

THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED 1988
ISSUE 315 September 2025

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor

Jeff Collier

Council Members

Gene Fox

Trey Alderman

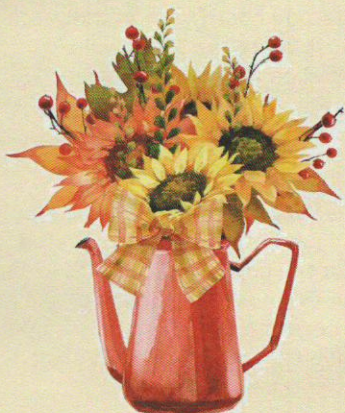
Earle Connell

Rich Colberg

Shirley Robinson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 29 Last Friday Art Night
Aug 31 Sunset Concert 530PM
Sept 3 Meet the Chief 530-730pm
Sept 4 Corks for a Cause
Sept 6 Car & Craft Show
Sept 6 Hurricane 5K Run
Sept 8 Womens Club Meeting
Sept 13 Market in Green Park
Sept 13-14 Massacre Island
Sept 20 Coastal Cleanup 8am-Noon
Sept 24 Flu Clinic 8AM-Noon
Sept 25 BINGO
Oct 5 Sunset Sizzle Coastal
Cookoff
Oct 11 DI Art Trail
Oct 12 Sunset Concert 430PM
Oct 13-18 Bird Banding
Oct 18 Ft. Gaines Fall Festival
Oct 18 Outdoor Market
Oct 22 Citrus Tree Seminar
Oct 25 41st Renaissance
Oct 31 Trick or Treat
Nov 3 Swearing-In Ceremony &
Organizational Meeting
Nov 7 Jazz & Jambalaya
Nov 8 Fall Campaign WWII
Nov 8 S'mores on the Shores
Nov 15 Hollidazzle
Dec 5 Miss DI Christmas Pageant
Dec 6 Christmas Parade



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.

2025 Sunset Concerts Line-up The town has contracted once again with Alabama Coasting to arrange the talent and manage the Sunset Concerts that are held at historic Fort Gaines. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows; 8/31- Rebecca Barry & Bust 530pm, 10/12- Roman Street 430pm. 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).

Historic Fort Gaines Hosting Events You'll definitely want to visit historic Fort Gaines in the coming months as multiple family friendly events will be taking place. First, the 8th Annual Massacre Island is a two-day event on September 13-14 featuring pirates as they pilfer and pillage Mobile Bay and historic Isle Dauphine while fighting against Spanish and British Galleons. Circa 1711, Pierre LeMoyne's forces came upon a pile of human bones leading to the naming of Massacre Island. Stop in for a visit. You might even find a pirate's treasure! The annual Fort Gaines Fall Fundraiser will be held on October 18 and everyone is invited to take part in a fun-filled day of activities including food, games, music, a pumpkin patch, and pie eating contest! The following week you'll want to be here for the 41st annual Renaissance GATALOP hosted by the Society of Creative Anachronism. The Baron of Osprey will present life in the Middle Ages including knights in armor as they storm the castle and perform melees and sieges. Visit with Lords, Ladies, Artists, and Medieval Merchants during this popular event! On November 8, experience the Fall Campaign WWII Living History event. Be there as soldiers in period garb reenact drills throughout the day, demonstrate authentic camping, and more!

Dauphin Island Car & Craft Show The 10th annual Dauphin Island Car & Craft show will be held in Cadillac Square on Sept. 6 from 10am-3pm. Along with Cars and Crafts, we will also have food trucks: Guys Grill, Twist Sushi & Real Fruit Creamery, live music featuring The Southern Fire Band, along with a bounce house and face painting for the kids! Crafters and car owners are encouraged to 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! If you are a business and would like to help sponsor this event please contact Town Hall.

"Meet the Chief" Event Set Join us as we officially welcome our new Police Chief Mathew Emlich to Dauphin Island! The town is proud to sponsor the Meet & Greet at the Community Center on Wednesday, September 3 from 530-730pm. Come say hello to Chief Emlich while enjoying a delicious assortment of hors d' oeuvres and beverages. Mathew and his wife Jenn will officially become island residents by the end of September.

Island Voters Elect New Council Members More than 760 voters participated in the 2025 municipal elections that were held on August 26 and the results were as follows; Council Place 1 Suzanne Dumas, Council Place 2 Trey Alderman, Council Place 3 Jennifer Latour, Council Place 4 Hayden Sisk, Council Place 5 David Cleveland. Congratulations to the Council members-elect and to each of the candidates that stepped forward to serve our barrier island community. The official swearing-in ceremony for the newly-elected mayor and council members and Organizational Meeting will be held on Monday, November 3 (time & place TBA).

Fort Gaines Fall Festival Fundraiser The fun is returning on October 18! 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!

BLOOD DRIVE—September 12 @ the Welcome 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! “Corks for a Cause” – Tickets On Sale Now! Sept. 4 – 6-8PM at The Carriage. Corks for a Cause is a fundraising event supporting free art classes for local children in preschool through fifth grade. Tickets are \$40/ person and include fine hors d’oeuvres and decadent desserts by Executive Chef Suzanne Phillips, a cash bar, live professional music, and stunning sunset views from the deck. Experience the Pottery Wheel with Elizabeth Van Antwerp: Sept. 4 - 10AM-1PM, Sept. 7 – 1-3PM, Sept. 28 – 1-3PM. All ages are welcome as each guest creates two pottery pieces on the wheel. Family Studio Arts with Maggie Godwin & Marie Sisk Sept. 24 - 11:30AM-12:30PM. Families will enjoy age- appropriate projects that spark curiosity, build developmental skills, and create lasting memories in our welcoming studio. Art After School (K - 1st Grade) with Terri Baker Sept. 10 – 4-5PM. In this class, students will dive into the world of colors, shapes, and imagination through fun, hands-on art projects. Art After School (2nd - 3rd Grade) with Terri Baker Sept. 17 – 4-5 PM. Students will experiment with new techniques, express their creativity, and bring home a unique masterpiece of their own. Art After School (4th - 5th Grade) with Artist Odie Tucker Sept. 3 – 4-5PM. From brushstrokes to color blending, students will explore creative expression on paper and discover the joy of painting through a fun, colorful adventure. Muddy Mondays with Potter Elizabeth Van Antwerp: Sept. 8, 15, & 22 – 1-4PM. Explore hand building, wheel throwing, and decorating. Beginning Knitting with Heidi Sunday: Sept. 14 & 21 – 2-3PM. In this 2-session beginner knitting course, you’ll pick up the essentials. “Our Time” with Artist Carolyn Greene: Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26 - 10AM – 12PM. 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. Basic Watercolors Painting with Artist Odie Tucker, Sept. 20 – 1-3PM. In this fun and welcoming class for all skill levels, students will create their own watercolor masterpiece as they follow an example, guided step-by-step by artist Odie Tucker. Pine Needle Weaving with Kim Ahola, Sept. 23 – 2-3PM. 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! Register for any of the classes above at www.dauphinislandarts.org or by visiting our Facebook events page. For questions, text (251) 207-3101.

Market in the Park Join us every Thursday 9am-5pm & 2nd Saturdays 9am-3pm at Green Park! No Saturday market will be held in October due to the Art Trail. This market provides an outlet for local farmers, crafters, artists, and island businesses to promote their products, rentals, services, and more. 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 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.

The Dauphin Island Women’s Club The Dauphin Island Women’s Club is excited to announce our first meeting of the season on Monday, September 8, at 5pm! Doors will open at 4pm for socializing, drinks, and yummy bites. We are thrilled to announce that our new meeting location is the lower level of Isle Dauphine—made possible by the incredible generosity and support of the Dauphin Island POA and Pirate’s Bar and Grill, who are graciously providing this beautiful space for us to enjoy! We are beyond grateful! This gives all of us plenty of elbow room to spread out and enjoy one another’s company. Our guest speakers for the evening will be Mayor Jeff Collier and POA Manager Jennifer Moore Perry, who will provide community updates followed by a Q&A. Guests are welcome—bring your friends and spouses! Membership sign-ups for the 2025/2026 season will be open, and it’s only \$35 for the year. We have an exciting year planned and can’t wait to share it with you! And more great news—Bingo is back, baby! Join us on Thursday, September 25, at 5pm at the DICC (doors open at 430pm) for a night of food, drinks, fun, and fabulous prizes. This year we’re rolling out lower card prices and bigger prize money, so be sure to arrive early to grab your seat!

DI Bridge Repair Update Contractors have started receiving materials at their lay-down area at Alabama Port and moving forward with additional prep work. Actual work on the bridge is currently expected to begin in October although that timeline is subject to change. We will continue to share updates as provided by ALDOT and appreciate their cooperation as repairs to the DI Bridge get underway in the near future.

Bienville Beach Officially Opens The new Bienville Beach, located near the Bienville Blvd. and Pirates Cove Street intersection, recently opened to the public. The project consists of a parking lot and restroom facility on the north side of Bienville and boardwalk on the south side which also includes approximately 7 acres of land preserved as critical habitat. As such, beachgoers must utilize the boardwalk to avoid damaging these sensitive areas when visiting the site. Soon, additional fencing and signage will be installed along the Bienville Blvd. right-of-way to further protect the area. This project was made possible through a grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (south of Bienville) and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (north side of Bienville). The town expresses its sincere appreciation for these generous contributions!

Haunted Bike Ride Join us for the annual Haunted Bike Ride for a “paw-some” cause on October 25 benefiting the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF)! This 5-mile Halloween-themed bike ride begins at Green Park at 6pm (riders should arrive at 5pm for judging of decorated bikes and costumes) and travels past some of the island’s most haunted sites before returning to Dority’s for the post-ride festivities including live music by Coastline Band, raffle drawings, ARF merchandise table, and some ghoulishly good fun! Riders must be 21 years of age or older and participants will be awarded prizes in the following categories; Scariest Costume, Most Creative Costume, Best Group Costume, and Best Decorated Bicycle. Tickets are \$25 per person (includes Bike Ride & after party) and are only available through Eventbrite beginning August 30. NO onsite registration and participants are limited to 400. A howling good time awaits!



Arts of Dauphin Island ADI is located 1101 Bienville Blvd. and we are open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am-4pm. If you're visiting our beautiful island and 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. Exciting news! ADI will be hosting not one, but two Children's Art Programs for the month of September on the 11th & 25th. Cathy Havard of Dauphin Island Real Estate has graciously provided a tent during Art Trail. This will give the children an opportunity to engage with the community, to present their art to the public and offer their work for sale. For the September 11 project we will be making various whimsical items using pine cones. On September 25 we will be creating colorful sun catchers to hang in your window. We have LIMITED SPACE so please sign up early! RSVP to artsofdauphinisland@gmail.com, so that we have enough supplies. Don't forget to save the date! ADI's HOLLIDAZZLE Fund Raiser will be held on November 15, place and time to be announced later in the year. On October 18 our Outdoor Market will be back after our summer break. 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. 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.

DI Sea Lab Before you head out on the water, make sure to check out the current water conditions on the DISL Alabama Real Time Coastal Observing System App. The app is free to download. Information is updated every 30 minutes. For the latest happenings, visit disl.edu/events.

Island Greetings from the DIPOA DIPOA is working on a number of maintenance and improvement projects during the late summer season, and we are seeking volunteers to help. Do you have a heart to serve? Are you looking for an area to give back to your community? Join like-minded volunteers that wish to pour some love into OUR Association and it's beautiful properties. We are seeking individuals that would like to invest their time & talents for the betterment of Dauphin Island. If you are interested in serving on one of our volunteer committees, please reach out to Jennifer Perry at 251-861-3144 or office@dipoa.org. Every effort counts, and there are many areas and ways to contribute. Contact Jennifer today for a role that fits best for you and stop by our office at Isle Dauphine for a coffee and sweet treat.

Coastal Cleanup Approaching/Thanks Haul It Off! The 38th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, September 20 from 8am-noon and hundreds of volunteers from throughout the region will join forces to "Get the Trash Out of the Splash"! Since its inception the event has attracted more than 110,000 volunteers and removed nearly 900 tons of litter and marine debris from Alabama shorelines and coastal areas. Dauphin Island's Zone Captain this year is Sea Lab Graduate Student Association representative Gabrielle Davis. The town appreciates her willingness to coordinate registration and distribution of cleaning supplies that will take place at Green Park. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Craig Greene, owner of Haul It Off, for donating a 30 yard dumpster for this year's event! If you'd like to help clean up areas in and around the island please contact Gabrielle at msgso@disl.org.

Hurricane 5K Run The Port City Pacers will host the annual running of the Hurricane 5K on September 6 at 810am on the east end of the island. The race celebrates the recovery of Dauphin Island from the devastating impacts caused by Hurricane Frederic in 1979. Proceeds will go to support DI Fire & Rescue and DI Sea Lab. So lace up your shoes and get ready to join in on the fun. Visit the Port City Pacers website for more info.

Sunset Sizzle Coastal Cookoff Join us for the "Best of Hall's Sausage" Anniversary Chef Challenge on Sunday, Oct. 5 from 12-4pm – at Green Park. The Sunset Sizzle Coastal Cook-Off for a Cause will focus on Coastal Alabama food providers, meaning Baldwin and Mobile Counties. Teams will compete in a People's Choice contest by providing samples featuring their favorite Coastal food (examples could include local farm raised oysters, Bill-E's Bacon, Mason Hill's meat, Alabama Gulf Shrimp, etc.). People's Choice voting will be by tokens picked up at the registration table (There is no entry fee, but attendees need to check in to receive their voting token). The Best of Hall's Sausage Contest will feature up to ten teams in a JUDGED competition to decide which team delivers the Best use of Hall's Products. Each team will pay a \$100 entry fee but will then receive \$100 in product from Hall's. These teams will also compete in the People's Choice contest. Additionally, area non-profits are invited to participate and promote their upcoming food-based fundraisers ... Cajun Cook-Off, Chili Cook-Off, etc. Of course, these teams can enter the People's Choice Contest as an additional way to promote their event. Music will be provided throughout the day. Prizes for Best of Hall's will be 1st Place \$400; 2nd Place \$300 & 3rd Place \$200. Prizes for People's Choice will be 1st Place \$300; 2nd Place \$200 & 3rd Place \$100. Hosts include Town of Dauphin Island, South Mobile County Tourism, and Alabama Coasting. Special thanks to Senator David Sessions and Representative Chip Brown for supporting this tasty event! Want to compete ... contact Danny Calametti (danny@alabamacoasting.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaCoasting/>. The event is FREE to the public! Enjoy live music while sampling some delicious food.

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.

Flu Clinic Set The town is sponsoring its annual flu clinic on September 24 8am-noon this year. The clinic will be held in the council chambers at town hall and will offer a variety of immunizations including flu, tetanus, pneumonia, covid, shingles, and more. Health screenings will also be available. Please visit the Town's website to pre-register and secure an appointment. Otherwise, walk-ins are welcome.



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

Homeowner Citrus Workshop Join us on October 22 at the Dauphin Island Town Hall from 3:00-5:00 PM to learn how to successfully grow and care for citrus trees in your own backyard. This free workshop will cover many aspects of citrus care including planting, fertilizing, pruning and managing diseases. You can register for this workshop at <https://www.aces.edu/go/5297>. Space is limited so register early. This workshop is provided by the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service through Auburn University.

Fall Bird Banding Returns to Dauphin Island! Join researchers from Alabama Audubon and DCNR to see migrant birds up close before they continue their southward migration. Bring your cameras and enjoy unparalleled access to the researchers and their work, with up-close-and-personal views of some amazing birds in the bird sanctuary (211 Bienville Blvd.). They will be in the "banding area" that is shown on the kiosk maps (30.249765, -88.082771) from 7am-3pm October 13-17 and from 7am-Noon on October 18th.

Paving the Way Selected streets throughout the island will soon receive a new layer of asphalt thanks to our friends at Mobile County and the Pay-As-You-Go road program. The work is expected to take place sometime during the next 45-60 days and will include the following streets; DeSoto Avenue (LeMoyne to Key), Buchanan (Bienville to Conde), Chenault (Albright to Alvarado), Alvarado, Albright, and the following streets will only be paved between Bienville Blvd. and Cadillac Avenue including Pascagoula, Pelican, Penalver, Penicault, Pensacola, Perdido, Pirates Cove and Port Royal. Please avoid these areas when you see construction in progress.

Volunteers Clean East End Beach The Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association organized a "beach sweep" recently to remove trash and marine debris from the newly-restored East End Beach. Some three dozen volunteers participated in the event. The town expresses its sincere appreciation to the ASBPA for selecting Dauphin Island as one of four locations in this campaign!

County Provides Worn Flag Retirement Box Do you have a worn, tattered, torn, or faded U.S. (or other) Flag? If so, stop by the town hall lobby and deposit it into the box for proper disposal. Flags should be folded respectfully before being placed into the container. The Mobile County Sheriff's Office will be responsible for proper disposal of worn flags.

TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

Agenda Meetings: Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

Town Council Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6pm **September 2 & 16**

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 10 @ 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

Community Center

Manager Jill Pope 251-487-6110

Public Works Dept. & Animal Control

Superintendent James Stokes 251-313-2378

Building Dept.

License & Permits Wendy Crumley Ext 223
Bldg Official Terry Sheffield cell 251-257-6707

Town Events

Event Coordinator Maggie Godwin mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org

Police, Fire & Public Safety

Police Chief Matt Emlich 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.

