



THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED 1988
ISSUE 292 October 2023

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor

Jeff Collier

Council Members

Gene Fox

Trey Alderman

Earle Connell

Rich Colberg

Clinton Collier

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 28 Market in Green Park
Sept 29 Blood Drive
Sept 29 Last Friday Art Night
Oct 1 Movie at the Fort
Oct 4 Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing 5PM
Oct 5 Market in Green Park
Oct 8 Arts of DI Open House
Oct 9 DI Women's Club 5pm
Oct 12 Market in Green Park
Oct 14 Market in Green Park
Oct 15 Sunset Concert
Oct 19 Market in Green Park
Oct 19 DIPOA Meeting
Oct 21 Fort Gaines Fall Festival
Oct 26 Market in Green Park
Oct 26 Movie in the Park
Oct 28 Renaissance Festival at Fort Gaines
Oct 28 Witches Ride
Oct 29 Movie in the Park
Oct 31 Trick-or-Treat in Green Park
Nov 2 Market in Green Park
Nov 4 WWII Living History
Nov 4 S'mores on the Shores
Nov 10 DIVA Fundraiser
Nov 11 St. Francis Fall Bazaar
Nov 11 DIVA Veterans Day Ceremony 11AM



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.

2023 Sunset Concert Series Finale As the curtain closes on yet another enjoyable season of Sunset Concerts sponsored by the Town of Dauphin Island, we're excited to announce the talented brothers known as Roman Street will be in concert at historic Fort Gaines on Sunday, October 15 at 430pm! Always an uber popular event, you'll want to get there early to get up close and personal with this musical dynamic duo. Don't forget to bring lawn and/or beach chairs. Admission is \$5 per person age 13 & up. See you there!

Movies at Fort Gaines Dress up as your favorite T-Bird or Pink Lady and head on over to historic Fort Gaines to watch the iconic movie "Grease" on Sunday, October 1 at dusk! Sponsored by the Town of Dauphin Island, attendees are encouraged to bring beach/lawn chairs, blankets, and bug spray (just in case). A special prize will be given to the best dressed and Horton's Snack Shack will be serving delicious treats like pulled pork sandwiches, nachos, ice cream, frios & more! Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

Thank you to our Sponsors Thank you to everyone who donated and supported our Car & Craft Show this year! O'Reillys Auto Parts and Island Chevron & Grill were our gold level sponsors and were also featured on our shirts. The other businesses that contributed to this event were Dinner's Ready, Lighthouse Bakery, Islanders, Pirates Bar & Grill, Captain Snapper's, Island Time Nutrition, the Silver Pearl Gifts & Art, The Sandbox, Dauphin Island Medical Group, Arts of Dauphin Island, Dauphin Island Art Gallery, Micro-comm Telecommunications, and Computer Resource! T-shirts are still available for sale at Town Hall and are \$20.

Fort Gaines Fall Festival Fundraiser The fun is returning on October 21! Pumpkin patch, pumpkin pie eating contest, bounce house, plus lots of tents to visit! 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! Registration forms are online at townofdauphinisland.org/registration! All money raised will go to help support historic Fort Gaines!

40th Annual Renaissance Festival GATALOP 40 Hosted by the Society of Creative Anachronism, on October 28 the Barony of Osprey will present Life in the Middle Ages. You will see Knights in Armor as they storm the castle, and view melees and sieges. Visit with Lords, Ladies, Artists, and Medieval Merchants. Fun for the entire family!

Halloween Movies in the Park This year the town is hosting two Halloween movies at Cadillac Square. The first one on October 26 will feature The Witch, viewer discretion advised. This movie is not for the faint of heart! On October 29 our family friendly movie special feature will be Ghostbusters: Afterlife. Please bring chairs, blankets, and snacks. Movies start at dusk.

Trick-or-Treating at Green Park On the night of Halloween from 5-7pm, kids can enjoy strolling thru the lighted trees & stopping at many spots throughout the park for some trick-or-treating! Please 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 sign up and receive your station number!

S'mores on the Shores Campfires, live music and all of the makings for s'mores will be the scene on the East End Beach on Saturday, November 4 from 5-7pm. Families are encouraged to bring their blankets, chairs and join in on the fun and relax on the beautiful white sand of Dauphin Island. This event is sponsored by the Town of Dauphin Island and admission is free.

Fall Campaign WWII Living History Event Come and experience a day in the life of a WWII soldier on November 4. The soldiers will be performing drills throughout the day; there will also be authentic camping. Fun and educational for the entire family!

Dauphin Island Elementary would like to thank everyone for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair. The proceeds will go towards the purchase of new library books. Here are some upcoming dates to remember: 10/6 - 1st Quarter Ends, 10/9 - Teacher Workday (No school for students), 10/12 - Grandparent's Day Lunch, 10/13 - Picture Day and 10/16 - Statewide Parenting Day.



News From Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council Last Friday Art Night is back September 29 from 6-9PM! Art demo by artist Carolyn Greene, food, drink, open mic featuring local musicians and guest guitarist/guitar instructor Jake Reosti. 7TH ANNUAL GULF SEAFOOD GALA Save the date! December 2 from 6-9PM at the Alabama Aquarium at DI Sea Lab—tickets are on sale now at \$70/person! Come indulge in delectable Alabama gulf seafood and desserts! Guests will enjoy live entertainment, a full cash bar, and a silent auction of local art and experiences. Proceeds benefit DIHAC, a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible. Thank you to our sponsors—Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission and Mobile County Commission. Tickets available at DI Gallery (918 Bienville Blvd), via text at 251-490-0294, or online at www.dauphinislandarts.org. Please note that our nonprofit service area is South Mobile County and classes are free to children (preschool - 5th grade) residing within these areas. Preschool Studio Arts with Artist John Halliday October 3, 10, 17, & 24 – 10-11AM. Ages 3- 5. In this 4-class series John will teach how to paint with watercolors, oil pastels, acrylics, and more. Registration is required in order to attend the following: Art After School (4th - 5th Grades) with Artist Odie Tucker October 4 – 4-5PM. Odie will teach the students how to paint with watercolors. Art After School (K - 1st Grade) with Terri Baker October 11 – 4-5PM. Terri will teach the students the basic elements of art, various art styles, and mediums. Art After School (2nd - 3rd Grade) with Terri Baker Wednesday October 18 – 4-5PM. Terri will teach the students the basic elements of art, various art styles, and mediums. NEW SERIES! Handbuilding Pottery Class: Birdhouses with LeaAyn Shurley October 5 – 10AM-12PM. During these classes we transform clay slabs into your unique pottery project. Cost: \$50, open to adults 18 +. Handbuilding Pottery Class: Votive Holders, October 12 – 10AM-12PM. Handbuilding Pottery Class: Platters & Dishes, October 19 – 10AM- 12PM. Handbuilding Pottery Class: Christmas Trees, October 26 – 10AM-12PM. Art Classes for Adults with Disabilities with Artist Carolyn Greene Fridays October 6, 13, & 20 – 10-11:30AM “Art for All” is an inclusive arts education program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 18+. Basic Watercolors Painting with Artist Odie Tucker, October 7 – 1-3PM. Open to all levels of art experience. Cost: \$50. Pottery Paint & Sip Party: Wine & Stein with Potter LeaAyn Shurley, October 21 – 6-8PM. Come join us for a fun night of painting, laughing, and creating! Each guest will get to choose from a hand made pottery wine glass or beer stein. Cost: \$50 – All materials provided. Snacks provided or bring your own. This event is a BYOB event and 21+. November 4: Pottery Paint & Sip Party: Christmas Trees & Gnomes Classes for adults and children. Piano Lessons with Instructor Emma Holm October 6, 13, & 20 – 4-7PM. The lessons are for adults and children aged 6+. Cost: \$105 for three (3) 30-minute private lessons. Experience the Pottery Wheel with LeaAyn Shurley, October 8 – 1-4PM. It is designed for everyone, all ages are welcome. Each guest will complete two pottery pieces. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost: \$40. TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE CLASSES, please visit our website at www.dauphinislandarts.org and select your class. You may also send a text message to 251-490-0294 or view our events on Facebook.

Market in the Park Stop by Green Park every Thursday from 1-5pm and every second Saturday from 9am-2pm 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 with a current DI business license or island address 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.

Draft Zoning Ordinance Update, Public Hearing Set It has taken some time but the latest draft of the Zoning Ordinance was advertised to the public as of August 17 in preparation for the Public Hearing scheduled for October 4, 2023 at 5pm at Shelby Hall (DI Sea Lab). At first glance the document will appear larger than the previous version and that's because items stricken from the text currently remain to highlight specific changes that were made during the Town Council review process. Once adopted those items will be deleted leaving a slightly thinner finished product. In addition, new and/or added text will also appear in red print to aid the reader in identifying these most recent edits. We hope you will take time to familiarize yourself with the draft Zoning Ordinance in advance of the Public Hearing. We look forward to your collective input.

DI Fire & Rescue Members of DI Fire & Rescue proudly recognizes Officer Branden Murphy, Public Safety Officer Maizee Powers and Volunteer Firefighter Shana Poole for their prompt response and heroic actions during a recent house fire. Together, they were able to successfully rescue an occupant and the family dog from the burning structure. Our sincere thanks to you and your fellow first responders for keeping our island safe! DI Fire & Rescue is currently accepting applications from both men and women eager and willing to serve our island community. Finally, the department wants to remind us that a burn ban remains in place through October 31 due in part to the dry conditions.

DI Veterans Hosting Events The Dauphin Island Veterans Association has scheduled the annual fundraising auction at the Pelican Pub on Friday, November 10 at 7PM. As always, the group appreciates any and all donated items and contributions in support of this enjoyable evening of fun and fellowship for a great cause. By the way, November 10 (1775) is also the Marine Corps' Birthday! You'll also want to join DIVA for their Veteran's Day ceremony at Water Tower Plaza on Saturday, November 11 at 11am. Always a patriotic and solemn ceremony.

St. Francis Episcopal Church Fall Bazaar It's almost time for the annual Fall Bazaar at St. Francis Episcopal Church and you'll definitely want to check out the festivities this year. The event will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 9am-2pm at the church located on Key Street. Vendors/crafters are invited to set up on church grounds (12'x12' space) for \$30. No registration required just arrive by 8am. The church will host its popular White Elephant Sale and be selling their famous Chicken Salad, Hot & Sweet Pickles (the Mayor's favorite!), scrumptious sausage on a bun, and a bake sale featuring lots of pies and other delicious desserts. If you have any items to donate for the White Elephant Sale please contact Cissy Napper at 318-548-4376. Someone will meet you at the church to help unload furniture or other large household items. All proceeds go to our local charities.



Arts of Dauphin Island Our Gallery is located at 1101 Bienville Boulevard and we are open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 11am-5pm. ADI features original paintings, pottery, photography, wood working, jewelry, fiber art and much more. Our Sunday Afternoon Open House will be held on October 8 from 3-5pm. Local musician Ken Harrelson will be performing and our "FEATURED ARTIST" this month will be Deb LaTour. Deb is a very accomplished acrylic artist whose vibrant paintings encompass the wonderful diversity of the island and surrounding area. Our October Youth Arts Program is scheduled for October 12, 3:30- 5pm. Our teacher for this month will be Carol Case. The theme for this month's project will be all about Halloween. The students will be using the Zen tangle doodling activity to make pumpkin designs. They will also create a spider web design using black card stock and white markers. All supplies are provided and it's FREE to children aged 5 - 18 (younger ones might need help from their guardian). If any adults would like to join in the fun, we ask for a \$10 donation that is used towards The Youth Arts Fund. Please RSVP to Artsofdauphinisland@gmail.com so that we have enough supplies on hand. Exciting news about our Outdoor Market! The Outdoor Market will now be held on Saturdays instead of Sundays from 10am-4pm. If you are a craftsperson or artist and are interested in participating in our Saturday Market, please contact Laurie Schaerer at 251-232-4470 for details. Vendors are required to sign a contract with ADI as an associate member and are responsible for all State and Local taxes. The cost is \$25/tent or \$15/table. ADI's Adult art classes are full at this time, but follow us on Facebook for any openings we may have in the future. The cost is \$10/ lesson, all supplies included. 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 Is there an area of expertise, a talent or interest you would like to share with the DIPOA? There are many areas in which your input could be utilized and appreciated. Make a positive connection with other property owners through volunteering. The webpage, www.dipoa.org, connects you with areas that will save time and provide valuable information. Permit fees and membership dues can be paid online. Property owners can update their contact information by calling Brandi in the office or online. Through the web, you can learn more about the association, properties included in the association and the value of membership. Check out the webcam showing gulf and bay fun. Office hours are M-Th, 10am -4pm, 100 Orleans in Isle Dauphine, 251-861-3144. The mailing address is PO Box 39, DI, AL 36528; web is www.dipoa.org. Regular Board meetings are held at 6pm the 3rd Thursday of each month, Lower level of Isle Dauphine. Prior to each scheduled meeting or special meeting, an invitation to join the meeting will be sent by email. You can attend in person or access through internet. Please attend the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 19, 2023.

Sea Lab Tidbits The DI Sea Lab Foundation will host the Eleventh Annual Marine Environmental Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, from 11:30am-1pm at the Riverview Plaza Hotel. This will be a wonderful luncheon featuring keynote speaker Dr. Charlie Rolfsky. Awards will also be presented to John Shell and the Downtown Mobile Alliance, who have made outstanding contributions to marine environmental sustainability in the Alabama Gulf Coast Region. To see what's happening at the DI Sea Lab visit disl.edu/events.

Public Beach Parking Changes Coming The town has been in discussions with ParkMobile for about a year and recently contracted with the company to provide service for the town's three public beaches (East End, Middle & West End). The plan is to initiate the widely used Parking Payment System later this fall/winter to allow users ample opportunity to familiarize themselves with the new program in advance of the busy spring and summer seasons. The system affords multiple self-payment methods that are both easy and convenient. Informational signage will be placed at each parking lot location to ensure proper compliance. Dauphin Island residents/property owners with appropriate parking decals will continue to enjoy free parking in these areas.

Island Projects Update (1) The East End Beach & Dune Restoration Project team has finalized engineering plans and all permits are in hand to place more than 1 million cubic yards of sand along approximately 1 1/2 miles of shoreline. The town successfully secured funding for full construction from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund and the NFWF National Coastal Resilience Fund. Work is expected to begin in late 2023 and extend into the first quarter of 2024(+/-). (2) The town also secured funding from GOMESA and NFWF ECRF to design, permit, and construct two living shorelines in Aloe Bay; one adjacent to the wastewater treatment facility and future ecotourism site and the another will be between the new Desoto Avenue Boat Launch and the DI Airport. A permit application was submitted to the Corps and full design deliverables will be completed by December 2023. (3) The town continues to work with its engineering team to design alternatives to nourish/restore the west end of the island. The entire process could take several years to design, engineer, permit, and secure construction funding. Coastal change and modeling tasks have been completed and field investigations are underway including survey, geotechnical investigations, and cultural resource assessments. (4) Repairs to the East End Pier should be completed by November 2023 while repairs to the Middle Beach Pier are currently out for bid.

Bumpity, Bump Those routinely traveling westbound across Salt Creek Bridge have probably noticed a pronounced bump at the transition area where the Bienville Blvd. asphalt meets the concrete bridge slab. Recently, the town hired a local contractor to make repairs and the ride is now a smoother one. Yes, we were tempted to have the same contractor make similar repairs at the north end of the DI Bridge but that is the responsibility/jurisdiction of ALDOT. We've notified the agency multiple times about that significant bump but officials tell us it has not reached the stage that repairs are necessary. We'll stay on that issue.

Dauphin Island Women's Club We had a fabulous first meeting in September with a great amount in attendance and the appetizer table was scrumptious. We were honored to have Jeff Collier, our much loved Mayor, open our meeting. He shared his appreciation for all the work of our Club and generous giving. Friends, our next meeting is going to be so exciting. Sarah Johnson, our Sea Turtle expert will be sharing some exciting news about our growing nests. Come join us on October 9, at 5pm at The Welcome Center. Bring a friend and dress in your favorite Fall Costume if you like. Annual dues are \$35. Happy Fall, Y'all!



Two New APPs Available The town App is now available! Please download it for FREE to stay informed on events, meetings, updated emergency information and all things Dauphin Island! Mobile County now has a new mobile alert system as well! By texting MOBILEALERT to 226787 anyone can register to receive information, emergency alerts or other important messages.

Parking Permit Requirements The Town issues permanent and temporary parking permits at the Police Department at no cost to eligible applicants. Permanent stickers (affixed to rear window of vehicle) are issued to island property owners only and requires one or more of the following items: Valid driver's license, vehicle registration, current utility bill (water or electric), and proof of residency (property deed or current paid property tax receipt). Permanent stickers for company-owned vehicles are only issued to the actual company owner. Similar documentation must be provided for all new issues and replacements. A limit of two permanent passes are available per household and offer free admission to town-owned public beaches. Temporary parking permits (placards to be placed on driver side dash) are available to guests/visitors of property owners and require the following items: Valid driver's license, vehicle registration, rental/lease agreement or statement from host property owner. Temporary passes are issued for the planned duration of the visit only, provide access to permit parking areas on four court streets along Bienville Boulevard west, but do not provide free access to town-owned beaches. In order to expedite the permit process we strongly recommend you have all required documents in hand prior to arrival. Applications can also be submitted via email to ppereida@townofdauphinisland.org. We greatly appreciate your cooperation & understanding in this matter.

Welcome Center Offers Music Stop by the Welcome Center every Friday from 130-330pm as local musicians get together for a relaxing afternoon while playing some of your favorite tunes. The events are free to the public. Bring your instrument to join in on the fun!

Post-storm Building Repair Process Although the 2023 hurricane season should be winding down soon, property owners are reminded that only temporary/emergency repairs are allowed post-storm until the structure is inspected for "substantial damage" (damage in excess of 50% of the appraised value). Contact the Building Inspection Dept. for additional information.

Council Adopts 2023-24 Budget October 1 begins a new fiscal year for the Town of Dauphin Island and with it comes the need to develop and adopt an annual budget. The Town Council met in regular session on September 19 and unanimously approved a draft budget totaling \$8,064,750 which included pay raises for all employees and establishment of a \$1M reserve fund for future emergency needs. A copy of the approved budget is available on the town website for review. In addition, the council also approved an updated pay scale for all positions that should help attract and retain quality employees.



Sunset Capital of Alabama

1011 Bienville Boulevard
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528
Phone: 251-861-5525
Fax: 251-861-2154
Website: townofdauphinisland.org
Monday-Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm

DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

Administrative

Town Clerk
Wanda Sandagger
251-861-5525 Ext 225

Admin. Clerk /Magistrate
Joyce Wentworth Ext 227

Court Clerk
Stacy Mallon Ext 221

Parks & Recreation Dept.

Director
Sherry Cain 251-861-3607

Public Works Dept.
Superintendent
James Stokes 251-313-2378
Animal Control

DUMPSTERS
Fridays & Saturdays
8AM-Noon

Building Dept.

Business License & Permits
Jenny McLester Ext 222

Bldg Inspector Ext 224
Terry Sheffield cell 251-257-6707
James Brown cell 251-234-7466

Town Events

Event Coordinator
Maggie Godwin mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org

Dauphin Island Police Dept.

Chief of Police
Chief Kym Claw 251-861-5523

Public Safety

E.M.S. Director
Troy Gorlott 251-207-9767

TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

Agenda Meetings: Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

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

Meetings: October 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 **October 11 @ 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.

*ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO RECEIVE TOWN EMAILS?

In order to keep our property owners, citizens and visitors better informed, the Town maintains a mass email list for the prompt and convenient distribution of upcoming events and matters of importance to our community. If you are not already on the list please contact Jenny McLester at jmcles-ter@townofdauphinisland.org.

It's just that easy!



HURRICANE RE-ENTRY PASSES!

Check your hurricane re-entry passes to make sure they are current.