



THE TOWN CRIER

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FEBRUARY 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 1, Krewe De La Dauphine 1pm
- Feb 8, Island Mystics 1pm
- Feb 15, Battle of Mobile Bay 5K Run
- March 1, St Jude Bike a thon
- March 2, The 23rd Annual "Colonies of the Gulf Coast" Ft Gaines
- March 29 DIVA Chili Cook Off
- April 4 West End Beach Opens
- April 5 C W Preservation Trust Ft Gaines

Throw me something mister!!!!



THE "OFFICIAL" NEWS OF DAUPHIN ISLAND

In an effort to keep the citizens of Dauphin Island better informed, the Mayor and Town Council are pleased to distribute The Town Crier on a monthly basis. Our goal is to highlight council meetings and other newsworthy events. This is not intended as a substitute for attending public meetings in person. Council Meetings are usually held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 PM. Agenda meetings are usually held on the Monday before each council meeting at 5 PM and are open to the public. The council meetings for February are scheduled for Tuesday, February 4th and Tuesday, February 18th.

The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Trustees Council has publicized some 44 proposed early restoration projects for the Gulf Coast region and you are invited to comment on them. The Draft Programmatic and Phase III Early Restoration Plan and Draft Early Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (please don't let the titles scare you!) are available for public review and comment through February 19, 2014. This is the third and largest phase of early restoration to date and includes plans to restore barrier islands, dunes, marshes, shorelines, oyster beds, park enhancements and boat ramps to name a few. The three Alabama projects currently submitted include; Gulf State Park Enhancement Project (\$85.5 million), Oyster Reef Restoration in south Mobile County (\$3.2 million) and Swift Tract Living Shoreline Project in Bon Secour (\$5 million+). You can view these and all of the other projects being proposed by each of the gulf coast states by visiting www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov and you are encouraged to offer your comments. As you know, the waterways and shorelines along our stretch of the gulf coast were adversely impacted by the oil spill of 2010. In fact, our entire way of life was put on hold as thick globs of oil washed ashore claiming jobs and vital habitats. This particular funding mechanism is one of several that is intended to restore and rehabilitate the damage that was done in the weeks and months following the worst man-made disaster of its type. Therefore, each of us should take a few minutes to learn more about these particular projects and let your voices be heard! It is imperative that those areas directly impacted by the oil spill receive the largest share of the recovery dollars in order to promote much needed environmental and economic recovery. Let's make sure that happens. The 18th Annual "Battle of Mobile Bay 5K Race" is sponsored by the Port City Pacers and is set to take place on Saturday, February 15. Fun for the entire family, this certified 5K race begins and ends at historic Fort Gaines. The race starts at 9AM and you can visit www.pcpacers.org for more details. Fort Gaines will also play host to the 21st Annual "Colonial Isle Dauphine" on Saturday, March 1 from 9AM-5PM. Surround yourself with rich history at Fort Gaines. Completed in 1861, visitors delight at this site of the Battle of Mobile Bay which took place nearly 150 years ago. Explore the grounds and hear stories of days gone by, watch live reenactments and see a blacksmith demonstrate his craft. Appreciate today a place where simpler times and historic culture has been preserved. For more information call 861-6992



DIVA SCHEDULES CHILI COOK-OFF

The Dauphin Island Veterans' Association will host its Annual Benefit Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, March 29, 2014 (Rain Date: April 5) at the Pelican Pub west parking lot. Tasting will begin at 12:30PM and a donation of \$5 per person is requested and appreciated. Teams (maximum of four persons) interested in entering the competition can register by completing a form at the Pelican Pub. Cost per team: \$15 if registration takes place in February or \$20 in March...so sign up early! Last year's event offered over a dozen delicious varieties of chili and this year should only get better! Make your plans and mark your calendars for this delicious event.

WEST END BEACH TO OPEN IN APRIL

The Town-owned West End Public Beach is scheduled to open for the 2014 season on Friday, April 4 at 10AM. This popular spot offers convenient parking, clean restrooms, certified life guards and plenty of access to both gulf and sound waters! In addition, vendors are located on site to provide food & beverage, water slide, chairs & umbrellas and more. The park will be open 10am until 6pm on weekends only (Friday-Sunday) until May 1, when the facility will be open seven days a week. After this brutally cold winter, aren't you ready for a little R&R right here on Dauphin Island?

TOWN ANNOUNCES JOB OPENINGS AT WEB

With the planned opening of West End Beach in early April, the Town of Dauphin Island will be announcing job opportunities for various positions in the upcoming 2014 season. First, we are looking for a food and beverage (including alcoholic beverages) vendor to provide food and beverage services to beach goers. A request for proposals will be advertised soon so be on the lookout for same if you are interested in this opportunity. In addition, applications will be accepted for other positions such as lifeguards (open water certification required) gate attendants, security and more. These notices will be posted soon as well. For additional info please contact Town Hall.

DI SCHOOL TO HOST ANNUAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW

"Get your motor runnin'... head out on the highway!". Head on over, that is, to the 18th Annual Spring Motorcycle Show at Dauphin Island Elementary School. This year the popular event will be held on Sunday, April 6 with bike registration (\$8 per bike) starting at 1130AM, judging at 115PM and awards presented at 245PM. You'll see a large variety of Vintage (American, European, Japanese, Unrestored Original, Café Racer, etc.) and Modern Classes (American Cruiser, Metric Cruiser, Sport Bike and Competition Custom, Scooter, Touring, 3-wheelers, etc.) of motorcycles. In addition to all the bikes, plenty of food & beverage will be available along with a variety of other items of interest for the entire family. Admission is FREE! For more information please contact Carlos Forte (251)509-5451 or Jim Downey (251) 666-0825.

ST. JUDE BIKE-A-THON

The Annual Dauphin Island version of the St. Jude Bike-A-Thon will take place on Saturday, March 1 and all local children are invited to participate in this worthwhile fundraising event. Participants are asked to register at the DI Water & Sewer parking lot by 8AM. Once again, Joanne Sprinkle is serving as Chairperson for the event and can be reached at 861-3212 for additional information. Motorists are encouraged to avoid traveling roads south of the Water Tower during this event if at all possible.

RABIES CLINIC SCHEDULED

The Town has scheduled a rabies clinic on Saturday, February 22 at 130-400pm at Town Hall. In addition to rabies shots, dogs and cats can be immunized for distemper, parvo and other similar diseases. Cost is \$10 per shot which protect your pet for up to one full year.

VOLUNTEER ANYONE????

You may recall an article in the January Town Crier that touched on the need for volunteers to assist with numerous events throughout the calendar year. Since that time, we have been asked to publish a list of potential events/festivals currently on the Town's Calendar of Events. Here are a few: Island-wide Yard Sale, Town Easter Egg Hunt, National Day of Prayer, Fourth of July, Halloween at Green Park, Christmas Pageant and/or Parade. In addition, there are a number of events that are sponsored by other entities/agencies here on the island that likely could use a helping hand as well. If you see an event that interests you, please contact Mary Strickland at Town Hall to get involved. Working together...we can make this the best year ever!

TOWN TO PROVIDE PERSONAL PROPERTY TRACKING SYSTEM

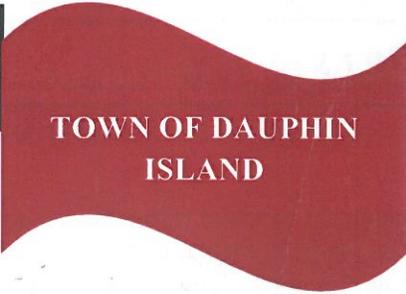
The Town and Police Department are pleased to announce a new way for property owners to inventory and track personal property items that may be lost or stolen. The system is called *Reportit* and is provided **FREE** of charge to all Dauphin Island property owners courtesy of the Town of Dauphin Island and we encourage each of you to take advantage of this opportunity. The online system is safe and secure and offers each property owner the ability to submit up to 100 personal property items along with serial numbers (and other identification codes), photographs, etc. of valuables such as electronics, boating equipment, and much more. This information can be very useful in the event items are stolen and assist with insurance claims and the like. For more information and to register your personal property items visit reportit.leadsonline.com or contact our Police Department at 861-5523.

SEA LAB TO OFFER HOLD ALABAMA MASTERS NATURALIST PROGRAM

The Alabama Master Naturalist (AMN) program is a statewide program whose goal is to help promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Alabama's natural world among Alabama's citizens and visitors. To help achieve that goal, the AMN program works to develop a statewide corps of well-informed volunteers providing education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities. There has not been an active AMN program in coastal Alabama, until now. Several environmental organizations, including the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, have partnered to begin *AMN: Coastal Alabama*. The first of eight sessions will take place at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab on Tuesday, February 25, from 9am to 4pm. Titled "Introduction to the AMN Program and Exploring Alabama's Cultural Landscape," the workshop will focus on the diverse cultures of prehistoric and historic populations who shaped Alabama and its culture. The day will be spent learning from experts as well as touring cultural sites on Dauphin Island. The cost is \$35.00 and lunch is included. The deadline to register is February 18. For more information about the AMN Program and to register for this session, visit <http://www.aces.edu/natural-resources/amn/index.php> or contact Doyle Keasal at 334/844-6398 or email keasade@aces.edu. The AMN Program is sponsored by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) through Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities, in cooperation with partners Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences; Alabama State Parks; Natural Resources Conservation Service; Dauphin Island Sea Lab; Alabama Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries; ADCNR State Lands Division; and Discovering Alabama.

TOWN MULLS "WELLNESS CHECK PROGRAM"

Recognizing the Island has a population of aging individuals, the Town is contemplating ways it may utilize existing emergency response personnel to check on those living alone and/or have medical needs. This free "wellness check" service could include blood pressure checks, fall prevention, fire safety and more. The service will be strictly voluntary. While few details are currently available, we'd like to hear from you regarding whether you feel such a service is needed here on the island and whether you or someone you know would take advantage of such a service.. Please contact Mary Strickland at Town Hall 861-5525 (ext 222) and leave your thoughts, comments suggestions or questions.



**TOWN OF DAUPHIN
ISLAND**

1011 Bienville Boulevard
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528
Phone: 251-861-5525
Fax: 251-861-2154
Website: townofdauphinisland.org
Monday-Thursday 7:00am - 5:30pm



DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

Town Clerk/Accountant
Nannette Davidson ext 225

**Public Works Director/Bldg
Official**
Corey Moore Ext 224
Cell No 234-7466

**Building Department Admin.
Assistant**
Wanda M. Sandagger ext 229

**Business License/ Permit
Clerk/Event Planner/
Magistrate**
Mary S. Strickland Ext 222

Court Clerk
Stacy T. Mallon ext 221

Admin. Clerk /Magistrate
Joyce Wentworth ext 227

Animal Control ext 230

Chief of Police
Chief Kym Claw 861-5523

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor
Jeff Collier

Council Members
Stephen Denmark
Mary Thompson
Philip Patronas
Shirley Robinson
Clinton Collier

TOWN MEETINGS CORNER

Agenda Meetings 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 5:00pm

Town Council Meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

Planning Commission Meetings-2nd Tuesday of each month 6:00 PM

Property Owners' Assoc. Meetings - Pres. Laura Martin can be reached at Islandgirl@LMA.com or visit DIPOA website.

Board of Adjustment Meetings—4th Tuesday of each month or as needed

DI Court—2nd Wednesday of each month **February 12th @ 4:00pm**

DI Traffic School **February 5th @ 5:30pm in Council Chambers**

DI Park & Beach Board Meeting-call 861-3607 for date & time

DI Water & Sewer Authority Meetings-call 861-2363 for date & time