



THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED

1988

ISSUE #193

July 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 20 Stripers Fishing Rodeo, DI Marina 5am-8pm
- June 21 Father's Day
- June 25 Free Movie West End Beach, Dark
- June 26 DI Night at Bay Bears, 7pm
- June 26 Last Friday Art Night 6-8pm
- June 28 West End Beach Concert, Mobile Big Band Society 6:15pm
- July 4th Fireworks Display, Public Beach 9pm
- July Mobile Pops Concert 7pm
- July 4 DIVA Memorial Ceremony, 11am
- July 11 Roy Martin Young Anglers Rodeo
- July 16-19 Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo
- July 31 Last Friday Art Night 6-8pm

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. However, 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 July are scheduled for the 7th & 21st.

Celebrate July 4 on Dauphin Island!

Dauphin Island is the place to be this Fourth of July as we celebrate our nation's birthday! At 11am, join the DI Veterans Association at Water Tower Plaza as they host a patriotic and solemn ceremony honoring those who have served and continue to serve our great country. The Town & Chamber of Commerce are proud to co-sponsor the Mobile Pops Band that will fill the air with patriotic tunes beginning at 7:00pm at the DI School grounds. Admission is free! Then at 9pm...a spectacular fireworks show will light up the evening sky at the public beach near the fishing pier. We thank the DI Park & Beach Board for allowing use of its property again this year as the site provides great views of the show from multiple vantage points throughout the island. Everyone have a safe and enjoyable July 4!

Rodeo Music Fest 2015

The Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo has been part of the Dauphin Island landscape for decades but last year was the first time a music festival was ever held in conjunction with the historic event. Due to the overwhelming success organizers are putting the final touches on the 2015 Music Festival that should offer a little something for everyone. In addition to several acts sponsored by the Town, a number of our local business owners have stepped up to help make this year's island-wide festival even better. While the program is still being finalized, music venues include West End Beach (and Hugh's Bar & Snow Removal), Fins Bar, Pirates' Pleasure, Green Park, Island BBQ, Island Concessions, Islanders, and Capture Your Dreams Inc. Musical performers include Island favorites, regional acts, and some of the best local talent on the Gulf Coast. Scheduled to play for the weekend are The Modern El Dorados, the Delta Reign Duo, Rhythm Intervention, Ryan Balthrop and Friends, Carla and the Sand Fleas, the Chris Spies Organ Trio, Stereo Dogs, the Melissa Joiner Duo, and Leland Clay. A few more acts are being added and a complete schedule will be posted on the Rodeo Weekend Music Festival Facebook page. If you have music scheduled for the weekend and would like your venue/event to be added to the Festival program, call or email David Calametti 623-1751/ davidcalametti@bellsouth.net. For questions and info, send us a message through our Facebook page.

West End Beach Movies & Concerts To Continue

The Town-owned West End Beach is a true asset to our island community. It is a place that people enjoy all year long whether swimming, fishing, birding, beachcombing, tanning or watching the sun sink below the horizon. However, some of the more popular activities of late include FREE family movie nights and the Sunday Sunset Concerts. If you are among those who give these events two thumbs up you're in luck! The Town Council recently voted to extend both through the end of summer. We are especially excited to announce that FREE movie nights are expanding to Friday nights as well starting in July! The following is a schedule of movies/dates (subject to change) for your convenience; July 2 E.T., July 3 Jaws, July 9 Tangled, July 10 Divergent, July 16 The Never Ending Story, July 17 BIG, July 23 Atlantis - The Lost Empire, July 24 The Maze Runner, July 30 Teen Beach Movie, July 31 Maleficent, Aug 6 SpongeBob SquarePants Movie, Aug 7 X-Men - Days of Future Past, Aug 13 Swiss Family Robinson, Aug 14 Hugo, Aug 20 The Dog Who Saved Summer, Aug 21 Fast and the Furious, Aug 27 Minions and Aug 28 The Avengers. All movies begin at dark and patrons are encouraged to bring beach chairs, blankets and bug spray (just in case) but please...NO pets, glass, grills or outside alcohol. The Sunday Sunset Concert series schedule will be announced at a later date picking up in mid-August and continuing into the fall. This year's program has featured a wide range of musical styles, from jazz to blues to bluegrass (with the Mobile Big Band Society on tap for June 28!) and organizers are working to continue that mix. Parking for the concerts is \$10 per vehicle (fee includes ALL passengers) and proceeds go to support the Little Red School House relocation and re-purposing project. Look for more information in the coming weeks. Join us for some great music and catch a colorful and classic island sunset!





DI Recognized As Globally Significant Bird Area

One could say Dauphin Island is "for the birds"...in a good way! Shortly after incorporation in 1988 the original Town Council made a decision to designate the entire island as a Bird Sanctuary. While it wasn't necessarily the most popular move at the time, the island has reaped benefits over the years as it embraced the world of eco-tourism. Today, birding is more popular than ever and attracts thousands of visitors to our little slice of heaven on an annual basis. The recent designation as a Globally Significant Bird Area should only enhance the popularity of the island to those wanting to get up close and personal with literally scores of feathered species that stop over during spring and fall migrations.

Alabama Current Connection Article A "Must Read"

Written by Eliska Morgan, Coastal Restoration Coordinator, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the following article entitled **Barrier Island Restoration Assessment** was taken from the Spring 2015 Volume IX, Issue 1 of the Alabama Current Connection, a biannual newsletter of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, State Lands Division, Coastal Section and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program. The Town wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the author and to the various agencies responsible for printing this article about Dauphin Island, the important roles it plays as a barrier island and the many reasons why it's worth protecting. *As the first in a chain of five barrier islands in the northern Gulf of Mexico, Dauphin Island is strategically significant as it serves as the only barrier island providing protection to much of Alabama's coastal natural resources. In addition, it provides valuable habitat for living and coastal marine resources, including many threatened and endangered species, and provides important protection to our estuarine habitats which thrive in Mississippi Sound.* With an astonishing 347 different species reported by the Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries, Dauphin Island is one of the top 10 birding spots in the Southeast. Rich in cultural history, the island is a popular tourist destination and a key supporter of recreational and commercial fishing as well as the oil and gas industry. It also serves as the home of historic Fort Gaines, and is the location of the state's Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium. Severely impacted over the years by natural events, and most recently by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, the island has experienced a loss of valuable habitats including wetlands, sea grasses, oyster reefs, and beach and dune habitats. Continual degradation of the island threatens the additional loss of these important habitats as well as the ecological functioning of Mississippi Sound and the Heron Bay wetlands on the mainland. Recognizing the importance of its only barrier island, the State of Alabama recently requested funding through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF) to develop a feasibility study based on science and technical expertise. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Geological Survey, will work with a team of more than 30 scientists and engineers over a 3-year period to assess and evaluate the function of Dauphin Island as a barrier island. Looking to ensure long-term resiliency and sustainability for Dauphin Island, the Alabama Barrier Island Restoration Assessment will identify alternatives to preserve and enhance the ecological functions of the island and associated estuarine resources of which the barrier island protects. Seeking to provide a means to effectively evaluate the benefits, impacts, and costs of potential restoration activities, the study will produce an assessment tool on which science-based recommendations can be made. In hopes of identifying some limited restoration opportunities early in the study, an interim report will be prepared at the halfway point, and the final report will include the alternatives and means for assessment. Both reports will be presented to stakeholders at the time of completion, and all data collected as a result of this project will be added to a data catalogue and be available to the public for viewing. With field work beginning this month, ADCNR looks forward to working with the project's technical team, as well as stakeholders, to assess beneficial and effective restoration activities for Dauphin Island to ensure long-term sustainability and resiliency of Alabama's only barrier island, its habitats, the living coastal and marine resources it supports, and the valuable estuarine habitats in Mississippi Sound.

East End Restoration Project Update

The latest step in the lengthy process to construct a shoreline restoration project on the east end of Dauphin Island included advertising for bids. Two bids were received and opened on May 11 in response to this solicitation but both were in excess of the available grant funds to build the project. While the Town has sixty (60) days (from date of bid opening) to review the bids and weigh options, no decision has been made at the time of this article. Options could include rejecting both bids, securing additional funds to cover cost differential or scaling down the project and re-bidding. We will keep you posted as the process continues.

Council Contemplates Digital Message Board

Everyone should be familiar with the wooden billboard-style sign on Lemoyne Drive that currently serves as a message center for upcoming events here on the island. Well, for a while now, the Town Council has been weighing options to replace that structure with a digital message board. While some suggest such a device would be out of character for our island community, others say it would be a more professional and appealing way to communicate with motorists. The Town Council recently agreed to solicit bids for a digital message board and welcomes your input on the matter. Please share your thoughts with any of your elected officials over the coming weeks so your voices can be heard.



Town Sponsors Distinguished Young Women Event

A small portion of the BP Gulf Seafood and Tourism Promotional Fund Grant is being used by the Town to serve as a 2015 States Club Sponsor for the 58th Annual Distinguished Young Women competition to be held on June 27 in Mobile. The sponsorship affords Dauphin Island a unique opportunity to gain national exposure throughout this annual two-week event. In addition, all 50 contestants, their families and host families will travel to the island for their traditional sand sculpting competition. As a sponsor, the Town has also been "assigned" a contestant which happens to be Alabama's own Bria Kalpen of Phenix City! Bria plans to attend Northwestern University in search of a career in broadcast journalism and her interest include pole vaulting, reading, writing and cooking/baking. You are encouraged to keep up with Bria's progress throughout the competition and cheer her on as she vies for top honors.

Dauphin Island Night with the Bay Bears!

The DI Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with the Mobile Bay Bears to host "Dauphin Island Night" at Hank Aaron Stadium on Friday, June 26 at 7:05pm and you are invited to join in on the fun. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the following island locations; ACP Real Estate, Anchor Real Estate, Blu Revival Surf Shop, Estuarium, The First (Bank) and Welcome Center. The Bay Bears will be hosting the Tennessee Smokies and the stadium will provide a fireworks show. Let's all get together in support of this unique Chamber fundraiser and have a great time in the process. Take me (and your friends) out to the ball game!

Council Ups PSO Weekend Coverage

Summer is here and with it comes increased traffic and activities on the island. Especially on weekends. That's why the Town Council authorized an additional Public Safety Officer (PSO) to be on duty starting on Memorial Day weekend and continuing through Labor Day. This way, residents and visitors alike can count on timely emergency medical response services even during the busiest of days this summer. Such a move will also allow for better enforcement of parking regulations and similar matters. However, the primary responsibility of our PSO's will remain medical response.

Leash Law Reminder

Dog owners are once again reminded that the Town of Dauphin Island has a Leash Law and pets should be properly restrained at all times. The entire island is covered by the regulation including beaches! Please be a responsible pet owner and keep your animals properly secured at all times...and clean up after them when appropriate.

DI School Name Change Proposed... and Opposed

The Council was approached several months ago with a request to change the name of Dauphin Island School to honor island native and long-time educator, Irma C. Mallon. Family members of the deceased teacher/principal, who is credited with saving the school from permanent closure in the 1940's, have pushed for appropriate recognition of her service to the historic island school on several occasions. The Town reached out to the community to receive input on the latest proposal prior to sending a letter of recommendation to the Mobile County School Board in support of the name change as follows; Irma C. Mallon - Dauphin Island School. Note: Final decision on the name change issue rests solely with the School Board. Subsequently, a petition entitled *Petition to the Mobile County Public School Board to maintain the historical name of our little red school house: "Dauphin Island Elementary School"* was printed and placed in at least one island business for signatures. A copy of the petition (approx. 116 signatures) was recently delivered to town hall and the administration will forward a copy to our School Board Representative for his review and consideration. That said, it appears that all parties at least agree that the classic "Dauphin Island School" name remain an integral part of the historic educational facility.

Heat Stroke-Signs and Symptoms

Now that summer is in full swing, it is important that we all understand the risks of heat stroke. As temperatures begin to rise, we should all be familiar with the signs and symptoms of heat stroke. The following lists identify the common signs/symptoms of heat stroke and how to best help someone exhibiting any of the symptoms: **Common Signs and Symptoms:** Hot dry skin or heavy sweating, Nausea and/or vomiting, Changes in mental status, Rapid pulse and rapid breathing, Headache, Fainting. If you suspect heatstroke call 911 immediately! **Common First Aid Care:** First aid care can begin before the patient arrives to the Emergency Department. A few cooling measures include: Place person in a tub of cool water, Spray with garden hose, Fan person while misting with cool water, Place ice packs on neck, armpits, groin, Cover with damp, cool sheets/towels, Encourage them to drink water. Heat stroke is a true medical emergency and can be fatal if not treated promptly and properly!

**TOWN OF DAUPHIN
ISLAND**

1011 Bienville Boulevard
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Phone: 251-861-5525

Fax: 251-861-2154

Website: townofdauphinisland.org
Monday-Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm



DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

Town Clerk
Wanda Sandagger

861-5525 Ext 225

**Public Works Director/Bldg
Official**

Corey Moore Ext 224

Cell No 234-7466

**Building Department Admin.
Assistant**

**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 on Mondays prior to Council Meetings 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. Jennifer Turner can be reached at 626-0673, email her at tomyquazar@gmail.com or visit DI-POA website.

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

DI Court—2nd Wednesday of each month **July 8th @ 4:00pm**

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

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

DI Water & Sewer Authority Meetings— 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:00am at the Authority Office, 908 Alabama Ave. (861-2363)

****ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO RECEIVE TOWN EMAILS?** In order to keep our property owners, citizens and visitors better informed, the Town maintains a mass email list for the prompt and convenient distribution of upcoming events and matters of importance to our community. If you are not already on the list please contact Mary Strickland at mstrickland@townofdauphinisland.org. It's just that easy!