied by the city meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. Monitoring and testing has detected some contaminants, but the Environmental Protection Agency has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

Etc.: In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Testing period: To satisfy federal and state regulations, the city on a monthly basis monitors your drinking water for specific contaminants. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether the drinking water meets health standards. The Mississippi State Department of Health monitors the city's monthly reports. The tables in this report list drinking water contaminants detected between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2022. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2022, the table reflects the most recent results.

Questions and more info: If you have any questions about this report or quality of your water, contact Tracey Forehand in the city's Public Works Department at 228-435-6271 or tforehand@biloxi.ms.us. A detailed report on how the susceptibility determinations were made is available for viewing upon request.

Council meetings: You also can attend any meeting of the Biloxi City Council. A section of each meeting is set aside for citizen comments. The council's regularly scheduled meetings are on the first, third, and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Biloxi City Hall, 140 Lameuse St. You can find council agendas online at biloxi.ms.us.

Origin of contaminants: As water travels over land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials. In its travels, the water can pick up substances or contaminants from animals or human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial,

or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Lead warnings: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The city is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control materials used in plumbing components.

Minimize the risk: When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791, or www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Call 601-576-7582 for information on testing.

Typical contamination: All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances, either naturally occurring or man-made. Substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Vulnerable citizens: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. Immune-compromised persons – such as those undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants – can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines from the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control provide appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants. Call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791 or visit www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Questions about this report or your water utility, contact Tracey Forehand at 228-435-6271.

About these tables

In these tables, you may find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

- **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)**: The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **LSLI**: Lead Service Line Inventory
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Test Results – PWS ID#: 0240001

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
8. Arsenic	N	2025	2.9	.5 – 2.9	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	2025	.0064	.0024 – .0064	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2025	1.7	1.5 – 1.7	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	.2	0	ppb	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
15. Cyanide	N	2025	17.6	No Range	ppb	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.43	.202 – .43	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/248	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2024*	195	71.2 – 195	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. HAA5	N	2025	26.6	26.1 – 26.6	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	48.2	39 – 48.2	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2025	1.96-RAA	.03 – 3.31	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Unregulated Contaminants								
lithium	N	2024*	17.4	9.4 – 17.4	Ug/l	9		Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters; lithium salts are used in electrochemical cells, batteries, and in organic syntheses.

In 2024, our system #240001 also tested for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule #4 & 5 for polyfluoroalkyl substances, where no detectable levels were found.

*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2026.

Test Results – PWS ID#: 0240036

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
8. Arsenic	N	2025	.7	No Range	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	2025	.0022	.0008 – .0022	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2021/23*	.1	0	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.341	.291 – 3.41	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2021/23*	1	0	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2024*	74.4	67.8 – 74.4	ppm	20	0	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. HAA5	N	2025	12.5	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	18.6	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2025	1.9-RAA	1.02 – 3.26	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2026.

Sodium. EPA recommends that drinking water sodium not exceed 20 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Excess sodium from salt in the diet increases the risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease.

Test Results – PWS ID#: 0240084

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0054	.0021 – .0054	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2025	1.4	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2022/24*	.1	0	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.307	.195 – .307	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2022/24*	1	0	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2024*	93.5	58.4 – 93.5	ppm	20	0	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. HAA5	N	2025	21	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	19.2	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2025	1.8-RAA	.71 – 2.6	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

In 2024, our system #240001 also tested for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule #4 & 5 for polyfluoroalkyl substances, where no detectable levels were found.

Sodium. EPA recommends that drinking water sodium not exceed 20 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Excess sodium from salt in the diet increases the risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease.

*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2026.

Test Results – PWS ID#: 0240255

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection By-Products								
81. HAA5	N	2023*	21.8	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2023*	36.4	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2026.

Test Results – HCUA East PWS ID#: 240272

▶ See the full HCUA report online at biloxi.ms.us/waterquality or at the Biloxi Public Works Department, 214 A Delauney.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff. Industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
8. Arsenic	N	2025	.8	No Range	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	2025	.0064	.0028 – .0757	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2025	1.2	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	1-6/25 7-12/25	.1 0	0 0	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2025	.514	.195 – .514	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	1-6/25 7-12/25	0 0	0 0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2024*	135	59 – 135	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
Disinfection By-Products – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. HAA5	N	2025	81.5	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2025	64.7	21.9 – 64.7	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2025	1.8	.24 – 2	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

Biloxi Water Well Listing

Health Dept Tag No	Facility Name	Street
240001-01	Maple Street	Maple St
240001-04	Hospital Water Well	Bayview Ave
240001-05	Greater Ave	Greater Ave
240001-06	Porter Ave	Irish Hill Dr
240001-10	Bradford St Well	Bradford St
240001-11	Debuys Water Well	Debuys Rd
240001-12	Kuhn St	Kuhn Street
240001-13	Iberville	Iberville Dr
240001-14	Park Circle Water Well	Park Dr
240001-15	Father Ryan	Father Ryan Ave
240001-16	Pine Street Well	Pine St
240001-17	Tullis	Beach Blvd

Health Dept Tag No	Facility Name	Street
240001-18	Lakeview	Lakeview
240036-02	North Rivervue	N Riviere Vue Dr
240036-03	Oaklawn	Oaklawn Dr
240036-05	Hwy. 67 & Oaklawn	Hwy. 67 & Oaklawn Dr
240036-06	Superior	Woolmarket Rd
240084-01	Rustwood	Rustwood Dr
240084-04	South Hill	South Hill Dr
240084-05	N Biloxi #1	Popp's Ferry Rd
240084-06	Vee Street	Vee Street
240084-07	Cedar Lake Subdivision	Penton Dr
240084-08	Biloxi Sports Complex	Wells Dr

OUR VANISHING SPANISH MOSS

By Susan Peterson
Chairperson, City of Biloxi Tree Committee

My memories of the coast will forever include rows of oak trees dripping with Spanish moss lining our avenues and surrounding our bays and rivers. Today, as I look around much of that treasured “epiphyte” (no it’s not a parasite), seems to be missing.

I found myself thinking about Spanish moss this winter, because the white oak in our front yard is filled with this beautiful plant. And, it really sticks out in the wintertime when the white oak leaves are missing – just a perfect frame for the bushels and bushels of moss in my tree.

Spanish moss has long been a part of our coastal story. Our native Americans called it “itla-okla” or tree hair. The French explorers called it Spanish beard. It stretches across the south from the Carolinas, through Florida, Mississippi, Texas, and even reaches into southern Arkansas.

At one time, Spanish moss had widespread uses. Before plastic took over, it seemed to be perfect for so many uses. It served as building insulation by trapping the air between the outer walls and plaster interiors – before the use of pink fiberglass. It was used as padding for all sorts of common items: pillows, mattresses, car seats, and furniture. It could also be found in our art.

But the plant itself is often misunderstood. Spanish moss is actually a flowering plant and an air plant. As I mentioned earlier, an epiphyte, not a parasite. It does not kill the trees from which it hangs, just using them as a perfect platform on which to thrive. In that location, it collects moisture and nutrients present in the air.

In summer months, like most plants, you can see small flowers and berries in the moss. Those berries produce seeds, which are spread



by the winds to local trees, lodging in their bark, and growing into the plants we love. That’s why Spanish moss is most prevalent in groves or groups of trees, mostly oaks, but other species as well. Oddly, Spanish moss has no roots; effectively, the entire plant is a root. It is even closely related to the pineapple. Who knew.

Spanish moss also supports a small ecosystem of its own. Spiders and tree frogs make their homes in it. Birds harvest the moss for their nests. And squirrels line their leafy homes with it.

So, where has it gone? Scientists point to the loss of habitat. As I said, Spanish moss likes to live in groups, not single plants. Air pollution is also a factor. Some say climate change plays a role.

Spanish moss requires high humidity – we still seem to have plenty of that. It thrives in the humid environments near brackish or fresh water, like rivers, swamps, bayous, and our marshy coastal forests.

If you love Spanish moss as I do and want to see it in a tree near you, you can help with a transplant. Find a tree with a significant load of hanging moss and gather an armload or two. Transfer in clumps to an oak tree or group of oak trees near you. It very well may take hold and spread. Of course, ask the current owner for permission prior to harvesting.

In the meantime, when you see a tree or trees with our treasure, take a few moments and savor the memory.

Biloxi Pulse

Biloxi Main Street making a daily difference!

Biloxi Main Street, City of Biloxi Downtown Services staff

While big events and marquee moments often get the spotlight, much of the vitality of Downtown Biloxi is powered by something less visible: the steady, behind-the-scenes work of Biloxi Main Street. It’s not always flashy. In fact, most of it happens quietly. But taken together, these small, consistent efforts are what keep downtown moving forward.

One of the most impactful (but least known) areas of work is grant funding. Because Biloxi Main Street is a nationally accredited Main Street program, local businesses have access to grants through the National Main Street Center. That accreditation doesn’t come easily. It requires year-round reporting, training, and accountability. Combined with Biloxi Main Street’s 501(c)(3) status, it creates a powerful engine for securing funding opportunities.

The results speak for themselves, with \$892,500 in grants awarded from 2023 through 2026. These funds translate into real, visible improvements throughout the community. The Greenhouse Biloxi has been the recipient of two \$30,000 Main Street America grants and a \$20,000 Biloxi Main Street ARPA grant. With this funding, the business has been able to install a walk-up order window connecting the restaurant to the newly improved alley just south of the building. Plans are also underway to upgrade the seating and add overhead shading.

The alley itself saw its first improvement in 2024, when Biloxi Main Street completed upgrades including a new mural and brick pavers, turning the space into a more inviting and functional extension of the business.

For owner Kait Sukiennik, the impact has been immediate: “It is really everything I’ve dreamed of. You can sit in the alley and we can hand you your drinks and breakfast, and did I mention the light it lets into the restaurant? We are over the moon for the atmosphere change.”

Equally important is the ongoing promotion of downtown businesses. Biloxi Main Street highlights local entrepreneurs daily through social media and in the monthly “Biloxi Pulse” column in this publication which gives businesses a platform to share



their stories. That visibility makes a real impact. After being featured in the March BNews Monthly, Broussard’s Barber Shop saw a surge in foot traffic, with owner Lauren Broussard reporting an influx of calls and messages.

Then there are the events – both large and small – that bring people through the doors of downtown shops. In November of 2025, Biloxi Main Street introduced Pink Friday in downtown, proving the impact of targeted promotions with one retailer reporting their highest sales day ever. During signature events like the Cruisin’ the Coast Downtown Block Party, Biloxi Main Street creates interactive experiences such as stamp cards to encourage visitors to explore multiple

businesses, often turning first-time visitors into lasting traditions for returning guests.

To expand reach even further, Biloxi Main Street offers cooperative advertising opportunities. Downtown retailers gain access to professionally designed ads placed in publications seen in thousands of hotel rooms along the Gulf Coast. Downtown guides and mural maps help visitors navigate the area, connecting them directly with local shops, restaurants, and attractions they might otherwise miss.

Biloxi Main Street purchases downtown gift cards to giveaway during events like First Friday (Biloxi’s largest and beloved downtown event), or through initiatives like Beautify Biloxi where people pick up trash around downtown using bags provided at the eight trash dispensers. It’s a straightforward concept, but a powerful one. Recipients return to redeem their cards, often discovering new favorite spots, and become repeat visitors. The monthly Main Street Book Club also meets in downtown eateries, bringing business on a Thursday evening while supporting local restaurants.

At first glance, some of these efforts may seem small – a social media post, a grant application, a stamp card, a gift card or gift basket giveaway. But together, they form a strategic, sustained approach to economic vitality. That’s the true story of Biloxi Main Street. It’s not just about the big events or headline announcements – it’s about the daily commitment to supporting local businesses, building community connections, and creating opportunities that add up over time. Daily commitment to Downtown Biloxi equals success!

Be a part of the solution. B-Connected

We've said all along, and it's even in the draft of the comprehensive plan: For this "Keep Biloxi Beautiful" thing to work, it has to be a team effort: residents, businesses, individuals, families, groups of all kinds and ages, and, of course, the city.

It's about having a plan and communicating. It's about everybody doing their part.

Right now, the city is making it easy for you. Help is just a click or call away. Beautiful!

It's called B-Connect. Give it a try!

Next time you see an issue that needs attention – a burnt-out street light, a pothole, unkempt property, tall grass, litter on side of the road, whatever – be part of the solution. Take a minute to give the city a heads up. Do your part!



228-435-6271



bconnect@biloxi.ms.us



biloxi.ms.us/bconnect

See the plan:



Keep Biloxi Beautiful

A continuing project of the Biloxi Beautification Commission,
and, well, all of us.

biloxi.ms.us/beautification

MAY TRIVIA Gulf Shrimp



By Jane Shambra

Do shrimp have bones, like fish? No. They are crustaceans and have an outer skeleton covering, called an exoskeleton, which protects their internal organs as well as protects them from some predators.

What do the numbers mean when buying fresh shrimp? Those numbers give the buyer an idea of how many shrimp per pound. For example, 26/30 on a package would tell you that there are about 26 to 30 per pound, described as medium-sized shrimp.

Do you need a special instrument to peel shrimp? No. Unlike crabs, oysters, and crawfish, the edible part of shrimp can simply be peeled by hand.

Can shrimp see well? Yes. Shrimp have complex eyes that allow them to see well underwater. They can see shapes, colors, movement, and light. Shrimp can see well in low-light environments, allowing them to stay safe while identifying their food and predators.

What do shrimp eat? They eat what other organisms leave behind, including plants, algae, and other shrimp. They have been called the "cockroaches of the sea."

What eats shrimp? Humans are not the only ones who crave these aquatic creatures. They are also hunted by jellyfish, birds, stingrays, sharks, dolphins, turtles, fish, and even other shrimp.

What part of the shrimp do people eat? The tail is the optimal part of the shrimp that we consume.

What is that black "vein" on the tails of shrimp? The vein is actually the shrimp's digestive tract!

Are shrimp healthy to eat? Yes. Even though they are a bit high in cholesterol, they are low in fat and calories, and high in protein. They contain antioxidants, selenium, zinc, magnesium, calcium, potassium, iron, and manganese.

Do shrimp have lungs? No. They breathe through specialized gills under their shells and absorb some oxygen through their thin shells, as well.

Do shrimp ever sleep? Even though they have no eyelids, they can tuck their eyes into their sockets and cover their eyes with antennae to rest. Their periods of rest and inactivity are mainly in the daytime.

How many legs do shrimp have? Most shrimp have 10 legs.

How do shrimp transport themselves underwater? Even though they love to walk, they are excellent swimmers, and their powerful tails help them to skillfully propel through the water.

Do shrimp make noise? Through the marvels of underwater technology, it was discovered that shrimp can make popping and snapping sounds, similar to the sound of Pop Rocks. These "noises" occur more in warmer water.

First Friday Downtown Block Party

May 1, 6-9 p.m.

HowHop Entertainment District, corner of Howard Avenue and Hopkins Boulevard. This month's musical guests: The Project! Great food trucks, Fly Llama beverages, and vendors!. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339



First
FRIDAY



Biloxi Shuckers Baseball



Keesler Federal Park, 105 Caillavet St. Gates open 65 minutes prior to the start of game. Ticket prices vary. Details: 228-233-3465, biloxishuckers.com

May home games:

- May 5-10 VS Columbus Clingstones
- May 19-24, VS Birmingham Barons

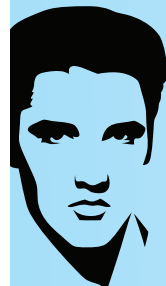
Pop UP-DOWNtown: DERBY DAY! May 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., GE Ohr/Rue Magnolia. Join area retailers for a fun pre-party including: a "hat bar" with Dime Store Diva, Derby-themed drinks at The Greenhouse Biloxi, kids' arts & crafts and lawn games, ice cream from The Scoop, and KY Derby coverage. PLUS, a fun "Pony Race" with bets to benefit CASA of South Mississippi. Lawn chairs suggested. Free admission. Details: 228-435-6339

City of Biloxi Parks & Recreation Summer Swimming Lessons Registration, Biloxi Natatorium, 1384 Father Ryan Avenue. Biloxi residents, May 3, 8 a.m.-noon. Late registration and non-Biloxi residents, May 5, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration continues weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. until all classes are full. Fees for Biloxi residents: \$30 per class; Non-Biloxi residents: \$50 per class. Details: 225-435-6205

7th Annual Officer Robert McKeithen Memorial Blood Drive, May 5, Noon-6 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Give the gift of life in memory of a true community hero who gave his life in the line of duty. All donors will have hot, fresh pizza to enjoy courtesy of Papa John's. Details or to make an appointment: redcrossblood.org

East Biloxi Senior Center Pottery Throwdown Reception, May 7, 6 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. A 6-week-long pottery hand-building competition for senior citizens. The pottery pieces are on display at the Biloxi Visitors Center for the entire month of May. Details: 228-435-4192

9th Annual Biloxi Lighthouse Artisan Festival, May 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. Lighthouse tours every 30 minutes, food trucks, arts & crafts vendors, and crafts for the kids. Free admission. Details: 228-374-3105



Preserve Biloxi Presents "In Elvis' Footsteps: Biloxi 1956"

May 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Frank Gruich, Sr. Community Center, 591 Howard Avenue. Travel back 70 years to the Biloxi summer of 1956 and follow the steps of a young man who would become King of Rock 'n' Roll. Join a bus tour of famous sites of Elvis Presley's now legendary performances in Biloxi. Tour begins and ends at the Gruich Community Center. Event includes special guest speakers and Elvis-inspired refreshments. Free admission. Details and to make reservations: 228-435-6339

The Gilded Gulf: Form & Décor, May 16, 2 p.m., Biloxi Public Library, 580 Howard Ave. Event showcasing the interiors and exteriors of the Gilded Gulf with special guest, Jeff Rosenberg, Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area architectural historian. Details: 228-436-4613

Billy Creel Memorial Gulf Coast Wooden & Classic Boat Show, May 16-17, Schooner Pier Complex, 367 Beach Blvd. View and tour the beautiful collection of wooden and classic boats. Schooner sails every hour on the hour beginning at 11 a.m. (\$20), shrimp plates, full bar, music, demonstrations, exhibits, and contests. Admission: adults-\$8, students ages 13-18-\$3, and children 12 and younger-free. Details: 228-435-6320



Bike Biloxi, May 19, 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

2026 Pickleball Open Play & Exhibition Senior Health & Wellness Fair, May 20, 9 a.m.-Noon, Donal M. Snyder Sr. Community Center, 2520 Pass Road. Event includes door prizes and free wellness exams. Details: ldavis@smpdd.com, 228-868-2311

Main Street Book Club, May 28, 5 p.m., Patio 44, 124 Main St. This month's selection is "Being Dead Is No Excuse" by Gayden Metcalfe. Details: 228-435-6339

Stay in touch

BNews: Welcome to the 96th 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

Blessing of the Fleet activities:

Mass honoring deceased fishermen, May 28, 6 p.m., St. Michael Church, 177 1st. St.

Coronation of the Biloxi Shrimp King and Queen, May 30, following 5 p.m. mass, Frank Gruich Community Center, 591 Howard Ave. 6 p.m.

97th annual Biloxi Blessing of the Fleet Festival, May 31, 10 a.m., Harrah's Great Lawn, 280 Beach Blvd., 12:30 p.m. Boat parade.

Details: stmichaelchurchbiloxi.com



Biloxi Little Theatre
220 Lee St., 228-432-8543
www.4blt.org
• **BLT Summer Camp**
June 15-26
Ages 7-18

Center Stage
2670 Rue Palafox, 228-388-6258
centerstagebiloxi.com
• **Arsenic & Old Lace,** May 1-3
• **Stage Stars, A Student Theatre Workshop,** May 25-29
• **Sleeping Beauty,** June 16-29

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. Call for monthly calendar of events.

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
- Reserve your space today to watch July 4th fireworks show aboard the schooner. Admission: \$45 adults; Children (ages 3-12) \$25

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., 288-388-3424

- **American Red Cross Blood Drives**
Give the Gift of Life! May 16, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and May 20, 1-6 p.m.



Harrison County East Biloxi Senior Center461 Parker St., 228-435-4192, co.harrison.ms.us/departments/senior/services

- Open 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
- **East Biloxi Senior Center Pottery Throwdown Reception**, May 7, 6 p.m., Biloxi Visitors Center, 1050 Beach Blvd. A 6-week-long pottery hand-building competition for the senior citizens, which culminates with a reception. The pottery pieces are on display at the Biloxi Visitors Center for the entire month of May.

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.org

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

- **Sea-N-Sail Adventure Camp 2026 registration is now open.** 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
- **"Coastal Grace: Light and Life on the Gulf Coast"** by Linda Kimble Fayard, Through June 30 – view the elegant and vibrant works on display in the Joe Moran Gallery on the 3rd floor of the museum. Pieces are available for purchase.

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art386 Beach Blvd., 228-374-5547, www.georgeohr.org

- **Pine Needle Basket Workshop**, May 8, 1-4 p.m. Admission: \$60
- **Reception for Artist-in-Residence, Jarred Partridge**, May 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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**, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Doors open at 4 p.m.; card sales at 5:30 p.m., Early Bird games at 6:30 p.m.; regular games at 7 p.m. Cash payouts. Concessions available. Kitchen open until 8 p.m.

Fleur de Lis Society of Biloxi (French Club)

182 Howard Ave., 228-436-6472

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

Joppa Shrine

13280 Shriners Blvd., 601-917-1027

- **Steak Night**, May 8, 6-8 p.m. Last ticket sold 7:15 p.m. \$25, dine-in or carry-out. 228-392-9345
- **Harrison County Gem & Mineral Show**, May 16 & 17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mississippi Coast Historical & Genealogical Society

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

- Call for membership and meeting details. Details: 228-438-4636

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Monday Bingo

315 Tara Lane, 228-388-3887

- **Monday Bingo**, May 4, 11, 18, and 25. 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
26	27	28 Community Market Trivia Night Fly Llama Brewing Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	29 Trivia Night Altered Reality Brewing	30 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing	1 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Farmers Market – Marina Park First Friday – HowHop Arsenic & Old Lace Center Stage	2 Pop-UP-DOWNTOWN DERBY DAY GE Ohr/Rue Magnolia Arsenic & Old Lace Center Stage Kathleen Madigan Beau Rivage
3 Swimming Lessons Registration Biloxi Natatorium Arsenic & Old Lace Center Stage	4 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	5 Community Market McKeithen Blood Drive Biloxi Visitors Center Trivia Night – Fly Llama Shuckers vs Clingstones Swimming Lessons Late Registration Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	6 Trivia Night Altered Reality Brewing Shuckers vs Clingstones Keesler Federal Park	7 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Pottery Throwdown Reception Biloxi Visitors Center Shuckers vs Clingstones Keesler Federal Park	8 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge Steak Night – Joppa Shrine Pine Needle Basket Workshop Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art Shuckers vs Clingstones Keesler Federal Park Chicago Beau Rivage	9 Lighthouse Artisan Festival Biloxi Visitors Center Shuckers vs Clingstones Keesler Federal Park CPR Fest MS Coast Coliseum
10 Shuckers vs Clingstones Keesler Federal Park	11 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	12 Community Market Trivia Night Fly Llama Brewing Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	13 Trivia Night Altered Reality Brewing	14 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Preserve Biloxi "In Elvis' Footsteps" Frank Gruich, Sr. Community Center	15 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo – Biloxi Elks Lodge EMO Beau Rivage Dee Snider Hard Rock	16 Gem & Mineral Show Joppa Shrine Billy Creel Wooden Boat Show Schooner Pier Park Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall The Gilded Gulf: Form & Décor Biloxi Public Library
17 Billy Creel Wooden Boat Show Schooner Pier Park Gem & Mineral Show Joppa Shrine	18 Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	19 Community Market Bike Biloxi Biloxi Visitors Center Trivia Night Fly Llama Brewing Shuckers vs Barons Keesler Federal Park Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	20 Earth Day Celebration Clean-Up Trivia Night Altered Reality Red Cross Blood Drive Edgewater Mall Shuckers vs Barons Senior Wellness Fair –Donal M. Snyder Sr. Com. Center	21 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Shuckers vs Barons Keesler Federal Park Jarred Partridge Reception Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art	22 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Shuckers vs Barons Keesler Federal Park	23 Shuckers vs Barons Keesler Federal Park
24 Shuckers vs Barons Keesler Federal Park	25 Stage Stars Student Workshop Center Stage Monday Night Bingo Our Lady of Fatima	26 Community Market Stage Stars Student Workshop Center Stage Trivia Night Fly Llama Brewing Biloxi Bingo Mania Nativity Cathedral	27 Stage Stars Student Workshop Center Stage Trivia Night Altered Reality Brewing	28 Community Market Biloxi Fun Run Altered Reality Brewing Main Street Book Club Patio 44 Shining Stars Student Workshop Center Stage	29 Karaoke with Kenny Fleur de Lis Society Friday Bingo Biloxi Elks Lodge Shining Stars Student Workshop Center Stage	30

BTV May Schedule

Sparklight 56 or at biloxi.ms.us/btv

Morning	
6 a.m.	"Down in Biloxi," by Rockin' Ray Fournier (4 min)
6:04 a.m.	Inside BTv
6:10 a.m.	Infrastructure report (5 min)
6:15 a.m.	Shuckers Insider
6:30 a.m.	Biloxi Public Schools (15 min)
7 a.m.	"Biloxi Cooks!" Biloxi Fire Station 1
7:30 a.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 a.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
8 a.m.	State of the City 2026
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!" Biloxi Fire Station 1
1:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
1:45 p.m.	Keesler Update (15 min)
2 p.m.	State of the City 2026
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!" Biloxi Fire Station 1
7:30 p.m.	Storytime with Gumbo Kelly (15 min)
7:45 p.m.	Keesler Update
8 p.m.	State of the City 2026
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!

This month on "Biloxi Cooks!" we visit Biloxi Fire Station 1 where Biloxi firefighters Conner Kelly, Micah Hatton, and Michael Ray prepare a station favorite, one pan cajun sausage pasta. This traditional southern dish delivers big flavor and can be on your table quickly. It's creamy, a little spicy, and packed with smoky goodness, perfect for a weeknight dinner or a cozy weekend meal.

Watch the May 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.



This month's recipe:

Cajun Sausage Pasta Recipe

Ingredients:

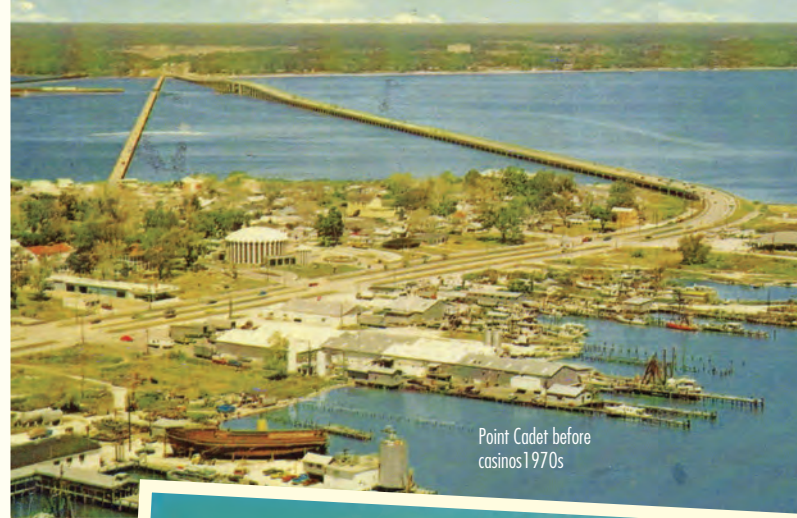
- 16 oz short-cut pasta (like penne; gluten-free if needed)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning, divided
- 1 (12 oz) package smoked andouille sausage, sliced on the bias
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 2 bell peppers diced
- Pinch of red pepper flakes
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/4 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Fresh parsley, for serving

Instructions:

- Cook pasta to al dente according to package directions. Reserve 1 cup of pasta water, then drain.
- While the pasta cooks, heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the sausage and 2 teaspoons of Cajun seasoning. Cook until browned and slightly crispy, about 5 minutes. Remove and set aside.
- Reduce heat to medium. In the same skillet, add onion, bell peppers, remaining Cajun seasoning, and red pepper flakes. Cook for about 3 minutes or until softened. Add garlic and cook for another minute.
- To make the sauce, whisk in chicken broth, cream, and tomato paste until smooth. Bring to a gentle boil, then reduce heat and simmer 5-7 minutes until slightly thickened.
- Bring it all together by stirring in Parmesan cheese. Add cooked pasta and sausage, tossing to coat. Add a splash of reserved pasta water as needed until the sauce is glossy and clings to the noodles.
- Serve with extra Parmesan and parsley – and enjoy!



Oyster and Shrimp Canning Factory, Biloxi, Miss.



Point Cadet before casinos 1970s



Blessing of the Fleet, 1960s

Thinkin' about shrimpin' in Biloxi

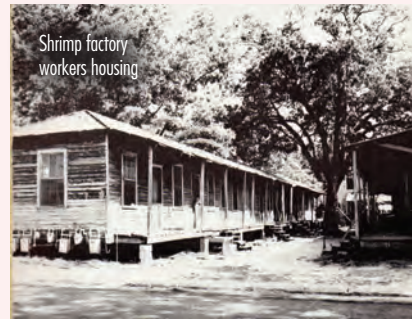
All about our shrimp

By Jane Shambra

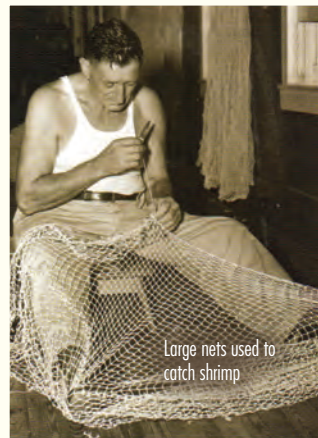
Early journals

In the early days of Biloxi habitation, back in the early 1700s, there were no newspapers. From the logbooks and journals recorded by adventurous travelers, we can learn what life was like in those days and what plants, animals, and seafood were added to their cuisine. Monsieur D'Iberville penned a lot about discovering oysters, fish, buffalo, turkeys, alligators, and even an assortment of birds, all types of which were cooked in campfires along Biloxi's sandy shoreline. It was a while before they discovered that what lay beneath the water's surface was the best culinary treasure ever – SHRIMP.

In 1718, after sailing for several months from France, Monsieur Le Page Du Pratz, a Dutchman, arrived on our shores. In his popular three-volume work, he described, in French, what he found here, including a brief mention of Gulf shrimp. He observed that they were similar to crawfish, measured about three inches long, and could be caught using very large nets brought over from France. He even found little shrimp in nearby rivers.



Shrimp factory workers housing



Large nets used to catch shrimp

Casino Row

As we travel along Highway 90 at the eastern edge of the peninsula, we encounter a series of popular Biloxi casinos offering a wide range of entertainment, dining, and hotel options. In the 1990s, with the arrival of legalized gambling, casinos rose side by side, or all in a row, along the roadway, earning the nickname of "Casino Row."

Long before that, however, the area near the bridge was known as "Cannery Row." It was once lined with large, thriving canning factories that processed freshly caught seafood – shrimp, oysters, and even figs. By about 1900, Biloxi became known as the "Seafood Capital of the World," supported by thousands of workers who fueled this booming industry. Many factories even provided modest housing nearby for workers and their families. Hurricanes have decimated evidence of this simple but memorable architecture.

Child labor

A little-known chapter of Biloxi's seafood history is the topic of child labor. Back in the day, young children often took part in the arduous task of processing freshly caught Gulf seafood, including shrimp. The popular photographer Lewis Wickie Hine (1874–1940) traveled throughout the United States documenting the role of children in the workforce of coal mines, meatpacking houses, textile mills, and seafood processing plants. His photograph collection also comprises photographs of Biloxi children. These black and white photos are housed in the Library of Congress.

Rolling along

In the early 1960s, the Biloxi Shrimp train began rolling through Biloxi, offering visitors a unique way to experience history. Its route began at the parking lot south of the Biloxi lighthouse, carrying up to 64 passengers on an hourly, fully narrated tour. J&L Enterprises, whose president was Don Jacobs, operated the 10-mile voyage through time. Both tourists and locals could ride past 46 points of interest, including Keesler Air Force Base, the Biloxi Cemetery, and the Old Brick House on Back Bay.

The Biloxi Shrimp Train also became a featured attraction during the annual Biloxi Shrimp Festival. In 1975, festival festivities included a special motorcade that began at the



▲ Old shrimp can label

of festively decorated boats is then greeted by the officiating priest, who blesses each vessel with holy water, praying for a safe and a prosperous season ahead.

'Tis the Season

In addition to the weather seasons and Mardi Gras season, Biloxi celebrates another important time of year – shrimping season. Unlike the traditional seasons printed in advance on calendars, our shrimping season fluctuates according to the progress of the little shrimp growing below the surface of our Gulf waters.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is the governing authority that announces when shrimping season begins and ends each year. The opening date for the 2026-2027 season has not yet been announced.

Shrimping regulations, announcements, and general information are posted on the department's website (<https://dmr.ms.gov>), social media pages, and by calling 1(866) WE-TRAWL.

Shrimp in the movies

Shrimp even made its way onto the big screen in Biloxi movie theaters. With the approach of the 70th anniversary of Elvis Presley's visit to Biloxi, there is more and more of an interest in his biography. In 1963, just a few years after his visits here, his movie "Girls, Girls, Girls" was shown at the Avenue Theater on Howard Avenue in Downtown Biloxi. It was in that movie that he sang "The Shrimp Song." Interestingly, Elvis did not like seafood and was known to never include it of any kind in his diet!

Decades later, in 1994, the popular movie "Forrest Gump" was shown in Biloxi theaters. The movie's dialogue includes the description of shrimp as being "the fruit of the sea"

with a listing of so many ways that it can be deliciously cooked!

Cooking and eating

Shrimp is among the most chosen seafood items in Biloxi restaurants and seafood markets, with the Biloxi shrimp Po-boy being among the most popular. Folks yearn for Biloxi's favorite dressed and pressed po-boy sandwiches. Offered in our restaurants year-round, this culinary delight is described as a plethora of perfectly battered and fried Gulf shrimp on French bread topped with lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, and mayo, then pressed into a sandwich for a perfect crispy, crunchy dish.

Other local favorites, such as shrimp and grits and shrimp spaghetti, remain close contenders, each offering its own take on the rich flavors of the Gulf.

Biloxians have several options for purchasing our fresh local shrimp catches: directly from the boats docked at the harbors, from seafood markets, and from local grocery stores, which offer both fresh and frozen Gulf shrimp choices.

The big pot

Shrimp boils are a time-honored tradition in Biloxi, bringing family and friends together to enjoy. The recipe for boiling these fresh, tasty delicacies usually includes premixed crab boil, fresh potatoes, and corn on the cob. Lemons, garlic, sausage, and bay leaves are often added. Locally grown bay leaves, though not edible, are often dried and added for both health and flavor.

Bon appétit, y'all!

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

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PLAY after DARK



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