SUMMERTIME AT DI SEA LAB

Lisa Young, Public Relations Director - We all know that the population of Dauphin Island increases tremendously during the warm summer months. Many of these visitors are here to soak up the sun and enjoy the white beaches of the Gulf. But, over on the East End of Dauphin Island, at the Sea Lab, a portion of those summer inhabitants will be spending their days learning a wealth of information about marine science, as the summer programs of the Sea Lab goes into full gear.

Both the Discovery Hall Programs and University Programs are currently hosting summer students to Dauphin Island and the Sea Lab itself. Accommodating these residential scholars takes a great deal of planning, not only for their coursework, but also for their room and board. Sea Lab staff started months ahead of time, fresening up dorms, planning meals, confirming students' plans — the list goes on. College students from around the state and nearby region descend upon the Sea Lab in mid-May for pre-term courses. Over the course of the summer, we expect to host approximately 125 college students, 60 high school students, and 300 elementary and secondary school teachers for workshops. Many students have never visited Dauphin Island previously, so we know that after their coursework is completed, they will have formed strong friendships with each other and warm memories of their stay on the Island.

College and Graduate Students

University Programs, the branch of the Sea Lab which oversees undergraduate and graduate education, offers a plethora of courses, ranging from Dolphins and Whales to Marine Conservation Biology to Introduction to Neurobiology. These intensive courses are taught by both the residential Sea Lab faculty and by visiting scholars from around the nation. Students' classes are

Continued on page 8

Dauphin Island Sea Lab college students in the Marine Invertebrates class examine the catch from a trawl aboard the R/V A. E. Verrill, the Lab's research vessel. The A. E. Verrill takes students and staff into the waters of Mobile Bay and off shore into the Gulf for educational and research projects.

FIRST OF TWO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OPENED ON ISLAND

Jim Hall, DSCN Editor - Friendly Credit Union opened its doors for business on Dauphin Island Monday, June 14, at 600 LeMoyne Drive. This financial institution is the first for the Island, and the second organization, the Bay Bank, will be opening for business in mid-August.

Friendly Credit Union was granted its state charter in 1951 after being organized by a group of employees of International Paper and other companies and groups from it two offices in Mobile.

Continued on page 13

Mr. John Noel (center) at the dedication ceremonies, April 31, for the new performing arts stage located in front of the Water Tower. Mr. Noel constructed the cement forms, cleared the ground, paid for and poured the material, leveled the surface and backfilled the platform ready for the sod. The DI Water and Sewer Board participated in the construction, and the DI Foundation assisted with some of the costs. Mr. Noel dedicated the stage in memory of his wife Elaine. Later, the Mobile Pops Orchestra performed a concert under the stars. (Left) Mr. David Graves, Chairman of the Dauphin Island Tricentennial, acted as MC for the evening.

FORT GAINES HOSTS GOOD MORNING AMERICA ON ABC

Mike Henderson, Executive Director, Park & Beach Board-Historic Fort Gaines was delighted to host all four of the live weather segments during the remote broadcast of the popular ABC morning show. On May 13th, an estimated 4 million viewers across the nation watched on-air personality Tony Perkins tour the Fort and experience "living history" activities portrayed here.

We wish to express special thanks to Brian McWilliams for encouraging re-enactors to help us with this project. By showtime early that morning, there was a large group of both men and women in Civil War Dress demonstrating living history.

During the broadcast, operation of the original kitchen and blacksmith shop were featured as well as camp life and a mock battle. The battle was a real hit, with rifle fire, the Fort's cannons and additional artillery brought in by re-enactors. Especially striking was the return fire of a 92-foot Civil War era sailing ship. Captain Carol Bramlett brought over the Glenn L. Swain from Biloxi to help in these activities.
The Dauphin Island Marlins 13-14 yr. Old Dixie Boys Baseball team won the park championship for the South Mobile Athletic Assoc. The team had an overall record of 12-3-1. Pictured: (Top, L to R) Frankie Wallace, Johnathan Bankston, Joe Baya, A.J. Ladnier, T. J. Esteller, Jonathan Wilkerson, (Bottom row, L to R) Coach Jeff Caldwell, Kris Collins, Tony Menotti, Butch Thierry, Bowen Allen, Coach Frank Wallace. Coach Caldwell said it was a great team effort and adds “Congratulations, Marlins.”

GOOD NEIGHBOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP FORMED ON ISLAND

Jim Hall, DICN Editor - Several months ago, late one evening, a lady on an extended visit to the Island needed some small grocery items. She was over 80 years of age and didn’t drive any more, and her younger sister, of only a few years, was not feeling well. What to do? After some thought, she called a neighbor, whom she had only met, and asked for a little favor. The neighbor drove to the Ben’s, got a loaf of bread, a 7-Up and maybe another item, and the visiting lady was very happy.

Islander John Grewe heard the story and it started him thinking. There are many visitors and residents who don’t know a lot of people on the Island - maybe they are new, maybe they are just visiting and they need a little helping hand. Nothing serious, nothing life threatening, not something which would prompt a 911 call to Police or Fire and Rescue. Just a helping hand.

Mr. Grewe decided to take some action and do something. He had an idea. He talked it over with Mayor Collier and the Mayor liked John’s idea. So, John started knocking on doors of some Island folks whom he knew, and he organized a group of couples. A carefully chosen group of people who would be willing to help others in an emergency, big or small. They talked and came up with the concept of the Good Neighbor Fellowship.

The plan works this way - for someone needing help, short of an emergency 911 call - dial 861-5523 (Dauphin Island Police dispatcher), and find out how to reach a Good Neighbor. The dispatcher on duty has a list of Good Neighbor names, addresses and phone numbers. The dispatcher will suggest a phone number which should be located near the caller’s location and pass the phone number and name (only) to the person making the inquiry.

Mr. Grewe said that the project has been “joy” to organize. “This is what people are all about!” Mr. Grewe said.

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See Dauphin Island from the water!

Island Cruises
Enjoy a two-hour cruise around parts of Dauphin Island in comfort and safety aboard the Motor Yacht LET IT BE. Share a slow, leisurely ride by luxury waterfront homes. See an interesting view of the Civil War Fort Gaines... Delight to lots of sea birds! Cruises Daily. Reservations 861-4499. E-mail: jslljg@iol.com. See us on http://gulfinfo.com.
FROM THE MAYORS DESK

MAYOR JEFF COLLIER

On behalf of the Town council, I wish you and yours a very happy and safe Fourth of July! The Town, along with the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Dauphin Island Chamber, Dauphin Island Foundation, Dauphin Island Women’s Club, Bob Campbell with the Dauphin Island Property Owner’s Association and Bill Lindsey of Barnacle Bills are proud to sponsor a spectacular fireworks display as we continue to celebrate the Island’s tricentennial. Our thanks to the Dauphin Island Property Owner’s Association for hosting this year’s event at the Isle Dauphin Golf Club. I encourage each of you to make your plans to celebrate Independence Day 1999 here on beautiful Dauphin Island.

It doesn’t seem possible, but we are less than 90 days from the one year anniversary of Hurricane Georges. Over the past nine months the Town council has continued to work with Federal, State and local agencies in an effort to repair the storm-damaged infrastructure. In fact, an engineering firm was recently secured to provide the Town with solutions to chronic problem areas. One specific area is Bienville Boulevard on the Island’s West End. A plan is in place to install as many as twelve underground drainage pipes leading from the North side of Bienville and extending to the Mississippi Sound. The Town has secured the necessary funds and engineering surveys have determined the most beneficial locations for these outlets. Certain property owners in these local will be receiving a letter from the Town requesting a maintenance easement through their property. We respectfully request your favorable consideration so that work can proceed on this phase of the project.

The Town is currently accepting bids on a substantial resurfacing project. Some twenty streets throughout the island are scheduled to be paved within the next few months. An addition, Bienville Boulevard (West End) and all street streets leading to the Gulf are slated to be elevated - which, in conjunction with the sand berm, should help to elevate flooding in these areas. For additional information on the status of the berm please see Admiral Stewart’s column on page 13.

Repairs to the finger piers at Billy Goats Hole are complete and the sunken boat (and associated debris) will be removed in the near future. Once this is done, work can begin to repair the fire-damaged portion of the dock. The Town recently installed a donation box which will allow users to contribute toward the maintenance of the facility. All funds collected will be used solely for the upkeep and further enhancement of this public facility. In the meantime, negotiations with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources continue in an effort to replace all of the existing boat ramps. The Department of Conservation is reviewing various ramp designs and associated costs of which the Town would be responsible for twenty-five percent.

Progress continues on the Town’s Comprehensive Plan which is being produced by Neel-Schaffer, Inc. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the committee who have given considerable time and effort to insure a quality product. I also thank the many residents who have attended public workshops and those who completed the questionnaires. Additional public forums are planned throughout the summer. You are encourage to attend meetings and share your thoughts and vision of the future of our island community. The comprehensive plan should be finalized before the end of the year.

The police department is moving. The days of working out of the trailer are over. A newly-remodeled police building is located on DeSoto Street just West of the post office. Our goal is to provide improved working conditions for our employees by offering a more spacious floor plan. Our thanks to Chief Beasley and Building Inspector Travis Touchstone for overseeing the renovation process.

New directional signs will be going up around the island any day now. These colorful and attractive signs are a result of a partnership between the Town and the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce. The markers will be used to replace the faded wooden signs which have begun to deteriorate. Soon, visitors to our island will be able to find their desired destination with a little less hassle.

I hope most of you have picked up a copy of “The Town Crier”. Several months ago the Town started distributing this informational newsletter at area businesses. Our intent is to provide you with accurate details of noteworthy events. Each month a different Town Ordinance will be highlighted in an effort to better inform both residents and visitors alike. This newsletter is not intended as a substitute for attending town meetings. Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Do make plans to join us whenever possible. Until next time.

Welcome to the first financial institution on Dauphin Island.

FRIENDLY
CREDIT UNION

We’d like to invite you to experience the credit union difference.

At Friendly Credit Union, you are not a customer, you are a member of our credit union family. Your credit union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative that is member owned. We have served the Mobile and Baldwin County area since 1951 with two offices in Mobile, and now Dauphin Island.

Stop by or call today for information on membership and our financial services.

There is no membership fee to join the credit union. Simply deposit $25.00 in your new Share (Savings) Account to become a member. It’s as simple as that!

We offer a full range of financial services including:
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GRAND OPENING!

690 LeMoyne Drive (corner of Le Moyne & Delchamps) • 334/861-2401
Mr. Donald R. Beard, Area Leader, Exxon Company, U.S.A., (center) presented a check for $25,000 to RADM William Stewart, (right) Chairman of the Dauphin Island Foundation, in April for the continued construction of the Jogging and Bike Trail on the Island. Mr. Bill Edwards, (left) on the Foundation Board and who worked many hours for the development of the Trail was present.

HIKING TRAIL TO BE EXTENDED
Jim Hall, DICN Editor - In March, this year, Mr. Don Beard, Exxon, USA, presented to the Dauphin Island Foundation, a check for $25,000 for further construction of the DI Hiking and Biking Trail. This donation added to the money raised from within the community will pay for engineering for the project and provide money for matching funds necessary to win a grant from the State.

Plans for the extended construction of the Trail, along with money raised will be developed by the Dauphin Island Foundation and turned over to the Town of Dauphin Island for approval. In the final analysis, the project will be controlled by the Town.

The plans for the Trail project, as discussed with Mayor Jeff Collier, members of the Foundation Board of Directors, a Civil Engineer, and a representative for the State Highway Department this Spring, calls for continued construction from Orleans Drive, west past the Dauphin Island Elementary School, the Public Beach area, the old Holiday Inn site, the new Dauphin Island Beach Club condos, and possibly to the point where Bienville Blvd. narrows into two lanes.

On the east end of the Island, the construction plans include continuing the Trail from Audubon Dr. all the way to Fort Gaines. This would take the Trail past the entrance of the Bird Sanctuary, the Camp Grounds, Billy Goat Hole and the ferry landing, the Estuarium, and the Sea Lab.

The Town has an agreement from the Fob James administration and the money for the grant is still budgeted. The process calls for an updated agreement to be signed by our current governor, Don Siegelman. “That’s the only hold up right now” said Bill Edwards of the Foundation. “When the Town receives that letter, we can have the engineering done and begin construction.” Edwards continued, “I hope we can begin construction by Labor Day.”

The one block section between Narvaez St. and Orleans Dr. includes the newly constructed elevated walkway which was build entirely with money raised on the Island. No State or Federal funds were used for this structure. The black-top surface for this block will be put in place soon and will be accomplished with local resources.

Following completion of this stage of the Trail, the path will run from the entrance of Fort Gaines to the construction site of the Dauphin Island Beach Club (the pink condos).

RADM Bill Stewart, Chairman, Dauphin Island Foundation, said, “We are extremely happy that the Exxon Company and Mr. Don Beard have made this contribution to our community. Credit certainly goes Mr. Beard - without his efforts, we could not be able to complete this stage of the Trail project which ensures added safety to our children and adults, when they are moving about the Island.”

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Jeff Caldwell, Manager, DI Water & Sewer Authority - In amongst all the talk of seven story condominiums, new marinas, old marinas converted to condominiums, a toll on the bridge, the new bank, public beaches, have we got enough water, is the sewer plant big enough or not, and many other mind bogglin’ occurrences is one small area that is developing backwards. Ever since the Bike Trail was build, many residents and visitors have enjoyed a good ole backhome walk or bicycle ride down the shady trail. During construction of the Bike Trail, the water works build a little side parking area in front of the water plant. With a bike rack and a couple of picnic tables, this shady corner was a good place to sit down and take a breather. Thanks to Shell Oil Company now there’s one of them pretty little gazebos sitting out front. Kinda nice ain’t it? Plans are to put on a small roof and a water cooler in the middle. Talk is the DI Chamber of Commerce may want to furnish a cooler. What do ya know, a true community project. Anyways forget about all that mess going on above and if you’re one of the local downhome folks or even if you’re one of ‘em visitin’ yankees, come take a load off, sit ’n the shade and just relax At Our Corner.

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2403 Bienville Blvd.
Located on a “Fair” lot on Gulf Front, in “like new” condition. Very nice, large living/dining rooms, Four bedrooms, two baths, eat-in kitchen, living room, den and back deck. Sale price only $375,000.

126 Beauregard
Large home nestled in the pines in the center of the Island. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, great room, heated/cooled garage, large patio and swimming pool. $215,000

442 Barcelona Drive
Fabulous view of Mobile Bay, this large home is located in Sea Pines on deep water. Four bedrooms, two baths, fireplace in great room, family room on ground floor, covered deck, and pier with lift. $335,000

307 Audubon Place
Gulf Front - Like New! Six bedrooms and four baths. Priced at $445,000.

Unit 15, Colony Cove Yacht Club
Completely furnished and ready for your enjoyment. Perfect location, inside, deep water docking with slip for each unit. Two bedroom, two baths, large living areas, three bedrooms, two baths up and great room, kitchen, and 1/2 bath down. Complex has pool and tennis court. $275,000.

402 Ft. Conde
Duplex or 2 condos with approximately 1,500 SF in each unit. Three bedrooms, two baths, great room, parking and storage underneath. Nicely finished inside with hardwood floors and ceramic tile counter tops. Excellent view and access to the Gulf. Three bedrooms, two baths and a loft. Exceptional price - $199,000.

Bienville Blvd.
Dauphin Island Beach Club Condominium
Phase II under construction - Only two units left. Three and four bedroom units. Four bedroom unit is unique in that it can be divided into two units. Prices start at $199,000.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Robert C. Campbell, III, President - One of the most frequent questions asked about Dauphin Island today is why do we have three governing authorities on the island?

When the Island was developed there was complete cooperation from and with the State of Alabama, the County of Mobile, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, Mobile Realtors Association and the owners of the land on Dauphin Island to make Dauphin Island a prosperous planned town for all vested interest and additional facilities for the non vested public.

At that time two governing bodies were created 1) The Dauphin Island Property Owners Association to protect the Covenants and Restrictions of all property on Dauphin Island as reflected in deeds on their property.

The purpose of the DIPOA was to promote the development and betterment of Mobile County and in particular Dauphin Island and Little Dauphin Island in the public interest and to apply its net assets to that end without pecuniary profit to the incorporators or members of the Association and to become incorporated at that end.

2) The Park and Beach Board was created to be responsible for the lands and facilities provided for the non vested population that might wish to use the facilities provided by the Park and Beach Board. There was a public casino with all sorts of accommodations to serve the needs of the non vested, (visitors) population. There was at that time the prevalent belief that this facility was bigger and better than the DIPOA clubhouse.

3) The Civil/Criminal protection of the Island and its citizens was the responsibility of the Mobile County Authorities.

At one time a successful Dauphin Island sheriff patrol was formed from a volunteer Dauphin Island residents, part-time residents and property owners at the request of the Mobile County Sheriff to aid in the policing of the Island.

The Island slowly grew and developed at its own pace with most of its needs being met by the three above organizations.

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Then in 1979 and again in 1985 Dauphin Island was hit by two hurricanes (Fredrick and Elena) that changed the needs and directions of repair and growth for the quality of life for its vested citizens, including permanent residents, part-time residents and property owners. The realization that relief and money follows the route of federal government to state government, state government to county government, county government to city government and not to unofficial civic leaders of barrier island communities became the catalyst for the need and final formation of the Town of Dauphin Island.

The Town then assumed the legal responsibilities required by law from Mobile County including the ability to tax and issue bonds for the betterment of its vested interest population.

The non vested public remains with Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board and its interest and requirement to meet these needs, has not changed.

The Dauphin Island Property Owners Association has not changed either with the formation of the Town of Dauphin Island. The work of the Town and the DIPOA joins in the area of ordinances, restrictions, covenants and restrictions governing land and real estate. Most times the coordination works well but sometimes human error creates problems that must be resolved by the systems in place. Both the DIPOA and the Town must be diligent in their cooperation against outside aggressors who wish to exploit Dauphin Island in their own interest to, "love them and leave them" as it were.

To ensure equal representation for all property owners on Dauphin Island, the Board amended its Constitution in 1996 to provide a "1 person 1 vote" provision without the necessity of paying a yearly ten dollar dues to be a member of the DIPOA. Much to the contrary of a recent letter to the editor of the Mobile Register, the 1 person 1 vote process has been in effect for 3 years. This means contrary to the recent newspaper article, a person with 100 lots does not have 100 votes, but merely 1 vote per property owner regardless of the number of lots or condominiums owned. This Amendment to the Constitution was made to give every island property owner an equal voice in the DIPOA even without paying the long standing ten dollar dues requirement.

Generally since the Town has been in existence things have progressed at an expected and desired pace. Again the presence of two hurricanes back to back has put stress on the now three governing entities. The biggest impact has hit the City of Dauphin Island with its need to protect the property and well being of its vested citizens and property owners and to maintain its now fragile infrastructure. Unlike in the past, the Town may now exercise all of its authority to solve its immediate problems including the ability to raise needed funds through taxes and bonds.

While there may be some short term relief from federal and state agencies, the major sense of relief must come from the Town. These problems can not be solved without the funds needed and only the Town can do this.

The DIPOA will continue to work with the Town to improve the quality of life for all permanent residents, part-time residents and property owners as is in its charter. The DIPOA will also devote its time, energy and money protecting its assets which include the golf course, clubhouse, grill as well as all lands and parks owned by the DIPOA. The DIPOA membership includes the entire vested interest property owning public on Dauphin Island and the Board and staff are dedicated to their association’s goals.

One other note. Although the long standing ten dollar dues requirement to vote has been deleted since 1996 any and all contributions to the DIPOA are greatly appreciated. In other words, property owners can still pay on a voluntary basis ten dollars per year (dues) to help defray the administration expenses incurred as a result of the DIPOA actively and currently pursuing the goals of the Association.

Sincerely,
Bob Campbell, President
Property Owners Association

DIPOA NEWS

On May 8, 1999, three newly elected Board members, Dominick Matranza, Mac Greer and Roger Geil joined Board members, Robert Campbell, Patricia Cope, Jim Robertson, Anita Dixon, Jeff Caldwell and Bill Hanlein to constitute the Board of nine Directors of the DIPOA for the 1999-2000 year. The new elected officers were Robert Campbell, President, Dominick Matranza, Vice-President, George Gunn, Treasurer, and Jamie McHugh, Secretary.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SOLICITED

The Scholarship Trust Fund, originally designed to be funded by the DIPOA at the rate of $10,000 per year for five years bringing the total in the Fund to $50,000 with interest from that to fund the program, currently has about $24,000 in it.

THE DAUPHIN ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP 1999 RECIPIENT IS FRANK "SKIPPER" THIERRY, JR. of Dauphin Island
NEWS FROM THE DAUPHIN ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Architectural Review Committee continues to process a substantial number of permit applications for property improvement. Co-ordination with the Town Building Inspection Office is excellent thanks to Travis Touchstone and Wanda Sandagger at Town Hall and our own Jamie McHugh.

We would like to use this opportunity to emphasize the importance of complying with the permitting procedure. Permits are required for the construction of all buildings, fences, piers and installation of tie piling. The procedure begins with a visit to Town Hall where the License & Permit Clerk, Wanda Sandagger, will explain the requirements and provide application forms for the Town and DI Property Owners Association. The completed application forms and required drawings for the Town and POA are submitted to Town Hall. The POA application forms and required drawings are collected by the POA. Processing time is usually less than a week.

The Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. John DiPlacido has joined the Committee the other members are Fred Cushing, Jim Kelleher, William "Doc" Moore and Chairman Roger Geil.

BARNACLE BILL’S RESTAURANT

Open 5:00 Monday thru Sunday for dinner and the downstairs bar “down the hatch” is open at 5:00pm Fridays and Saturdays.

DAUPHIN ISLAND SPRING FESTIVAL

The 1999 Dauphin Island Spring Festival Golf Tournament was held on May 1 and the results of this 3-person scramble event were as follows:

1st Ken Morris, Dave Kowalski, Pat Carrigan (63) 2nd Paul Halladay, June Mayson, Bill Gump (67) 3rd Eric Becker, Dale Halladay, Sonny Davis (69)

In conjunction with the golf tournament, the ever popular Kids’ Putt Off was held on the same day and 32 youngsters completed for top honors in their respective age group. The winners included:

Age 7 & under
1st Robby Chapman
2nd Mitchell Taft
Age 8-9
1st Caneo Ellington
2nd Kristen Potts
Age 10-11
1st Wesly Williams
2nd Jason Dennis
Age 12-13
1st J.D. Ellington
2nd Brian Henwood

All participants enjoyed refreshments during the event and the winners received trophies and gift certificates for their accomplishments. A special thanks to Island Realty Corporation; Howard Yeager, Broker for sponsoring such a worthwhile endeavor.

LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Isle Dauphine Ladies Golf Association held a combination club championship and handicap tournament on Wednesday, May 5. The results were as follows: Handicap Champion - Mary Early (71), Runner-up Uli Jaeger (71), 3rd Place Mary Lou Turner (73). Club Champion - Ann Collins (93), Runner-up Mary Tillman (95), 3rd place Mary Thompson (96). Longest Drive winners included: "A" Division - Ann Collins and "B" Division - Joanna Sprinkle. Closest to the pin honors included: "A" Division - Ann Collins and "B" Division - Edwina Robertson. Most improved player award went to Annette Roundsdale. In addition to the Tournament the annual election of officers was held and the new members are as follows: President, Beverly Morris; 1st Vice-President, Kay Ray; 2nd Vice-President, Sports Chairman, Marilyn Sowers; Secretary, Eileen Johnson; Treasurer, Charlene Spencer. Congratulations all.

Winners of the handicap division were determined by net scores while the club championship was based on gross scores.

Isle Dauphine Golf Club proudly presents the

1999 SUMMER GOLF PROGRAM FOR JUNIORS:

Isle Dauphine is proud to announce the 1999 summer golf program for juniors. Although we are midway through the schedule, it’s not too late to join in the fun! This program is open to children and grandchildren of Dauphin Island Property Owners and is designed to give youngsters the opportunity to learn about the sport of golf, while providing a friendly, yet competitive environment in which to participate. Boys and Girls will be divided into age groups as follows: Age 7 & under. Age 8-10. Age 11-12. Age 13-14 and Age 15-17. (Note: Age Division is determined by the age of the players as of May 23, 1999). A schedule of play days and clinics is listed for your convenience. You will note that there are twelve play days and three clinics scheduled throughout the summer. While participants are not required to compete in each play day, it is recommended that they play in as many as possible to increase their chances of winning an award. Each player must compete in at least six play days to be considered for any award. Three clinics will be conducted by the golf professional which will give each participant the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of golf and improve their game. Youngsters are encouraged to bring their own golf equipment or we will have some available to borrow. The remaining dates on the schedule are as follows:

Wednesday, June 30 5pm Play Day
Wednesday, July 07 5pm Play Day
Friday, July 09 5pm Play Day
Wednesday, July 14 5pm Play Day
Friday, July 16 5pm Play Day
Wednesday, July 21 5pm Play Day
Thursday, July 22 5pm Play Day
Tuesday, July 27 5pm Play Day
Friday, July 30 6pm Awards Banquet

In the event that any play day is postponed due to rain or other circumstances it will be rescheduled at the same time on the next day (except for Friday dates). Please arrive 15 minutes before posted starting times.

NEWS FROM THE POOL

Isle Dauphine Pool - Open to the public. Daily Fees or Memberships available.

Our professional staff of lifeguards is offering swim lessons and water aerobics throughout the summer. Group and individual swim lessons are available and water aerobics are held three days per week for two weeks (6 sessions) at 6:15 pm.

Hours of operation for the pool are Monday-Sunday from 10am-6pm. Tuesday - Sunday (closed on Monday). For additional information contact our American Red Cross certified instructors Wendy Hagy and Mickey Megginson.

ISLE DAUPHINE GRILL

Every Tuesday and Thursday night at the Isle Dauphine Grill is Happy Hour. Starting at 6:30 until... Come and Enjoy!!!

Great appetizers, cold drinks, and great music.

Beer $1.00 Mix Drinks $2.00

Frozen Drinks $2.75

Located next to pro shop, across from Barnacle Bills. Grill number: 861-3201
High School students visiting the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, study the beach habitat on the Island. Instructor John DiPlacido, (sun glasses, no hat) participates in the Discovery Hall Programs this summer.

Continued from page 1

complemented by a weekly colloquium, where an outstanding series of guest speakers provides seminars. A typical course involves not only classroom lecture, but also laboratory work and field activities. This heavy academic schedule ensures that their stay here is not just "a day at the beach."

High School Students

Hailing from all over the United States, high school students started their classes with the Discovery Hall Programs in early June. Although they are required to have taken a course in general biology, for many this will be their first introduction to the study of marine science. Their curriculum will cover many scientific disciplines, ranging from oceanography to marine botany to salt marsh ecology and much more. In all, each student will have participated in over 170 hours of structured academic coursework! The Alabama State Department of Education approves the Discovery Hall Summer Programs' high school course and recommends that local systems grant participating students credit toward either an Advanced or Standard High School Diploma.

Elementary and Secondary
School Educators

Due to the popularity and success of the Discovery Hall Programs' teacher workshops, the demand has led to an increase in the number and types of courses offered to these educators. Last year, we received over 500 applications for our World of Water workshop, of which we were able to host 155. This year we received over 680 applications for 175 slots. To accommodate these requests, DHP has added two more programs: Coastal Connections and Combing the Coastlines.

"Combing the Coastlines," in conjunction with Marine Resources Development Foundation Program in Key Largo, Florida, is a brand-new exciting course that will compare the salt marsh ecosystems and barrier island development of Dauphin Island to the mangroves and coral reefs of the Florida Keys. Teachers will visit both places in this seven-day workshop, combining lectures, hands-on activities, snorkeling, boat trips and much more!

"Coastal Connections" is a four-day program, where excursions in the dunes, marshes, forests and waters of Dauphin Island will allow the teacher an in-depth look at the marine processes of the barrier island ecosystem. It will also afford educators the opportunity to collect specimens for their own classrooms.

Combing the Coastlines: July 10 - 17
Coastal Connections: July 18 - 22

For more information on any of these courses, please call 334/861-2141 or check out our Website at www.disl.org.

The notable "lazy days of summer" are the "busy days of summer" for the summer students and staff of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. But we fully expect all our temporary visitors to take a little time off and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of Dauphin Island.

THE BEACH HOUSE

good food
good friends
great family
good food

across from
public beach

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APPLIANCE & ELECTRONIC
We Make It Easy For You. Just say..."Put it on my bill!"
DI Methodist Church Has A New Minister
The Dauphin Island United Methodist Church has welcomed a new pastor and his family. Rev. Philip Chance, his wife Lareaux, and son Hunter live in Dauphin. Rev. Chance is a graduate of Murphy High School in Mobile, he holds a B.S. from the University of South Carolina, he has a Masters Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Mobile, and a Masters of Divinity from Emory University. Rev. Chance has been a Chaplain for a local Health Care Agency for ten years prior to July of this year. Mrs. Lareaux Chance is a Medical Transcriptionist for a local Health Care firm. Hunter is a senior at Daphne High School. The Dauphin Island United Methodist Church, 302 Key St., holds Sunday Morning Worship Services at 8:30am and Sunday School at 9:45am.

A ceremony to unveil the new “Aquarium Fish” postage stamp series took place at the Estuarium June 25. The U.S. Postal Service chose the DI Sea Lab as the unveiling site and Little River Postmaster Flo Crigler (center) acted as MC for the ceremony. Also on hand (l. to r) Claude Brown, Town Council, Dr. John Dindo, DI Sea Lab, Ms. Crigler, Dr. Herbert Spencer, stamp collecting expert, and Jodi Scanlon, Auburn University Marine Extension & Research Center.

DAUPHIN ISLAND FIRE AND RESCUE
Angela Dixon - The Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Team held its 5th annual fundraiser on June 9th at the Dauphine Country Club. The tournament was a 4 man scramble on 18 holes with an 8:30am shotgun start. Food and drinks were provided for the golfers and prizes, including deep sea fishing trips, dinners at local restaurants, and gift certificates, were given. Forty-four golfers participated in the event which raised 2100 dollars that will go to equipment and supplies for the squad.

ADEM BURN BAN
The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has issued a burn ban from May 1st to September 30th of this year. This is a ban on all outdoor fires except fires used for...
Fantastic Battle of Mobile Bay Re-enactment Held at Fort Gaines

Hundreds of Civil War re-enactors from as far away as California moved into Fort Gaines to re-create the Battle of Mobile Bay. This was the Fort's 13th Annual "Thunder on the Bay," acknowledged by all to be the best yet.

Spectacular pyrotechnics were used to imitate incoming cannon fire exploding along the Fort's upper walls and in the water next to the ships. Throughout the weekend, other demonstrations included blacksmithing, open hearth cooking, an authentic Civil War photographer using the rare "wet plate" process, period worship service, bay excursions aboard both schooners, and a candlelight tour.

Continued from page 1

Fort Gaines Hosts ABC's Morning Show

The Good Morning America production crew arrived Wednesday afternoon and worked late setting up the audio/lighting/camera equipment needed to begin before dawn. Jennifer Hughes, the Park and Beach Board's Executive Assistant, had to be on site at 2:30 a.m., with the remaining staff and re-creators ready around 3:00 a.m.

Mary Scarcliff of the Light House Bakery was asked to provide fresh pastries and coffee for an early breakfast. The Fort added juice and fruit and were told later this was the best breakfast spread the production group had received in the four states along the Gulf Coast they had visited.

The on-air activities went great. It was especially pleasing to hear Tony Perkins requesting more air time because "these people are putting on a great show." After the production was completed, it was evident the ABC members enjoyed themselves because they stayed an extra hour to mingle with the staff and re-creators and learn more of Civil War weapons and dress.

Two 82-foot Civil War era sailing schooners participated in the battle by both exchanging cannon fire and transferring troops in oar-powered open boats to storm the shoreline of the Fort. The conflict included navy, infantry, marines, additional artillery, and mounted cavalry. Civil War doctors and even an undertaker of that era stood by to take care of the losses.

Good Morning America's Tony Perkins prepares a national weather insert on location at Fort Gaines.
NEWS FROM PARK AND BEACH

PARK AND BEACH BOARD EXPLAINS ORGANIZATION

Mike Henderson, Exec. Director, Park and Beach Board - Although the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board was created over 40 years ago, at times there is confusion about our goals and responsibilities. For that reason, we would like to re-introduce ourselves.

We are a tax exempt, non-profit organization with the clear mission of promoting local tourism and ensuring the availability of quality recreational opportunities on Dauphin Island for the public at large. The Park and Beach Board was created alongside the Property Owners' Association, which then and now provides beaches and other resources to private land owners. This organizational division occurred when the first bridge was built connecting the Island to the mainland.

Our Board members (George Waldron III, Bill Edwards, and Ed Sellers) were nominated by the Mobile County Commission and appointed by the Governor. Although we do not receive annual operating funds from the Town, County, or State, we are considered a governmental agency and are subject to regular audits by the State Department of Examiners. We must also follow their guidelines in competitive bidding practices and accounting for all income and disbursements.

The Park and Beach Board's primary sources of revenue are its fee-charging sites. Although we have been fairly successful in receiving matching grants as well as earmarked appropriations from the County and State, we are forced to be self-sufficient in our daily operations. This includes everything from insurance on buildings to worker's compensation costs for staff.

Considering the financial constraints we face, the community can be proud of the facilities and opportunities we are able to provide the public, both residents and visitors to the Island.

The following is a brief description of sites maintained by the Park and Beach Board:

PARK AND BEACH RECOGNIZES EVENT COORDINATOR

Mike Henderson, Exec. Director, Park and Beach Board - Our very special thanks go to Mr. Brian McWilliams, the event coordinator. He has been working on this project for over a year and it was great to see his efforts paid off so magnificently. Brian and others also agreed to begin their "living history" demonstrations three days before the event weekend so that they could assist us in hosting the nationally shown **Good Morning America** show on ABC.

I. FEE CHARGING:

a.) **Dauphin Island Campground** - 149 campsites with power and water, half of which with sewer connections. Large group pavilion with barbecue pit, 12-station fish cleaning facility, private paths into Audubon Bird Sanctuary and secluded Gulf beaches, bath house, laundry facilities, kids pool, children's playground. (334) 861-2742.

b.) **Historic Fort Gaines** - Exquisitely preserved pre-Civil War fortress, most famous for its role in the Battle of Mobile Bay, and the command Admiral Farragut issued against its defenses. "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" Museum and exhibit rooms, gift shop featuring the best selection of books on local military history in this area. Special event living history weekends are especially praised. (334) 861-4892.

c.) **Dauphin Island Fishing Pier** - 850-foot deep water Gulf pier, one of two in the state. Open 24 hours most of the year (closed late nights in dead of winter). Sharks, king mackerel, ling, flounder, speckled trout, white trout and crabs all plentiful; attendants provide free advice on how to catch 'em. Rental rods, tackle, bait and concessions. (334) 861-6972.

d.) **Cadillac Square** - Beautiful wooded picnic park with public restrooms. Governor Cadillac's home was here in the early 1700's, when Dauphin Island was capital of the Louisiana Territory.

e.) **Magnolia Park** - Pedestrian-only picnic park with boardwalk and porch swing under a grand Magnolia. Designed to provide a shaded rest stop for people walking between the ferry landing and the Fort.

f.) **Aloe Bay Landing Park** - Waterfront picnic park, with dock for fishing or short-term tie up for pleasure boats. Handicapped accessible for parking and picnic table. On DeSoto street next to Pelican Pub.

g.) **Bayou House Park** - Waterfront picnic park, with dock for fishing or short-term tie up for pleasure boats. Handicapped accessible for parking and picnic table. On Canal Avenue, behind Dauphin Island Realty.

The Park and Beach Board owns and maintains the beachfront west almost to the point where Gulf-facing houses begin. Trash cans are provided for the length of this section of beach, and litter is picked up every Friday and Monday. Though a public area, the Dauphin Island Beach Club Condominium is responsible for maintaining the beachfront south of their buildings. We comfortably boast sparkling white beaches, as the Park and Beach Board staff works very hard to keep our areas clean of litter and debris. Of course, we would also take pride in the natural beauty of our beach helps.

The Park and Beach Board is an active participant in Dauphin Island community affairs, and is represented in the membership of the Chamber of Commerce, the Dauphin Island Foundation, the Audubon Advisory Committee, and the steering committee for the development of the Island's Comprehensive Plan. With the Tidewater Coalition, we have hosted three free concerts at Fort Gaines this year, and have provided our Main Beach area to the Spring Festival Committee for Fire and Rescue's jet ski competition, and Classic Motorcycle Show fundraiser for Dauphin Island Elementary.

II. FREE TO THE PUBLIC:

a.) **Main Public Beach** - Sugar-white beach with three group pavilions overlooking the Gulf, sports field with group pavilion, children's playground, picnic tables, and outside showers. (Public restrooms, destroyed by erosion, will be rebuilt in the near future.) Facilities and beaches are cleaned seven days a week.

b.) **Audubon Bird Sanctuary** - 160 protected acres of wildlife habitat, featuring Gulf beach, dune system, fresh water lake, swamp, and pine/hardwood forest terrain. Extensive trail system with boardwalk, raised walkway and observation tower. Handicapped accessible 1000-foot boardwalk leads from parking lot to a scenic pier overlooking the lake.

c.) **East End Facilities** - Boat launches, dock and 250-foot wharf across from the Fort. Rock jetty system and off-road trailer parking. Additional off-road boat trailer parking next to the Campground entrance.

d.) **Cadillac Square** - Beautiful wooded picnic park with public restrooms. Governor Cadillac's home was here in the early 1700's, when Dauphin Island was capital of the Louisiana Territory.

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To encourage public feedback, all of our sites have signs reading, "Maintained by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board," identifying by name the Board Members and Executive Director and listing the office phone number. Information is also provided on the Park and Beach Board website, www.dauphinisland.org

Friends of Fort Gaines seeks members

Jennifer Hughes, Exec. Assistant, Park and Beach Board - The auspicious Friends of Fort Gaines organization was officially launched on Saturday, May 29th, when the group held an open house celebration and membership drive at the Fort. Seafood Galley served up hotdogs, "Water Trail Maids" graced the Fort courtyard, and brightly colored balloons flew from all corners. That is, until torrential rain and threatening lightning sent caterers, hoop skirted Maids and map-rolling Fort visitors into a huddle in the Span-Am section for shelter.

Despite the unavoidable disappointment of the weather, the kick-off celebration was a successful event. 500 free hotdogs were eaten. The day's highlight was a brief ceremony in which a Resolution of Support issued by the Mobile County Commission was presented by Marri Harding, a Friends Charter Member and President of the Dauphin Island Tricentennial Committee. The sun was shining on the children's faces as they assisted her in reading the formal proclamation, screaming on cue in unison. "Whereas..."

Community leaders, historical enthusiasts and local citizens sharing an interest in Fort Gaines have come together to raise awareness of the Fort and funds for its restoration. The organization is a non-profit, voluntary association that welcomes both donations and active participants. Officers will be elected at an upcoming meeting.

The Park and Beach Board will serve as a partner to the efforts of the Friends organization, but hopes that the group will create its own momentum. The funds raised will be entirely independent of daily operation expense constraints and will be earmarked for projects agreed upon by the members.

For more information about Friends of Fort Gaines, call 861-6972.

Audubon Bird Sanctuary update

Mike Henderson, Exec. Director, Park and Beach Board - Birders and hikers visiting the tranquil Audubon Bird Sanctuary these days may well be alarmed by what they see. Not to worry, though. Evidence of burned areas and treatment of a non-indigenous weed are part of a long-term management plan for the reserve. The plan, a collaborative effort of the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, National Audubon Society and Friends of the Dauphin Island Audubon Bird Sanctuary

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(FODIABS), provides for controlled burning of layered grass and weed that, if left to flourish, will shade and choke the favored new growth underneath. The Alabama Forestry Commission successfully conducted the first such burn in February of this year.

The controlled burn is one part of the strategy being used against invasive Cogongrass, recognizable in grassy areas throughout the Island. It is an invasive weed that rapidly overtakes a growing area at the expense of “productive” vegetation—plant life vital to the food chain as shelter or nourishment. Cogon Grass burns fiercely, even when green. Given the chance, however, it will grow back heartier and more quickly than the competing native flora.

John Porter and FODIABS requested and received a grant from the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program to fund the cost of the burns and chemical treatment. The Park and Beach Board will contribute the necessary labor. Popcorn trees overgrowing the swamp areas of the Sanctuary present a similar challenge, and will be treated simultaneously. Advisory notices will be posted along Sanctuary trails to explain the process and its visual effects.

Wildfire remains a threat to any woodland habitat. In the wake of the controlled burn, a fire of unknown origin broke out near the Sanctuary’s western boundary. This potentially disastrous burn was controlled by the Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Department. Their quick response prevented damage outside the Audubon property. The Forestry Commission returned to the scene to be of assistance as well, cutting fire breaks around the burn to help prevent its spread. The Park and Beach Board extends its appreciation for the efforts of all who helped.

Better news is that the much-anticipated raised walkway overlooking Tupelo Swamp was completed in time for the “high season.” During the annual spring migration, birds heading north choose Dauphin Island for much-needed rest—and do bird watchers and vacationers heading south! The walkway has been praised as a valuable addition to the Sanctuary’s trail system.

TIPS FOR BUILDING BEACH SAND DUNES
Jon Kemp, Dauphin Island - We started a sand dune in front of our beach house after Hurricane Opal flattened the Island’s west end.

With three years the dune grew to be 12-13’ high and saved our beach house from Hurricane Georges.

A sand dune will not save the beach when the Big One blows, but it will help protect our homes from storm damage. Sand is money in the bank—a long-term investment in the Island’s future. A long, continuous 3-mile sand berm will benefit everyone. Let’s work together and help each other. I learned to build a dune from my neighbor, Earl Benson, who had the best dune system on the west end. Earl is always willing to help others and gives free advice. I also learned from Frank Wilson, whose house, the last camp on the beach, was washed away. We are saddened by his loss and all others who lost their houses in Hurricane Georges. Susan Rees’s (Corps of Engineers) grew a great stand of sea oats, too. The wind will blow us plenty of sand. All we have to do is catch the sand and build dunes.

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DAUPHIN ISLAND FOUNDATION'S
CHAIRMANS REPORT
RADM WILLIAM STEWART,
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD & EXEC. DIRECTOR

The Foundation has had a most productive period since my last report. We have formed another partnership with the Town similar to the one in existance for the Hiking and Biking Trail.

The goal of this new partnership is to raise money for a matching grant to trigger $1.3 million in Federal, State and local funds for an emergency berm (dune) on the south face of the west end of the Island from St. Andrews Court to Westward Ho. The berm will be 1300 feet in length, 45 feet in width and 6 feet high.

The area of the west end is considered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to be the most severely damaged beach.

The remainder of the funds raised will go toward repair and improvement of roads and storm drainage on the west end, and to help find a permanent solution to the sand starvation of our beaches on the Island's south face. Thanks to the generosity of many of you, the first goal of $200,000 for the emergency sand berm has been met and funds and commitments total $237,750.

Here is a schedule (developed by the Corps of Engineers) of the work following notification to the Corps by FEMA that the funds are in place:

DAY 0 - a. Receive letter from FEMA b. Memo of Agreement signed by USACE and Town of Dauphin Island c. Phase I and II funds received by the Corps.

DAY 1 - Phase I activities (all concurrent) Grain size analysis (45 days) Environmental surveys (5 days) Beach profile surveys (10 days) Permit application preparation (15 days) Design based on existing profile (15 days) Permit review (90 days beginning at day 15)

DAY 30 - In Progress Review Meeting

DAY 45 - Phase II (total of 21 days beginning at day 45) Engineering and Design (10 days) Plans and Specifications (11 days)

DAY 70 - Phase III (total of 100 days beginning at day 70) "Commerce Business Daily" Notice

DAY 91 - Advertise for bids (Real Estate easement/right of entry)

DAY 105 - Final Permit decision (Receipt of construction funds)

DAY 126 - Bid Opening

DAY 156 - Notice To Proceed (30 days after bid opening)

DAY 166 - Mobilize - It is estimated that the Contractor will require 10 days to mobilize his equipment to Dauphin Island

DAY 170 - Start Work

I would like to point out that the Corps will require a "temporary work easement" release form every one of the property owners on the south shore of the Island. This easement will provide pipeline and equipment access where the work will take place.

Although the Corps cannot officially begin work as agent for the Town until FEMA gives written permission and the Town signs a memorandum of agreement, survey and engineering work has commenced. A check for $47,000, to cover Phase I, the survey and engineering work, has been delivered from the Foundation to the Town.

An update on the Hiking and Biking Trail, an equally positive report appears elsewhere in this issue of the DICN.

During my 50 years of association with the Town of Dauphin Island and its predecessor community, at no time have I seen so many people at work on, and supporting community projects. I am proud of and grateful to each and all for their commitment to our Island.
Lighthouse Bakery
918 Bienville Blvd
Dauphin Island, AL
861-BAKE

- Pecan rolls
- Cinnamon rolls
- Cream Cheese Danish
- Little Pigs in blankets
- Muffins
- Gourmet Coffees: Cappuccino Espresso-Caffe Latte
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- Fresh Breads Daily
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- Cookies

- Balloons for your special person.

Place your orders today.

Hours:
Sunday - 9am. - 3pm.
Monday - Closed
Tuesday - Thurs- 6am. - 4pm.
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Lighthouse Bakery
On Dauphin Island
Located by the Light House
East of the Water Tower
Look for our Gazebo

TWO NEW FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Mr. Steve Browne, President and CEO, Friendly Credit Union, responded when asked about the services his organization intends to offer, "Credit unions like ours are member owned not-for-profit financial cooperatives. We have no stockholders." He continued, "Our owners are our members. Profits are returned to our members in the form of higher returns on savings and certificates of deposit, lower rates on loans, and additional financial services and products."

"In order to utilize the products and services available at Friendly Credit Union, a person must be a member," Mr. Browne continued. "On Dauphin Island membership is available to members of the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association, their family members, members of the Dauphin Island Chamber of Commerce and their families, and other residents meeting membership qualifications." He said, "A qualified person can become a member by making a deposit into a regular share (savings) account with a minimum of $25 deposit. We feel strongly that being a "member" means something different that being an account number. We work very hard to provide every member with prompt, professional, and above all "Friendly" personal service."

Mr. Browne said of the opening, "We are extremely pleased and proud to be coming to Dauphin Island. We are confident that the residents of the Island will support their credit union." Friendly Credit Union has over $18 million in assets and serves nearly 5,000 members. All savings are insured to $100,000 by the NCUA.

THE BAY BANK

The second financial institution destined for Dauphin Island will be the Bay Bank. Presently under construction in an open space next to the Dauphin Island Marina, the new Bay Bank's address will be 640 LeMoyne Dr.

Mr. Ken Wyatt, President of the newly organized bank, explained that his group expects to open the facility on the Island, and the facility located at the intersection of Fowl River Road and Dauphin Island Parkway at Bailey's Corner sometime in the middle of August. Mr. Wyatt said, "Both facilities of the Bay Bank will provide full banking service. Both will have "drive thru" windows and ATM machines for customers."

Mr. Wyatt continued, "The main operating facility will be at Bailey's Corner. That building will be 2200 sq. feet. The operation on Dauphin Island will probably employ two tellers and one customer service representative. The two structures you see being built will provide for two "drive thru" windows. Both facilities will be open five and one half days a week, and we will have a "night depository," concluded Mr. Wyatt.

Ralston Reynolds
Cecil Andrews

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PELICAN PALETTE
ART GALLERY
Guest Artist Show
During July
Jerry Schoen
Hand-carved Birds
Original Gifts
Created by our artists:
- watercolor - acrylic & oil
- portraits - wheel thrown pottery
- hand painted furniture
- gold and silver jewelry

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OPEN 11am to 5pm
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861-7271
ARE DAUPHIN ISLAND WATERS POLLUTED?
Jack Gaines, Dauphin Island - On a recent flight from Atlanta to Mobile I overheard a conversation between two ladies discussing where they were spending their vacations on the Gulf Coast. One lady said that she was in for a week of total relaxation away from city life on the secluded beaches of Dauphin Island. Her seat mate's response was "Why would you go to Dauphin Island and not Gulf Shores, the waters around Dauphin Island are so dirty and polluted?"

At this point, I joined the conversation and explained to the lady travelers the reason the water quality around Dauphin Island appeared to be less inviting than at Gulf Shores was the fact that Mobile Bay was a major drainage basin of the eastern United States and received about 20% of the flowing fresh water of the entire country. Five major rivers that drain eastern Mississippi, most of northern Alabama, and northwest Georgia flow into Mobile Bay.

This influx of fresh water has a profound effect on Mobile Bay and the waters that surround Dauphin Island. Most of the effects of the vast amount of fresh water are extremely beneficial. This inflow of fresh water makes Mobile Bay one of the most biologically productive estuaries in North America.

Continued from page 12

BUILDING SAND DUNES

Here are some tips:
1. Build primary (1st) dune BACK from BEACH, close to your house. If you can afford a couple of truck loads of sand ($100 a load), "jump start" your dune by dumping a long line of sand.
2. Build two fences 12' to 15' apart to contain sand.
3. Don't waste your time, $$$, or energy by building a dune to close to the water and not planting. Root systems hold sand. (If you are on the surf line, do whatever you can.)
4. PLANT, PLANT, PLANT. Native plants are the glue that holds the Island together.
5. To plant sea oats: Dig hole 12-18". Pour water. Stick plant in the hole. Bury half of stalk in sand to hold it good. Water religiously for 1-2 weeks. Best times to plant are fall and spring.
6. To save money, go organic. Collect washed up logs and driftwood to use as posts. (Dauphin Island Lumber will deliver snow fence and lumber.)
7. To further save $$$, cut 50' snow fence in half. This will give you 100' of fence. (Height is not needed except to keep people from walking on your dune.) Build a walk-over if needed.
8. Relax and watch the grass grow. Why would you want to cut your yard on Dauphin Island? We need all the vegetation height we can get to stop erosion and seawash. Cutting grass so it thickens is fine for the suburbs, but this is a barrier island. Tall grasses act as a buffer to high water.
9. When your primary dune is established, move FORWARD TOWARD the BEACH with a secondary dune, adding additional fencing and planting.
10. Have fun. Make a dune a family project. Have a glass of ice tea, sit on your deck and enjoy the Island's beauty.

Your dune will help save our Island. Good luck!

Anyone wanting to donate to the Beach Restoration Fund can do so by sending a check to the Dauphin Island Foundation, P.O. Box 946.

We are also taking orders for sea oats. If we get enough orders we can get them for half price (50 cents for 12-24" plants). To order sea oats, call Jim Hall, or Pat Edwards at the Foundation 861-3800.

Continued from page 9

FIRE AND RESCUE

cooking meals and agriculture. The purpose of this ban is to reduce ozone production in the Mobile area. High ozone production can be a threat to human health.

On Dauphin Island construction crews that clear lots will be affected the most. Debris from cleared lots can be buried, chipped and used as mulch, sent to a landfill, or you can wait until October to burn it. Fines for burning include 25,000 dollars a day for any violation of this ban. To report any unauthorized burning call the Alabama Department of Environmental Management at 450-3400.

Audubon on Fire Once again we have had an uncontrolled burn at the Audubon Bird Sanctuary. The cause of this fire is currently undetermined. However, the culprit most likely either a campfire or a cigarette butt. The fire covered approximately 5 to 6 acres. Fortunately no one was injured and no personal property was damaged. DIFR would like to thank the members of the Alabama Port Fire Department, the Bayou La Batre Fire Department, and the Alabama Forestry Service that helped us extinguish this fire.

Welcome to the New Members and Many Thanks to the Old

Like any good volunteer organization, the Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Team is always looking for new members — both firefighters and medics. We would like to welcome Roger Pitts, Julian Lartigue, Larry Harbison, Curtis Mallon, Jr., and Rick Pinzar. In the first week of June we started a basic EMT class for those interested in becoming medics for our squad. Anyone interested in joining the squad call the Dauphin Island Police Department at 861-5523.

Fire Training on January 31st Pro-Tech Industries donated a hurricane damaged home to the Fire and Rescue Team this year. This allowed us to practice our fire fighting skills. We went into the house for simulated training exercises more than 6 times. The 20+ firefighters that attended the demonstration got to experience ceiling temperatures of 1300 degrees. Practice sessions such as these are very important in keeping up our fire fighting skills.

Check Us Out! The Dauphin Island Fire and Rescue Squad has a web site! Check it out at: www.gulfinfo.com/diffirescue. On the web site you will find information about and pictures of the things we do, a few safety tips, and much more! This month Brad Cox has entered a story about a lesson he learned while fighting a fire in Mobile. You will also find out how to become a member of the squad.

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Continued from page 15

DAUPHIN ISLAND WATERS

Without this tremendous inflow of fresh water there would be no shrimp fishery or oyster fishery.

Mobile Bay and the waters around Dauphin support one of the largest shrimp and oyster fisheries on the Gulf Coast.

Cedar Point oyster reef located on each side of the Dauphin Island Bridge is one of the largest and most productive natural oyster reefs in the United States and maybe the world. Oysters are harvested year round for the commercial market except for a short time during the early spring when the rivers are in flood stage.

During the spring flood, the waters of Mobile Bay become almost fresh necessitating a short closure of the oyster reef.

The spring closure of the oyster reef is based on the levels of fecal coliform bacteria which are an indicator of pollution. If the levels of fecal coliform rise above 14 organisms per 100 milliliters of water federal and state regulations dictate that the harvest of oysters cease until the bacterial levels decrease to less than 14 per 100 ml of water.

By comparison, federal and state regulations allow swimming in waters that have a fecal coliform level of 200 organisms per 100 ml of water.

This comparison shows that in reality, the waters of Mobile Bay around Dauphin Island are not so polluted as to prevent contact water sports and full enjoyment of the waters around Dauphin Island.

Knowledgeable people realize there is a huge benefit from the fresh water and silt that enter Mobile Bay each spring.

Without the spring floods bringing sand and silt and fresh water into lower Mobile Bay there probably wouldn't even be a Dauphin Island or Cedar Point Oyster reef or the tremendous shrimp and fishery that we all enjoy.

Jack and Irsy hold a BA in Marine Science, a BS in Geology and a Masters degree in Public Health. Prior to his retirement Mr. Gaines worked as a Marine Biologist for the US Public Health Service in Rhode Island and on Dauphin Island.

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