



# THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED  
1988

ISSUE #189  
March 2015

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 7 St. Jude's Bike A Thon 8:30am—11:30am  
DI Water & Sewer
- Mar 7 25th "Colonies of the Gulf Coast" Ft. Gaines
- Mar 7 Sunset Bridge 5k Run/Walk 5pm
- Mar 27 "Last Friday Art Night" DIHAC 6-8pm
- Mar 28 Town Easter Egg Hunt -Green Park 10 am
- Apr 3 West End Beach opens
- Apr 4 Community Easter Egg Hunt - Cadillac Square 10am
- Apr 5 Easter Sunrise Service Ft Gaines 6:30am
- Apr 11 Discovery Day Dauphin Island Sea Lab
- Apr 11 Mobile Pops Concert 6pm
- Apr 19 Motorcycle Show, DI Elementary School 11am—3pm
- Apr 24 "Last Friday Art Night" DIHAC 6-8pm
- Apr 25 Sail Boat Regatta
- Apr 25 Gumbo Fest

## 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 March are scheduled for the 3rd & 17th.

### Benefit Chili & Wings Cook-Off!

What's better than enjoying some deliciously awesome chili & wings with your friends? Doing so while benefitting Dauphin Island Elementary AND the ongoing effort to relocate and re-purpose the historic Little Red Schoolhouse! Sponsored by Fins Bar, this worthwhile event will be held on Saturday, February 28 from 11AM-3PM on the vacant lot just east of the bar on Bienville Blvd. Tickets are \$10 each and the cook-off will include live music and activities for the kids. A special thanks to the DI Chamber, ExxonMobil, JB's Fun Jumps, Gotta -Go Portables and Dees Paper Company for their generous support.

### St. Jude Bike-A-Thon

The Dauphin Island Woman's Club is once again sponsoring the ever popular St. Jude Bike-A-Thon and children of all ages are encouraged to participate. The event will be held on Saturday, March 7 from 830-1130AM. Bike-A-Thon Chairperson Joann Sprinkle expressed her sincere appreciation for the overwhelming support shown by our island community over the past 31 years the event has been sponsored by the Woman's Club. Prizes will be awarded to those children who successfully complete the most laps along with the rider who collects the most contributions. Participants are requested to check in at the DI Water & Sewer office on Alabama Street the morning of the event. The bike-a-thon course (route) will be well marked and drivers are urged to avoid this area if at all possible during the posted hours. If you must travel in this area please use extreme caution. Call Joann at 861-3212 for more information.

### Hippity, Hoppity... Easter's On Its Way!

Green Park will play host to the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Town of Dauphin Island on Saturday, March 28 at 10AM. Parents are encouraged to bring their children for an old fashioned egg hunt and other activities. Bring a camera just in case the Easter Bunny makes a surprise visit! Note: A Community Easter Egg Hunt will also be held on April 4 at 10AM at Cadillac Square.

### Mobile Pops Schedules Spring Concert

Join your friends at Water Tower Plaza on Saturday, April 11 for an elegant evening under the stars when the Mobile Pops presents its first Spring Starbright Concert of the season! This FREE concert starts at 6PM and is made possible through generous contributions by the Town, DI Chamber and DI Foundation. Musical selections will include a Tribute to Judy Garland, The Genius of Ray Charles, Clarinet Candy, Duke Ellington Custer, Circus Days and many more of your favorites. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair and/or blanket and picnic basket. Fun for the entire family!

### Dauphin Island Woman's Club presents...

La Dolce Vita, March 21, 2015 at the Shelby Center. Dinner, auction/fundraiser, 5:30 pm cocktails, dinner at 6:30pm, followed by auction. Ticket prices are \$25.00. Come join us for a lot of laughter, a good Italian meal and help the Woman's Club as it raises funds to be used for the betterment of our island. Gene Fox is our auctioneer once again and music is brought to you by Bruce Jones. We look forward to seeing you there!



### DI School To Host Annual Motorcycle Show

The 19th Annual Motorcycle Show, the school's largest fundraiser of the year, is set for Sunday, April 19 and you're invited to check it out. In addition to the huge variety of Vintage and Modern Classes of motorcycles that will be on display, you'll want to stop in for some delicious food and take a chance at winning one of a number of raffle items while supporting a great cause. Due to the success of this event in previous years, the PTO was able to purchase computers for the school, host a field trip for the students and provide much needed classroom supplies. Bike registration (\$8) begins at 1130AM, judging at 115PM and awards ceremony at 245PM on the school grounds. Admission is FREE! Additional information is available by calling Carlos Forte (251) 509-5451 or Jim Downey (251) 666-0825. Rain Date: April 26, 2015.

### DI United Methodist Church Men's Club Activities

Who doesn't like a good old fashioned fish fry? Throw in some cole slaw, hushpuppies, baked beans and French fries and you've got a meal fit for a king...or queen! Yes, they even have dessert! That's exactly what the Men's Club at DI Methodist Church have planned on Wednesday, March 4 from 5-7pm at the Christ Life Center. Donations are appreciated and will go to help fund selected projects in support of the church and community. In fact, the Men's Club just recently adopted the easternmost one mile of beach here on Dauphin Island and the group plans to keep this area free of trash throughout the year while getting their daily exercise! The Town appreciates this generous effort on behalf of the group and encourages others to consider doing the same as we look for creative ways to keep our beaches clean and safe for residents and visitors alike.

### Fort Gaines to host "Colonies of the Gulf Coast"

Step back in time as re-enactors in period garb allow you to experience life on "Isle Dauphine" in the 1700-1800's as a French, British and Spanish soldier. Watch as they perform drills and fire the cannon while the resident blacksmith demonstrates his craft. This family friendly event has something for everyone but stay alert...as Pirates often show up when you least expect it! See you at historic Fort Gaines on Saturday, March 7 for the 25th Annual Colonies of the Gulf Coast. AAARGGH!

### Dauphin Island Sunset Bridge 5K Run/Walk

Sponsored by the South Mobile County Tourism Authority, this 5K "out and back" certified course will begin and end at the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo headquarters while allowing participants to experience the natural beauty of the Mississippi Sound waters from the deck of the bridge itself. Fun for the entire family, the race is perfect for serious competitors and those just wanting to get a little exercise. The Sunset Bridge Run/Walk is set for Saturday, March 7 at 5pm and entry fees are as follows—Adults: \$25 & Children: \$15 (age 12 and under) Note—Add \$5 to posted fees for day of event entries. Entry fee includes a short sleeve race shirt (must be registered by Feb 28). Please visit the Tourism Authority website or call 861-8747 for additional information. NOTICE—Although the Dauphin Island Police Department will be on duty throughout this event, you are encouraged to plan your trip accordingly to avoid any traffic delays associated with the Sunset Bridge Run/Walk.

### Dauphin Island Heritage and Art Center News

Six new directors were recently elected to serve on the Board of Directors of Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council, for a total of 12 directors. The new directors are: Peter Tanner, Vicki Helm, Bill Harper, Vicki Stewart, Julie Sirmon and Deborah Hall. These directors work with existing directors Georgia Mallon, Deb Jones, Joy Russell, Kathy Jones, Frank Ledbetter and Kathryn Carver to provide opportunities to the community to experience and participate in the arts and in the heritage and culture of the Island. Spring will bring birding enthusiasts to the Island from all over the country. The Dauphin Island Heritage and Art Center will celebrate the spring bird migration with a special art exhibit featuring birds and bird-related themes created by local artists. Acrylics painting classes continue on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Heritage and Art Center. Artist Benno Kollegger conducts the class and generously donates his time and talent. The class is open to all artists and anyone interested in learning how to paint. Bring your own paints and other materials. Easels will be provided. The cost of the class is \$10 per person per class, payable at the door. To make a reservation, contact the Heritage and Art Center at 251/861-3300 during business hours 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Walk-ins are also welcome subject to available space. The popular Last Friday Art Night is now a tradition on the Island! Join us on Friday, March 27, from 6-8 p.m. and shop for local art, enjoy food and drink, see an art demonstration, browse the Heritage Gallery and socialize with friends, neighbors and visitors. There is no admission charge, but donations are very much appreciated.

### Summer Help Needed!

Applications are still being taken for summer help at the Town's West End Beach. Staff needs include certified lifeguards (beach/open water certified), night security personnel and gate attendants. Some space is available for vendors interested in providing services for our beach patrons. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding these opportunities please contact Town Hall.

### West End Beach Opening Soon!

As spring draws near, plans for the 2015 season at West End Beach are coming together with a scheduled opening date of April 3rd. The public beach will be open Friday-Sunday only until Friday, May 1st when the park switches to a seven-day-a-week operation. Hours will be 10AM-6PM. One change this year will include a \$1 increase for parking, making the new fee \$3 per vehicle. This fee change was put in place by the Town Council in exchange for charging a per person fee for use of the new Town-owned waterslide. This way, patrons will have access to the slide as part of the entry into the park rather than paying an additional amount per use. Otherwise, the per person charge will remain \$3 for individuals over 12 years of age. Children age 12 and under are FREE! All charges are considered "daily fees" as patrons are permitted to re-enter the park as long as they display a current parking receipt and/or wristband. The West End Beach provides certified lifeguards, clean air-conditioned restrooms, convenient parking, vendors, access to gulf and sound side waters and a great place to see why Dauphin Island is the Sunset Capital of Alabama!

### Town Sponsors Island-wide Clean-Up

In association with the 2015 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" campaign, the Town of Dauphin Island will be sponsoring an island-wide clean-up on Saturday, May 9 from 8am-noon and you are invited and encouraged to help us rid our community of litter. Island resident Brandy Alexander has agreed to serve as Chairperson of the event that will focus on removing trash and other debris from town rights-of-way in neighborhoods throughout the entire island. The island will be divided into approximately ten zones and volunteers are needed from each area to help coordinate the clean-up in those neighborhoods. Depending on the number of volunteers, we would also like to scour area shorelines in order to make sure our beaches are free of trash as we begin yet another summer season here on Dauphin Island. Additional information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, please contact Town Hall to add your name to the growing list of volunteers that will come together for the good of our island community!

### Discovery Day at Dauphin Island Sea Lab

On Saturday, April 11 from 10AM-2PM the Dauphin Island Sea Lab will once again host the ever popular Discovery Day and you are invited to attend. This fun-filled family event offers a variety of environmentally-themed children's activities along with an open house at the Research Facilities where the public can interact with marine scientists and graduate students to explore ongoing research projects. Admission at the Estuarium is FREE to all children and the Estuarium gift shop will offer a 15% discount on all items throughout the day. Learn about our marine world, boating safety, hurricane preparedness, alternative energy and much, much more! For more info contact the Sea Lab at 861-2141 or visit [www.disl.org](http://www.disl.org).

### "Little Red Schoolhouse" Project Update

The latest news in the ongoing effort to relocate and re-purpose the historic Little Red Schoolhouse came in the form of an offer from the Dauphin Island Foundation to place the structure on property it currently owns. The parcel in question is adjacent to and just west of the existing Foundation office on Bienville Boulevard. However, the property is currently zoned Single Family Residential (R-1) and therefore such use would require a review by the Planning Commission. The process will include at least one public meeting to provide ample opportunity for all island property owners and residents to ask questions and make appropriate comments. In addition, property owners in and around the potential project site will receive an informational letter advising them of the review process and notifying them of the public meeting (TBA). All comments received from the public will be taken into consideration by the Planning Commission prior to a final decision being made by the Town Council.

### Public Meeting Set For East End Restoration Project

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and State Lands will jointly sponsor a public meeting to receive comments on the proposed East End Restoration Project. The meeting will be held at the Shelby Center at DI Sea Lab on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 6PM and is open to the public. This forum is one of the last remaining required steps prior to Town representatives advertising for the actual construction. The project will place and shape approximately 300,000 cubic yards of dredged sand along the easternmost 9/10 mile of the island and includes realignment of the off-shore jetties to parallel the shoreline.

### Bird Sanctuary Slated for Additional Burns

The DI Park & Beach Board, in coordination with the Alabama Forestry Commission, executed a successful controlled burn in the Bird Sanctuary recently that is expected to improve environmental conditions on the property while reducing the risk of wildfire to area neighborhoods. While organizers recognize such activities create certain inconveniences such as blowing smoke and reduced public access (as a safety precaution) to the sanctuary itself, the end result should prove beneficial to our island community. Additional burns will be taking place in the coming weeks in order to address all identified sections of the property that need to be cleared of excess vegetative matter. DIP&BB will be providing additional public notices on its Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/DIPBB](http://www.facebook.com/DIPBB)) while the website ([www.dauphinisland.org](http://www.dauphinisland.org)) will highlight ongoing efforts to protect and create a safe, healthy and more productive forestry.

## DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

### TOWN OF DAUPHIN ISLAND

1011 Bienville Boulevard  
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Phone: 251-861-5525

Fax: 251-861-2154

Website: [townofdauphinisland.org](http://townofdauphinisland.org)  
Monday-Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm



#### **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](mailto: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 **March 11 @ 4:00pm****

**DI Traffic School **March 4 @ 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)**