



THE TOWN CRIER

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ISSUE 317 November 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

Suzanne Dumas

Trey Alderman

Jennifer Latour

Haden Sisk

David Cleveland

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 31 Last Friday Art Night
Oct 31 Trick or Treat
Nov 1 Fleet Feet Mobile Beach Clean-up
Nov 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov 2 Medical Clinic Fundraiser
Nov 3 Swearing-In Ceremony & Organizational Meeting
Nov 4 Agenda & Council Meeting
Nov 8 Fall Campaign WWII
Nov 8 St. Francis Fall Bazaar
Nov 8 Island Yard Sale
Nov 8 Market in Green Park
Nov 8 S'mores on the Shores
Nov 10 DI Women's Club
Nov 11 Veterans Day Ceremony
Nov 15 ADI Outdoor Market
Nov 15 Hollidazzle
Nov 21 Blood Drive
Nov 27 Happy Thanksgiving
Dec 5 Miss DI Christmas Pageant
Dec 6 Christmas Parade
Dec 6 Christmas Market
Dec 6 Christmas Tree Lighting
Dec 25 Merry Christmas
Jan 1 Happy New Year
Jan 17 KDLD Parade 1PM
Jan 24 People's Parade 1PM
Jan 31 Salty Paws Pet Parade
Feb 1 MISS Street Tableau



Swearing-in Ceremony, Organizational Meeting Set The newly-elected Mayor and Town Council will officially be sworn in on Monday, November 3 (5pm) at the DI Community Center and all are invited to attend. A reception including an assortment of tasty treats and beverages will be provided following the swearing-in ceremony. The council will host its Organizational Meeting at 6pm and it is open to the public. The 2025-29 officers will include; Mayor - Jeff Collier, Council Place 1 - Suzanne Dumas, Council Place 2 - Trey Alderman, Council Place 3 - Jennifer Latour, Council Place 4 - Haden Sisk, Council Place 5 - David Cleveland. Please join us as we celebrate our next administration! Note: The new council will also hold its first regular Agenda Meeting and Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 4 at 5pm & 6pm respectively.

DI Bridge Repairs Underway Contractors have started work on the DI Bridge rehabilitation project with completion anticipated by early 2029. Motorists should expect daily lane closures in the work zones including one-lane signalized flagging operations during closures. Drivers are urged to slow down (45mph) and follow posted signs. ALDOT appreciates everyone's patience and attention to safety while crews make these important improvements. Cost of repairs will exceed \$33M.

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

Medical Clinic Fundraiser— Fund the Future: One Scan at a Time Join us on November 2, from 12-4pm at Dority's, as we come together to raise funds for a much-needed ultrasound machine. A \$10 entrance fee per person will include a full meal of homemade chicken and sausage gumbo, potato salad, french bread, and desserts, as well as music by local Dauphin Island Musicians! Bring your wallets for silent auction items, card draw auctions, and other fun fundraising activities. Enjoy an afternoon of community, connection, and compassion - all for a vital cause. Dauphin Island Medical Group- The Bridge to Better Health!

St. Francis Episcopal Church Fall Bazaar It's that time of year again and you'll definitely want to stop by the St. Francis Episcopal Church for the annual Fall Bazaar on November 8 from 9am-2pm! Browse the white elephant yard sale, check out the many arts & craft vendors on site, sample their delicious chicken salad sandwiches, scrumptious sausage on a bun, hot & spicy pickles, and tempt your tastebuds at the bake sale featuring homemade pies, cakes, and holiday goodies! Interested in setting up a booth on the church grounds at 401 Key Street? A 12x12 space is only \$30 and no pre-registration is required. Donations of yard sale items are being accepted. Please call Cissy Napper at 318-548-4376 and someone will meet you at the church to help you unload. All proceeds go to support local charities.

S'mores on the Shores Campfires, live music and all of the makings for s'mores will be the scene at the East End Beach on Saturday, November 8 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!

Veterans Day Ceremony Join the DI Veterans Association on Tuesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day here on Dauphin Island. The event will be held at Water Tower Plaza at 11am and is observed annually to honor ALL individuals who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, both living and deceased, and to recognize their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the nation's common good. During the ceremony DIVA will be adding two names to the Memorial Walls including William (Bill) Dubey (U.S. Marine Corps) and J. Stephen Foster (U.S. Merchant Marines). Please plan to attend this patriotic and solemn ceremony.

Island-Wide Yard Sale The Island-Wide Yard Sale will once again be sponsored by the St. Edmund Altar Society. The list of addresses participating will be distributed from St. Edmund Hall at 8am on the day of the event, November 8. To be included in the list, fill out an application which may be obtained at the Welcome Center. Applications, along with a donation of \$5 to defray printing expenses, must be turned in to the Welcome Center by 4pm on October 31. No late entries will be accepted.

Miss Dauphin Island Christmas Pageant The 36th Annual Miss DI Christmas Pageant will take center stage at the Community Center on December 5 at 7pm with applications due by November 21. Applications are online at www.townofdauphinisland.org/registration for the annual Christmas Pageant! Girls from ages 2-18 are welcome to participate. Remember, you must be a full time island resident to participate.

BLOOD DRIVE— November 21 @ 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! Art After School with Terri Baker- K-1st Grade: November 12, 4-5PM - 2nd-3rd Grade: November 19, 4-5PM. Guided step by step, young artists will experiment with different styles and materials, build confidence, and discover the joy of creative expression. Art After School with Odie Tucker 4th-5th Grade: November 5, 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. Family Studio Arts with Maggie Godwin & Marie Sisk November 19, 1:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Families will enjoy crafts that spark curiosity, build skills, and create cherished memories in our welcoming studio. Knitter's Chalet with Heidi Sunday - 2-Part Class: November 2 & 9, 2-3PM. Join Knitter's Chalet, a cozy class for all skill levels, whether you're learning the basics, picking up a project again, or tackling something advanced—with supplies included and expert guidance every stitch of the way. Crochet Cottage with Heidi Sunday - 2-Part Class: November 16 & 23 – 2-3PM. Join Crochet Cottage: a two-part class for all levels, where beginners will learn basic techniques and advanced crocheters can tackle new challenges, with quality supplies included and guidance available for personalized projects. Our Time with Carolyn Greene: November 7, 14, & 21 – 10AM-12PM. Our senior art class offers a relaxing space for active seniors 65+ to explore activities like watercolors and music, with the option to try new things based on the group's interests. Basic Watercolors Painting with Odie Tucker: November 15 – 1-3PM. This fun class is open to all levels of art experience. Odie takes the mystery out of watercolor painting! Participants will create their own paintings based on examples provided in each class. 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 market will be held on Nov. 27, Happy Thanksgiving! The Christmas Market will be held December 6 and the cost is \$40. This market provides an outlet for local farmers, crafters, artists, and island businesses to promote their products, rentals, services, and more. For more information or to sign up for the market 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 properly dispose of them.

Dauphin Island Women's Club News The Dauphin Island Women's Club is thrilled to announce our November meeting on Monday, November 10th at 5pm, with doors opening at 4pm for social hour. We're excited to share that Pirates Bar & Grill will be hosting a live cooking demonstration, tentatively featuring a mouthwatering Seafood Étouffée! This special evening of food, friendship, and fun will take place at the lower level of Isle Dauphine, surrounded by beautiful island views and warm camaraderie. This meeting is for members only, but new members are always welcome! Annual membership is just \$35, and if you'd like to join, simply email us at diwc_diwc@outlook.com and we'll get you set up to attend this delicious and inspiring event. You can also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DIWCevents. The Club will also have a booth at the St. Francis Fall Bazaar on November 8th from 9am to 2pm at 401 Key Street, so please stop by and say hello! Lastly, our Scholarship Committee is happy to announce that applications for Dauphin Island high school seniors will be available starting December 1st, at the Bryant High School guidance counselor office and the DI Welcome Center, with a deadline of March 2, 2026. Scholarships are open to full-time island residents planning to attend college or technical school. We are so grateful for our wonderful community's continued support—together, we're making a difference on Dauphin Island!

Lights of Dauphin Island The Lights of Dauphin Island is back and the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to join in the holiday magic! Businesses, individuals, churches, social clubs, and neighborhoods—this is your chance to be part of something truly special. Sponsor (\$150) and decorate a tree that reflects your unique style, and help us light up our island with festive cheer while supporting local charities. Register on the event page to sponsor your tree!

Reading on the Ramp is a program for children ages 6 and under. Two age appropriate books are read then discussed over themed snacks! We also complete a themed craft that the children can take home! Every Wednesday at 9:30 AM. Reading on the Ramp is at the Welcome Center, a great place to check out a book and learn about the island!

Town Announces Holiday Schedule The Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year holidays are just around the corner and the town is pleased to share its tentative holiday schedule with you as follows; Town Hall will be closed on November 27-28 for Thanksgiving and December 22-January 4 in observance of Christmas and New Year. Note: Other town departments will also have limited staff available during these periods. However, town dumpsters will remain open (Friday & Saturday 8am-noon) as usual. Wishing you and your family a very happy, healthy, and memorable holiday season!

Fort Gaines Fall Festival Fundraiser says THANK YOU! We'd like to give a heart felt, Thank You to our community for coming together and supporting Fort Gaines at our annual Fall Festival! We had Islander's Restaurant & Grill, DI Women's Club, DI Councilmen, United Methodist Church, DI Public Safety and Firefighters, the DIPOA, Island Girl Scout Troop 8028, Miss Dauphin Island Young Ladies and numerous amounts of Island residents compete in a creative decorating and food tasting competition that raised over \$5,000 for historic Fort Gaines! Spirit Miss, Savannah Wyers, won the Best Decorated Tent with her creative Toy Story theme. The DI Women's Club won Best Drinks with not one, but 2 drink concoctions representing the Emerald City of Oz. Best Brew was won by the DI Firefighters with their delicious chili and Best Treats went to the Town of Dauphin Island with their Jurassic Volcano Brownie Bites. Best Game was won by the Cauldron Gang with their homemade spider game. Thank you to everyone that participated!

Billy Goat Hole Nearing Completion Representatives with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have indicated work on the Billy Goat Hole boat ramps should be completed within the next 30 days. At the same time, construction on the new handicap ramp and elevator at the concession stand/restroom facility is about to get underway. Once again, the town greatly appreciates partnering with DCNR on this much-needed improvement project that will serve our community for many years to come!



Arts of Dauphin Island ADI is located at 1101 Bienville Boulevard. The Gallery is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 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. It has been an amazing fall here on our beautiful island especially for last week's Art Trail. The children's tent was a great hit. Best of all, our kids got to bring their family and friends, show off their wonderful art work and to experience firsthand how much fun it is to display and sell your art. So many smiles! Speaking of "Art", our Children's Art Program is scheduled for Thursday, November 13 from 3:30-5pm. The children will be creating a beautiful door wreath using colorful fall leaves and foliage. 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 at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Shelby Hall. Tickets are now on sale at ADI's gallery or on line at artsofdauphinisland.org. ADI's "Outdoor Market" is scheduled for Saturday, November 15 from 9am-3pm. 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.

Dauphin Island Property Owners' Association As we transition to a quieter time on the Island, DIPOA is working on a number of maintenance and improvement projects during the Fall 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 the office at 251-861-3144 or office@dipoa.org. Every effort counts, and there are many areas and ways to contribute. Contact DIPOA today for a role that fits best.

Beach Clean-up Planned Fleet Feet Mobile and Hylo Athletics are hosting a beach clean-up on Saturday, November 1. This free event will take place during Extra Mile Day-a nationwide day dedicated to going the extra mile for our communities-and will focus on cleaning up the West End Beach! The person who collects the most trash by weight will win a pair of Hylo Impact 2 running shoes, a sustainably-made everyday trainer from the new eco-conscious footwear brand, Hylo Athletics. Event organizer Jen Siow reminds everyone that "plogging" (picking up litter while jogging) is a popular activity in other parts of the world and Fleet Feet Mobile is excited to bring the concept to the region to make an impact in our local communities. Additional raffle prizes and giveaways will be provided by Fleet Feet Mobile. Check-in for the beach clean-up will take place at West End Beach at 4pm and the clean-up starts promptly at 430pm. All cleaning supplies are provided by Alabama People Against a Littered State and Osprey Initiative, with additional supplies donated by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Town of Dauphin Island greatly appreciates Fleet Feet Mobile and its partners for sponsoring this worthwhile event to keep our beaches clean!

Parking Changes Coming As of December 1, 2025, parking regulations on Raphael Semmes, St. Stephens, Sam Houston, and Seho (south of Bienville Boulevard) will be limited to Dauphin Island Property Owners/Residents with town-issued decals ONLY. This decision was based on a variety of issues including; limited parking availability in these areas, increased demand on office staff issuing temporary permits, and the DIPOA no longer recognizing renters as "guests". Fortunately, the island is blessed with an abundance of public beaches to accommodate the need. Property owners and residents can purchase (\$5) parking decals at town hall. Must bring vehicle and registration along with proper ID.

Weight Watchers NOW Wellness That Works! If you're looking for a way to a healthier you and want support and a proven plan, join us for our Wednesday Wellness that Works meeting at 5:30 pm in the Welcome Center. Formally known as Weight Watchers, it's now re-branded as Wellness that Works. We focus not just on food but activity, sleep and mindset. Whether you're new to the program or have been a member before, this is a great chance to connect with others who understand what you're going through. We'll share tips, celebrate successes, and help you stay on track with a program that's designed for real life. Come see what we're all about and take the first step toward a healthier you. We can't wait to welcome you!

Rental Property Safety Inspections Update Beginning January 1, 2026, safety inspections for all Short & Long-term rental properties must be performed by a licensed/certified professional (ex. Certified Alabama Home Inspector, Certified Safety Property Manager, Licensed General Contractor, Licensed Plumber/Mechanical/Electrical, etc.). A copy of the selected inspector's professional license or certificate must be submitted to the Rental License Dept. at town hall. All safety inspections will be valid for a period of three (3) years. These enhanced regulations will improve the overall safety and quality of rental properties on the island.

Public Safety Dept. Launches New Program The Town of Dauphin Island Public Safety Department is proud to announce its new "Community Event Safety Kiosk" program that is designed to enhance emergency preparedness and rapid response capabilities during public gatherings and community events throughout the island. These kiosks contain a fire extinguisher, Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and other life saving devices and resources. "This initiative represents another step forward in our ongoing mission to make Dauphin Island one of the safest communities on the Gulf coast," said Public Safety Supervisor Troy Gorrillott. This project aligns with the town's broader commitment to community resilience, public education, and proactive emergency management. For more information about the Community Event Safety Kiosk Program, or to learn how you can support this initiative, please contact the DI Public Safety Dept. at 251-207-9767.

Fort Gaines WWII 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! Always a fun and educational opportunity for the entire family!



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. NOTE: A similar collection box is located at the Welcome Center and those flags are collected by members of the American Legion Post 250.

Congressman Barry Moore Offers Public Assistance The Town of Dauphin Island has 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.

Banding Event Nets Variety of Birds Alabama Audubon recently held its Bird Banding event at the sanctuary which drew nearly 300 bird enthusiasts to witness the annual spectacle. During the event birds are carefully caught using mist nets, then gently extracted and placed in soft cloth bags to be transported to the banding station. There, they are weighed, measured, and aged before receiving a uniquely numbered band that allows researchers to track its movements through a database. It's a fascinating way for citizen scientists to contribute to conservation and learn more about these incredible migrants and their long journeys.

Mardi Gras 2026! It's never too early to think about the carnival season. Especially this year as it comes quite early. In fact, crowd favorite Krewe de la Dauphine will get the party started when they roll down Bienville Boulevard on Saturday, January 17 at 1pm with decorative floats, trailered bands, and much more. If standing on the sideline isn't your thing, make plans now to enter the ever-popular People's Parade taking place on January 24 at 1pm. An awesome and exhilarating experience you'll not soon forget! Contact town hall for additional details on how to enter a unit and pick up a copy of the parade rules. Note: Parking and placement of items along the parade route are limited to day-of-event. On January 31, parade fun goes to the dogs when the DI Chamber plays host to the Salty Paws Pet Parade at 10am. Finally, you'll definitely want to be here for the island's only nighttime Mardi Gras event when the Massacre Island Secret Society strolls through neighborhood streets on Sunday, February 1 at 6pm with lighted torches, decorative costumes, and creative units that celebrate the unique history of Dauphin Island. Make sure to mark your calendars and join us for these festive events as we kickoff the 2026 carnival season!

Middle Beach Parking & Access Improvement Project Work is now underway on the parking lot and beach access improvements at Middle Beach (next to DI School) and construction is scheduled to be complete prior to spring 2026. Drainage issues in front of DI Elementary School will also be addressed within this project. During this period the park will be closed to traffic (vehicles and pedestrians) and we encourage you to utilize one of three other Town-owned public beaches. A majority of the nearly \$2M cost for the project will be paid for with GOMESA funds (approx. \$1.7M) with the town potentially picking up the difference. Note: The Mobile County School Board and/or Mobile County may assist with funds specific to the repairs at the school entrance.

TOWN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

Agenda Meetings: Mondays prior to Council Meetings at 5pm

Town Council Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6pm **November 4 & 18**

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 12 @ 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

Town Events

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

Police Chief	Mathew 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.

