

News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Discover the Hidden Treasures of the Magnolia State with “Mississippi Roads”**

*Host Walt Grayson and the “Roads” crew discover what makes Mississippi unique*

**JACKSON, Miss.** – Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) highlights attractions, food and intriguing locals in the May 22 episode of “Mississippi Roads” airing at 7 p.m. on MPB TV.

The program features a theatre that became a hometown star, a statewide magazine that grew out of a passion for photography, a seafood restaurant with some ghostly visitors, and a spectacular July 4 celebration.

“Getting to go about the state and continually discover hidden treasures makes me look forward to each new assignment I get,” said host Walt Grayson. “I know that I am going to learn new things and meet people I would have never met otherwise.”

When Hurricane Katrina hit Mississippi, the residents of Bay St. Louis and the town’s Little Theatre came together to rebuild a new life. Through the process, the community theatre and the people bonded forever.

Marianne Todd can be seen taking photos at many of the amazing local events statewide. Viewers will see how her passion for photography and for Mississippi combined to launch Legends Magazine. Todd is the creative force behind the magazine that covers most of the happenings around the state.

The Ole Biloxi Schooner is a Gulf Coast restaurant that, after Katrina, relocated to a renovated building on the site of an old funeral home. Walt Grayson finds out about the weird occurrences at the restaurant.

Beautiful hot air balloons, good music and spectacular fireworks are the entertainment for Ridgeland’s Celebrate America Balloon Glow. For 23 years, hot air balloons light up the sky to celebrate America and the July 4 holiday. Witness the magic of twenty balloons of all colors that twinkle and glow in the dusk of a summer evening.

(more)

“Mississippi Roads” is an original production of MPB and is in its 23rd season. Visit [www.mpbonline.org/mississippiroads](http://www.mpbonline.org/mississippiroads) or Facebook for more information.

**Mississippi Public Broadcasting** (MPB) provides instructional and public affairs programming to Mississippians through its statewide television and radio network. MPB enhances the work of educators, students, parents and learners of all ages by providing informative programming and educational resources. MPB’s locally-produced programming focuses on the people, resources and attractions that reflect Mississippi’s unique culture and diverse heritage. Children’s television programs constitute a major portion of the daytime and weekend morning schedules. MPB provides a valuable resource to Mississippians in disseminating information as part of the state’s emergency preparedness and response system. Since 1970, MPB has won over 400 national, regional and statewide awards, including Emmy®, Edward R. Murrow and Parents’ Choice® Awards. For more information on MPB, its programs, mission or educational resources, please visit [www.mpbonline.org](http://www.mpbonline.org).

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