



THE TOWN CRIER

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April 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 4 West End Beach Opens
- April 5 C W Preservation Trust Ft Gaines
- April 6 Annual Motorcycle Show
- April 12 St. Francis Arts & Crafts Festival
- April 12 Discovery Day
- April 12 Town Easter Egg Hunt
- April 12 Pops Concert
- April 19 Community Easter Egg Hunt 10am Cadillac Square
- April 20 Easter Sunday/Sunrise Service
- April 26 DI Sailboat Regatta
- April 26 Gumbo Cookoff "Hits the Trail"
- May 1 National Day of Prayer Ceremony
- May 11 Mother's Day
- May 16/17 Praise Fest
- May 26 Memorial Day



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. 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 April are scheduled for the 1st & 15th.

Now that spring is officially here, Dauphin Island is the place to be to enjoy our relaxing and casual lifestyle and take in a few family-friendly events while you're here. April 12 is shaping up to be a busy day for the island as multiple functions are on tap for your pleasure. Plan on spending the entire day (or weekend for that matter) with us to check out the 12th Annual St. Francis Episcopal Church Arts & Crafts Festival from 9am-4pm. This popular event will showcase the work of some 50 artists from throughout the southeast offering crafts including sculptures, pottery, paintings, jewelry design, photography, hand-made furniture, textile and mixed media creations and much more! Looking for the perfect gift for that special someone in your life? You'll likely find it here under the majestic oaks on the church grounds at 401 Key Street. While the festival has grown into quite a large event, organizers say it is still compact enough for festival-goers to experience the quaint island charm on a beautiful spring day. In addition to the tremendous array of artwork, you'll also want to sample some of the tasty foods including Wimberly Hory's Famous Chicken Salad Sandwiches, mouthwatering Gumbo (by the bowl or by the quart), homemade pickles, baked goods and more. For more information contact Diane Hall at 861-6369 or 422-3589. That same day, Dauphin Island Sea Lab will also be hosting the annual Discovery Day on the east end of the island from 10am-2pm. Organizers have put together a family-friendly event that is both fun and educational. Visitors will get a chance to view exhibits at the research laboratories and speak with marine scientists and graduate students about their work while children will be treated to various activities including ocean games and fun crafts. Admission is FREE (except for reduced admission to the estuarium for adults) and the gift shop will be offering a 15% discount during the day. Executive Director John Valentine suggests "Discovery Day is the perfect opportunity for the public to come and enjoy a fun family event that is not only a great time, but also a great chance to learn about what we do down at the Sea Lab". For additional information please contact the Sea Lab at 861-2141. And what better way to close out a busy day here on the island than attending a relaxing concert "under the stars" by the Mobile Symphonic Pops! Yes, get ready to unwind and soak up the ambiance of the island while this talented group of musicians play some of your favorite tunes. The concert will be held at Water Tower Plaza at 6pm and admission is FREE! Just bring a lawn chair and a blanket for your comfort and convenience. On Saturday, April 26 two other events are planned for your viewing and tasting pleasure. The 56th Annual Dauphin Island Sailboat Regatta, the largest point-to-point race of its type in the country, will traverse Mobile Bay providing a colorful spectacle for people of all ages. The boats usually make it to the Dauphin Island Bridge around mid-afternoon (depending on weather and wind conditions) and there are numerous vantage points from which to watch the race or snap a photo or two. Get here early as you certainly won't want to miss the 5th Annual Gumbo Cook-Off sponsored by the DI Chamber of Commerce. This year the gumbo cook-off "Hits the Trail" as three separate venues will be set up from 11am-3pm for your gumbo



tasting pleasure; Central Business District (near Water Tower), Isle Dauphine Club and West End Shops (across from the condos). Each site will offer multiple gumbo varieties, live music and children's activities. The event will conclude with an awards ceremony and live music at the Water Tower at 4pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults (10 years and under are free). For additional information and ticket outlets go to www.dauphinislandgumbofestival.com or call Gene Fox at 370-8150.

WEST END BEACH OPENS FOR 2014 SEASON

Spring is finally here and what better place to soak up the sun than West End Beach. The park will be open Friday-Sunday from 10am-6pm starting April 4 and vendors will be on hand to provide beach chairs & umbrellas, sno-cones, water slide and more. Certified lifeguards will again be on duty to make sure your visit to the beach is a safe one. Convenient parking, air conditioned restrooms and showers are also available. Parking is \$2.00 per vehicle and admission is \$3.00 per person. Children age 12 and under are free! Note: The Town is currently accepting proposals from individuals interested in serving as a Food & Beverage vendor for West End Beach. Contact Town Hall for more info.

TOWN TO SPONSOR EASTER EGG HUNT AT GREEN PARK

The annual Easter Egg Hunt at Green Park will be held at 10am on Saturday, April 12 and children of all ages are invited to participate. The Easter Bunny will be on hand so bring your cameras to capture some memorable photos. The community Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Cadillac Square on April 19 at 10am.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE INFO

Easter Sunrise Service will be held inside historic Fort Gaines on the Great Lawn on Sunday, April 20 at 630am and everyone is invited to attend. Individuals are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and/or blanket for your convenience and comfort.

CIVIL WAR TRUST-PARK DAY 2014

Fort Gaines is the place to be on Saturday, April 5 if you enjoy volunteer work and are a history buff. Dauphin Island Park & Beach Board representatives have scheduled a "work day" at the fort to make needed repairs to the structure and you can help! If interested, you are asked to pre-register either at the fort, via facebook ([fb.com/fortgaines](https://www.facebook.com/fortgaines)) or call 861-6992. Thank you in advance for helping protect and preserve this historic structure.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER SET

In conjunction with the 63rd Annual National Day of Prayer, the Town of Dauphin Island has scheduled a ceremony on the front lawn at Town Hall (ceremony will be moved to Council Chambers in the event of inclement weather) at noon on Thursday, May 1, 2014. Representatives from each of the island churches are expected to attend and share a special message or word of prayer. The theme for this year's event is "One voice united in Prayer" and everyone is invited to attend.

DI ELEMENTARY IS "FOR THE BIRDS"!

AT&T Pioneers recently launched a statewide project entitled "Wings For Education" and selected Dauphin Island Elementary (along with 18 other schools in the state) to participate in this unique program. Mayor Collier attended the official unveiling of a bird feeder and associated webcam that will help students learn more about our "feathered friends" while competing for prizes and statewide recognition. For two months, school children will use these feeders & cameras to capture pictures of birds in their natural habitat. They will then post the photos on a website, choosing the best ones to submit for the competition that will conclude in early May. *Bird-Watcher Magazine* representatives will judge the entries and post the winners on the magazine's website. The Town expresses its sincere appreciation to AT&T Pioneers for allowing our students to participate in such a fun and creative learning experience.



TOWN TO SPONSOR INAUGURAL "SUNSET CRUISE CAR SHOW"

There will be some additional sights and sounds roaming throughout Dauphin Island on June 7 when vintage and classic vehicles from near and far make their way here for the 1st Annual Sunset Cruise Car Show. Registration begins at 9am and the entire event will come to a close, you guessed it, at sunset. Events throughout the day will include DJ's at three locations (West End Beach, Rodeo site and East End of island), a "Swap Meet" at Green Park, car parade (route TBA), awards presentations and live music at the rodeo site. A Chevy LS complete engine (valued at over \$5000) will go to one lucky raffle winner...tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25! Business owners will have an opportunity to sponsor a trophy for \$100 and, at the same time, receive multiple advertising and promotional opportunities for their establishment. Additional details will be forthcoming. Note: Art In The Park & Nature Festival will be held in Cadillac Square on the same day.

TOWN/SINGING RIVER HEALTH SYSTEM TO HOST HEALTH FAIR

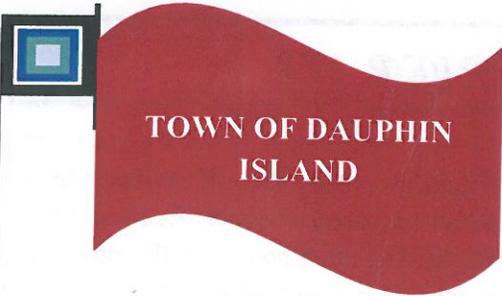
Recognizing that the Alabama/Mississippi Gulf Coast is in the heart of the "Stroke Belt" education and prevention for our collective communities and citizens is essential in lowering cardiovascular diseases (CVD). CVD, including heart disease and stroke, is the number one killer in each state with mortality rates 12% higher than the national average in Alabama and 19% higher in Mississippi. The Health Fair, entitled "Sailing Into Better Health", will be held at the Alabama Deep Sea Rodeo site on Saturday, May 3 from 9am—Noon and everyone is encouraged to attend. The event will offer blood pressure screenings, cholesterol/glucose screenings, heart rhythm monitoring, nutrition and proper diet info, stroke and cardiac education and much more. A Kid's Corner will educate children on how to avoid head and spine injuries that can occur while swimming/driving and riding on bicycles and ATV's. Participants will also be able to "Ask the Experts" as physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants will be on hand to answer specific health related questions. Please make plans to attend this important event...it could save your life!

EXXONMOBIL SCHEDULES OFFSHORE WORK

Officials with ExxonMobil met with Mayor Collier recently to discuss planned offshore maintenance work on gas pipelines, platforms and other related infrastructure. The bulk of the work will take place in the waters between Dauphin Island and Fort Morgan and an associated timeline shows this work continuing through late summer. The company is aware of scheduled rodeos & holidays during this period and plans to minimize their footprint as much as possible during peak times. Boaters are encouraged to maintain a safe distance from construction and maintenance vessels at all times.

CORPS ACCEPTING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MsCIP

The Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program, a near \$450 million comprehensive restoration plan approved by Congress in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, could soon be getting underway. A major aspect of the effort calls for the Mississippi barrier islands to be rehabilitated by pumping some 20 million cubic yards of sand (8.5 million cubic yards likely to come from Alabama waters southwest of Dauphin Island) and filling the Camille Cut on Ship Island caused by the 1969 storm. The primary purpose of the project, according to the Corps report, is to reduce damage to the Mississippi Coastline from future storms and hurricanes, reduce salt water intrusion in bays and estuaries, combat shoreline erosion and enhance the preservation of fish & wildlife in the region. Sound familiar? You have an opportunity to express your thoughts and opinions on this project by submitting same to susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil or mail comments to U S Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Attn: Susan I. Rees, 109 St. Joseph St., Mobile, AL 36602. You can view the more than 200 page plan online by searching MsCIP or visiting the USACE website.



**TOWN OF DAUPHIN
ISLAND**

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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 **April 9 @ 4:00pm**

DI Traffic School **April 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