NEW MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR TOWN

The Town of Dauphin Island has a new Mayor and Town Council, all having assumed office Monday, October 7, at a swearing-in ceremony in the Town Hall. This is the third administration to take office since the Town incorporated in 1988. This year's municipal election, held in August, turned out over 70% of registered voters.

Elected Mayor is life-time resident, Billy Patronas. On the Council: Kay Breitenfeld, Claude Brown, Jeff Collier, Alma Wagner, and Shirley Westfall. Their term of office will be four years.

The new council members (and Mayor) represent a diverse age spectrum, representing younger people who are building their families on the Island, residents of 12 to 15 years, as well as those who have spent a lifetime on the Island.

Unanimously, the Mayor and Council are committed to an administrative reorganization.

In the plan each Council person will assume responsibility as liaison to the Mayor and the Council for a specific function of the Town.

The assignments are: Streets - Jeff Collier; Fire/Police - Shirley Westfall; Utilities/Recreation - Alma Wagner; Permits/Personnel/Insurance - Claude Brown; and Finance/Budget - Kay Breitenfeld. The Mayor and the Council have agreed to schedule regular "agenda" meetings several days prior to council meetings in order to fully inform all members of pending agenda items.

The Dauphin Island Community News talked with all six of the officials separately and found common concerns among everyone. Finances, maintenance of roads and streets, a "plan" for the future, improvement in fire and police facilities and capacities, homeowners insurance and reworking roadside ditches are priorities for the Mayor and the Council.

Continued on page 2
Continued from page 1...

**Mayor Patronas** has a goal for the construction of a new police station, "but not too elaborate," he says. The Mayor wants to develop a "road plan" which would identify maintenance and repaving of our streets on a yearly basis. Mr. Patronas feels that the tax base "has been short" for what people on the Island are demanding. But, he believes that the base is increasing as additional homes are built; and as the energy companies gear up their production of natural gas, their revenues to the Town will increase. The Mayor plans closer contacts with Mobile County. He also is looking for more interest from individuals on the Island and hearing from citizens. "What would they like to see happen?" he asks.

Kay Breitenfeld would "first and foremost seek more community input - we need to hear from the people," she said. Mrs. Breitenfeld said, "Dauphin Island has room to grow, but should be compatible with the Island today." She is concerned about street paving, lighting on the bike trail, culverts for ditches; the need to assess the capacity of water and sewer, beach erosion. "We need to get people more involved in public issues." She sees a need for a "master plan" as a means to reaching goals. Further, Mrs. Breitenfeld has a concern about the Island Fire Department as it relates to the Town. Also, she is under the impression they do not have an evacuation plan, "nor do we have a coordinator for evacuation," she said.

**Claude Brown** intends to support a community center and health clinic. He plans to introduce an ordinance to prohibit shrimp boats tying up on the Gulf side of the Island and leaving trash on the beaches. Mr. Brown is also concerned about street flooding. He feels that auxiliary pumps are needed. As to the condition of the Island streets, Mr. Brown says, "The cost of 'relayering' streets costs $28,000 per mile. It would cost about $500,000 to repave Bienville Blvd. all the way." He is concerned about aspects of the homeowners insurance issue. Mr. Brown believes that the new Mayor is a team player.

**Jef Collier** has been on the Council as long as there has been a council. He is enthusiastic to get this next administration started. His main goals include continued improvement of the streets and roads. He, too, as do other members of the Council, sees a need for a "master plan - where does the Island want to be in five years, ten years from now?"

On the subject of taxes, Mr. Collier feels the Island tax base is barely adequate. He believes progress is being made, "but it's hard," he says. He is concerned about the "cloudy status" of the fire and rescue department. This is in reference to the legal relationship between them and the Town.

**Alma Wagner** is looking forward to a comprehensive master plan. She also will be focusing on zoning ordinances trying to find a "good balance." She sees "lots of growth for the Island and it's overwhelming." Further, she says, "people need to step up and make proper decisions." Ms. Wagner is concerned about beach erosion. She feels the Corps of Engineers should help replenish the Island's beaches with dredged materials. As to the next four years, "I'm looking forward to it and I want to do a good job."

**Shirley Westfall,** who begins her second term as a council representative, believes that previous councils have functioned well. In the past administration, with its three person committee structure, Mrs. Westfall said, "...it was difficult to get several people together for regular meetings." She is looking forward to the Mayor's reorganization plan. Mrs. Westfall is very interested in trying to get some changes in the homeowner's insurance coverage. She is curious as to why some homeowners who are less vulnerable than others are paying the same premiums.

On the subject of the Tricentennial Celebration which is being developed for 1999, most all the Council members agree that the Island should go forward, but in the words of Councilman Collier, who was born on the Island, "Let's make it as big as it can be - based on what we can pay for."

Mayor Patronas, as a final thought in his interview, said, "One thing I intend to do before the end of my term is to get us a town flag."

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**Health Screenings, Flu Immunizations**

**On Island Nov. 4**

- **DI Chamber of Commerce**

Immunization shots for influenza, pneumonia, tetanus, blood pressure check, diabetes and cholesterol screening will be available on the Island on Monday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce building, located next to the Post Office.

This is the first on Dauphin Island - having the health screening in addition to the immunization shots in one stop is unique.

Saad's Health Care Services, serving clients in south Alabama since 1982, will provide the health screening and the blood pressure checks. Blood pressure checks are free of charge, however, the cholesterol screening and the diabetes screening will cost $3 each, or a combination of the two is available for $4.

Mobile County Health Department Personnel will administer the flu, pneumonia and the tetanus shots. Charges for the shots will be $8 for the flu, $10 for the pneumonia and the tetanus. Medicare eligible persons will be able to have flu shots at no charge.

This is a project of the DI Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with Saad's Health Care Service of Mobile and the Mobile County Dept. of Health. Licensed professional nurses from both agencies will deliver these services for the islanders.
New Group Established - "Forever Dauphin Island"

Forever Dauphin Island

In August over a hundred people attended an organizational meeting of Forever Dauphin Island. The group is dedicated to preserving the natural beauty and environment of Dauphin Island.

Forever Dauphin Island encourages membership and support from anyone concerned about protecting the natural character and beauty of the Island. Membership is free, but contributions are most welcome. Forever Dauphin Island meets at 6:00 P.M. on the first Monday of each month at the Episcopal Church on Dauphin Island.

The mailing address is: P.O. Box 910, Dauphin Island, AL 36528; Tel: (334) 861-4573

Light Up Dauphin Island for Christmas

The Light Up Dauphin Island Committee was founded in 1989 by Frances Young, together with a group of volunteer island residents. Under the mayoral leadership of Doris Anderson, the community project was started to reflect the spirit, friendship and love of our island through the lights of Christmas. All funds to support this community project come from cash donations or household items donated to our annual fund raising, island-wide yard sale.

This year's yard sale will be held on Saturday, October 26, 1996 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be held at the Chamber of Commerce building next to the post office.

Donations of all household items, large or small are needed. Call Mary Lou Turner at 861-5911. Volunteers are needed to price items and assist at the sale. Call Doris Anderson at 861-6713.

Cash donations can be made to the Light Up Dauphin Island Committee. Call Julene Taylor at 861-7218 or Mary Thompson at 861-5747.

Another fundraiser for the project is through the sale of Christmas postcards. This year's postcard depicts the night-time Christmas display at the Water Tower and is available in packs of 10 for $5.00 at various Dauphin Island retailers including Marti's Island Shoppe, Dauphin Island Beauty Salon, Pelican's Briefs Pottery, the Sand Box, Treasure Trove and the Dauphin Island Golf Course Pro Shop. Supplies are limited and all proceeds go to the Light Up Dauphin Island project.

New committee members are welcome. The committee's work involves the making and set-up of displays, painting, lighting maintenance, etc. If you would like to be a part of this community project, please call Julene Taylor or Mary Thompson at the numbers listed above.

TOUR THE ISLAND IN LUXURY

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861-4499

NEW LOCATION
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Dauphin Island, AL 36528

(334) 861-3202

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SEE US AT OUR NEW LOCATION

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We Buy & Sell Crabmeat & Oyster
The Estuarium -- Not Just Another Aquarium

--Dr. George F. Crozier, Executive Director, Dauphin Island Sea Lab

For those of you who have driven past the Sea Lab lately, I'm sure you've noticed the bright orange construction fences, the huge piles of sand that seem to move daily, the rumbling yellow bulldozers. Look beyond all that you'll see the beaming faces of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab staff and supporters, who are excitedly witnessing a vision come to life.

Phase I of the Estuarium was the Living Marsh and Barrier Island Boardwalk, built on the north side of the property which was formerly an Air Force septic field. Phase II was our very visible Education Center, a converted Air Force radar tower that originally built in the late 1950's. Over 25,000 visitors and 12,000 schoolchildren, registering from all 50 states as well as over 20 foreign countries, have visited the Education Center since its opening. What you see being constructed now is Phase III, the Exhibit Hall, our final phase of the Estuarium. This phase encompasses our environmentally-conscious parking lot and our landmark 10,000 square foot exhibit hall which will feature the four habitats of Mobile Bay; the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta, Mobile Bay, the barrier islands and the Gulf of Mexico. With the construction of the Exhibit Hall, along with the Living Marsh Boardwalk, Education Center and our existing Maritime Forest Trail and Mr. Sand display, we are seeing the dream of the Estuarium become a reality. We couldn't be more pleased about what the Estuarium will bring to both the public and to Dauphin Island.

During this summer and fall we've laid the groundwork for the foundation, putting in the utilities under what will be the slab of the building. After the foundation is in place, the "skeleton" of the building will be constructed -- the trusses, beams and wall panels that will be the bare bones of the Exhibit Hall. Once the brilliant aquamarine blue "skin" is laid on to the building, we will be hard at work constructing the interior, creating highly attractive exhibits that will be not only visually pleasing, but also thought-provoking. Our target completion date is fall of 1997.

Because we are an educational facility, we seek out all opportunities to research and learn -- and this applies even to our parking lot! Aware of how the drips and dregs of oil could be washed out into the bay with the next good rain, we've constructed a coastal-friendly parking lot that will "polish" or filter the water of hydrocarbons before it returns to the environment. The oil, gas, radiator fluid and other hydrocarbons that can be left behind by vehicles on the pavement will be washed by the rain and flow to the lower end of the parking lot. There, it will be filtered through a substance with a high affinity for hydrocarbons (the filters themselves, by the way, are made from a waste product of the paper industry!). The water will then flow from these filters, be polished even more by passing through a crushed rock bed, and then be held in retention ponds. If the weather is fairly dry, the water will then either evaporate into the atmosphere or percolate through the ground. If the weather is wet and volume increases in the retention pond, it will flow out through the phragmites cane, another biological filter for water, before it enters the bay. We're quite proud of this design, which is also an experiment in coastal zone planning. Sampling stations will be set in place to monitor how well the parking lots works.

What will set the Estuarium apart from other marine exhibit halls is our very uniqueness and mission. Our uniqueness springs from our exhibitry -- we will feature the beauty and life of Mobile Bay as we collect marine life and flora from our local habitats. The interest is certainly powerful, considering the number and range of visitors who have already come to see us at the Sea Lab.

Our mission, however, is not to provide a tourist attraction. The seed of the Estuarium was planted because we had to turn away 5,000 - 6,000 school children annually. How could we accommodate the educational needs of these children and interface with the public at the same time? That is when the idea of the Estuarium was born. By featuring inviting visual exhibits and hand-on activities, the Estuarium seeks above all to educate its visitors. Science does not have to exist just in a textbook; it comes to life in the Estuarium. We want visitors to do more than walk through the exhibit hall and stare passively at the tanks. We want them to interact with our exhibits, to ask questions, to find answers and to appreciate the delicate balance of our environment. We want schoolchildren to learn about physics as they work the wave machine, to know more about biology as they handle the creatures in the touch tank.

The Estuarium, in other words, is not just another aquarium.

We expect well over 100,000 visitors annually to visit us here on Dauphin Island. The south Alabama Regional Planning Commission has estimated that the Estuarium will bring around $20,000,000 to the local economy. Visitors from locales national and international, as well as our local neighbors, will soon be able to know the beauty and uniqueness that is Mobile Bay and Dauphin Island.

The Estuarium's $2.5 million Exhibit Hall is funded by private donations. If you would like to contribute, or if you would like to volunteer as a docent once the Estuarium is open, please call 861-2141.
New Art Group Started On Island

- DI Art and Craft Guild

Dauphin Island is becoming the new artist colony on the Gulf Coast. It is not surprising that the beautiful environment of Dauphin Island would attract artisans. What is surprising is that the presence of artists has been such a secret. The 1996 Spring Festival and a one-day arts and crafts exhibition at the Isle Dauphine Club were the impetus for bringing artists on the island together. Thirteen exhibitors, working in oils, acrylics, watercolor, pottery, wood carving, jewelry, photography, and stained glass participated in the April show. A core group of craftspeople have been meeting since the exhibition preparing bylaws and membership guidelines for a new organization - the Dauphin Island Art and Craft Guild. The purpose of the group is to provide educational programs, art and craft shows and exhibits, and to establish a permanent gallery for the benefit of all Dauphin Island residents and visitors. Membership is open to artisans and craftspeople who create original handmade art and who are residents, property owners, or former residents of the Island. Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month at 10a.m at the Galley on Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island. For more information, call Gary Murphy, 861-4007, or Barbara Louis Williams, 861-5760.

Dauphin Island Community News

The Dauphin Island Community News is a non-profit project of the Dauphin Island Foundation in cooperation with the Town of Dauphin Island, the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association, the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, the Dauphin Island Water and Sewer Authority, the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce and other organizations on the Island. The News is distributed free of charge and is available at Island retail and service businesses. The News will not take editorial positions, nor will it accept articles or advertising on political or controversial issues.

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LET'S TALK WATER AND SEWER

- DI Water and Sewer Authority

Three weeks ago Jim Hall, Community News, visited the DI Water and Sewer Authority Office and talked to Jeff Caldwell, the Manager of the system, and asked some questions about the operation. For a time during the interview Smith Pickett, Jr., of the WD& S Authority Board of Directors, joined the conversation via speaker phone.

HJ - Is the Authority healthy, I mean financially?
Caldwell - Yes, we are. We're in good shape.
Pickett - Let me give you an example. The Reverse Osmosis Filter System we have in construction right now was estimated to cost $200,000. It looks like when we finish, we'll come in around $180,000. This cost will be paid out of our general fund without increasing rates.

Caldwell - Our construction is about 75% complete and should be on line and producing in mid-October. This system will be the first treatment facility in the State of Alabama using Membrane technology for potable water. This system will allow us to produce an additional 250,000 to 300,000 gallons per day. The finished water will be considered nearly 'sodium free' having less than 1% salt content. The next closest system we know of is the Outer Banks in North Carolina.

HJ - Do we have enough water to serve the Island?
Caldwell - Yes! We have the capacity of 600,000 - 650,000 gallons per day. A normal day would require around 450,000 gallons. The only problem is in the summer time, like on a holiday weekend with big crowds on the Island, we'll have a 900,000 gallon demand. In the past we would have then dipped into our reserve. With the new Reverse Osmosis Filter System in operation, we will meet that demand without calling upon our reserves.

HJ - Is there a low water pressure problem?
Caldwell - I only know about low pressure problems on the far West End. I don't know of a problem anywhere else. We have been working with the Fire and Rescue Department for six or eight months to identify and correct any pressure problems. This affects our community insurance fire rating. On the West End we are just below the required pressure for a better rating. We are presently doing a study and looking at a booster pump which should increase the pressure. An updated price we have received, considering the proposed development, would be at least $140,000 to put the system in. Once completed, the entire Island's rates for homeowner's fire insurance will go down! One thing more; homeowners need to check out the condition of their own plumbing - especially older homes which have galvanized pipes. These pipes over time can develop a build-up which creates resistance and lowers the pressure at the faucet. Call us for ideas and advice on what to look for and how.

HJ - Any plans to increase water rates?
Pickett - We don't anticipate any changes. You know the more customers we have, the cheaper it is to produce the water. Let me tell you how your water bill breaks down:
- $2.25 water/per thousand gallons
- $1.90 sewage/per thousand gallons of water used
- $3.00 Fire and rescue/per home per month
- 5% Payment of POA debt
- 4% Tax % of water usage

HJ - Tell me about conversations of the Authority and the Golf Course working together.
Caldwell - We have talked with the people at the Golf Course and the POA for a couple of years about using treated waste in their sprinkler system. When we first looked at it, the many regulations we would have to satisfy made it cost prohibitive. Anyway, I'm not sure we could supply their demands. They use 750,000 gallons a day. We could only furnish half of what they need. I believe they need a long range solution. They have considered enlarging the lake. The material removed could be used in the area along the beach where severe erosion has occurred.

A few weeks ago, Board member Frank Hawkins and I started looking into a deep well which could supply 500 gallons a minute. We're putting together the costs right now.

HJ - How do you feel about a complete merger of the Authority with the Town of Dauphin Island?
Caldwell - That has never been discussed at a Board meeting. The only thing talked about has been making arrangements for the Town to make appointments to the Board. Currently the County makes the appointments.

HJ - Thank you, Jeff Caldwell and Smith Picket, Jr.

"Fall Back"
on October 27
Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, October 27.
Reminder: Set your clocks "back" one hour when you go to bed Saturday night, October 26.

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DAUPHIN ISLAND MARLINS WIN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

-Jeff Caldwell, Coach

The DI Marlins won the league championship at Zirlott park in Bayou La Batre with a 14-2 record. The Marlins started the season off with six wins in a row. The Marlins pitching staff, consisting of Peter McLemore, Brady Mallon, Daniel Caldwell, and Levi Bonds, dominated throughout the season. The Marlins had a solid defense with Jeremy Moats, Peter McLemore, and Michael Stallworth comprising a speedy outfield. Levi Bonds and Hunter Elmore combined to play a tough third base. Daniel Caldwell led all stats catching with 24 put outs and all around good defense. Morgan Laird was the heart of the Marlin defense with a golden glove performance at shortstop. Morgan made only one fielding error for the season. On offense nearly all the Marlins had a batting average over .300 with Reagan Williamson out front with a league leading batting average of .620.

Outstanding statistics:
Pitching: Peter McLemore, 4-1, 1 no hitter, 2 shutouts; Brady Mallon, 3-1, 1 no hitter, 1 shutout, 2 saves; Daniel Caldwell, 3-0, 1 shutout; Levi Bonds, 4-0 1 shutout, 2 saves.
Batting: Reagan Williamson .620 average, 1 home run; Peter McLemore, 2 home runs; Daniel Caldwell, 2 home runs; Jeremy Moats, 1 home run.
Stolen Bases: Daniel Caldwell, 38.

Dauphin Island Marlins, Dixie Boys League, 13-14 Years Old


Plans Develop For DI Activities Center and Performance Stage

-DI Foundation

From the outset, the vision and guiding spirit of the Dauphin Island Foundation has been the determination to preserve and promote the environmental integrity and beauty of Dauphin Island as a setting for family life, recreation and commerce centered on its rich and historic assets. Within this context the Foundation seeks to encourage and cultivate unified action among all constituencies on the island which share this view.

The practical implementation of this commitment takes the form of community development, a process which involves contact and communication with the organized entities on the island and with those residents, full time and part time, who at any given time see an opportunity to enhance life on Dauphin Island.

The Foundation has initiated the preliminary steps in evaluating the need and potential contribution of a Dauphin Island Activity Center. While vision and spirit are the abstractions which motivate us, the Dauphin Island Activity Center will be both a physical facility and a series of activities and programs which reflect the needs of the people of Dauphin Island.

In its setting, we see it as an integral part of a "town center" focused upon a performing arts shell and stage at the base of the water tower, the Activity Center extending westward on Bienville in a building composed of several units, designed in a compatible fashion to the town hall and the town hall itself. In effect, the “Water Tower Plaza” will be the town center for residents and visitors.

The Center will reflect the needs of Dauphin Islanders as expressed in two surveys which were conducted by the Town of Dauphin Island in 1991 and the University of Auburn in 1994. Since June 1996, the Foundation has organized eight focus groups to collect comments and opinions of residents. These sessions have lead to a consultation with various experts to explore problems and issues raised in the focus groups.

Another driving force in this project is the Dauphin Island Tricentennial celebration which will be conducted year around in 1999. The first landing and settlement of Dauphin Island took place in 1699, leading to the subsequent establishment of Mobile and the expanded exploration of the Louisiana Territory.

In conjunction with the Tricentennial, the first component of the project will be the construction of an outdoor performing arts theater at the base of the water tower.

In terms of its components, the Center will include in Component I (which will probably be the central unit of the building) the Dauphin Island Welcome Center, the SeaSpan weather advisory network (television and FM radio), the SeniorNet computer program, which will also be structured to provide computer experience for the youth of the island, and the adjacent outdoor performing arts shell and stage. This component will also house a reading/meeting room which can accommodate small group activities such as card playing, small group discussions, or just a place for an individual to read a book or periodical.

Component II which will likely be located at the eastern end of the Continued on next page
Facts about Dauphin Island Airport
- DI Airport Authority

Background: Dauphin Island's airport is located on the bay just west of the Aloe Bay Channel. Its construction, almost thirty years ago, was a cooperative effort by federal, state and county governments to provide island access to the aviation community. The Airport is operated and maintained by Mobile County under the supervision of the County Commission. Activities are governed by the rules and regulations applicable to all general aviation airports. Radar services are provided by Mobile Approach Control with pilot weather briefing and airport status information available from the Anniston Automated Flight Service Station.

Facilities: The airport offers 3,000 feet of hard surfact, lighted runway that will accommodate single engine and light twin engine aircraft. To assist pilots in flying the proper approach angle, there are precision approach path indicator (PAPI) lights for each runway. Both the runway lights and the PAPI can be turned on and off by keying an aircfrat radio a certain number of times on the Airports Unicom Frequency (122.8 kHz). The large segmented circle of red and white concrete markers surrounding the wind sock indicates all turns in the airport pattern should be made to the left. The airport has twelve permanent tie downs with ramp space for thirty.

Activity: The airport generates approximately 12,000 aircraft operations (takeoff or landings) a year. While many of these are either company helicopter operations or aircraft from local area airports, the airport continues to attract pilots from every state. The airports unique location has prompted more than one pilot to remark "its like landing on an aircraft carrier." Of course, there aren't many 3,000 ft. aircraft carriers. As many of the local restaurant owners will attest, the airport is popular destination for those looking for a nice flight and a good meal.

Development: With the approval of the County Commission and the assistance of County Engineer, Joe Ruffer, the airport obtained matching state and federal funds and has repaired the seawall, resurfaced the runway and ramp, replaced the PAPI lights, and provided ramp lighting for the tie down area. The airport's facilities, limited thought they may be, are in excellent condition.

Long range plans include hangers, terminal building, airshows, and fly-ins. Increased airport activity will, however, require careful planning to ensure proper utilization of this asset by the entire community. Toward this end, the following people were appointed to the Dauphin island Airport committee by their respective organizations to provide advice and expertise for any future development: Property Owners: Mike McHugh; Chamber of Commerce, Jimmy Morris; Park and Beach Board, Mike Henderson; Water and Sewer Authority, Jeff Caldwell; Town of Dauphin Island, Billy Dunn; DI Sea Lab, Dr. George Crozier; Mobile County Commission, Billy Meredith, Airport Manager.

For additional information or to report problems, please contact Billy Meredith at 334/824-2831.
Architectural Committee News

Change in Committee Meeting Time: Since the last edition, the committee decided to meet Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m. at the POA office. The reason for the change was to make the meeting more accessible for property owners who work and to allow working people to serve on the committee.

Building Permit Application: The one stop Building Permit System is working smoothly except for misunderstanding as to when work should commence. It is not uncommon to see projects underway before the permit application arrives at the POA office. We request that all property owners and contractors wait for POA approval confirmation, oral or written, before starting work. If needed, a member of the committee can review and approve permit applications between regular meetings. Call 861-4228 to expedite the permitting process.

Recently Passed Amendments: Dauphin Island West Addition, Dauphin Island West First Addition. The height restriction for dwellings in these subdivisions was 2 1/2 story house in this area, the restriction was difficult, if not impossible, to comply with because FEMA requires the first habitable floor to be 10 ft. above grade. Since the Town has a 40 ft. maximum height restriction, which is considered adequate, the amendments were passed to delete the 32 ft. height restriction and solve a frustrating problem.

Change in Committee Members: To allow time for family activities, our Chairman, Mr. Billy Heath, has resigned from the committee effective August 1, 1996. We take this opportunity to thank Billy for his leadership and diligence. As always, when capable likeable people leave a post, they are certainly missed. THANKS, BILLY.

We were fortunate to have Don Dixon and Connie Taylor join the Committee recently, and other members are Carol Merkel and Chairman, William (Doc) Moore.

A Message from the President

I once heard a religious scholar state: "The primary purpose for our existence on the face of the earth is character formation." I believe this is God's purpose for all human beings. Compassion, work, integrity, responsibility, generosity, perseverance, love, all of these virtues are the result of good character formation during one's lifetime.

Dauphin Island with all its progress, development and politics must strive to maintain its good character. As stated in my last message, the DPOA will continue to promote the development and betterment of Dauphin Island in the public interest. While carrying out this mission, we have a responsibility to all property owners and Dauphin Island residents to maintain the quality of life and preserve the island's cultural heritage.

During this summer, we have seen more construction, a proposed public beach at the West End, improvements to the Sea Lab, a bike and jogging trail, plans for an activity center, a proposal for a luxurious new hotel and, most recently, the election of a new mayor and city council. All of this newness to the Island brings discussions, perceptions, rumors and political posturing. We, as representatives of the Association, have to sift through these changes in a responsible manner. Not going too fast, nor too slow in handling the confrontations that seem to stem from change itself.

I believe that we must confront adversity if such confrontation is in the best interest of the property owners. On the other hand, we must not "draw the line in the same" every time there are legitimate differences of opinion. We should neither be quick to "sue" to resolve property disputes, nor should we fail to protect the rights of property owners simply to avoid potential litigation. The most civilized manner in resolving disputes is through responsible mediation of the material issues involved in said disputes. This takes insight, hard work and open minds. The current Board is equipped to exercise these traits in making short and long range judgments in the best interest of all property owners. We will not make hasty decisions based upon emotion or self-interest. We will aid other entities in the operation of their organizations while preserving our autonomy and carrying out the purpose of the DPOA.

We will protect our assets to ensure that this organization truly has a voice in the governmental affairs of this Island. We will maintain our pledge to the members to enhance the quality of life for all Islanders. We will make sure that the development and environment of the Island are not exclusive, but rather inclusive, to be shared on an equal basis for the betterment of all.

To respond to the members is to answer. Correspondingly, to be responsible is to be answerable, to be accountable. We will be accountable to the membership. Although we may disagree, decisions will not be made without exercising our responsibility to this Association. As James Madison delimited the parameters of responsibility with clarity in Federalist No. 63, "Responsibility, in order to be reasonable, must be limited to objects within the power of the responsible party and in order to be effectual, must relate to operations of power."

As this Board matures together, we will more fully understand the ownership of the Association's powers. We may make mistakes. Goodness knows there is no rush of persons willing to take responsibility for mistakes. On the other hand, there is no shortage of persons ready to claim credit for contributing to a shortage of persons ready to claim for contributing to a successful enterprise. Let all of us who have a sincere interest in the quality of development and the protection of our environment get to the point in time where we really believe "there is no end to the good you can do if you don't care who gets credit for it."

Sincerely,
ROBERT C. CAMPBELL, III
President, Dauphin Island Property Owners Association
September 17, 1996

SENIORS - APPLY NOW FOR SCHOLARSHIP!

November 30, 1996, is the deadline for a high school senior, a child of a Dauphin Island property owner, to apply for the scholarship worth $500 per year for four successive years. The scholarship is funded by the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association Scholarship Trust Fund and will be awarded for the first time this year. The student selected by the Scholarship Committee will be nominated by the Trustees of the Scholarship Fund to the Board of Directors of the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association for confirmation.

The scholarship award must be used for tuition, room, board, books and fees, in a four-year academic degree program which can begin in either a 2-year or 4-year institution of higher learning located in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi or Tennessee.

CRITERIA for application and selection will include a minimum 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale through the first three years of high school and test scores of 19 minimum on the American College Test (ACT) or the equivalent on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT). Character, leadership and activities will also enter into and influence the selection.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: An official transcript reflecting the first three years of high school, ACT or SAT test report, and a minimum of three letters of recommendation, at least one of which must come from the school--principal, guidance counselor or teacher.

RETENTION REQUIREMENTS: The student must be enrolled full-time (minimum of 12 hours, either quarter or semester) and must continue for four successive years. If the student drops out of school the scholarship is lost.

DEADLINE: for applying is November 30, 1996. Application forms may be obtained at the DPOA office in the Isle Dauphine Club complex, 100 Orleans Drive, or by writing to DPOA, PO Box 366, Dauphin see next page
Isle Dauphine

Club Fees

Daily Fees
(Prices - Per Person Unless Noted Otherwise)
Cart Fees, 18 Holes - $11.50; 9 Holes - $7.00
Green Fees (Tu-Fri), 18 Holes - $12.50;
9 Holes - $7.00
Green Fees (Sa-Su), 18 Holes - $13.50;
9 Holes - $8.00
Pool Fees (All Day): Age 10 and Under,
$1.25, 11-19, $3.50*, 20 and up, $5*
Tennis Fees (2 or 4 players), $5* per court per day.

Memberships

Club Membership: This membership provides green fees and use of the pool, beach, tennis courts and charge privileges for a husband and wife (and children under 18 years of age). The dues are $100 monthly (to be billed at $25 monthly for twelve consecutive months) or pay $85 for a year in advance and get two (2) free months! Other plans include $100 per month (6 month minimum), $150 per month (3 month minimum) and $175 (1 month minimum).

Single Club Membership: This membership provides green fees and use of the pool, beach, tennis courts and charge privileges for an individual. The dues are $69 June (to be billed at $58 monthly for twelve consecutive months) or pay $58 for a year in advance and get two (2) free months! Other plans include $75 per month (6 month minimum), $90 per month (3 month minimum), and $100 (1 month minimum). 

$100 (1 month minimum).

Pool/Tennis Membership: This membership provides use of the pool, beach, tennis courts and charge privileges for a husband and wife (and children under 18 years of age). The dues are $300 annually (to be billed at $25 monthly for twelve consecutive months) or pay $150 for a year in advance and get two (2) free months! Note: Memberships are available for June-August for only $150.

Isle Dauphine also offers a cart lease program where a husband and wife or an individual can rent a cart by the month rather than on a pay as you go basis. A couple may rent a cart of $15 per month (6 month minimum) or $150 per month (1 month minimum). An individual may rent a cart for $70 per month (6 month minimum) or $100 (1 month minimum).

Weekly Special: This membership offers both cart and green fees on a weekly basis (6 days). Green fees are $125 for a couple and $62.50 for an individual. Cart fees are $125 for a couple and $62.50 for an individual.

Note: Dauphin Island property owners receive one dollar off the posted fee, which is marked with an *. Periodically, Isle Dauphine offers an “afternoon special” where an individual can play 18 holes with a cart for $15 plus tax! Please call the Pro Shop for times and availability. If you are thinking about joining for the 1997 calendar year, remember that all annual fees can be paid over a three month period with no interest. You pay 50% in January, 25% in February and 25% in March! Ask about details.

If you are planning a wedding, a reunion, a company picnic, a pool party or a golf tournament, Isle Dauphine is the place! The clubhouse offers a spectacular view of the Gulf from each of the three floors which are available for your next party. Cool off in our sparkling blue pool, which offers dressing rooms complete with showers or stroll along the shore in search of sea shells. Don and Nonie Rhodes will be happy to supply all of your food and beverage needs and Jeff Collier will coordinate any golf events you may be planning. Please call Don at 861-8000 and Jeff at 861-2433.

Scholarships continued from page 8

Island, AL 36528. The application and all required supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarship Committee at the mailing address listed above.

THE AWARD WILL BE ANNOUNCED March 15, 1997, and the award check will be sent to the chosen college for the student to use as specified.

TAXDEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SOLICITED to support this program until the Association is financially capable of fully funding it. Mail your contribution to the DIPOA Scholarship Fund, PO Box 366, Dauphin Island, AL 36528.

Golf News

If you would find yourself in need of a golfing partner . . .

Isle Dauphine has a very active weekly golf schedule for your consideration. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday the Men’s Golf Association plays an 18-hole Stableford (points) format. The entry fee is $3 and prizes are awarded to both the high scoring team and individual. On Wednesday it’s the Ladies’ Golf Association that takes to the course. Games vary from week to week and the entry fee is $1.25. The ladies have a 9- and 18-hole division. On Wednesday and Friday afternoons a scramble is on tap for those men and women who want to relax and have a lot of fun! The golf professional makes the pairings and the entry fee is $5 per player. Every Sunday “Twilight Golf” tees off with another interesting and fun format for your enjoyment. The entry fee is $2 per person and prizes are awarded to the top finishers. As you can see there is never a shortage of games (or friends) here at Isle Dauphine! Call the pro shop for starting times and other information regarding these events.

Isle Dauphine Golf Club was the sight of a summer junior golf program which was organized by golf professional, Jeff Collier. Some 35 youngsters participated in this program which included eleven play days and three clinics. The program was designed to give youngsters the opportunity to learn about the sport of golf while providing a friendly, yet competitive environment in which to participate. At the end of the program an awards banquet was held to recognize those participants who had excelled in their respective age divisions. The results were as follows: Perfect attendance: J.D. Ellington, Most Improve Player: Age 7 and Under: Hugh Malone, Age 8-10: Andy Wallace, Age 11-12: Lane Elmore, Age 13-14: Brian Walker, Low Score (boys) age 7 & under: Hugh Malone, age 8-10: J.D. Ellington, age 11-12: Ryan Reich, age 13-14, Hunter Elmore, Low Score (girls) age 7 & under, Cameo Ellington, age 8-10, Sylvia Pinegar. No girls competed in the 11-12 and 13-14 age groups. Each of the participants received a nice medal just for taking part in the program. A generous donation was provided by the Isle Dauphine Men’s Golf Association for the continuation of this very worthwhile endeavor.

Moments of Glory: Some LUCKY skilled Isle Dauphine members experienced that “once in a lifetime feeling” this year as each of them recorded a hole-in-one! We would to share their moments of glory with you. January 10, Tom Williams, Hole 4, March 3, Sarah Britton, Hole 13, March 15, Al Hibbert, Hole 8, April 2, Stan Rolland, Hole 4, May 22, Joe Lersch, Hole 4, June 11, Dr. Bob Newlin, Hole 8, and September 2, Ken Morris, Hole 4. In other golf news, Gregory Jones won the 1996 Men’s Club Championship while Billy Givens is this year’s Men’s Alligator Invitational Champion.

Play a round at

Isle Dauphine
Golf Club
Overlooking the Gulf of Mexico
100 Orleans Drive P.O. Box 39 (334) 861-2433
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Golf Coupon

$15.00 per person
1 to 4 players

Green fees & cart for 18 holes
must present this ad. Tuesday - Sunday
offer expires 12/31/96
DI Volunteer
Fire and Rescue

-Bill Hunter, Fire Chief

It’s 2:00 a.m. and a call goes out for someone having a possible heart attack. Three to six members of the Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue respond, some members straight to the address given by the dispatcher and the others to the fire station to pick up the rescue vehicle. Upon their arrival, the patient is found not to be breathing and with no pulse. All members work together as a team and CPR is started. Medical Control is contacted, lines started, and drugs are given per the doctors’ orders. The patient is loaded into the rescue vehicle and a code 3 ride to the nearest hospital begins. In route, due to the skills of the rescue team members, the Good Lord Above, and a little luck, the patient begins to breathe on his own. Upon their arrival at the hospital, the patient is in stable condition and turned over to the hospital staff.

This scenario and other like it happen more than you may realize. But who are these people that are willing to give so much time of themselves to serve their community? They are the volunteers of the Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Squad.

These volunteers are not just the average person who lives next door, as it takes something special in a person who will assist his community no matter what time of day or night, no matter what the weather conditions, and no matter what type of call it may be.

These volunteers must also undergo many hours of training, first to acquire the necessary skills to fight a fire, extricate a victim from a car, perform CPR, give first aid and other medical treatments, and any other emergency that they may be called upon to assist with. After acquiring these skills, then they must maintain them by attending many hours each year to keep them current.

Why do these men and women of the fire and rescue squad do all this? Some may say it’s their way of helping their fellow man. Others say it’s the challenge and the excitement. Others may say it makes them feel good when they assist someone and that someone smiles at them and says “Thank you.” Others, when asked just smile at you and say “I’m in it for the money.” (What money? They are volunteers and receive no pay!) Each person has his and her own reason. Next time you see one of them, you may want to ask them why they volunteer with the Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Squad.

Whatever their reasons, these men and women dedicate themselves to their community and we cannot afford to be without them. Without the outstanding support that our community has shown towards the squad, we would not be here either. To each and every person of Dauphin Island, we say “THANK YOU” and to the dedicated volunteers of the squad, we “THANK YOU”:

Bill Hunter - Fire Chief
Ron Eckhardt - Asst. Fire Chief
Brad Cox - Rescue Coordinator
Bill Sealy - Asst. Rescue Coordinator
Vera Munday - Secretary/Treasurer


As with any organization, there are others behind the scenes such as spouses and friends.

As Fire Chief, I would also like to “Thank” each and everyone of our members. I feel we have one of the best volunteer squads in the state. Without your dedication, support and commitment this would not be possible.

If other in our community are interested in joining our group, get in touch with one of our members or come to the monthly meeting held at the fire station, the third Monday of each month.
DI Home Page on the Net

As of the first of October, 700 browsers of Free Net and Internet have visited the Dauphin Island Home Page. During the last three months, until the most recent days when the seasonal downturn of numbers occurs, one of every five island inquiries came from page visitors.

This, because of the innovations of Billy Dunn, who established an interest form for visitors to print for the information they wish. These inquiries are received at the Jimmie Morris e-mail address daily, and in most cases are responded to in less than 24 hours.

Additionally, the visitor may visually scan the entire island street by street on six frames of maps. Billy has programmed 175 pictures of island features which may be pulled up.

Share this address with your friends, family and associates:
http://www.maf.mobile.al.us/~ditown.

Bon Appetit!
The staff of the DI Community News hope you enjoy the following recipe as much as we do! (At its best with local seafood, of course!)

Seafood Belmont
(8 to 10 Servings)

2 lbs. large raw shrimp
1 lb. fresh lump crabmeat
6 Tbsp. butter
1/2 cup flour
2 cups milk
1 cup whipping cream
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. cayenne

3 Tbsp. catsup
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire
1 1/2 Tbsp. lemon juice
1/4 cup dry sherry
10 artichoke hearts, sliced
1 cup grated sharp, New York cheddar cheese
1 cup buttered bread crumbs

Cook, peel and devein shrimp. Make a cream sauce of butter, flour, milk and cream. When thickened remove from heat and add seasonings, catsup, Worcestershire, lemon juice, sherry and cheese. Starting and ending with sauce, alternate layers of sauce, artichokes, crab and shrimp in a greased casserole dish. Cover top with crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees. For 20 minutes or until bubbly hot. Run under broiler to brown if necessary. (This recipe is reprinted courtesy of Cecil L. McMillan, author of The Once in a Blue Moon Cookbook, Montgomery, AL.)

Be Aware - Trail Safety!

Walking, jogging and riding on the new Taylor Harper Bike and Pedestrian Trail, must be tempered with a new awareness of the need for safety on the trail, for our children and all citizens and visitors who follow its path.

Parents and guardians are urged to train their children to observe the stop signs and striped approaches along the path.

Every driver on the streets intersecting with the trail, and every property owner whose driveway crosses the trail, is urged to take extra precaution by stopping before crossing the trail, or the white stripes denoting the location of the trail.

The intersecting streets are: Audubon (east of the trail), Buchanan, Forney Johnston, Ft. Lewis, Ft. Charlotte, Hernando, Iberville, Key, Lackland and Narvaez (west end of the trail).

Remember, safety first on the trail!
NEW WATERFRONT PARKS OPEN

- DI Park and Beach Board

The Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board is pleased to announce the development of two sites on the north side of the island. Both projects resulted from a matching grant funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and administered by the Coastal Programs section of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA). Special thanks go to Phillip Hinesley and Gil Gilder of this agency.

Although small in size, the parks provide the public scenic water front views with opportunities for picnicking, fishing, bird watching, and docks for boat access. The improvements also include facilities designed for handicap use.

One park is across from the intersection of Cadillac Avenue and Penalto Street. It’s named “Bayou Heron Park” and fronts the deep water access of Bayou Heron Canal and includes a small inlet. It is a beautiful location with a panoramic view of salt marshes, the Mississippi Sound and the Dauphin Island bridge. We are particularly happy with the development of this site because of its mis-use in the past. Until the project began, it was difficult to even see the water in most places. Aside from the occasional fisherman who made his way through the undergrowth, it was apparently used mostly as an illegal dump. Our work has required the removal of several old lawnmowers, tires, building material, and even a windshield! The amount of old household garbage removed has been amazing and, unfortunately, it is still appearing when the ground cover is disturbed.

Besides the site preparation, our improvements include the rebuilding of the dilapidated pier and dock, construction of a parking lot, putting up split rail fences and placement of picnic tables, benches, and trash receptacles. Parking is designed to provide wheelchair access for picnicking as well as to the pier and dock.

The second location is “Aloe Bay Landing” and sits between the Pelican Pub and McHugh Oil Field Services. This is actually the second phase of our development plan. Not that long ago, the boat dock at this site was in such bad shape, it was posted with “Danger - Keep Out” signs. You could also see an old concrete storm drain pipe that ended about the middle of the beach. In the first phase of improvements, we rebuilt the dock from the pilings up and the town relocated the exposed drain pipe.

The matching grant has allowed us to add a defined parking area with wheelchair access to a picnic table. Other tables and benches are set in an area landscaped with flowering oleander bordering the chain link fence on the east side of the property. It will take a while, but this landscaping will help soften the industrial impact of this area. Though not a part of the grant, we also added three pilings to the dock to better accommodate the boaters’ use.

Some may ask the question, why develop a park in the island’s “industrial area?” The DI Park and Beach Board believes it gives added benefit to our community precisely because it provides a peaceful alternative the surroundings. Furthermore, the site is already enjoyed by the public and was even used a headquarters for the last Dauphin Island Sailboat Race.

We encourage residents and visitors to enjoy the facilities at both locations. We only ask you keep in mind that they are your parks and we need your help to maintain them. The more time and money we spend on picking up trash and making repairs, the less we have to spend on further improvements.

Finally, the DI Park and Beach Board wishes to acknowledge the hard work of Greg Vesely and Candy Ladnier. They were instrumental in all aspects of the improvements and will be responsible for their future upkeep and maintenance.

Aloe Bay Landing

A Fisherman's Away

- Mike Henderson, DI Park and Beach Board

Mrs. Lena Lahnzof (or Miss Lena as she was known to most) and members of her family have camped in Fort Gaines Campground for many years. For several reasons, our campground has always been popular with saltwater fishermen. It's just a short walk to Gulf beaches or rock jetties. By way of two separate boat launching sites you can be in the open Gulf within 5-minute and there is the nearby free pier. To assist these guests we have also constructed a twelve person fish cleaning pavilion complete with lights and outlets for electric knives.

Understandably then, we have more than our fair share of serious fishermen. Of all we have met though, none has surpassed Miss Lena in dedication or pure joy in this pursuit. I first met her years ago when she and her daughter would carry their boat offshore. In fact, I used a color slide of her unloading some beautiful Kings at the shrimp docks for island publicity work I was doing at the time.

She was a small lady to begin with and as she got older her body couldn't handle the pounding offshore waves. So, without complaint, she just changed her goals to trout, redfish, and especially flounder. As the years passed, she was a familiar sight working her traps for bull minnows or fishing on the pier. Regardless of her success, which was often, she always projected the feeling that there was nothing in the world she would rather be doing than waiting for the next bite.

I happened to bump into her on the pier recently, just two days before she died. It was hot as blue blazes and she had not caught a thing. She smiled though and told me she was doing fine and felt the flounder would be moving in any minute. She fished the next day and died in her sleep at her camper that night. She was found with a smile on her face and at the kitchen table were fishing rigs she had been working on.

All who knew her mourn at her passing, but are comforted by the thought that wherever Miss Lena is, the fish are biting.
Scout Troop Celebrates Anniversary

--Jeff Caldwell, Scoutmaster

Dauphin Island Troop No. 5 will celebrate its first year as an organized troop this October. The scout troop is planning to attend the area-wide camporee on October 18 and 19 at the state park in Atmore. The camporee will have an Olympic theme and all the troops will be competing against each other for awards.

In the past year, the scouts have participated in community activities around the Island. The scouts came out twice in the last year on Little Dauphin Island and had a great time. The last time the scouts were on Little Dauphin it was 25 increasing, needless to say the campfires burned long into the night. The following day warmed up to 65 degrees and the boys played a game of capture the flag that covered most of Little Dauphin. By the way, if anyone is curious why there aren't any houses on Little Dauphin, ask one of the scouts to tell you the Indian legend of "Quiet Bear."

Nine scouts from Dauphin Island capped off their summer by spending a week at Boy Scout Camp Maubila located north of Jackson, AL. The boys took on adult size responsibilities and earned merit badges in swimming, archery, woodcarving, wilderness survival, emergency preparations, rifle and leatherworks. Troop No. 5 won the camp inspection award with a perfect score on each daily campsite inspection. They also won the Camp Maubila volleyball tournament.

Remember the names under the above picture, these boys will be tomorrow's leaders. Scouting building leadership and responsible young adults. If you have a son eleven years old or has completed the fifth grade he is eligible for boy scouts. Please sign them up. Also there is a need in Troop 5 for an assistant scoutmaster, merit badge counselors, and other adult leaders, male or female. If you have a son who wants to join in or if you would like to participate, contact Jeff Caldwell, at the DI Water and Sewer Office, 861-2363.

Troop 5 is sponsored by the Town of Dauphin Island and has also received support from Ross Pritchard, DI Foundation.

Support the Boy Scout Popcorn drive and order popcorn from Troop 5. The Drive ends November 1.

Boat Parade Set for December 7

- DI Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce has announced the date of this year's Christmas Boat Parade to be Saturday, December 7. Those boats participating will gather at Billy Goat Hole before dark. The parade will start at dusk which should be around 5 to 5:30 p.m. The fleet of decorated boats will travel Government Cut and follow the sea wall in Little Dauphin Bay, ending in the marina. The parade should end an hour and a halfafter having started.

Christmas Parade T-Shirts and Light Jackets will be available for sale at local retail businesses.

A party with "Hot Chili" will be held at The Chamber building starting at 7:00. Boat participants and their riders will be given admission tickets for entry. Everyone is invited. The cost at the door is $5 each. For information, call Don Rhodes at 861-8000.

VOTE

GENERAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 5

Old Town Hall

7 AM - 7 PM

ISLAND STUFF

A MOST UNIQUE GIFT SHOP
7 DAYS A WEEK
Large selection of unusual
Halloween decorations

Fresh cut Christmas trees
arriving November 29th

Our 4th year of serving Dauphin Island's tree needs.
Free delivery on island
1514 Bienville Blvd.
861-2059

You are invited to attend
Christmas on the Island
Tour of Homes

DECEMBER 14, 1996
1:00 P.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M.

SPONSORED BY:
The Dauphin Island Woman's Club

TICKETS: $10.00

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TICKETS CALL
861-2111 or 861-3004
Island Vets Organize
The Dauphin Island Veterans Association held its second organizational meeting Saturday, October 12, at the Seafood Galley. The group plans to meet once a month and is encouraging Island veterans to attend. For information, call Jim Delchamps at 861-8312 or Billy Dunn at 861-4220.

THE SAND BOX
1604 Bienville Boulevard
861-6001
Open 7 Days A Week
A Great Selection of
Gift, Novelties, Apparel, Shells, Beach Toys, Jewelry, Mugs, Wall Hangings, and Much More!

The Little Red Schoolhouse
...Dauphin Island School
A Vision for School and Community Involvement... New Faces and New Places...

The faculty and staff of The Little Red Schoolhouse are enthusiastically looking forward to an exceptionally productive and successful school year.

Our principal and school counselor is Paula Loper. Anne Waller is the secretary and Belinda Bates is our custodian and all around right hand person. We have two half-time teachers: Ann Franklin is the Physical Education teacher and Marla Broom is the librarian. Marla Wilson is teaching Kindergarten this year, Arta Musial is the first/second grade teacher. Wendy Webster is teaching the third/fourth grade class and Jan Tanner is teaching the fifth and sixth grade students. We have two full time aides, Joyce Hovell, who also does duty as our crossing guard and Jane Tate who will be helping the first and second graders get off to a good start.

Mrs. Loper and the entire staff share a vision of a community friendly school. The school is committed to supporting projects and activities that will benefit the school as well as community interests. For example, our playground and all field are always open to the public to be enjoyed during non-school times. There are several pieces of equipment for climbing and swinging. We do plan a significant expansion of these facilities this year that should greatly add to the enjoyment and physical fitness of everyone on the island. Considerable input of ideas, time, materials and labor will be required with the end result being a playground we can all enjoy.

Our vision for community involvement and interaction includes a computer lab that will provide computer enhanced activities for students during school hours and for senior citizens and parents at other times. Anyone willing to venture into the world of computers, to learn about various computer programs and try their hand at "surfing the net", using e-mail or doing personal research is invited to participate. The computer lab could be set up in one of the portable buildings with the helpful hints and classes being offered by Mr. Billy Dunn, creator of the island's web page, excellent teacher and all around computer wizard. A small fee will be charged for scheduled classes. We hope that many people will be able to take advantage of the computer lab.

The library or media center has been moved into the main school building and is now located directly across from the office. The new setting is an attractive invitation to all students and their families to share the experience of reading. This year's library plans include continuation of the popular, 'Accelerated Reader' program. Reading the books in this program is open to students and community members. Choose a book, come to school and take the computerized test and earn some points! It's fun and easy! See how many points you can earn this year, set up a family competition or club challenge or just enjoy some good literature! New books are always being added and donations from the community are welcome. Please consider OUR library as YOUR library. Drop by anytime and 'check us out'.

DI Woman's Club News
- DI Woman's Club
The Dauphin Island Woman's club enjoys a very active membership with forty-five club members. The club has sponsored several activities under the leadership of President, Dee Gordon.

One of the commitments of the Woman's Club has been to support the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Over the past two years, Bike-a-thons were held raising a total of $8,779.00 bringing national recognition for club participation. The club has held two spring luncheons and fashion shows to involve the community.

Marti Harding of Marti's Island Shoppe provided the fashions as well as directed the style show. The food was prepared and provided by the club members.

The Christmas on Dauphin Island Tour of Homes has become an annual event. Chairperson, Anita Dickerson, has announced the 1996 Tour of Homes is scheduled for December 14, from one to five p.m.

Proceeds from these endeavors are targeted to the beautification of Dauphin Island and support of the Little Red Schoolhouse. The club bought three concrete picnic tables with benches and placed them at Billy Goat Hole, donating them to the Town of Dauphin Island for the comfort of the tourists awaiting the ferry across the Bay to Fort Morgan.

Ladies interested in the beautification of Dauphin Island are invited to join. Regular club meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Seafood Galley on Bienville Boulevard.

For more information, please phone Dee Gordon, 861-3801.
Former Mayor Honored
--- Jimmie Morris, Development Director, Town of DI

Elegant words praising his excellent work reached the ears of Mel Lucas during a reception given in his honor recently. While overlooking the Gulf from the Wheel Room of the Isle Dauphine Club, Mel heard and found inscribed on a plaque these accolades of appreciation:

"For probing the halls of Congress, the Chambers of the State House and Senate, and County Government, on our behalf;

For representation reflecting the best of island image among municipalities;

For expanding our boundaries, thus expanding our economic wealth into the new millennium;

For improving recreational facilities for our young people;

For establishing better town government administration through new offices and computerization;

For overcoming obstacles to establish the healthy environment of a jogging and bike trail for all;

For exemplifying the greater value of the family unit;

And because his name and results of his good work have been forever etched in our lives;"

We honor and salute the Father, the Grandfather, the Man, the Honorable Mel Lucas, Mayor of the Town of Dauphin Island, 1992 - 1996."

Many of his associates, his wife, Lamona, and members of his proud family were on hand for the special evening.

Boating Facts

A saltwater fishing license is required for all persons fishing in saltwater areas of Alabama. Residents and non-residents under the age of 16 are exempt. Residents age 65 and over are exempt. Residents may fish from a licensed public fishing pier or licensed charter boat in the inside waters without purchasing a fishing license.

The Roberson/Archer Act of 1994 requires that every person 12 years of age or over who operates a motorized vessel on the waters of this State, shall obtain a boater’s safety certification on or before April 28, 1999. Responsible boaters should check details and exemptions.

DI Chamber of Commerce Reports Good Year
--- Jimmie Morris, President

It has been an excellent year for our 87 business and associate member-supported Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce. New ideas were explored, and innovations were initiated which were refreshing, and in some cases, will have a lasting affect on the organization and the community.

The weekly Chamber Sunrise Get-Together on Wednesday mornings, chaired by Marti Harding, increased member communications for those who attended, and have been entertaining by their intended informality.

One of the spin-offs of those sessions (though not a Chamber project) and the computer generated Spring Festival, was the establishment of a Dauphin Island Home Page on Free Net and Internet.

Earlier staging of a pre-tricentennial July 4th Stars and Stripes Forever Showcase, and the Chamber’s 1996 Arts and Crafts and Sand Dunes Stage Review, and DI Foundation-sponsored StarBright Mobile Pops Concert at Water tower Plaza during the Spring Festival, created a community feeling for the possible establishment of a performing and visual arts stage at that site.

Our successful fund-raising efforts for the Chamber’s advertising program points directly to heads of our project and men and women like Joe Haire, Billy Dunn, Larry and Ann Bridges and Jeff Collier (Sand Dunes Golf Tournaments I and II), Jim Hall (lot raffle), Mary Clare Abruscato (festival t-shirts), Shirley Westfall (fish fry and sailing regatta) and Donald Rhodes (Taste of Dauphin Island) and the generous cooperation of the Water and Sewer Authority and the Town Street Department.

1597 pieces of mail have been processed to prospective visitors and property seekers. Over $12,000 will have been spent before the year is over for Chamber promotion in ads, billboards, and printing of brochures and maps. This is the result of our Advertising committee’s marketing program (thanks to Mike Henderson, Rose Raica, and Lynne Wickman), and the ad placed by the Town’s Development Department, and the response to the Home Page. There are 30 days yet remaining in this annual report period.

Another average of 100 pieces of mail were processed each month in member communication and Chamber project.

Dr. John Porter has doggedly pursued relief from the beach erosion problem. His work is paying off.

We express our appreciation to our Board members - Treasurer, Mary Tillman, Vice President, Marti Harding, Mike Henderson, Howard Yeager and Shirley Westfall, and others who have made a mark in those areas of the Chamber portfolio for Island Promise.

A final salute is made to those members who have shown allegiance to the Chamber by their attending meetings on a regular basis, and for fulfilling their committed obligations.

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ATTENTION COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN!!
WE BUY YOUR CATCH
TOP PRICES PAID
FROM THE FAMOUS PINHOOK SEAFOOD MARKET
Participate in Living History at Fort Gaines During the Fall

- DI Park and Beach Board

In 1861, the funds for construction of a Fort for coastal defense began along Mobile Bay. Plagued with problems from the beginning, completion of Fort Gaines was not accomplished until 1861, when Confederate forces seized the Fort during the Civil War.

Fort Gaines offers a variety of historical events for the whole family. Staff members participate in living history events along with reenactors, providing a touch of nostalgia.

Step back in time with a self-guided tour. See where the food was prepared in the actual kitchens for the Civil War soldiers, walk through the bakery and operational blacksmith shop. Touch the 32-ouncer cannons that were fired during the historic Battle of Mobile Bay, where Admiral Farragut was noted for "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" A museum and two separate exhibit rooms explain island history from pre-colonial to the 1930's. Open everyday from 9 to 5, except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Colonial History Comes to Life During October

October brings to the island and the Fort cooler temperatures and feasts of autumn harvests. Starting Friday, October 18, Fort Gaines is host for the 3rd Annual Colonial Isle Dauphine. Reenactors in period dress will entertain guests throughout the weekend. Activities normally include blacksmithing, open-hearth cooking, Native American exhibitors, European traders, and buckskinner.

Fort Hosts 3rd Annual Women's Encampment - 1861 Style!

As November rings forth thoughts of holiday plans, Fort Gaines travels back to 1861. We are proud to host an event solely dedicated to the life of women in that era. November 9th through the 10th, ladies dressed in 1860 clothing can be observed attending to their daily routines, in the 3rd Annual Women's Encampment. Prior to the Civil War, the "delicate nature" of women excluded them from combat service duties including their nursing capabilities. Although this attitude persisted throughout the war, the determination and fortitude of a number of women etched their name in history along with the ranks of men.

Medieval Fun at the Fort

Saturday, November 16, the 12th Annual Renaissance Festival starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. This medieval event has knights in armor, jousting, lords and ladies and period merchants. A very colorful event for all.

Christmas in the Fort, circa 1861

As an alternative to the glitz and glitter of modern Christmas, you are invited to a re-creation of Christmas at Fort Gaines in 1861. On December 7th and 8th, join us for the magic of Christmas. This event is based on the letters to his family written by a soldier stationed at Fort Gaines. Confederate forces garrisoned at the Fort made do with "egg nog, and a regimental mock parade. All companies turned out in full dress." Christmas dinner later that evening in December 1861 provided soldiers with cold turkey, sweet potatoes, pigeon pie, jelly cake, sherry wine and a final note of "loved ones at home missed more today than every." Christmas at the Fort is a living history event for the whole family.

Fort Gaines Honored by the Civil War Trust Foundation

- DI Park and Beach Board

The Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board was recently informed that Historic Fort Gaines has been selected as an official site of the national Civil War Discovery Trail. We are one of only 13 sites in Alabama to receive this honor.

Geographic Traveler, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, Travel Holiday, Southern Living, USA Today, etc.

We are especially existed that Frommer's, one of the best known publishers of travel guides, has just released a 257-page book entitled the Official Guide to the Civil War Discovery Trail. It's also nice that Fort Gaines is the very first historic site described in the book!

Official Site

Pelican Pub

Frank Chleczczyk Manager

1102 DaSota Avenue
PO Box 1207
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528
(334) 261-7120

Come enjoy the sunset and view from our deck overlooking Aloe Bay
More Dauphin Island Street Names

In the early 1950’s, the Mobile Chamber of Commerce’s "Committee on Nomenclature" selected street names which were significant in the history of the island and the settlement of North America.

Originally, the boulevards, avenues, lanes and places were designed to run east and west. Drives, streets and courts ran north and south. All names were arranged alphabetically from east to west and south to north.

The origin of a few of the island streets includes:

Alabama Avenue: named for the sovereign State of Alabama whose governor, Gordon Persons, made the decision to build the original bridge to the island, providing that a substantial investment in the bridge was made by the purchasers of property on the island, thereby making the development financially feasible. (Note: this bridge was destroyed by Hurricane Frederick in 1979.)

Forney Johnston Drive: named for Forney Johnston, the able and patient leader of the group which for half a century retained composite title to Dauphin Island. This ownership was a requisite for the subsequent development in the 1950’s. Forney Johnston was also the son of Alabama’s twice governor, Joseph F. Johnston.

Tennessee Street: named for the ironclad "Tennessee", pride of the Confederate fleet, which single-handedly attacked the entire Federal fleet in the second conflict of the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864.

Fort Tensas Place (pronounced Tensaw): named for the fortifications on the Tensas River which for many years was the most important navigable stream leading to Mobile Bay from the inland areas.

The information above is from The History of Dauphin Island, published by the Mobile Chamber of Commerce and the Dauphin Island Land Sales Corporation in 1974.

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### MOBILE BAY FERRY SCHEDULE

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Isle Dauphine Clubhouse Dining
Available for private parties, picnics, receptions, and company functions. Information: Call Don Rhodes 861-8000
Open For Special Occasions
Watch For Announcements Of Future Events

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Communications Consultant and Associates
Notes from The Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary

-- John Porter, Pres. Friends of the Dauphin Island Audubon Sanctuary, Inc.

Well...traffic will be picking up in the Sanctuary again now that Fall Migration is underway. We had a call from a charming lady from Lake Charles, LA earlier in the month. Turns out she was a French school teacher in an exchange program teaching in Lake Charles and she had heard about the Sanctuary and birding on Dauphin Island. She is also a bird bander in France. She came over for a visit Labor Day weekend and we received a report from her a few days later...she had some really good birds and had this to say: "Dauphin Island is a beautiful island especially the Dunes, the Sanctuary and the West End".

Hummers are Here

One of the first signs that the neotropical migrants have started south again is the arrival of everybody’s favorite, the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. We saw our first one for the Fall on August 5, one day earlier than last year. The male comes through first, having abandoned all parental duties, leaving his mate with all the responsibilities of incubating, hatchling, feeding and fledging the young. After they have fledged the young are pretty much on their own. With their amazing internal guidance system and master clock they find their way on back to the coast on their own. Here they join the adults in a long feeding period, storing fat, some 30-50% of their body weight, as fuel for the long flight south. The closest landing for them is the Yucatan Peninsula, some 600 miles south west of Dauphin Island! Think of it! That tiny bird weighing only three grams (it takes ten of them to make an ounce), all alone, will travel 600 miles over mostly open seas before sighting land, food, and shelter again. Isn’t that awesome? They need your help with that food problem. The Lantana and other blooming plants took a beating last winter, and we are behind on rain for the summer. Now is the time to put your feeders out...there or four if you can. You can make your own nectar...four parts water to one part sugar. Keep your feeders clean...wash them out at least once a week...the Hummers will give you hours of enjoyment.

Birds on the Bridge

You may have noticed large numbers of birds flocking on the north end of the Bridge last month, especially around dusk. These were Purple Martins gathering for their southward trip across the Gulf. They roost under the bridge during the night and feed on the insects during the day. The Ponchartrain Bridge is perhaps the famous Bridge for Purple Martins to roost under...there are over a million birds there each season! You may also have noticed that there were a lot of road kills along the way, dead birds along the side of the road. We have counted as many as fifteen on a single trip. These are mostly young birds that have not learned about cars and the need to fly well above the road to be safe in crossing. The folks in Louisiana have begun a project of building additional fencing above the edge of the rail to be sure the birds will clear the cars as they cross. Keep a sharp eye out for these birds next year...and for the Gulls, Terns and Pelicans, who have the same bad habits but less often.

Bird Banders at Ft. Morgan

Bob and Martha Sargent with the Hummer/Birdstudy Group are banding birds at Ft. Morgan until Sunday, October 20. If you have never watched banders before don’t miss this opportunity. The Sargent’s, like all banders are licensed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and send all of their information back to the Service for scientific analysis.

First you should understand that the birds are not harmed in any way by this process. Very fine nylon nets are strung our through the woods in the area known as the Stable Area just east of the Ferry landing and in the open area just south of the ferry landing, known as the Middle Ground. The birds cannot see the nets and fly into them, getting entangled in the mesh. The banders retrieve the birds from the nets in a short time and take them to the banding table. Here the bird is identified, weighed, its age and sex determined, and some critical measurements taken, such as wing length, bill length, etc. The amount of body fat is also determined. In the Spring this tells the banders whether or not the bird has had a stressful migration or had a relatively easy time of the trip. In the Fall the banders can tell whether or not the birds are ready for that long trip back down South.

The Sargents welcome all visitors and keep up a running description of everything they are doing. They work the banding table under a shelter and there is usually plenty of room for a folding chair or stool. If you ride the Ferry as a walk-on its an easy 1/4 mile walk to the banding site. Take a day off and take the kids and enjoy...they will even let you hold one of those beautiful little birds and release it back to the wild.

What a thrilling experience!! And oh yes, the visitor from France will be with them on the weekends.

Fall AOS Meeting

The Alabama Ornithological Society had its annual Fall meeting here on the Island Oct. 11-13. We had birders on the Island from all over the Southeast. You may recall that last spring there was an article in Wild Bird magazine citing Dauphin Island as the No. 2 hotspot in the United States for Spring Migration Birding, just behind High Island, Texas. Wild Bird has commissioned a follow up article on Birding Dauphin Island for publication prior to Spring Migration and we expected to have the author of that article as our Island guest over the AOS weekend but he was unexpectedly called to a project in Mexico.

Birding has become a very popular sport throughout not only the US but all over the world. As we mentioned in the last issue of this newspaper:

In 1991, more than 24 million Americans took trips for the express purpose of watching wild birds, versus 14 million hunters (3 million mi
Billy Goat Hole
Launching Ramp Repair
Announced
--DI Community News Staff

"I broke an axle on my boat trailer."

"I nearly lost my boat and trailer in a big hole in that ramp."

"I had to park a quarter mile away."

... Remarks of boating enthusiasts who have used the recreational boat launching ramp in Billy Goat Hole on the East End of Dauphin Island... Help is on the way! The latter part of September, Mr. Walter Tatum in the Gulf Shores State Conservation Office, told DI Community News that he is in the process of developing a bid package to rebuild the launching ramps and finger piers.

The construction will replace the under water cement which has been broken up and severely cracked for years. Tatum said the work should be completed in fiscal year 1996-97. He is also working on a plan to develop additional parking near the ramp site. Originally constructed by the County, maintenance of the ramps was turned over to the Town of Dauphin Island during incorporation in 1988. New decks were put on the finger piers four years ago. Mr. Tatum concluded that the repairs are badly needed. He added, "This is probably the most used boat ramp in the State of Alabama."

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105 PORTIER CT. ON BEACH
Large home with deck across front. Four bedrooms, three baths, two sitting rooms, pine and mahogany paneling for low maintenance. $185,000

421 ABLIGHT DRIVE IN SEAPONTE
Fabulous home on deep water. Three levels of living space. Large master suite on main floor with family room and sitting room up & down. $285,000

LOT 59, SEAPONTE
On East end of Island. 80 feet on the water with a bulkhead and pier with lift. Wonderful view of Mobile Bay. This is the only lot available at this time. $144,900

317 POLARIS DRIVE
Deep water docking in royal lagoons. Fabulous view of Mississippi Sound. Three bedrooms, two baths, screened porch, parking underneath. $140,000

2313 BENVILLE BLVD.
On "beach lot" on West end of Island. Large home with 100 feet on the Gulf. Four bedrooms, three baths, furnished, decks completely surrounded, covered and open. $289,900

TYPICAL LOT IN THE WOODS.
Wooded lots are very popular!!! We have lots listed from $12,000 and up. We are having a hard time keeping an inventory.
Dauphin Island Community Schedule of Events

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:
Dauphin Island Town Council,
1st and 3rd Tuesday, 7 P.M., Town Hall, 861-5525
DI Planning Commission
2nd Tuesday, 7 P.M., Town Hall, 861-5525
DI Municipal Court Sessions
1st (Arraignments), 2nd and 3rd (Trials) Mondays, 6 P.M., Town Hall, 861-2525
DI Chamber of Commerce
3rd Thursday, 7 P.M., 861-5524
DI Park and Beach Board Meetings
3rd Tuesday, 5 P.M., 861-3607
DI Property Owner's Association
3rd Wednesday, 6:30 P.M., 861-4228
Dauphin Island Art & Craft Guild,
4th Monday, 10 A.M., Seafood Galley, 861-5760
Dauphin Island Women's Club
4th Thursday, 11 A.M., 861-8303
Baptist Church, 11 A.M.
St. Francis Episcopal Church, 10:30 A.M.
St. Edmund Catholic Church, 8:30 A.M.
United Methodist Church, 11 A.M.

December

December 6, Chanukah
December 6, Friday, Selection of Miss Dauphin Island, Junior Miss Dauphin Island, Little Miss Dauphin Island, Sweet Miss Dauphin Island, 7 P.M., Chamber of Commerce Building. Applications at Town Hall and the Little Red School House. Wanda Sandagger, 861-5525
December 7, Saturday, Santa Claus Street Parade, 11 A.M., Wanda Sandagger, 861-5525
December 7, Saturday, Chamber of Commerce Christmas on Dauphin Island Boat Parade on North Shoreline, at Dusk. Commemorative T-shirts are now available at Island businesses. 861-5524
December 7-8, Saturday-Sunday, 12th Annual Christmas at the Fort, Fort Gaines, Candlelight Tour on Saturday only. 861-9922
December 14, Saturday, A Christmas on the Island Tour of Homes, 1 P.M. - 5 P.M., Sponsored by The DI Woman's Club. Anita Dickson, 861-8301
December 14, Saturday, Light Up Dauphin Island Display, at Dusk, at Water Tower Plaza and Town of Dauphin Island, Holiday Street Lights. 861-5524
December 21, Saturday, Winter Begins
December 25, Wednesday, Christmas Day
December 31, Tuesday, New Year's Eve Dance Sponsored by Island Mystics, Chamber of Commerce Building, 861-3101
TBA - Mystery Dinner Theater, "Murder on the Holiday Express", Isle Dauphine Wheelroom, 861-5760

October

October 18-20, 3rd Annual Colonial Isle Dauphine, Fort Gaines, 861-6992
October 26, Saturday, Dauphin Island's Largest Yard Sale - Chamber of Commerce Building, 8 A.M. - 2 P.M., Sponsored by the Light Up Dauphin Island Committee. Mary Lou Turner, 861-5911, Doris Anderson, 861-6713
October 31, Thursday, All Hallowed Eve's Club Horror Trail and Casper's Trail - Cadillac Square and Jeff and Linda Hoile's Home. Dusk. 861-2509

November

November 4, Flu Shots/Health Screenings, Chamber Building, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
November 9 - 10, Saturday-Sunday, 3rd Annual Women's Encampment, Fort Gaines, 861-6992
November 16, Saturday, 12th Annual Renaissance Festival/Gatalop, Fort Gaines, 861-6992
November 27, Wednesday, Combined Churches Thanksgiving Service
November 28, Thursday, Thanksgiving Day
TBA - Mystery Dinner Theater, "Murder on the Holiday Express", Isle Dauphine Wheelroom, 861-5760

January

January 11-12, Saturday-Sunday, Annual Fury on the Gulf; Simulated Battle and Candlelight Tour (Saturday only), Fort Gaines, 861-6992
January 11, Saturday, Krewe de la Dauphine Mardi Gras Parade and Ball, 861-5524
January 18, Saturday, Island Mystics Mardi Gras Parade and Ball, 861-5524
January and February, TBA, Mystery Dinner Theater, "THE BIG SLEAZY, Murder at the Mardi Gras", Isle Dauphine Wheelroom, 861-5760

February

February 15, Saturday, Annual Battle of Mobile Bay 5K Run, Sponsored by Port City Pacers, begins at Fort Gaines, 861-6692
February 15-16, Saturday-Sunday, 14th Annual Confederate Encampment, Fort Gaines, 861-6692

March

TBA - Mystery Dinner Theater, "Peggy Sue Got Murdered", Isle Dauphine Wheelroom, 861-5760.

To be included in updated schedules of events, or to make changes to the calendar, call Jimmie Morris, 861-5524; fax, 861-2154; e-mail, jmorris44uno.com.

DAUPHIN ISLAND COMMUNITY NEWS
A Project of The Dauphin Island Foundation
Vol. 1 No. 2 Fall 1996
The Dauphin Island Foundation, P.O. Box 946, 219 LaMoyne Drive, Dauphin Island, AL 36528

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