



THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED 1988
ISSUE 313 July 2025

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.

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor

Jeff Collier

Council Members

Gene Fox

Trey Alderman

Earle Connell

Rich Colberg

Shirley Robinson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 26 Family Beach Movie Night
June 27 Family Beach Movie Night
June 28 Sand Sculpture Contest & Ultimate Summer Games
June 29 Sunset Concert
July 3 Family Beach Movie Night
July 4 DIVA Ceremony @11AM
July 4 Fireworks @ 9PM
July 5 Family Beach Movie Night
July 10 Family Beach Movie Night
July 11 Family Beach Movie Night
July 12 Market in Green Park
July 14 Ribbon Cutting & Dedication at 10am
July 19 Market in Green Park
July 12 Glitz & Gold Gala
July 12 DIYAT
July 18-20 ADSFR
July 24 Family Beach Movie Night
July 25 Family Beach Movie Night
July 27 Sunset Concert
July 31 Family Beach Movie Night
Aug 1 Family Beach Movie Night
Aug 2 161st Battle of Mobile Bay Commemorative Day
Aug 2 Back to School Summer Splash Event
Aug 7 Family Beach Movie Night
Aug 8 Family Beach Movie Night
Aug 9 Island Luau
Aug 26 Municipal Elections
Aug 31 Sunset Concert
Sept 6 Car & Craft Show

*Family Beach Movie Nights are FREE and begin at dusk.



2025 Sunset Concerts Line-up With two of six concerts already in the books the 2025 season is off to a flying start. The town has contracted once again with Alabama Coasting to arrange the talent and manage the events that are held at historic Fort Gaines. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows; 6/29 - The Modern Eldorados, 7/27- Symone French & the Trouille Troupe, 8/31- Rebecca Barry & Bust, 10/12- Roman Street. Concerts begin approximately two hours prior to sunset and close with our traditional conch sounding by "King Conch & the Fritters" (AKA: Peter Tanner & concert attendees)! Admission \$5 (Free for children 12 & under).

Free Family Beach Movies Our very popular Free Family Movie Nights are once again sponsored by our friends at Greer's Markets. Movies are held at East End Beach and begin at dusk (weather permitting). Bring beach chairs, blankets and bug spray (just in case). The remaining summer line up is June 26- Despicable Me, June 27- Princess and the Frog, July 3- Jaws, July 5- Jaws, July 10- Lilo & Stitch, July 11- The Little Mermaid, July 24- Shark Tale, July 25- Finding Nemo, July 31- Moana, August 1- Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile, August 7-Dr. Dolittle, August 8- Yes Day.

Sand Sculpture Competition Come out to the East End of Dauphin Island on June 28 from 10am-Noon for the Island's second annual Sand Sculpture Competition! There will be demonstrations of techniques, utilization of tools and tricks by professional artist Jason Harwell with Sand Effects. Competitors will then be split into teams and use the remaining hours to complete their work of art. This will be followed by judging and announcement of the winners. Open to all ages! This is also the last series of the Ultimate Island Summer Games. Awards for both events will take place at Noon.

Glitz & Gold Gala Get ready for all the glam, glitz and gold! This gala is for ages 16 and older and is \$15/person. Dinner and dessert will be served and live music will be provided by the Southern Fire Band. Coolers are welcome. Come dance the night away at the DI Community Center on July 12 from 6-9pm. Proceeds to support future town events. Tickets can be purchased before the event at the Welcome Center & Town Hall, or purchased at the door.

It's Rodeo Time! Recognized as the world's largest fishing tournament, the 92nd Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo is just around the corner. Scheduled for July 18-20, this annual event attracts more than 4,000 anglers competing for top honors (and braggin' rights!) and 100,000 spectators over the course of the tournament which includes the always-popular Liars Contest on Thursday evening. Once again the Jaycees have put together a great line-up of musical acts (all FREE admission!) to entertain the masses throughout the event as follows; 7/17 The Wrong Terns 730-1030pm, 7/18 The Molly Ringwalds 7-9pm, 7/19 Hamilton Gardners 5-7pm, and July 20 The Big Reveal 3pm! The Roy Martin Young Anglers Tournament will be held on July 12.

Municipal Elections Update & Slate of Candidates The Town of Dauphin Island municipal elections will be held on Tuesday, August 26. Polls will be open from 7am-7pm at the Church of the Island and the list of candidates (in alphabetical order) is as follows; Mayor Jeff Collier (unopposed) Council Place 1 Suzanne Dumas/Gene Fox(I) Council Place 2 Trey Alderman(I)/Kevin Herrington Council Place 3 Earle Connell(I)/Jennifer Latour/Richard White Council Place 4 Harold Fischer/Marvin McInnis/Robert Sisk Council Place 5 David Cleveland/Eric Hiott. Note: (I) incumbent. Any required run-offs will be held on Tuesday, September 23. Political signs may be posted on private property (See Zoning Ordinance; Article 9 Sign Regulations for details) beginning July 13. The Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce will host two "Meet the Candidates" forums and we will share that information when it becomes available.

Let's Celebrate Independence Day! A spectacular fireworks display is on tap July 4 (9pm) as we celebrate our nation's birthday. The Town of Dauphin Island is proud to sponsor what should be the biggest & brightest pyrotechnics display in recent years & you'll definitely want to be there for the show! The display will launch from Middle Beach (next to DI School) which provides almost unlimited viewing from throughout our island community. Earlier that day, join the DI Veterans Association as they host the annual July 4 (11am) ceremony at Water Tower Plaza. Always a memorable event as we celebrate patriotism & the service members that defend & protect our freedoms.

**BLOOD DRIVE - July 11 @ the Welcome Center from 830am-430pm;
July 19 & 20 @ the Community Center from 830am-430pm**



News From Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council Make sure to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and subscribe to our newsletter at www.dauphinislandarts.org to stay updated! Splash into Summer with Youth Summer Art Camp! Looking for a fun way to keep your kids engaged this summer? Youth Summer Art Camp is the perfect creative outlet for your energetic young artists! This summer, we are offering exciting 2-Day Studio Art workshop sessions for both ages 4-7 and 8-12, plus a special Watercolors class for ages 8-12. Keep reading for all the details! Studio Arts: Ages 4-7 with Terri Baker 2-Day Workshop - Wednesdays & Thursdays at 9:30-11:30AM: July 16 & 17; 23 & 24; 30 & 31; Cost: \$25. Watercolors: Ages 8-12 with Odie Tucker, Mondays from 2-3PM: July 14 & 28. Cost: \$15. Spots fill fast, so don't miss out on these joy-filled summer experiences! Beginning Knitting with Heidi Sunday 2-Part Class: July 13 & 20 - 2-3PM. In this two-part beginner knitting course, you'll learn the basics: casting on, knit and purl stitches, binding off, and reading simple patterns. With guided instruction, handouts, and at-home practice, you'll be able to start a beginner-friendly project like a scarf, hat, or hand warmers. Each class meets for one hour per week. Cost: \$40. All materials provided. "Our Time" with Artist Carolyn Greene, 3 Classes Available: Fridays July 11, 18, & 25 - 10AM - 12PM. Looking for a way to express your creativity and connect with others? Our senior art class offers a relaxing space for active seniors 65+ to explore artistic activities like watercolors, with the option to try new things based on the group's interests. Musical experiences will be enjoyed as available. Cost: Free to residents of South Mobile County, \$20 for nonresidents. Basic Watercolors Painting with Professional Artist Odie Tucker Saturday July 19 - 1-3PM. In this fun and welcoming class for all skill levels, students will create their own watercolor masterpiece as they follow an example piece, guided step-by-step by artist Odie Tucker. No experience necessary—just bring your creativity! Cost: \$50. Pine Needle Weaving with Kim Ahola, 2 Classes Available: Tuesdays July 22 & 29 - 2-3PM. In this relaxed workshop, you'll learn the basics of pine needle weaving using natural materials like pine needles and shells. Perfect for beginners, this class explores traditional techniques and coastal textures. You'll leave with your own handmade piece—ideal as a keepsake or thoughtful gift! Cost: \$45. To sign up for any of the classes listed above, visit our website at www.dauphinislandarts.org. You can also find our events on our Facebook page. For any questions, send a text to (251) 207-3101.

Market in the Park Join us every Thursday 9am-5pm & 2nd Saturdays 9am-3pm at Green Park! This market provides an outlet for local farmers, crafters, artists, and island businesses to promote their products, rentals, services, and more. We are full for this summer and are not currently taking any new vendors. For more information please email mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org. Like & Follow us on the Market in Green Park Facebook page!

Share the Beach Litter Patrol Join the Share the Beach Litter Patrol team and help keep Dauphin Island litter free. Join for the year or just while on vacation. We earn funds for all hours patrolled that help buy supplies for our Sea turtle program. <https://forms.gle/bB8VcDAWPbxPC5qL7> or call (251) 861-1014 for more information. Alabama Coastal Foundation has partnered with Planet Green for Ink Cartridge recycling. Simply drop off used Ink cartridges to the Welcome Center or Town Hall and we will have them properly disposed of.

Beach Shack Offers Courtesy Shuttle Service As construction on the new Billy Goat Hole boat ramps continues, a new courtesy shuttle will be available to make the boat launch experience more convenient while improving pedestrian safety in the area. The Beach Shack, "Home of the Pink Golf Carts", has stepped up to offer a courtesy golf cart shuttle service Friday-Sunday (schedule subject to change based on demand and weather conditions). The town greatly appreciates this generous offer and encourages the boating public to utilize the service when dropping off or picking up trailered vehicles to expedite the launching process. Work on the Billy Goat Hole boat ramps is expected to continue into late July.

Congressman Barry Moore Offers Public Assistance The Town of Dauphin Island recently partnered with Congressman Barry Moore's office to provide in-person assistance at town hall on the second Tuesday of each month from 9am-11am. A representative will be on hand to help citizens with federal agency issues related to IRS, SSA, VA, Passports, etc. and no appointment necessary. This new service will continue throughout 2025.

Chris Blankenship Eco-Tourism Area Dedication Announced The Town of Dauphin Island is proud to announce a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony for the new Chris Blankenship Eco-Tourism Area will be held on Monday, July 14 at 10am and all are invited to attend this special occasion. The site is located on Eldorado Street and offers two observation boardwalks, car top kayak launch, picnic tables, and restroom facilities. The area is named in honor of Chris Blankenship, native islander and Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and in recognition of his many years of service to our island community and state of Alabama! Light refreshments will be provided.

Protecting the West End This Summer Summer is in full swing, and Dauphin Island's West End Nature Preserve remains a peaceful escape for visitors—and a vital habitat for endangered sea turtles, migratory birds, and other wildlife. If you're heading out to the West End, please take a few simple precautions: Stay near the shoreline, Avoid dunes and marked nesting areas, Leave pets at home, Pick up all trash, Keep lights and noise low. Boaters: Please avoid anchoring in seagrass beds, and be mindful of your wake near sensitive areas. Together, we can keep the West End safe, clean, and thriving for wildlife and for future visitors.

Pre-Storm Planning The Town of Dauphin Island is always looking for new ways to improve on our existing pre and post-disaster planning and implementation measures that can help reduce damage and shorten recovery periods. While much of the attention is focused on town readiness, we are also taking steps to inform and empower property owners as well to lessen the stress and inconvenience that can accompany these difficult times. For example, the town is developing a contact list containing a variety of services (ex. Electricians, Contractors, Plumbers, Tree Trimmers, etc.) to share with our property owners that are often in high demand immediately after a storm or hurricane. In addition, we are also creating an inventory of active insurance carriers that service the island including adjusters and more. Having this information in hand prior to an actual event should prove extremely beneficial. Note: Property owners are NOT required to use contractors from the list. However, all contractors MUST be licensed to do business on the island.

Council Sets Public Hearing Comments will be received on proposed changes to the current Red Clay and Construction Clay Ordinance 61 at a Public Hearing on July 14 at 430pm. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person please email comments to Town Clerk Wanda Sandagger at wsandagger@townofdauphinisland.org.



Arts of Dauphin Island Our Gallery is a 501 (3) (C) Non-Profit Organization. Donating to ADI helps support our efforts to supply free art projects for the children of Dauphin Island and South Mobile County. ADI is located 1101 Bienville Blvd. and we are open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am-4pm. While visiting our beautiful island and you want a special memento of your visit to paradise, or you need that one of a kind gift for that special someone, this is the place! ADI features local and regional artists providing original paintings, pottery, photography, wood working, jewelry, fiber art and much more. It's Summertime! Let the fun begin! Arts of Dauphin Island will be hosting a children's summer event every Monday in July from 10am-Noon. FREE to children ages 6-18 and all supplies are provided. We have LIMITED SPACE so please sign up early! RSVP to artsofdauphinisland@gmail.com, so that we have enough supplies on hand. ADI is actively seeking a paid part-time art teacher to plan and execute monthly events. All supplies and advertising will be provided by the gallery. If you are interested, please call Marsha Barnett at 251-401-0230. ADI's HOLLIDAZZLE Fund Raiser is scheduled for November 15, 2025, place and time to be announced later in the year. The Gallery will be suspending the Outdoor Market for the months of July, August, and September. If you are an artist or crafter and are interested in joining us this fall for our Outdoor Market please contact Dierdre Sanders at 442-465-8662. Tables are \$15 and Tents are \$25. ADI is 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.

Island Greetings from the DIPOA DIPOA would like to extend a special thank you to all members who voted and participated in the Annual Meeting & Election. Please send a warm welcome to our newest Board members: Caroline Fischer and Karen Entz. 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.

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee has reviewed the data collected from the survey and the public engagement event, collaborating with SARPC throughout the process. The introduction of the plan is nearing completion, and we are excited about the direction our community is heading. There's still time to share your ideas with us on the DI webpage. Simply navigate to the "DI PROJECTS" drop-down menu and select "COMPREHENSIVE PLAN". There, you can also review the survey data we have collected. Let's keep the momentum going, and thank you for your continued engagement!

The Dauphin Island Foundation We're sending a huge thank you to everyone who pitched in to make this year's island 4th of July fireworks celebration a fine one! Once again, our island community came together to help make something special happen. This spirit of unity is at the heart of all the Foundation's efforts—from the new DI Community Center and Little Red School House Welcome Center & Museum to the bike path and beyond. Want to be part of what comes next? Join us or donate to projects like the Two Pines Maritime Forest initiative, which supports pollinator gardens, the bluebird trail, and keeping our East End canopy of beneficial trees and understory plants, and more. Reach out at 251-861-3800.

THANKS Donors! The Town of Dauphin Island would like to recognize and thank the following individuals and businesses (in alphabetical order) that generously contributed funds in support of Heroes Week (HW) and the 2025 Fourth of July Fireworks Show (FS); HW - Buford Addy, Renee Cain, Captain Snapper's Restaurant, Dockside Seafood Restaurant, William & Teresa Herbst, Island Golf, Islanders Restaurant, Karen & Marliam Lee, Lith's Asian Cuisine, Lyons Law Firm, Jessica Mann, Shari Moon, Jerry & Janelle Roy, Michelle Sweatt. FS - A&L Trading, Beach Planet, Brisi Hall & Chris Provost, Islanders Restaurant, Island Fun Rentals, Kevin & Kim Loper, Lyons Law Firm, Sigsbee Homes, DeLane & Todd Sloan, Joan Smith, Thomas & Susan Thomas. Once again, we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to these generous donors and thank the Dauphin Island Foundation for accepting and managing these contributions on behalf of the Town of Dauphin Island!

One Year Later – the East End Beach and Dune Restoration Project It has been a year since the construction of the East End project and the "Year 1" monitoring results are in and all positive! Sand pumping ended in late March 2024 and all the vegetation plantings with sand fences were completed by August 2024. The Town has a formal, scientific monitoring program for the Project as part of the beach management plan. The "Year 1" results all indicate the project is performing very well. In fact, there was less movement of the new sand than was predicted in the design phase! About 92% of the 1.1 million cubic yards of new sand placed in early 2024 is still on the beach in the original project limits. Most of the remaining 8% is on the beaches to the immediate west of the project limits (west side of the DeSoto Landing neighborhood beaches). Almost all of the 700,000 plants (mostly sea oats) are alive, and, indeed, thriving. The small, hummocky sand dunes constructed behind the wide beach south of the Audubon bird sanctuary are growing due to wind-blown sand, particularly where sand fencing was placed. Detailed scientific measurements of the new beach indicate that the new sand is soft enough for sea turtle nesting should some try to nest there this summer. The primary reason is that the new sand was almost a perfect match, in terms of sand grain size distribution and content, with the native beach sands. The new sand beach was widened 300-400 feet during construction in 2024, and, a year later, the average width is about 25 feet less than the constructed width. The "Year 1" changes in beach width at both the west end of the project (basically in front of the condominiums) and at the east end of the project (the curved pocket beaches near the rock breakwaters southwest of Fort Gaines) are significantly less than were predicted in the design phase. This was due to relatively mild wave conditions (no hurricanes!) and some natural changes in Pelican Peninsula. Overall, the East End project looks great and is being used daily by residents, visitors and wildlife of all kinds. Some photos of the new beach and some of these monitoring results are summarized in a slide presentation that is on the Town's website.

Aloe Bay Harbor Town Update The town was awarded a RESTORE Grant of \$16M+ through the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council to support the island's economy and fiscal sustainability and the initial construction consisting of a new seawall and boardwalk facility will get underway later this year. Specifically, this site is between the Putt-Putt and Patronas Park along Desoto Avenue. Additional planned work will include enhanced streetscape and other related improvements.



"Back to School Sales Tax Holiday" While students have only recently finished the 2024-25 school year, state officials are already reminding parents of the annual Sales Tax Holiday that runs from July 18-20 this year. During this time, certain non-commercial purchases related to school clothing and a host of other supplies are exempt from state sales and use tax. In addition, county and some municipal taxes (including Dauphin Island) are also waived for eligible items during this three-day period. For more information visit revenue.Alabama.gov.

Weight Watchers at the Welcome Center on Wednesdays. Weigh-in 5:30-6pm followed by a 30 minute workshop focusing on tips and techniques for success. Bring your phone and join us on a journey to a healthier lifestyle.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library puts books into the hands and hearts of children across the world. The Dauphin Island Foundation is proud to partner with this wonderful organization to provide specially-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality books each month to registered children from birth to age five. Go to www.imaginationlibrary.com to register online. This website also provides great parent resources, downloadable activity sheets, and ideas on how to encourage a child's love for reading. Questions: contact Terri Kirkman at tkirkman56@gmail.com

Backyard Citrus Tree Care Caring for backyard citrus trees on Dauphin Island is a rewarding endeavor, and Alabama Extension is here to help residents get the most out of their trees. Citrus trees like satsumas, lemons, and kumquats thrive in our coastal climate, but they still require proper care to stay healthy and productive. Common issues such as yellowing leaves, fruit drop, or twig dieback can often be signs of disease, nutritional deficiencies, or environmental stress. Alabama Extension provides a wide range of research-based resources to assist homeowners in identifying and treating these problems. You can visit www.aces.edu to find publications on citrus fertilization, pruning, pest management, and seasonal care. The website also offers guidance on how to submit plant samples if you suspect your citrus tree may be suffering from a disease and also soil testing information. Early diagnosis can make all the difference in restoring a tree's health and productivity. To further support the community, Alabama Extension is partnering with the Town of Dauphin Island to plan a Homeowner Citrus Workshop this fall. This event will provide expert advice tailored to our local growing conditions. Topics will include selecting the right citrus varieties, managing cold protection, understanding pest and disease threats, and improving soil health around your trees. Whether you're new to citrus or have been growing it for years, the workshop will offer something for everyone. Be on the lookout for announcements about the date and location as details are finalized. Alabama Extension is proud to support the residents of Dauphin Island in growing strong, healthy citrus trees right in their own backyards. For questions or additional support, please reach out to your Mobile County Extension office at (251) 574-8445.

TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

Agenda Meetings: Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

Town Council Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6pm **July 1 & 15**

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 **July 9 @ 2PM**

DI Water & Sewer Authority Meetings: 3rd Friday of each month at 8am at the Authority Office, 908 Alabama Ave. (251-861-2363)

DI Property Owners' Assoc. Meetings: 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	Ext 225
Accounts Payable	Jodie Potts	Ext 227
Rental/Tax Clerk	Gina Bush	Ext 222

Court

Court Clerk	Stacy Mallon	Ext 221
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Community Center

Manager	Jill Pope	251-487-6110
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Public Works Dept. & Animal Control

Superintendent	James Stokes	251-313-2378
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Building Dept.

License & Permits	Wendy Crumley	Ext 223
Bldg Official	Terry Sheffield	cell 251-257-6707
Bldg Inspector	Wes Stumbo	cell 251-207-9287

Town Events

Event Coordinator	Maggie Godwin	mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org
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Police, Fire & Public Safety

Police	Lt. Noel Stowe	251-861-5523
E.M.S. Director	Troy Gorlott	251-207-9767
Fire Chief	Jeremy Tousinau	251-610-6827

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

*ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO RECEIVE TOWN EMAILS?

Get on the mass email list for updates on events and important information for the community of Dauphin Island!
Please send an email to wcrumley@townofdauphinisland.org.

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.

