

Sunset Capital OF Alabama

# THE TOWN CRIER

### 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.

**INCORPORATED 1988** 

ISSUE 303 September 2024

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor
Jeff Collier
Council Members
Gene Fox
Trey Alderman
Earle Connell

Earle Connell
Rich Colberg
Shirley Robinson

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 1 Sunset Concert 530pm

Sept 5 Corks for a Cause

Sept 6 AL Seafood Cook-off & Celebration 6-9pm

Sept 7 Car & Craft Show

Sept 7 Hurricane 5K Run

Sept 8 Mystery Dinner Theater 530pm

Sept 12 Movie Night @ CC

Sept 13 ADI's Open House

Sept 14-15 7th Annual Massacre Island

Sept 15 Jazz & Jambalaya 5-7pm DI Comm. Ctr.

Sept 21 AL Coastal Clean Up

Sept 21 Free Boater Safety
Course

Sept 27 Movie Night @ CC

Oct 3 Movie Night @ CC

Oct 5 Market in Green Park

Oct 6-12 Fall Bird Migration

Oct 10 Flu Clinic 8am-Noon

Oct 12 Art Trail

Oct 13 Sunset Concert 430pm

Oct 19 Fort Gaines Fall Festival Fundraiser

Oct 24 Movie Night @ CC

Oct 26 Massacre Island
Haunted Bike Ride

Oct 26 41st Annual Renais sance GATALOP

Oct 30 Movie Night

Oct 31 Trick-or-Treat in Green Park

Nov 2 S'mores on the Shores

Nov 9 WWII Living History

Nov 11 DI Veterans Ceremony



**2024 Sunset Concerts Schedule Announced!** The always popular Sunset Concerts are continuing and the Town of Dauphin Island is excited to announce this year's remaining line up; 9/1 Rebecca Barry & Bust, and 10/13 Roman Street. All concerts will be held at historic Fort Gaines and admission is \$5 per person (free admission for children 12 & under). Bring lawn/beach chairs and blankets for seating.

Alabama Seafood Cook-off & Celebration Up to 10 select teams will be competing for a Golden Ticket to the 2024 World Food Championships on Friday, September 6 from 6-9pm here on the island and you're invited to attend. In addition to the competition that will be taking place outside of the new Community Center, you'll also want to step inside and enjoy live music by The Street Folks! Cook-off teams will provide tasty samples (and you'll help select the People's Choice Award) of various dishes and the town will supplement the menu with an array of delicious finger foods, tea & lemonade, while you are invited to bring your favorite beverages. Tickets are available on EventBrite or pay at the door. Admission is \$10 (\$5 children 12 & under). Mark your calendar and join us for an enjoyable evening without leaving the island!

**Dauphin Island Car & Craft Show** The Car & Craft show will be held in Cadillac Square on Sept. 7 from 10am-3pm. Along with Cars and Crafts, we will also have food trucks: Shaved Ice Paradise, La Taqueria and the Coconut Hut; live music featuring The Southern Fire Band, along with a bounce house and face panting for the kids! REGISTER on our website now to get the early registration discount! Each car entered will receive a raffle ticket to enter to WIN lots of prizes and gift cards! Trophies and prizes will be awarded to the favorite cars!

Alabama Coastal Clean Up Since 1987 over 110,000 volunteers have removed more than 889 tons of marine debris from coastal Alabama. This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 21 from 8am-noon and you're encouraged to participate. Zoey Hendrickson (<a href="mailto:zhendrickson@disl.org">zhendrickson@disl.org</a>) will serve as Zone Captain for Dauphin Island this year and we appreciate her willingness to lead the local clean up effort! Registration, cleaning supplies, and general information will be available at Green Park the morning of event. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Craig Greene with Haul It Off for donating use of a 30 yd. dumpster for collected debris disposal! Let's all come together and "get the trash out of the splash".

Jazz & Jambalaya! Zicky Hart, a young man with deep island roots and extraordinary musical talent, will dazzle you with his saxophone (accompanied by his band) at the new DI Community Center on Sunday, September 15 (5-7pm)! This is a one-of-a-kind concert featuring a variety of toe-tapping tunes and some delicious Shrimp Jambalaya and Chicken & Sausage Jambalaya (includes Green Beans, French Bread, Assorted Desserts, Tea & Lemonade) to tempt your taste buds. Attendees are encouraged to bring their favorite beverages. Admission is \$25 couple or \$15 per person, and \$5 for children 12 & under at the door. Looking forward to seeing you as we celebrate good music, good food & good friends!

Fort Gaines Hosting Events Fall is a great time to visit historic Fort Gaines and this year there are a number of events scheduled that will be fun for the entire family including; 9/14-15 The 7th Annual Massacre Island featuring pirates in period garb as they pillage and plunder Isle Dauphine while fighting against Spanish & British Galleons. You might even find a pirate's treasure! 10/19 Stop by for our annual Fall Festival for a fun filled day of food, games, music, a pumpkin patch, pie-eating contest and more. 10/26 Hosted by the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Barony of Osprey will present Life in the Middle Ages at the 41st Annual Renaissance GATALOP event. You'll see knights in armor as they storm the castle, view melees and sieges, and visit with Lords, Ladies, Artists, and Medieval Merchants. 11/9 Come and experience a day in the life of a WWII soldier as they perform drills throughout the day and demonstrate authentic camping at this Fall Campaign WWII Living History event.

**FREE Boater Safety Course** ALEA Marine Patrol is offering a FREE boater safety course at the DI Community Center on Saturday, September 21 from 9am-3pm and you are invited to attend. For additional information please contact <a href="mailto:richard.irsik@alea.gov">richard.irsik@alea.gov</a>.

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News From Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council Like & follow us on Facebook and Instagram and subscribe to our newsletter at www.dauphinislandarts.org to stay up to date on these and other events! Please note that our nonprofit service area is South Mobile County (Dauphin Island, Bayou La Batre, Coden, Theodore, Grand Bay, Irvington, St. Elmo), and classes are free to children (preschool - 5th grade) residing within these areas. Registration required to attend. Corks for a Cause: Supporting Art at The Carriage Sept. 5 @ 6-8pm. Help us fund our Preschool and Art After School programs for the 2024-2025 school year by coming to this fantastic event at The Carriage. Enjoy small bites, cash bar, live music, and a silent auction while ensuring art opportunities to youth in our community. Cost: \$35/person. Preschool Studio Arts with Instructor Terri Baker 2-Class Series: Sept. 11 & 18 @ 1-2pm. Ages 3-5. From finger painting to simple crafts, this class is designed to spark creativity and lay the foundation for a lifelong love of art. Art After School (K - 1st Grade) with Instructor Terri Baker Sept. 11 @ 4-5pm. Let your child explore the world of colors, shapes, and creative expression. Art After School (2nd - 3rd Grade) with Instructor Terri Baker Sept. 18 @ 4-5pm. In this dynamic course, young artists will discover the basic elements of art, explore various art styles, and experiment with exciting mediums. Students will learn the foundations of artistic expression. Art After School (4th - 5th Grades) with Professional Artist Odie Tucker Sept. 30 @ 4-5pm. From mastering brushstrokes to exploring color blending, this class promises a colorful adventure that will inspire a love for art in every budding artist. Basic Watercolors Painting with Professional Artist Odie Tucker Sept. 7 @ 1-3pm. Participants will create their own paintings based on examples provided in each class. Even if you are new to art, you will enjoy this creative experience. Cost: \$50. Art For All - Art Classes for Adults with Disabilities 3 Classes Available: Sept. 6, 13, & 20 @ 10-11:30am. An inclusive arts education program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Cost: \$20. "Songwriting for Non-Songwriters" with Singer/Songwriter/Poet Mike Turner 2-Day Workshop: Sept. 21 @ 10am-3pm & Sept. 22 @ 1-5pm. Got a tune rattling around in your head? Jotted down some lines that you think could be set to music? Let Mike teach you how to turn them into song! No musical experience required! Cost: \$60 Guitar, Bass, & Ukulele Lessons with Professional Musician Jake Reosti. Month-long weekly lessons: Sept. 3, 10, 17, & 24 @ 4-7pm. Guitar enthusiasts, take note! Introducing a special month-long series of Jake Reosti's popular beginner guitar, bass guitar, and ukulele classes in a new format. This series will take place every Tuesday in September and is perfect for anyone who has always wanted to strum their favorite tunes but didn't know where to start. Cost: \$80/per month. Open to adults and children ages 6 and older. Experience the Pottery Wheel 3 Sessions Available: Sept. 12 @ 10am-1pm, Sept. 15 @ 1-4pm, & Sept. 26 @ 10am-1pm. Join LeaAyn Shurley for a family-friendly pottery session! Create two pieces on the wheel, which we'll glaze and have ready for pickup in 4-6 weeks, or ship for an added fee. Cost: \$40/session. TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE CLASSES, please visit our website at www.dauphinislandarts.org and select your class. Please send a text message to (251) 219-0179 with any questions.

Market in the Park Stop by Green Park every Thursday from 9am-5pm and every second Saturday from 9am-3pm to see what the island has to offer! This event provides an outlet for local farmers, crafters, and island businesses to promote their products, rentals, services, and more. The fee is \$20 for crafters (business licenses required for businesses) and the money goes towards the Miss DI scholarship fund. If you would like to be part of the market please email mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org. Note: due to the Art Trail on October 12, the Saturday October market will be held on October 5. Make note of this change.

Dauphin Island Women's Club The DIWC is thrilled to announce our partnership with the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce for a fun-filled Mystery Dinner Theater, presented by the Mobile Mystery Dinner Theater on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, at 5:30PM. This exciting event will take place at the Dauphin Island Community Center. Tickets are \$65/person or \$450/table of 8. For ticket purchases visit www.facebook.com/diwcevents. Gather your spouse & friends for an unforgettable evening featuring an Italian menu and a cash bar. But the excitement doesn't stop there! The following evening, September 9th, at 5 PM, join the DIWC at the Welcome Center for our first annual meeting. Our local heroes from the Public Safety, Police Department, and Fire Department will be our special guest speakers. Come out and learn how they support us, as well as, how we can support those who keep our community safe. Don't forget to follow. www.facebook.com/diwcevents. Can't wait to see you there!

#### **Sea Lab Tidbits**

The Dauphin Island Sea Lab is excited to announce more improvements for the Alabama Aquarium. The latest renovations include a dynamic hands-on play environment featuring interactive boat, ocean, and lab-themed areas. This renovation is made possible with funds from the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GoMESA). Alabama Governor Kay Ivey announced the GoMESA-funded projects during a press conference Tuesday, August 13. The Manatee Sighting Network also received GoMESA funds to continue monitoring the migration of manatees along the Alabama coast.

Reading on the Ramp Our Welcome Center Library is continuing Reading on the Ramp focusing on children Pre-K through Grade 2. On Saturday, August 31 join us for a Dr. Seuss GREEN EGGS & HAM Party at the Welcome Center from 930am-1015am. We will also continue story time on TUESDAYS in SEPTEMBER (9/3, 10, 17, & 24) from 930am-1015am at the Welcome Center. Although we have a focus age group, ALL CHILDREN are welcome!

8th Annual Massacre Island Haunted Bike Ride A fun bike ride for a great cause! Help raise money for the Animal Rescue Foundation as we don our spooky costumes and decorate our bicycles for a 5 mile ride past some of Dauphin Island's most haunted spots! After the ride join us at Dority's for the awards ceremony, raffle drawings, dancing & live music by the Coastline band (\$5 admission for nonparticipants). Bike ride tickets (maximum 400) are \$20 and will ONLY be available online through EventBrite beginning August 31. NO last minute on-site registrations! No one under the age of 21 can participate in the bike ride but they are welcome to attend the festivities. Participants must arrive at Green Park by 5pm as the ride begins promptly at 6pm. Prizes will be awarded for Scariest Costume, Most Creative Costume, Best Group Costume, & Best Bicycle Decoration. Check the event page for additional info. Join us for a ghoulishly good time!

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Arts of Dauphin Island Our Gallery is a 501 (3) (C) Non-Profit Organization. All donations made to the gallery are used for the purpose of supplying free art projects for the children of Dauphin Island and South Mobile County and providing low-cost, affordable art classes for adults. We are located at 1101 Bienville Boulevard and are open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 11am-5pm. ADI features original paintings, pottery, photography, wood working, jewelry, fiber art and much more. ADI is proud to announce our next Open House is September 13 and all are now scheduled to be held every 2nd Friday Night of the month from 5-7pm. This month we welcome Acrylic artist Kim Gwin! Kim, a native of Mobile and self taught artist, uses bright tropical colors to recreate tropical birds, local sea life, flora and fauna as well as original beach scenes. So mark your calendar and make plans to join us, meet Kim and enjoy her beautiful work. The Youth Arts Program is scheduled for Thursday, September 12 from 3:30-5pm. ADI'S wonderful volunteer, Angela Gillis, will be leading this month's class. She will be instructing the children on the art of "Salt Painting". With the use of stencils, water colors, glue and salt, the children will be using fish, birds, and turtles as inspirations for this project. This event is FREE to children ages 5-18 and all supplies are provided. If your family is planning to vacation on the Island, and we are hosting our childrens art events during your stay, we would be more than happy to have them join in the fun. PLEASE RSVP TO ARTSOFDAUPHINISLAND@GMAIL.COM SO THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH SUPPLIES ON HAND. We're having a heat wave, a tropical heat wave therefore we will be suspending our Saturday Markets until this October. ADI is always seeking new artists to join our gallery. If you are a local artist and are interested in joining our gallery or if you would like to become a member or a volunteer, please call Marsha Barnett at 251-401-0230.

DIPOA News DIPOA would like to extend a special thank you to all members who voted and participated in the August Special Meeting & Election. Please send a warm welcome to our newest Board members: Sally Acuff, Donna Broach, and Jeremy Tousinau. We look forward to a successful year serving YOU and the Community for the betterment of Dauphin Island. Are you interested in getting more involved with your Association or do you have an idea for DIPOA? Reach out to Jennifer today at 251-861-3144 or office@dipoa.org. Stop by our office at Isle Dauphine and mention this article for a free coffee and sweet treat.

Hurricane 5K & Fun Run Sponsored by the Port City Pacers, the Annual Hurricane 5K & Fun Run will be held on Saturday, September 7 at 810am on the east end of the island. The race celebrates the recovery and reconnection of Dauphin Island to the mainland following the devastating impacts caused by Hurricane Frederic in 1979. The event starts and finishes at DI Sea Lab and includes a course that winds through east end streets and neighborhoods. Fun for the experienced runner and novice alike! Proceeds from the race support DI Fire & Rescue and Sea Lab. For more information visit the Port City Pacers website.

Town Hosting Multi-Vaccination Clinic The Town of Dauphin Island is partnering once again with Semmes Pharmacy to host a multivaccination clinic at town hall on Thursday, October 10 from 8am-noon. Vaccines available that day include flu, pneumonia, tetanus, Covid (subject to availability), RSV, hepatitis, and shingles. To register go to www.townofdauphinisland.org/fluclinic. It's that simple!

Art Trail 2024 The Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce, and co-sponsored by Arts of Dauphin Island, is proud to present the 10th Annual Art Trail to be held on Oct. 12 from 9am-4pm. There will be more than 50 artists from all over the Gulf Coast located at 11 locations throughout the island. This event is lots of fun with spectacular prizes. Walk, ride your bike or drive your cart and enjoy the day on beautiful Dauphin Island. Make sure you get your map stamped at all 11 locations to be part of the drawing. Prizes will be announced at 5pm at Arts of Dauphin Island on the corner of Lackland and Bienville Blvd. You do not need to be present to win. For additional information check out the Chamber of Commerce website.

Fort Gaines Fall Festival Fundraiser The fun is returning on October 19! Pumpkin patch, pumpkin pie eating contest, bounce house, petting zoo, face painting, paint-a-pumpkin, plus lots of tents to visit to play games and taste special treats! Like to decorate for Fall/ Halloween? Get signed up for a 10x10 tent space for only \$20 and join in on the fun! Decorate your tent and let your creative juices flow! You can decorate and hand out candy, offer games, make it a walk thru tent, SO many fun things to do! Also, don't forget to sign up for our food competitions! Let's see who has the best Fall treats (dessert), ooze (drinks), and brew (soup, chili, gumbo, etc.)! You can sign up for 1 or all 3 categories! Winners receive a trophy and the ultimate bragging rights! Registration forms are online at townofdauphinisland.org/ registration. All money raised will go to help support historic Fort Gaines!

Trick-or-Treating at Green Park On Halloween night from 5-7pm, kids can enjoy strolling thru the lighted trees & stopping at many spots throughout the park for some trick-or treating! Island residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for a "station" in advance so we can be sure to get you a good spot along our lighted pathway! Please email mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org to register and receive your station number!

More Movie Nights Summer movies on the beach may be over but movie nights aren't! We are excited to offer you some fall and winter movies. Most of these movies will be held at the DI Community Center. Here is the line up: Thursday, September 12 – Dirty Dancing (CC). The movie will start at 630pm and is for ages 18 and older; Thursday, September 26 @ 630PM - Sweet Home Alabama (CC); Thursday, October 3 @ 530PM– Come to a Character Meet & Greet and enjoy the movie Tangled (CC); Thursday, October 24 @ 6-8PM (CC)– It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown & Pumpkin Carving for kids (you must RSVP your child for the pumpkin carving by emailing mgodwin@town ofdauphinisland.org). Parents please plan to help your kids with their pumpkins; Wednesday, October 30 @ 6PM – Hocus Pocus at Green Park. Bring your own chairs and snacks; Friday, November 15 @ 6PM – Forest Gump (CC); Thursday, Dec 12 @ 6PM – Polar Express Movie Night, wear your PJs, and enjoy hot chocolate & cookie decorating (CC); Sunday, Dec 15 @ 530pm – It's a Wonderful Life (CC). Movies that are held at the Community Center will offer free popcorn and chairs will be provided. However, you are welcome to bring your own snacks and your own seating like bean bags, blankets, or anything you find comfortable. We hope to see you at the movies!

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DI School News School is back in session and students have returned to class for the 2024-25 school year. Here are a few important dates to remember for the month of September: September 2 - Labor Day Holiday, September 5 - DI Elementary Parent Title 1 Meeting 3:30 - 4: 30 pm, September 5 - Open House 4:45 - 5:45 pm, September 16 - Professional Development For Teachers - No school for students, September 24 - 27 - Book Fair, September 26 - Grandparent's Luncheon (More information will be sent home soon), and September 30 - Virtual Learning Day - No school for students.

Council Adopts New Bike Trail Ordinance Since construction of the Taylor Harper Hiking & Biking Trail in 1996 technology has simply outpaced the original ordinance created to manage use of this popular facility. With the seemingly endless supply of new "motorized vehicles" now on the market it became obvious that an update to the ordinance was needed to ensure public safety. At a recent meeting the Town Council adopted Ordinance 51-A which states in part "The bike trail may not be utilized for the operation or parking of any vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine or an electric motor" with the exception of Class 1, 2 & 3 Electric Bicycles as defined by Alabama Code 32-1-1.1(16) and vehicles specifically designed for use by individuals with a physical impairment. The ordinance also establishes guidelines when overtaking/passing others using the trail. The complete ordinance is available for review on the town website.

Island Receives GoMESA Funding Mayor Collier attended an event in Mobile recently where Governor Kay Ivey announced more than \$30M in GoMESA funded projects for coastal Alabama. Among the more than 20 different projects listed in this latest round of funding included at least five that were specific to Dauphin Island as follows; Middle Beach Parking & Access Improvements, Programmatic Dredge Permit, Sewer Collection System Improvements Project, Alabama Aquarium Exhibits, and DI Sea Lab Manatee Sighting Network. On behalf of the entire Dauphin Island community, we thank Governor Kay Ivey and Commissioner Chris Blankenship for funding these important projects and for the good work they do for the State of Alabama!

Thanks Greer's Markets! The final curtain has closed on the 2024 FREE Family Movie Nights but not before some 2500 spectators attended the 22 movie series making memories that will last a lifetime. Our sincere appreciation to our friends at Greer's Markets for agreeing to sponsor these popular events again this year!

Elevation Certificates Needed As the town continues its efforts to collect Elevation Certificates (EC) for all structures within the community and maintain compliance with the NFIP, we want to thank those of you who responded promptly following written notification to provide such documentation. Unfortunately, we still have a lot of work to do so many homeowners should expect to hear from us over the coming weeks and months until this matter is complete. Most homeowners will likely have an EC in their possession and we simply need a copy for our files. Otherwise, a new EC will be needed asap. Please contact our Building Inspection Dept. should you have questions or need further assistance.

# **TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Agenda Meetings: Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

Town Council Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6pm September 3 & 17

Planning Commission Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month 5pm

Board of Adjustment Meetings: 4th Monday of each month or as needed

DI Court: 2nd Wednesday of each month September 11 @ 2PM

DI Water & Sewer Authority Meetings: 3rd Friday of each month at 8am at the Authority

Office, 908 Alabama Ave. (251-861-2363)

<u>DI Property Owners' Assoc. Meetings</u>: Board meets at 6pm on the third Thursday of each month, except December, at Isle Dauphine. For specific information call 251–861–3144.



HURRICANE RE-ENTRY PASSES! Check your hurricane re-entry passes to make sure they are current.

## **DEPARTMENTAL LISTING**

Administrative (251-861-5525) Town Clerk Wanda Sandagger

Accounts Payable Jodie Potts Rental/Tax Clerk Jenny McLester

Building Dept License & Permits Bldg Official Ext 225 Ext 227

Bldg Inspector

Town Events

Wendy Crumley Terry Śhefflield Wes Stumbo

Ext 223

cell 251-257-6707 cell 251-234-7466

information for the community

of Dauphin Island! Please send an email to wcrumley@townofdauphinisland.org.

\*ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO

RECEIVE TOWN EMAILS?

Get on the mass email list for

updates on events and important

Community Center

Court

Court Clerk

Stacy Mallon

Public Works Dept. & Animal Control

Ext 221

Ext 222

**Event Coordinator** 

Maggie Godwin mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org

Manager

Superintendent James Stokes

Jill Pope

251-487-6110

251-313-2378

Police, Fire & Public Safety Chief of Police E.M.S. Director Fire Chief

Kym Claw Troy Gorlott Jeremy Castile

251-861-5523 251-207-9767 251-206-5626

Dumpsters: Fridays & Saturdays 8AM-Noon

1011 Bienville Boulevard Dauphin Island, AL 36528 Phone: 251-861-5525 Fax: 251-861-2154

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

#### REPORT IT DI

For general suggestions or concerns that do not require immediate attention or are not a police matter, please email:

reportitdi@townofdauphinisland.org and it will be handled at the earliest convenience.

To submit your request by phone, call: (251) 861-2101.