



# THE TOWN CRIER

INCORPORATED 1988  
ISSUE 293 November 2023

## TOWN COUNCIL

**Mayor**  
Jeff Collier  
**Council Members**  
Gene Fox  
Trey Alderman  
Earle Connell  
Rich Colberg  
Clinton Collier

## 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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 5-7pm  
Nov 2 Market in Green Park  
Nov 4 WWII Living History  
Nov 4 S'mores on the Shores  
Nov 5 Daylight Saving Time ends  
Nov 9 Market in Green Park  
Nov 9 Island Projects Meeting  
Nov 10 DIVA Fundraiser Auction  
Nov 11 St. Francis Fall Bazaar  
Nov 11 Island-wide Yard Sale  
Nov 11 DIVA Veterans Day Ceremony 11AM  
Nov 18 Hollidazzle  
Nov 16 Market in Green Park  
Nov 23 Happy Thanksgiving  
Nov 30 Market in Green Park  
Dec 1 Christmas Pageant 7pm  
Dec 2 Christmas Parade 11am  
Dec 2 Lights of Dauphin Island  
Dec 17 Celebrate Christmas  
Dec 21-Jan 1 Christmas Break—Town Hall Closed  
Jan 1 New Years Day 2024!

**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 at historic Ft. Gaines!

**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. Free admission!

**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](mailto: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 while relaxing 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 at Ft. Gaines. The soldiers will be performing drills throughout the day; there will also be authentic camping. Fun and educational for the entire family!

**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, Nov. 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, Nov. 11 at 11am. Always a patriotic and solemn ceremony.

**St. Francis Episcopal Church Fall Bazaar** 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. To donate items 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.

**Islandwide Yard Sale** The Saint Edmund Catholic Church Altar Society is sponsoring its annual Islandwide Yard Sale on Saturday, November 11 from 8am-2pm. Donations for the sale will be accepted at St. Edmund Hall on Nov. 7 & 8 from 9am-noon and on Nov. 9 from 3-6pm or by special appointment call Kathy Smith at (256) 457-4941 or Susan Dubey (251) 327-7043. You are also encouraged to set up your own yard sale and applications are available at the Welcome Center or by email at [connieroan66@gmail.com](mailto:connieroan66@gmail.com).

**Lights of Dauphin Island!** Businesses, individuals, churches, social clubs, neighborhoods and more are encouraged to sponsor and decorate a tree at Water Tower Plaza as part of the Lights of Dauphin Island 2023! Sponsored by the DI Chamber of Commerce, tree sponsorships this year are \$150 and you can register and pay online at [www.dauphinislandchamberofcommerce.com](http://www.dauphinislandchamberofcommerce.com). Let's all come together to make this Christmas merry & bright!

**Ready to Start Parading?** Luckily you don't have to wait until Mardi Gras to be in a parade! The Dauphin Island Annual Christmas Parade is December 2 at 11am and we want YOU to join us! Email [mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org](mailto:mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org) to signup and be at Cadillac Square for lineup no later than 10am!







**News From Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council** Make DIHAC your first stop to trick-or-treat this year by joining us at “LFAN” Oct. 27 from 6-9PM! Come in costume to participate in the costume contest for all ages and get the little ones’ faces painted. Enjoy delicious food & drink and sign up for open mic! **7TH ANNUAL GULF SEAFOOD GALA**- Dec. 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 in a wonderful environment! 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](http://www.dauphinislandarts.org). Please note that our nonprofit service area is South Mobile County (DI, 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—see links on [www.dauphinislandarts.org](http://www.dauphinislandarts.org) and on our Facebook events pages, or send a text to 251-490-0294. **Preschool Studio Arts** with John Halliday Nov. 7, 14, 21, & 28 – 10-11AM. Ages 3-5. In this 4-class series, students will learn how to paint with watercolors, oil pastels, acrylics, and more. A parent/guardian must accompany 3-year-olds. **Art After School** (4th - 5th Grades) with Odie Tucker, Nov 8 – 4-5PM. Odie will teach how to paint with watercolors. **Art After School** (2nd - 3rd Grade) with Instructor Terri Baker. Nov 15 – 4-5PM. Terri will teach the basic elements of art, various art styles, and mediums. **Art After School** (K - 1st Grade) with Instructor Terri Baker Nov, 29 – 4-5PM. Terri will teach the basic elements of art, various art styles, and mediums. **Classes for Adults: Handbuilding Pottery Class:** Votive Holders with LeaAyn Shurley, Nov. 2 – 10AM-12PM. We teach you the methods used to design and customize your pieces! Cost: \$50. **Art For All** - Art Classes for Adults with Disabilities with Artist Carolyn Greene Nov. 3, 10, & 17 – 10-11:30AM. “Art for All” is an inclusive arts education program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. **NEW CLASS! Intro to Native American Beading Workshop** Nov. 4 – Session 1 – 8:30AM-12:30PM, Session 2 – 1-5PM. Join us for “Introduction to Native American Beading” taught by Bridgette Sullivan, a member of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians! In these 4 hour sessions, you will learn to bead feather earrings using the brick stitch technique. Cost: \$70 **Pottery Paint & Sip Party: Christmas Trees and Gnomes** with Potter LeaAyn Shurley Nov. 4 – 6-8PM. Come join us for a fun night of painting, laughing, and creating! Make a hand made pottery wine glass or beer stein! Cost: \$50. Snacks provided or bring your own. Alcohol is welcome, BYOB event and 21+. **Basic Watercolors Painting** with Artist Odie Tucker Nov 11 – 1-3PM. Participants will create their own paintings based on examples provided. Cost: \$50. **Adults and Children Piano Lessons** with Instructor Emma Holm Nov. 3, 10, & 17 – 4-7PM. Open to ages 6 and older. Cost: \$105 for three (3) 30-minute private lessons. **Experience the Pottery Wheel** with LeaAyn Shurley Nov 12 – 1-4PM. Join LeaAyn for this one-time fun experience with clay! All ages are welcome. Each guest will complete two pottery pieces on the wheel. Cost: \$40. TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE CLASSES, please visit our website at [www.dauphinislandarts.org](http://www.dauphinislandarts.org) and select your class. You may also send a text to 251-490-0294 or view our events on Facebook.

**Market in the Park** Stop by Green Park every Thursday from 11am-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](mailto:mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org). Please note, no Market on Nov. 23.

**DI Airport Closed for Repairs** The town recently received notification from Mobile County that the island’s airport would be closed for repairs for up to two months beginning October 16. During this time the access road and parking lot will also be off limits when work crews are on site. Please avoid the area until repairs are complete.

**Miss Dauphin Island Christmas Pageant** We are now accepting applications for our 2023 pageant that will be held on December 1 at 7pm! Applications can be found online at [www.townofdauphinisland.org/registration](http://www.townofdauphinisland.org/registration) or pick up a copy at Town Hall. Applications must be turned in NO LATER THAN November 17. Practice begins on Monday, November 27 at 5:30pm.

**Dauphin Island Women’s Club** is ready for “Fall ON THE ISLAND”! It is such a beautiful time of the year. It began last weekend with the Fall Festival at the Fort. DIWC had a tent with a trick or treat game that brought many smiles. We are “thankful” for all of our members and hope to see you and your guest at our next meeting, Monday, November 13 @ 5PM. We will have our cookbooks for sale, DIWC presents “Cooking on the Coast”... they make wonderful gifts just in time for the holidays. We are thankful for our island and look forward to a time of “Friendsgiving” at our meeting!

**Island Projects Update Public Meeting** The Town of Dauphin Island is hosting an informational meeting to update our citizens on the status of numerous projects both on and around the island. The event will be held at the Shelby Center (DI Sea Lab) on Thursday, November 9 from 6-8pm and all are encouraged to attend. Zoom will be provided for the initial presentations on each project but will not offer access to the individual tables and representatives stationed there. Projects such as Restoring Little Dauphin Island/Government Cut Channel/Breach Repair, East End Beach & Dune Restoration, DI Wastewater Treatment Facility, Aloe Bay Living Shorelines, West End (uninhabited portion) Shorebird Conservation & Habitat Management Plan, Billy Goat Hole Improvements, DI Causeway, and more will be on the list for discussion. This will be the perfect opportunity to get the latest updates on a variety of unique projects that are being implemented on and around our barrier island community. Please plan to attend!

**DIPOA News** On September 30 the DIPOA held a Fall Festival for the membership. There were over 65 property owners enjoying the festivities. The food was fabulous, kids enjoyed the pool, milkshakes & bubble wands. Watch for more POA events!





**Arts of Dauphin Island** Our Gallery is located at 1101 Bienville Boulevard and we are open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am-4pm (The hours have changed due to Daylight Savings Time). ADI features original paintings, pottery, photography, wood working, jewelry, fiber art and much more. The **Youth Arts Program** is scheduled for November 9 from 3:30-5pm. This month's project will have the children painting pre-cut Thanksgiving themed decorations such as pumpkins, scarecrows and cornucopias. 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](mailto:Artsofdauphinisland@gmail.com) so that we have enough supplies on hand. Our annual "**Hollidazzle**" fundraiser will be held on November 18 from 6-9 pm at Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Shelby Hall. The price per ticket is \$45. Come out and enjoy a fabulous night with friends! Meet and mingle with our artists, enjoy live music, silent auction, great food and above all.....wonderful art. This is a fantastic time to enjoy a fun party and pick up some Christmas presents as well! Due to our Hollidazzle event, the gallery will not be hosting our regular 2nd Sunday Open House, but will resume our **Open House** on December 10 from 3-5pm. The "**Outdoor Market**" will be on Saturday, November 18 from 10am to 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/per 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.

**Sea Lab Tidbits** The Alabama Aquarium at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab celebrates our First Responders with free admission Saturday, October 28 through Friday, November 3. Also, you can give the gift of adventure this holiday season with a Friends of the Sea Lab membership to the Alabama Aquarium. For more information visit [sealabfoundation.org](http://sealabfoundation.org) or stop by the Alabama Aquarium. We also invite you to our Boardwalk Talks on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. See what's happening at [disl.edu/events](http://disl.edu/events).

**East End Restoration Update** The Town of Dauphin Island recently opened bids from qualified marine contractors for construction of the East End Beach and Dune Restoration Project. This project will restore and enhance the habitat of the East End by nourishing and expanding the 2015-16 beach project. It will also create new vegetated dune habitat and will include sand fencing that will contribute to future dune growth. The sand for the new beach will be dredged from a source 4.5 miles offshore by the marine contractor, Weeks Marine, who is expected to begin mobilizing in December. Construction is expected to last until spring or summer 2024. This project is being funded by grants through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (NFWF GEBF), National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) and by FEMA disaster-assistance funding. For more information regarding this upcoming project please visit the Town's project website and/or attend the Town's public information meeting on Nov 9, 2023 from 6-8pm at Shelby Hall at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

**Community Center Update** Work on the new Community Center is progressing at a fast pace with estimated completion sometime later this calendar year. Not only is construction ramping up but improvements including sound system, tables & chairs, kitchen equipment, and flooring is also moving forward. The building should serve our island community well for many years to come!

**Town Creates ReportItDI Hotline** For the past year the town has contracted with a company called Granicus to assist with the overall identification and management of rental properties here on the island. As part of its services, Granicus also provided a 24-hour hotline to receive reports/complaints specifically about rental units. While that system seemed to function well for rental property issues, we also saw the need for our citizens to have access to a broader reporting system that could serve as a clearinghouse for all matters of importance. The new 24-hour ReportItDI phone number is 251-372-4326 and should be used when reporting NON-EMERGENCY items. Please make note of this new temporary number. A permanent number will be forthcoming.

**Mardi Gras, Already?** Although good ol' St. Nick won't arrive on the island for almost another couple of months, it's never too early to look ahead to carnival season! The 2024 Mardi Gras parades will be here before we know it as this year's events will be held on January 13 (Krewe de la Dauphine) and January 20 (People's Parade), both with a 1pm start time. In fact, applications to participate in the People's Parade are available on the town's website (along with rules/regulations) so be sure & get yours in early. Deadline for entries is Jan. 12. Serving as Grand Marshal this year is "The Perky Pelicans"! Note: The Krewe of Salty Paws is Jan. 27 and the MISS Parade is Jan. 28.

**Council Sets Public Hearings** Two Public Hearings are scheduled for Monday, November 6 (prior to the Council Agenda Meeting) to receive comments on proposed changes to Ordinance 60H (an Ordinance adopting technical building codes and supplemental provisions) at 4pm and Ordinance 20 (an Ordinance adopting litter controls) at 430pm. The first revision aims to reverse the current use of OSB (Oriented Strand Board) as a roofing material for homes and other structures. The change would enhance the existing building codes and strengthen future construction methods. The proposed changes in Ordinance 20 would simply alter the length of time trash receptacles can remain roadside both prior to and following collection. The recommendation would allow 24 hours for each. The Public Hearings will be held in the council chambers.

**Celebrate Christmas** Dauphin Island Baptist Church will host an event to "Celebrate Christmas" as we focus on the theme of Emmanuel—God with us. The night of worship will feature guest artists from Samford University, DIBC's children's choir, and other local artists. Together they will present Christmas classics and recent hits such as "Names" and "Gratitude." The event is open to the public and will be held on December 17 at 6 pm. For questions, please call 251-861-5124.





**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.

**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 is be winding down, 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.

**West End Bird Plan Update** The Town of Dauphin Island and Mobile County are completing the development of the Dauphin Island West End Bird Conservation and Management Plan. Funding for this effort was provided by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement through the Alabama Trustee Implementation Group. The Plan is intended to guide future implementation of management activities for the uninhabited West End area of the Island with the goal of protecting and increasing nesting bird populations while enhancing habitat quality and availability. A project update will be provided at the upcoming Dauphin Island Projects Informational Meeting on Nov. 9 from 6-8pm at DISL and the draft Plan will be released for public review and comment at the end of November. Please keep an eye on the Town's website and social media channels for the official release of the draft Plan.

**Causeway Breakwater Project A Go** Mobile County Commission will be constructing the Dauphin Island Causeway Shoreline Restoration project in the coming months. Three miles of the Causeway from Cedar Point to Bayfront Park will be getting added protection and habitat creation. Over the next six months (October through March) you will see access channels being dug and then 150,000 tons of rock being laid to form a segmented breakwater. This work will be completed from the water on large barges. All precautions are in place to avoid oyster reefs. In the spring/summer 2024, sediment will be placed behind these breakwaters to form marsh habitat. Any questions can be directed to Mobile County Environmental Services 251-574-3229. See this Mobile County news story for more information: <https://www.mobilecountyal.gov/latest-news/dauphin-island-causeway/>

**Fall Back!** Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on November 4 and get ready for some early sunsets over the next few months!



*Sunset Capital of Alabama*

1011 Bienville Boulevard  
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Phone: 251-861-5525

Fax: 251-861-2154

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

## DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

### Administrative

Town Clerk  
Wanda Sandagger  
251-861-5525 Ext 225

Admin. Clerk /Magistrate  
Joyce Wentworth Ext 227  
Bailey Hogue Ext 223

### Court

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

### 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](mailto: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

**DUMPSTERS**  
Fridays & Saturdays

## TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Agenda Meetings:** Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

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

**Meetings: November 7 & 21**

**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 **November 8 @ 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](mailto: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.