



THE TOWN CRIER

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.

INCORPORATED 1988

ISSUE 286 April 2023

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor

Jeff Collier

Council Members

Gene Fox

Trey Alderman

Earle Connell

Rich Colberg

Clinton Collier

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1 Town Easter Egg Hunt
April 6 Market in Green Park
April 8 DIUMC Easter Egg Hunt
April 8 Market in Green Park
April 9 Easter Sunrise Service
630AM Fort Gaines
April 10 Women's Club meeting
April 11 Blood Drive at Clinic
April 13 Market in Green Park
April 15 Art Trail
April 15 Pops Concert @ Water
Tower Plaza 6PM
April 16 Motorcycle Show
April 17 Public Hearing 430PM
April 20 Market in Green Park
April 22 Discovery Day @ DISL
April 22 & 23 Thunder on the Bay
April 27 Market in Green Park
April 28-30 Plein Air Art
April 29 St. Francis Arts & Crafts
April 29 DI Sailboat Regatta
April 30 Sunset Concert
May 4,11,18,25 Market in Green
Park
May 21 Gentleman's Ride
May 25 FREE Family Movie
Night-WEB
May 26 FREE Family Movie
Night-WEB
May 28 Sunset Concert
May 29 DIVA Memorial Ceremony

Hippity, Hoppity, Easter's on its Way! The Town sponsored Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Green Park on April 1 at 10am and kids are invited to bring their favorite basket to fill with colorful and prize-filled eggs. The Easter Bunny will be on site for pictures. There will also be a hunt full of eggs and other treasures and some fun games to play like an egg sack race, egg on the spoon, hula hoop contest and more! Winners will receive prizes! The DI United Methodist Church Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held the following Saturday, April 8, at Cadillac Square from 10am-Noon. The Easter Bunny will be hopping around for pictures and there will be many eggs to find! Let's celebrate Easter at the Fort with a Sunrise Service on April 9 at 630am. Attendees will receive free admission from 6am to 7am and are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

2023 Dauphin Island Art Trail Presented by the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce & Co-Sponsored by Arts of Dauphin Island, Art Trail on Saturday, April 15 is a juried show with artists located at local businesses throughout Dauphin Island. For the first time we will be including crafts which will be located at Cadillac Square. Visitors will be issued maps to be stamped at each business and Cadillac Square to be eligible for an assortment of wonderful prizes. Prizes will be awarded at 4:30pm at the Arts of Dauphin Island/918 Bienville Blvd. There are limited spaces for artists and crafters, so submit your application ASAP. Available at the Dauphin Island Art Trail Facebook page and the DI Welcome Center.

Mobile Pops Concert Enjoy an evening under the stars at Water Tower Plaza when the talented Mobile Pops perform in concert on April 15 at 6pm. As always, admission is FREE thanks to support from the DI Chamber, DI Foundation, DI Woman's Club, and the Town of Dauphin Island. Featuring an assortment of tunes that will likely elicit a "Hey, I know that song!" from all in attendance including music from The Doors, The Rolling Stones, Jimmy Buffet, Queen, Whitney Houston, and more. Attendees are reminded to bring lawn chairs, snacks, and bug spray (just in case). Should be a great evening of music and fellowship!

Vrrooom...Motorcycle Show Coming The 26th Annual Vintage Motorcycle Show will be held at Green Park on Sunday, April 16 from 10 am- 4 pm. Presented by Laroque Motorsports, this year's show offers multiple vintage classes including; American & Japanese over/under 350cc, European, British, Three Wheeler, Scooter/Mini Bike, Unrestored Original, Competition, and Cafe Racer/Custom. Registration (\$10 per bike) 10am-1pm, Judging 1-2pm, and Awards Ceremony 3pm. Food, beverage, and entertainment will be available on site. FREE admission!

Upcoming Event at Fort Gaines Thunder on the Bay 2023 Come celebrate the upcoming 159th Battle of Mobile Bay sponsored by the 6th Alabama Cavalry & the Alabama Division of Reenactors. This two-day event is April 22 & 23! Saturday will be the Battle of Mobile Bay reenactment & surrender ceremony, and Sunday will feature a Tactical. (The battle times are subject to change.)

Arts & Crafts Festival Announced St. Francis Episcopal Church is gearing up for its annual Arts & Crafts Festival that will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 9am-4pm. More than 50 vendors will be set up on the church lawn (141 Key Street) selling a wide variety of art and homemade goodies. While there check out the popular yard sale and step inside to select from a tasty assortment of baked goods, famous chicken salad, hot & sweet pickles (the Mayor's favorite), and much more. Contact Cissy Napper (318-548-4376) for vendor information/registration and/or to donate items to the church for the yard sale.

Sunset Concerts Near The first of six 2023 Sunset Concerts is scheduled for Sunday, April 30 at 6pm at historic Fort Gaines featuring The Jollies! Bring lawn/beach chairs for seating. Kilts are optional! Admission is \$5.

BLOOD DRIVE- APRIL 21 at Welcome Center 830-430pm





News From Dauphin Island Heritage and Arts Council **LAST FRIDAY ART NIGHT!** March 31, 6–8PM. Join us as we celebrate the arts featuring a watercolor painting demo by professional artist John Halliday, open mic with local musicians, food and drinks. Free and open to the public –donations are appreciated! **LAST FRIDAY ART NIGHT!** April 28, 6-8PM. We will celebrate the arts and welcome visiting artists from all over the Southeast who plan to participate in Plein Air Dauphin Island on April 28-30! Open mic with local musicians, food and drinks will round out a perfect evening on the Island. Free and open to the public! **Preschool Studio Arts** with Professional Artist John Halliday 3-class series - Tuesdays, April 11, 18, & 25 - 10 -11AM Ages 3-5. Learn how to create art with a variety of mediums such as watercolors, oil pastels, acrylic paint, and modeling clay. (3-year olds must be accompanied by adult). **Art After School** Wednesday April 5, 4-5PM -Kindergarten & 1st grade. Wednesday April 19 3-4PM - 2nd & 3rd grades. Professional art instructor Terri Baker will teach students how to create ink paintings with a minimum of brush strokes, origami, and more! Wednesday April 12, 4-5PM - 4th & 5th grades Professional artist Odie Tucker will teach students how to paint with watercolors. DIHAC's nonprofit service area is South Mobile County (Dauphin Island, Bayou La Batre, Coden, Theodore, Grand Bay, Irvington, St. Elmo). The above classes are free of charge to children living in these areas. The charge for non-residents is \$15/class. **Painting Dauphin Island** – Let's Make Plein Air Painting Easy with Professional Artist Craig Reynolds Beginning Tuesday April 25, 6-8PM with an informative reception followed by Classes on Wednesday April 26 and Thursday April 27, 9AM – 4PM. This Craig Reynolds Plein Air Workshop is designed for artists with at least some previous oil painting experience. This workshop will take your plein air painting to the next level. This two-day workshop will book up quickly, so reserve your space now! Cost: \$225/student (includes informative reception, no materials provided). **Beginning Watercolors Painting** with Professional Watercolorist Odie Tucker Saturday, April 22, 1-3PM. This fun class is open to all levels of art experience. Cost: \$50/ person (per class) – all materials provided. **Beginning Throwing on the Pottery Wheel** Thursdays March 30, April 6, 13, and 20, 12:30 – 2:30PM. This four (4) class series is designed to improve your skills or try something new! **Experience the Pottery Wheel** Saturday, April 15, 1-4PM. Join professional potter LeaAyn Shurley for this one-time fun experience! It is designed for everyone in the family, each guest will complete two pottery pieces that will be glazed by us and ready for pick up 3-4 weeks after the class or shipped to you for an additional fee. NOTE: YOU WILL BE ASSIGNED A SPECIFIC TIME SLOT FOR YOUR TURN AT THE POTTERY WHEEL. ATTENDANCE FOR THE ENTIRE 3-HOUR CLASS IS NOT REQUIRED. Cost: \$40/person – all materials provided. Shipping is extra. **Community Open Pottery Studio** Thursdays, 10AM – 12PM (No Open Pottery Studio on Thursday, April 27) DROP-INS welcome! This is an opportunity to practice the skills you learned in a previous class. Professional potter LeaAyn Shurley will be on hand to get you started and answer questions. **Pottery Studio Membership:** \$50/6 months plus \$9/lbs. of clay Non-Members - \$12/lbs. for clay. Clay prices include glazing, two pottery firings, and use of pottery tools. **Dauphin Island Art for All** with Professional Artist Carolyn Greene Fridays, 10-11:30 AM (except the last Friday in each month and holidays). This is an inclusive arts education program for adults with disabilities and the program will provide opportunities to express creativity and develop skills in a variety of arts media. To register for any of the above class, send an email to classes.dauphinislandarts@gmail.com or send a text to 251-610-6984.

Dauphin Island Women's Club Hello Island-loving ladies... whether you live on the Island or just love being a part of this great "gem" we invite you to join us. Our annual membership is \$25. The meetings are the second Monday of every month from August-May, 5pm at the Welcome Center. The March meeting was certainly not a disappointment, we learned so much from Mendel Graeber, a Sea Lab aquarium educator. She shared her knowledge and we were eager to learn so much regarding the Maritime forests, native plants, coastal animals and our bird and monarch butterfly migration. Fascinating! We were also included in the very important "Impact 100" non profit group with our very own Leslie Davis and Renee' Davis. This organization started in Mobile and now has over 100 chapters around the world. It is comprised of women from all walks of life who want to make a difference in the lives of others in our community. On April 10, we will have a few of our Charter Captains and Island Excursion businesses share what they offer. We will get the information first hand for summer fun. Our theme this month will be "Nautical" let's pull out our nautical hats, stripes and enjoy our island vibe. In May we will host a fabulous "Fashion Show." You will not want to miss it. We roll out the red carpet for this event. "LET'S BE GRATEFUL FOR GOOD FRIENDS, HOT SUN AND OUR CHARMING ISLAND"

Sea Lab The Dauphin Island Sea Lab is bringing Discovery Day back this year! The open house is planned for April 22 from 10am – 2pm. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the research conducted year-round at the DI Sea Lab. It's also a chance to learn more about education opportunities for all ages. All open-house exhibits outside of the Alabama Aquarium are free. Also, have you seen it? The DISL refreshed its website - www.disl.edu. The redesigned website is more user-friendly, safer, and accessible!

Share the Beach Dauphin Island is looking for dedicated volunteers for our sea turtle program. If you missed our Volunteer Meeting on March 21, you can still view a video to see what's entailed. Go to www.joinacf.org to view and register to be a volunteer. Registration ends April 16.

Market in the Park is Back 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 is to provide an outlet for local farmers, crafters, and island businesses to promote their products, rentals, services, and more. The fee is \$20 with a business licenses or island address and the money goes towards the Miss Dauphin Island scholarship fund. If you would like to be part of the market please email mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org.



Arts of Dauphin Island Our gallery is located at 1101 Bienville Blvd. 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. Make sure you mark your calendar for our April Youth Arts Program scheduled for April 13 starting at 3:30pm. We will be exploring our native foliage and using the foliage to paint a beautiful picture creating positive and negative spaces. 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 for The Youth Arts Fund. ART TRAIL, sponsored by the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce and co-sponsored by Arts of Dauphin Island, is scheduled for April 15. Therefore, ADI will not be having our Sunday Market on April 16. If you are a craftsperson or artist and are interested in participating in future Sunday Markets, contact Laurie Schaerer at 251-232-4470 for details. Vendors are required to sign a contract with ADI as an associate member & are responsible for all taxes. The cost is \$25/ tent or \$15/ table. ADI's Art Instructor, Margie Delcambre, hosts Adult Acrylic Art classes on Mondays from 10am-1pm. The cost is \$10/lesson, all supplies included. These classes fill up fast so if you are interested, contact Margie at 251-402-0266. Margie will be hosting her April "SIP N PAINT" on April 20 from 6-9pm. The cost will be \$40/person, all supplies included. Please RSVP to artsofdauphinisland@gmail.com and don't forget to bring your own beverage & snack. 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, call Marsha Barnett at 251-401-0230.

Spring Migration Activities Abound The Banding Coalition of the Americas (BCA) and the Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries (DIBS) are co-hosting a two-day banding demonstration on Dauphin Island and you're invited to join them on April 8-9 from 8am-3pm to observe and learn about a broad variety of species. The banding demo will be held at the Goat Tree Reserve (watch for signage) at the corner of Cadillac Avenue and Grant Street. Parking is available at Cadillac Square. The BCA team will actively be banding birds and discussing the banding process and purpose. Bird banding is a federally regulated process and the public is invited to watch how trained individuals collect important data for bird conservation through banding. This is a unique opportunity to see birds up close and hopefully you'll see an assortment of spring migratory birds in the mix! The BCA team will also provide information about local birds that reside year-round on the island along with their preferred habitats and major ID tips. You will also learn about DIBS' important role in conserving and protecting migratory bird environment on Dauphin Island and how you can help this all-volunteer non-profit organization's mission to preserve bird habitat. In addition to the banding demonstrations don't miss the Bird Walks & DIBS Info Tent at the Shell Mounds on April 1 & 15 from 9am-4pm. These are FREE events but donations are always welcome.

Distinguished Gentleman's Ride Dauphin Island is officially taking part in the world's largest and most stylish charitable motorcycle event on Sunday, May 21. Join hundreds of thousands of dapper gentlemen riding stunning motorcycles on the same day around the world for men's health. The goal for 2023 is to raise awareness and \$6M for prostate cancer research and men's mental health on behalf of charity partner, Movember. All riders must be registered at The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride website www.gentlemans-ride.com and to view local ride details. Support provided by Rosie's 1901 and the Town of Dauphin Island.

Council Approves Rental Business License, Safety Inspections Program A recent decision by the Town Council now requires all rental properties on the island to apply for an annual business license and secure a safety inspection once every three years beginning January 2023. This and other important information is located on the town website. Just click on Resources under the Town Services banner & then select Rental Hub for a convenient one-stop shop for all things rental. Rental Business Licenses (FY2022 -23) are due & payable no later than July 25, 2023 & expire December 31, 2023. Subsequent renewals are due January 1 and become delinquent after January 31 each year. If you need additional assistance contact the License & Permit Dept. at 251-861-5525 x222.

We're for the Birds! Now that spring has sprung the island will soon be populated with a variety of our colorful feathered friends making their annual migrations north for the summer season. Dauphin Island serves as a critical stopover for scores of species as they pause to rest and forage before continuing their exhaustive journey. DIBS partners with the town each year to suspend mowing in selected areas along island roadways that are populated with a variety of plants that provide food to visiting birds. Signs are posted in these areas to remind residents and visitors of this program and better explain why right-of-way shoulders aren't being maintained on a regular basis. This program will extend into early May and we greatly appreciate your patience during this time.

Audubon Sanctuary Recognized TravelAwaits recently selected "The Best Alabama Hiking Trails for Every Month of the Year" and Dauphin Island's own Audubon Bird Sanctuary made the list for September. The article suggests "There is a whole lot of nature packed into the easy walking 3.4 mile rambling loop hike... The trail here loops around beautiful sparkling lakes, turtle-filled wetlands, and along the beaches of the Gulf of Mexico." TravelAwaits recommends the fall months as "the best time to hike the sanctuary because the island is a major destination for migrating birds". They also point out the island's many attractions that include kayaking, fishing, visiting historic Fort Gaines and DI Sea Lab & Aquarium among others.

Island Clinic Hosting Blood Drive Roll up your sleeve and head on over to the new DI Medical Group (behind Town Hall) on Tuesday, April 11 from 9am-3pm to support the LifeSouth Blood Drive. Donors will receive a FREE cholesterol screening. For this and other information about the clinic please call 843-425-4818.

Job Fair The DI Job Fair is going all digital! Accepting early applications now. Email resumes or request job applications via email dialchamber@gmail.com. Let's find you the perfect job!



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.

Public Hearing Set: Request to Vacate Alleys The Town Council will receive comments regarding a petition by the DI Baptist Church to vacate two alleys in Block 148 of the Central Commercial Area of Dauphin Island. These are 15 & 30 foot alleys adjacent to the new Community Center construction site. The required meeting is set for Monday, April 17, 2023 at 430pm.

Bird Banding Alabama Audubon, in partnership with AL DCNR, Mississippi State University, and Fort Morgan State Historic Site, is pleased to announce the return of its popular Coastal Bird Banding event. The event runs from Tuesday, April 18 to Saturday, April 22 at Fort Morgan State Historic Site. This is a fantastic opportunity to get an up close look at the miracles of bird migration! This event is free but registration is strongly encouraged. Hours vary each day, please visit alaudubon.org/birdbanding for details and to register.

Former Councilman John DiPlacido Passes Dr. John DiPlacido, former Dauphin Island council member, passed away in February after a long illness. He served on the council from 2000-04 and was also a member of the Planning Commission during this time. He graduated from medical school at the University of Alabama in Birmingham and completed his residency in Birmingham, after which he served in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ann DiPlacido, one brother, four children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends during this difficult time.

Boater Safety Course Offered The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Marine Patrol Division, in conjunction with the Town of Dauphin Island, is hosting a FREE Basic Boating Safety Course on May 10-11 from 5-9pm at Dauphin Island Town Hall, 1011 Bienville Blvd. You can email Chad.wynne@alea.gov to register for the class. For additional information please call 888-903-2583. Space is limited to 20 per class.

Set Sail for DI The 63rd DI Sailboat Race is set for Saturday, April 29. Find a good vantage point to view this popular event recognized for the beauty and pageantry it creates as scores of vessels traverse the waters of Mobile Bay. Depending on weather conditions, sailboats usually begin to arrive at the rodeo site midday to early afternoon.



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

***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.

DEPARTMENTAL LISTING

<u>Administrative</u>		<u>Building Dept.</u>	
Town Clerk Wanda Sandagger 251-861-5525	Ext 225	Business License & Permits Jenny McLester	Ext 222
Admin. Clerk /Magistrate Joyce Wentworth	Ext 227	Bldg Inspector Terry Sheffield James Brown	Ext 224 cell 251-257-6707 cell 251-234-7466
<u>Court</u>		<u>Code/Zoning Enforcement</u>	
Court Clerk Stacy Mallon	Ext 221	Jennifer Ploeger	Ext 223 cell 251-293-9633
<u>Parks & Recreation Dept.</u>		<u>Town Events</u>	
Director Sherry Cain	251-861-3607	Event Coordinator Maggie Godwin	mgodwin@townofdauphinisland.org
<u>Public Works Dept.</u>		<u>Dauphin Island Police Dept.</u>	
Superintendent James Stokes Animal Control	251-313-2378	Chief of Police Chief Kym Claw	251-861-5523
DUMPSTERS Fridays & Saturdays 8AM-Noon		<u>Public Safety</u>	
		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: April 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 **April 12**

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.