

BYRAM

July 30
Swinging Bridge 5K! All proceeds go to the city of Byram parks and recreation. A two-day festival! Byram-ms.us or **601.372.7746**



CANTON

June 30–July 3
 Dozens of hot-air balloons will lead a fun filled weekend for children and adults! This four-day event will include competitive balloon races, two spectacular balloon glows, two incredible firework displays, a Run/Walk with hot air balloons, children's activities, great food and great entertainment. Fundraiser for The Good Samaritan Center. **ballooncanton.com**

July 4
 The "Big Stage" returns to the Historic Canton Square for the annual **Canton Gospel Fest Homecoming**. Begins at 6 p.m. Expect to hear from the best gospel groups anywhere. Concert is free. Produced by recording artist and Canton's own Cynthia Goodloe Palmer. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy! **800.844.3369.**



COLUMBUS

July 7–9
Crawford Cotton Boll Festival annual community event features an array of live entertainment, speakers, a step show and more. Honoring the late Blues legend, Big Joe Williams. **662.272.5164.**

July 7
 The **Sounds of Summer Concert Series** 7–9 p.m. on the Columbus Riverwalk Stage. Concessions available; lawn chairs and blankets encouraged. No pets or coolers. **662.328.6305.**

HATTIESBURG
July 28
Laughs 4 Life is a comedic fundraising event bringing laughter to the Hub City. 7:30 p.m.–9 p.m. at the Historic Saenger Theater in downtown Hattiesburg. Reserved Tickets \$50. Proceeds benefit the International Myeloma Foundation and the Forrest General Cancer Center through the Greater PineBelt Community Foundation. **Laughs4life.com.**

JACKSON
July 2
MS Children's Museum celebrates Independence Day with special activities from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. **MSchildrensmuseum.org.**



July 4
2016 Farm Bureau Watermelon Classic 5K Run/Walk at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame & Museum. Participate in the 5K Run, 5k Walk or BCBS of Mississippi 1-Mile Fun **Run msfame.com** or **601.982.8264** Volunteers needed.



July 5, 12, 19, 26
MS Children's Museum continues its "Tinker with Thomas" weekly enrichment program aligned with its visiting exhibit, Thomas & Friends: Explore the Rails! Tinker with Thomas is a hands-on program focusing on science, technology, engineering and math. 3:30 p.m. **601.981.5469.**

July 9
Annual Zoo Ice Cream Safari! In its 22nd year, this event has featured our local media celebrities and special guests showing off their personalities and scooping favorite flavors



for your votes. Face painting, carousel rides, train rides, splash pad, bounce houses, a dunking booth, and more! **jacksonzoo.org**

July 14
Biking for Babies, sponsored by Pro-Life Mississippi. 6 p.m. at St. Richard Catholic Church 1242 Lynwood Drive. Meet & Greet and support a cause that raises awareness and values life. **Bikingforbabies.com**



MADISON
July 16
 The popular **Bruin Burn 5K** is back for its 6th year! 6:30 a.m. start. The course winds through scenic Madison ending at Saint Anthony Catholic School. Come run one of Jackson's favorite races! **601.209.4619**



PEARL
July 9
 The **Mississippi Opry Summer Show** at the Pearl Community Room, 2420 Old Brandon Road from 6–9 p.m. Admission \$10. Children under 18 free. Sharon Fiveash **601.331.6672.**

PHILADELPHIA
July 22–29
 The **Neshoba County Fair**. No words for Mississippi's great house party. A little of everything here and an experience not to be forgotten. **neshobacountyfair.org**



RIDGELAND
July 2
 Annual "**Race for Brain Injury**" sponsored by Brain Injury Association of MS "Dash 'n' Splash" event. For avid runners and walkers, it's a 5k scenic timed course; for kids, families, and those who don't run, a healthy 1-mile walk; for those on wheels, a beautiful wheelchair roll! **Visitridgeland.com**