Diamöndhead News

FEBRUARY 2025

www.diamondheadms.org

VOL. 43, NO. 2

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY NANCY SISLOW,

BOARD PRESIDENT

our POA Board spent the past month continuing to find ways to trim costs and exploring ways to develop consistent funding for the future. We have also interviewed some excellent candidates for the position of General Manager. Trying to manage a large corporation without a full time, paid key officer has been a challenge for this Board of volunteers. Given our uncertain future, a General Manager is a must. It is hoped that by the time you read this, one will have selected and accepted the position (fingers-crossed).

Diamondhead's history has evolved as problems have been addressed, just as we are doing now. After Hurricane Katrina, the POA struggled with restoring the amenities and the POA Board began to contemplate if recovery would be easier if a city were formed. (I learned that the POA status as a not-for-profit corporation impacted our ability to obtain grants to help with repair, and that a city has more options to seek and retain grant funds.) In 2006, based on comparisons of remaining a POA, potential annexation by Bay St. Louis, and incorporation, the POA decided to begin the process to incorporate Diamondhead into a city. A committee of community members began by seeking volunteers, holding meetings to answer questions, and acquiring the required signatures to accompany the petition of incorporation for the State of Mississippi. Twothirds of the registered voters had to sign the petition. Legal challenges and continued discussions played out until Diamondhead was incorporated as a city in 2012.

As you can see, change and working for a new future takes time and effort. We may all be called upon to express our opinions and share in a project to assure our amenities remain integrated in our community.

I, and all the Members of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to serve the Diamondhead Property Owners Association and its great amenities.



Diamondhead News

The Diamondhead News is the ONLY official voice of the Diamondhead Country Club and Property Owners Association, Inc. As such, it is solely responsible for its content. The Diamondhead Property Owners Association, Inc. will maintain sole control of the editorial content. A monthly publication by the Diamondhead P.O.A.; offices are located at 7610 Country Club Circle, Diamondhead, MS 39525. ALL SUBMISSION REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.

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Research College and a state of the state of	

nnie Lafo tainepidgooa.org

ASSOCIATION STAFF

	General Manager Controller
Ginger Necaise	Member Advocate/Covenant Enforcement
Cardia: Boore	
Chris Altese	
Hoppy Smith	Director of Player Development
Dan Hamman	
Adam Humphrey	Facilities Superintendent
Matt Garman	
Dianne Simonson	
Nancy Perkins	
Andrea Jones	Legal/HR Administrator

EXTENSION DIRECTORY

POA Office	. 255-1900 or 1-800-321-3840		
Fax	255-4296		
Airport	255-0502		
Facilities Maintenance			
	255-2918		
19th Hole	255-5005		
Fire District/Emergency 911/Business .			
Golf Pro Shop			
Golf Tee Times	255-5517 or 1-800-346-8741		
Marine	228-216-9059		
Personnel			
Diamondhead Water & Sewer District	255-5813		
Tennis World			
Waste Collection			

DIAMONDHEAD COUNTRY CLUB & PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. Board of Directors Financial Summary, December 31, 2024

Month	Revenue	Expense	Net Income (Net Loss)	Budget	Budget Variance	Dues Allocation
Membership Dues	224,537		224,537	248,217	(23,680)	
Country Club	275,533	293,705	(18,172)	(20,163)	1,991	18,172
Community Center	900	7,496	(6,596)	(5,592)	(1,004)	6,596
Tennis	6,440	10,884	(4,444)	(3,760)	(684)	4,444
Golf Shop	227,214	83,915	143,298	157,205	(13,907)	
Golf Course Maint		107,673	(107,673)	(118,278)	10,605	12 I.
Golf Academy	3,667	10,083	(6,416)	(4,620)	(1,797)	6,416
Grounds Maint	-	27,985	(27,985)	(30,767)	2,782	27,985
Facilities Maint	-	25,683	(25,683)	(37,226)	11,543	25,683
Marketing		15,620	(15,620)	(13,910)	(1,710)	15,620
Pier House	5,625	2,090	3,535	4,007	(472)	-
Airport	1,200	923	277	780	(503)	-
Marina	6,537	8,672	(2,135)	(5,993)	3,858	2,135
Recreation	100	9,848	(9,748)	(8,355)	(1,393)	9,748
Administration	8,619	139,359	(130,740)	(101,860)	(28,880)	130,740
Tota	ls 760,372	743,936	16,435	59,685	(43,250)	247,538

Year-to-Date		Revenue	Expense	Net Income (Net Loss)	Budget	Budget Variance	Dues Allocation
Membership Dues	100	3,061,687	14,685	3,047,002	3,015,305	31,697	14,685
Country Club		3,295,800	3,748,031	(452,231)	(152,980)	(299,251)	452,231
Community Center		17,652	112,001	(94,349)	(64,938)	(29,410)	94,349
Tennis		77,440	127,222	(49,782)	(18,910)	(30,872)	49,782
Golf Shop		2,798,930	835,319	1,963,610	1,909,534	54,076	-
Golf Course Maint		20,072	1,662,373	(1,642,300)	(1,797,242)	154,942	
Golf Academy		42,800	124,538	(81,737)	(68,484)	(13,253)	81,737
Grounds Maint		-	382,482	(382,482)	(390,775)	8,293	382,482
Facilities Maint		1711	339,275	(339,275)	(420,570)	81,295	339,275
Marketing		830	164,948	(164,118)	(147,729)	(16,389)	164,118
Pier House		67,500	36,524	30,976	17,104	13,872	-
Airport		14,400	13,897	503	9,079	(8,576)	-
Marina		118,350	116,783	1,568	(34,006)	35,574	-
Recreation		12,742	257,960	(245,218)	(177,372)	(67,846)	245,218
Administration		129,645	1,592,829	(1,463,183)	(1,254,779)	(208,404)	1,463,183
Та	otals	9,657,848	9,528,865	128,983	423,237	(294,254)	3,287,060

Capital Projects	Expensed	Approved	Variance
Grounds	-	-	
Country Club	3,745	3,745	
Golf	186,397	186,397	
Tennis	0 - 0	-	
Recreation	9,918	9,918	
Facilities/Maintenance	-	-	
Administration	-	-	
Marina	-	-	
Airport		-	
Contigency	42,079	42,079	1
Totals	242,139	242,139	18

The POA Board meets every month on the 3rd Monday at City Hall. All meetings begin at 6:00 pm. Every meeting is live-streamed and can be found on Youtube.

BUSINESS

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** THE CLUB AT DIAMONDHEAD AND **PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC. DECEMBER 16, 2024**

A meeting of the Board was held at 5000 Diamondhead Circle, Diamondhead Mississippi. President Sislow chaired the meeting and called it to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present were President Sislow, Vice President Giarrusso, Treasurer Blackwood, Secretary Damiens, Director LaFon-

taine, Director Pineau, Director Nutting, Director Stromeyer. Director Lee and Director Tubbs and Ex-Officio Becker. Also present were Controller McInnis, Legal Counsel Jones and Legal Assistant Kinsley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2024 were approved by e-mail vote completed November 21, 2024.

APPROVAL/AMEND **MEETING AGENDA – Motion** to remove the 2024-35 from the agenda was made by Director Stromeyer and seconded by Director Nutting. The motion passed with President Sislow, Vice President Giarrusso, Treasurer Blackwood, Secretary Damiens, Director LaFontaine, Director Nutting, Director Stromeyer. Director Lee and Director Tubbs and Ex-Officio Becker for. Director Pineau against.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT -President Sislow provided her report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -Airport/Marina Committee-When a named storm enters the golf the ship store at the marina needs to be moved. The chair-

 See MINUTES Page 3

COMMUNITY

Coastal Communities to Welcome 30+ Authors for Third Annual HOMEGROWN Event

The area's literary elite, bookworm's (avid readers!), storytellers, just plain regular folks, and aspiring writers are in for a treat that is not an exaggeration when you apply the description of "world class" to the event. Beginning with Simon & Schuster's best-selling author, Lisa Genova, amidst her national book tour to promote her newest book, MORE OR LESS MADDY, released on January 14th, people will get a chance to hear first-hand about a young woman (Maddy) diagnosed with bipolar disorder and having to grapple with its effects. Author Genova, a Harvard-educated neuroscientist, sprang into national prominence with her first novel, STILL ALICE, which was made into a hit film starring Julianne Moore, who won the best actor Academy Award for her role as a fifty-something professional wrestling with early Alzheimer's. Genova's book was one of two books selected for a community reading initiative that began last July in Diamondhead. According to Leah Holmes, branch manager of the East Hancock/Diamondhead library branch, this led to the publisher and author's interest in Coastal Mississippi. Author Genova will be presented IN CONVERSATION with another acclaimed author, Mississippi native Katy Simpson Smith, who was

recently awarded the adult fiction "Book of the Year" by the Mississippi Library Commission.

Not to be outdone by author Genova's high profile and national prominence, more than 30 other authors - some of the finest and most talented from Mississippi, New Orleans, and points beyond – will participate in live, in-person discussions of their books and what inspires them to be writers. Last year, nearly 400 people attended the HOMEGROWN literary event after the Hancock County Library System teamed with its Harrison County counterpart to produce and present a full day of programs that is free and open to the public. HOMEGROWN was created in November 2019, before COVID tabled plans to offer the annual Gulf Coast event with the talent to pull attendance from both the New Orleans and Mobile (AL) areas.

HOMEGROWN 2025 weaves a theme about "storytelling" through its various sessions according to Kevin Cole, who handles PR/Marketing for the library system. "Writers tell stories much of the time," stated Cole, "and Mississippians are known to be great storytellers." One of the most widely known and award-winning professional storytellers, Diane Williams (Jackson, MS) will lead a panel that is made up of authors, a musician, and an artist/photographer in attempt to present a multi-disciplinary program that cuts across a broad interest level. Margot Cooper (book: DEEP INSIDE THE BLUES), Dan Gutstein (book: POOR GAL), Kathryn Lewis, director of The Telling Trees Project in Stone County, and

Williams will present a lively discussion that is sure to appeal to a broad range of literary fans.

An authors panel that proved so popular last January that HOME-GROWN event organizers have decided to make it an annual a feature of the HOMEGROWN event. The session entitled, THE ART OF THE COOKBOOK will feature four authors/chefs and "foodies" whose books are especially popular. Malcolm White, former director of the Mississippi Arts Commission, and founder of the popular Hal & Mal's restaurant in Jackson will moderate a panel comprised of Mellissa M. Martin (new cookbook, BAYOU), from Mosquito Supper Club (NOLA), Dale Gray, author of the popular SOUTH OF SOMEWHERE, which chronicles Gray's travels as a foodie and resident of South Africa, South Korea, and now America's South, having moved to Mississippi with her husband (formerly in the U.S. military) whom she met while living in South Korea. Gray's blog following numbers in the hundreds of thousands. Author Matt Haines returns to the area with his comprehensive (and timely!) THE BIG BOOK OF KING CAKE, and popular author/chef and travel writer, Robert St. John (book: MISSISSIPPI MORNINGS) rounds out the stellar panel. Hancock County Library System executive director, John Brdecka noted that books by all of the participating authors will be available for sale. Authors will be available to sign/autograph their books for guests.

IN CONVERSATION sessions will also include a much anticipated hour-long discussion between New Orleans-based M.O. (Neal) Walsh, whose book, THE BIG DOOR PRIZE has recently inspired an Apple TV+ limited series that can now be viewed online, who will be talking with Beth Kander, a playwright and author of I MADE IT OUT OF CLAY, which was just published in December, and shot to the Amazon best sellers list amidst rave reviews. Walsh is the director of the Creative Writing Graduate Program at the University of New Orleans, while Kander has Missis-

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• MINUTES

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man met with the City and came to an understanding that the ship store will be moved less. Pot holes that have developed will be done soon after 2025's budget discussion. The airport fuel pump isn't registering the fuel, parts have come in but waiting on the airport operator to fix it. Recreation Committee- Pickleball continues to grow with demand. The chairman is eager to bring forth a proposal for the board to help increase the capacity for Pickleball. Administration/Legal Committee- Going over the current financial losses, and the status of the current annual dues going into 2025. There will need to be cost reductions for various departments as well as an overall increase of revenues from those producing revenue departments. We discussed the status and strategy of following liens on the amounts due prior to expiration as well as the option of hiring a temporary employee for a collection phone campaign. A discussion of potential upcoming expenditures reporting those in rears who have not paid prior to the expiration of the covenants to the credit bureaus. Viability of various POA amenities. And discussion of general payroll expenses within the club. House/Club Committee- The thanksgiving buffet was a hit, with over 700 individuals attending. There was a safety concern in the kitchen floor area. They were addressed and corrected by the facilities coordinator. The new menu will be available January 1, 2025. The inventory control will be up and running by the end of December on schedule. A weekly inventory will be conducted. Facilities/Safety Committee- Nothing to report. Golf/Grounds Committee- Nothin to report.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT – Controller McInnis gave a report including financial data and Marketing report.

PÓA MEMBERS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS –None. REGULAR AGENDA –

2024-34- A motion to hire a tempo-

rary employee for collections phone campaign. Motion made by Director Blackwood and seconded by Ex-Officio Becker. Motion carries with

President Sislow, Treasurer Blackwood. Director LaFontaine, Director Pineau, Director Nutting, Director Stromeyer. Director Lee and Director Tubbs and Ex-Officio Becker in favor. POA MEMBERS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - Ernie Knobloch spoke about property taxes. NEXT MEETING – The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. at the Diamondhead City Hall Chambers. ADJOURN to Executive Session-Motion made by Vice President Giarrusso and seconded by Treasurer Blackwood. The meeting adjourned at 6:32pm. Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted, Meg Damiens POA Board Secretary

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DIAMONDHEAD NEWS



3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1381 sqft | \$240,000

Lovely custom built 3 bedroom 2 hath home in Diamondhead, MS offers guick access to 1-20 for shopping, dining, beaches, and casinos. Enjoy an active Ilfestyle in Diamondhead making use of two championship 16-hole golf courses, 10 tennis courts, pickle ball, unimming, boating, walking trails, marina, and kayak launches.



3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1410 sqft | \$185,000

Fantastic view of the toolf Course and pond. Attic access in the bedroom calling - only unit with this pull down access. Updated sering & circuit breaker box. Pella windows & silders. Double hung windows in one bedroom. Custom Levelour Cordiess Shadeo. Celling fans, GE Microwave, Fridgidaire Dishwasher, Washer & Dryer, Samsung 55' TV & Sound Bar, Lanal Monthly Fee Schedule Includes: Water, Sesar, Fire, Garbage, Termite, Exterior Maintenance on Building, Liability insurance, Grounds & Pool Maintenance, Street Lighting, Pest Control & Smoke Detectors.



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5 star rating on Internet **Real Estate Sites**





Breet Allison D: 228-216-1269 0:228-255-3550



Newly constructed home nestled on epacious 2-acre lot in Klin. Modern French Acadian design with an open & split floor plan and so much more.



25541 Broadridge Dr | Picayune 4 bed | 2 beth 2339 soft | \$275,000

Situated on 7 private acres (only about 2 acres cleared). The main level offersan open foor plan, large living room, specious kitchen, lots of decks, workshop/garage, & so much more.

Any of our 6 locations across the MS Gulf Coast 1. 4300 Gex Rd, Diamondhead | (228) 255-3550

2. 1188 US-90, Bay St Louis | (228) 467-0244

CALL OR STOP

- 3. 9153 Lorraine Rd, Gulfport | (228) 287-1000
- 4. 156 Nixon St. Biloxi | (228) 207-2308
- 5. 2003 Blenville Blvd, Ocean Springs | (228) 875-1272
- 6. 934 Jackson Ave, Pascagoula | (228) 769-7777



Nell Frisbie D: 228-403-2024 O: 228-255-3550



415 Highpoint Dr Diamondhead 2 Bed | 2.5 Bath 1217 saft | \$219.000 Beautifully remodeled Townhome located across from community Club House, Back yard features an oversized deck over looking the prestigious Cardinal Golf Course. Kitchen features stainless steel appliances, quartz counter tops, and vinyl plank. flooring. Highpoint offers private pools. Diamondhead PDA offers four community pools, an outstanding club house for dining. Tennis world, two championship golf courses and much more.



Gina Bradley D: 985-290-0280 O: 228-467-0244

307 Turner St | Bay Saint Louis 3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1104 sqft \$292,000

Great Location centrally located in the middle of Bay St. Louis! Cute move-in ready bungalow. Completely remodeled within the last few years. X Flood Zone. Golf Cert Community. Granite countertops & stainless steel appliances. Large corner lot, fenced in yard, lots of parking, large workshop with 110 power. Exterior Hard/Plank Type. Furniture is evailable with listing. Just a short ride to downtown, the restaurants, the beaches, or the cesino?



Lynn Grego D: 228-223-9903 0:228-255-3550



73664 N Diamoncheed Dr. Diamondhead 3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1630 sqft \$230,000



242 Molekni Diamondhead 1 Bod | 1 Bath| 639 soft \$103,000



15067 Chickasaw Rd | Kiln Jourdan River Shores Waterfront Lot | 0.11 Acre \$110,000



85537 W Diamondhead Dr. Diamondhead 2 Lots | 0.45 Acre \$62,000

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DIAMONDHEAD NEWS



DIAMONDHEAD NEWS

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Grief Support: Help for the pain of losing a loved one

If you have lost someone you love, you know just how painful and unbearable the feelings are. If you are still suffering the pain of loss or know someone who is going through this, there is help. There is a 6-week Grief Support Group that will be meeting again beginning February 26, 2025. If the loss was recent, or even sometime in the past, it can be a helpful way to deal with the lingering emptiness, loneliness, and host of other feelings that accompany death.

Grief is a normal human experience. If you are in a relationship in your life, whether it is marital, parent/child, sibling, friendship, or committed partnership, you will experience grief if one of the persons die. Grief expresses itself in a vast number of ways. It may be very clear that you are in pain from the loss. It can affect sleep, appetite, work, mood, thinking, productivity, or other relationships. If you find yourself "off" since your loss, that may be the way you are doing grief.

Regardless, there are ways to soften the pain, and one of the most effective ways is to share the loss with others who are also going through grief. A grief support group provides a safe, confidential place to share individual memories, thoughts, and feelings with others who understand your pain. As you listen to others in the group talk about their loss, it also has a healing effect for each member

of the group.

Please consider joining this group that is being offered in the Diamondhead community. It is facilitated by experienced counselors who want to help you process your loss and move forward in a healthy and positive way.

The group will meet at St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 5303 Diamondhead Circle, across from the Diamondhead Community Center. They begin at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26 and will last for approximately an hour. Sessions are free to the participants. You can contact Cornelia (228.363.2211) or St. Thomas Episcopal Church (228.255.9213) for any questions.

Diamondhead Aviation: Practice makes perfect

BY PAUL GILBERT

You don't get the perfect golf swing without years of practice. Musicians practice to maintain technical and motor skills. Why would anyone think practice isn't a key component to superior airmanship? Blue Angels pilots average around one hundred-twenty hours practice during the winter season and then rehearse their full routine the day before each

actual show. Every practice session is followed by an extensive and candid self critique.

If we're being honest with ourselves, where could we use more practice?

Skill levels depend greatly on the type of flying we do and the frequency of flights. But as a flight instructor, I often see the following weak areas.

Go-arounds: A go-around is always possible, but low altitude, unexpected go-arounds warrant special consideration. Maintaining control while around from low altitude may be ischanging from approach and landing phase to a climb is a lot to ask of anyone.

The Airplane Flying Handbook says, 'The go-around is not inherently dangerous in itself. It becomes dangerous only when delayed unduly or executed improperly.

The key to a good go-around is a prompt response. Remember, Power-Pitch-Climb-Configure. Since go-

HOMEGROWN

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sippi roots with in-laws from Ocean Springs, and serves as an adjunct faculty at the Mississippi University for Women in Columbus. Leah Holmes described the energy level and creativity of the two authors as "nothing but 'off-the-charts positive!'

Acclaimed author and award-winner, New Orleans-based Jason Berry will discuss his book and documentary film entitled. CITY OF A MIL-LION DREAMS that is an historical look and assessment of NOLA's vanishing tradition of the second-line funerals. Berry will be interviewed by area director of the 100 MEN HALL. Rachel Dangermond.

A very special and exclusive film screening of EUDORA, a documentarv film, with companion book, by Mississippi filmmaker and author/artist Anthony Thaxton, which was premiered at the prestigious Mississippi Book Festival in September will be screened in the afternoon session of the HOMEGROWN 2025 event. An author "talk back" session will follow the film screening.

Additionally, of special interest to writers is a PUBLISHERS FORUM with four regional publishing companies fielding questions from those audience members interested in learning how to navigate and prepare for dealings with book publishers. Com-panies include the University Press of Mississippi (Jackson), Nautilus Publishing (Oxford), Pelican Publishing (NOLA), and Dogwood Press (MS).

Other author panels that are sure to please and offering something for everyone include: An IN CONVER-SATION discussion with ROOTED online magazine founder. Lauren Rhoades and author Lee Durkee (book: THE LAST TAXI DRIVER, and its sequel); plus a session entitled (re)VISITÍNG KATRINA: YEAR 20 with a panel of authors who've written personal accounts inspired by Gulf Coast experiences with Hurricane Katrina (2005). Moderated by Ground Zero Hurricane Museum director, Bernie Cullen, the panel includes, author Margaret McMul-lan (book: AFTERMATH LOUNGE), journalist and photographer Ellis Anderson (book: UNDER SURGE, UNDER SIEGE), and Rob Gaudet, founder and author of CAJUN NAVY

GROUND FORCE; and (re)INTRO-DUCING WALTER ANDERSON with panelists John Anderson (book: THE BICYCLE LOGS OF WALTER ANDERSON), Mary Anderson Pickard (book: ÁNDEŘSON'S ALICE), and Kendell Dunkleberg (book: BAR-RIER ISLAND SUITE), moderated by the director of the Walter Anderson Museum of Art, Julian Rankin.

Two young readers author panels will also be included. These are CHILDREN'S LITERATURE with authors, Marshall Ramsey (book: SAVING SAM! A BANJO THE DOG STORY), Bay St. Louis's best-selling Amazon books author Natalie Guess (book: THE BIGGEST, THE OLDEST, THE STRONGEST), and Emily Liner (book: STRETCH LIKE SCARLET), with moderator and author Andrea Moreau, all of whom will offer insight and tips on writing for children. A young adult reader YA LITERATURE panel will feature Florida author Phillippe Diederich (book: DIAMOND PARK), Johnnie Bernhard (HANNAH & ARIELA), moderated by Tracy Carr.

The HOMEGROWN 2025 event is free and is open to the public. The event takes place on the University of Southern Mississippi's GULF

sued by tower or caused by animals, aircraft or ground vehicles entering the runway, it should be practiced to the point of being automatic.

Engine failure procedures are another time when startle factor can

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PARK CAMPUS in Long Beach. Doors open at 8:30 AM with the program beginning promptly at 9 AM. People can come and go throughout the day to sample sessions of most interest. The film screening of EU-DORA is scheduled for 2:30 PM. The event concludes at 5 PM. King Cake will be served, and onsite food service will be provided by 228COCINA catering.

The Hancock County Library System acknowledges the following entities for financially supporting the HOMEGROWN event: The Library Foundation of Hancock County; the Mississippi Humanities Council; the Mississippi Arts Commission; COASTAL MISSISSIPPI for its travel & tourism support; and the O'Conner/McMullan Family Foundation. Special thanks and appreciation also go out to Pass Christian Books and to 301 EAST SCENIC in Pass Christian for book sales and special event support.

People are encouraged to register online in advance of the February 1, 2025, event date. Space for some sessions is limited. To register and for more information, interested persons can go to: https://hcls.info/homegrown

COMMUNITY

Diamondhead VFW Post 2880 Honors Patriot's Pen Essay Winners

BY MICHAEL BURKE

The Diamondhead VFW Post 2880 celebrated the achievements of young writers during its annual Post Christmas dinner, held at the Club at Diamondhead. The event recognized the 2024-2025 winners of the Patriot's Pen essay competition, a national VFW-sponsored program that encourages middle school students to share their perspectives on an annual patriotic theme.

From left, Post 2880 Sr. Vice Commander Donald Crosby, gold medal winner Odin Henderson, bronze medal winner Asia Kocsis, silver medal winner Miya Rogers and Post 2880 Commander Doug Maxwell. thoughtful essays from students at Hancock Middle School, who are sponsored by Post 2880. The winners received certificates of achievement, medals, and cash prizes for their outstanding work.

The evening's honorees included gold medal winner Odin Henderson, silver medalist Miya Rogers, and bronze medalist Asia Kocsis. They were recognized by Post 2880 leaders, including Senior Vice Commander Donald Crosby and Commander Doug Maxwell, who praised the students for their insight and passion for democracy.

The Patriot's Pen program aims to engage youth in civic discourse and highlight the importance of democratic values. By participating, students not only enhance their writing skills but also deepen their understanding of the principles that shape the nation.

VFW Post 2880 is committed to fostering patriotism and supporting the development of the next generation of leaders.

This year's theme, "My Voice in America's Democracy," inspired

Diamondhead VFW Post 2880 Recognizes Voice of Democracy Winners

BY MICHAEL BURKE

The 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy (VOD) winners were celebrated in grand fashion during the Diamondhead VFW Post 2880's annual Christmas dinner at the Club at Diamondhead. This prestigious event honored local high school students for their exceptional essays and recordings reflecting on the theme, "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"

The Voice of Democracy program, established in 1947, is the Veterans of Foreign Wars' flagship scholarship competition. Open to high school stu-



From left, Post 2880 Sr. Vice Commander Donald Crosby, VOD silver Medal winner Conner Boughton, gold medal winner Brian Davidson, bronze medal winner Lauriana Winters and Post 2880 Commander Doug Maxwell.

dents, the program encourages participants to explore patriotic themes and articulate their perspectives through writing and voice recordings.

Post 2880 proudly sponsors students from Hancock High School, offering them the opportunity to participate in this esteemed competition. This year's winners received certificates of achievement, medals, and cash prizes in recognition of their outstanding submissions.

The award recipients were Brian Davidson, who took home the gold medal, Conner Boughton, the silver medalist, and Lauriana Winters, the bronze medalist. They were congratulated by Post 2880 Senior Vice Commander Donald Crosby and Commander Doug Maxwell during the festive evening.

The Voice of Democracy program continues to inspire youth across the nation, encouraging critical thinking and civic engagement while fostering an appreciation for the principles upon which the United States was founded. Post 2880's dedication to this program reflects its commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders and patriots.

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Continued from Page 8

result in delayed reaction times. Some pilots immediately start their well-practiced routine of checking fuel selector, primer, carb heat and the rest. But while this is being done, are you losing precious altitude while heading away from a good landing spot? Attempts to restore power should only be considered after pitching for best glide airspeed and turning toward your landing area.

If you lose power in cruise, immediately pitch for best glide airspeed. This may produce a climb and more altitude is always a good thing. While pitching for airspeed, start looking for a landing spot and turn toward it. After you've got the plane trimmed for best glide and you're heading to your landing spot, THEN you can start trying to restore power.

A word on landing spots. When considering landing spots, is a highway the best idea? That long, straight length of pavement looks perfect, but power lines and unpredictable cars and trucks can be hard to plan for. Open fields can be a good choice but soft mud or uneven surfaces may grab landing gear. Gear up or gear down? Time spent chair flying these situations alone or with other pilots could provide some valuable insights.

Stalls: While we're talking about startle factor, we might as well mention stalls. The stalls we do in training may be uncomfortable, but we know what's about to happen. Suddenly hearing the stall horn while less than a thousand feet above ground will make even seasoned pilots' hearts skip a beat or twelve. The reason we practice stalls in training is to teach stall awareness, recognition and build the muscle memory of stall recovery.

If this recovery procedure is not instinctual, it's too easy for the brain to override the muscles when trees are too close for comfort. But if we respond to the stall horn with a further increase in pitch, those trees will get a lot closer a lot faster. Forward pressure on the controls to reduce angle of attack is the only way to make that wing start flying again.

While training in the real aircraft, there's no way to surprise the student with an unexpected stall and it's not safe to practice stalls a low altitude. This can, however, be done in a simulator and I would highly recommend it if your flight school has access to a flight simulator.

Practice it until it's automatic. Pitch (forward control pressure), power (max available), reduce bank, pitch (return to pre-stall condition after regaining flying speed).

Using a Blue Angels style self-critique, think about what you could improve in your daily flying or preparation for the unexpected. Call up your friendly neighborhood flight instructor and practice, practice. As I mentioned last month, there are many seminars that cover areas of common deficiencies, and group flying activities can be a fantastic way of connecting with other pilots.

Until next month, blue skies.

CHURCHES

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5303 Diamondhead Circle Diamondhead, MS 39525-3203 (228) 255-9213 mail@stthomasdiamondhead.org WORSHIP TIMES Sunday 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

DIAMONDHEAD

COMMUNITY CHURCH 5301 Diamondhead Circle (288) 255-5556 dhcommunitychurch.org Weekly Schedule SUNDAY Worship: 10:00 a.m. Lifeline Discipleship Classes for all ages: 9 a.m Adult Christian Education Classes: 9 a.m. "Wired" Rehearsal : 5 p.m. TUESDAY GriefShare: 2 p.m. WEDNESDAY Youth Activities : 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal : 5:30 p.m.

DIAMONDHEAD METHODIST CHURCH A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH 5305 Noma Drive Diamondhead, MS 39525

Office: 228-255-6888 Email: office@diamondheadmethodistchurch.org Website: www.diamondheadmethodistchurch.org Facebook: Diamondhead Methodist Church Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

MOST HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC CHURCH 9062 Kiln Delisle Road Pass Christian, MS 39571 228-255-1294 Email: admin@mhtcatholic.org Website: http://mhtcatholic.org Mass Times: Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. Saturday: 4:00 & 6:00 p.m. Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m., or by appointment

JACOB'S WELL BAPTIST CHURCH

29554 Vic Faye Road, Pass Christian, MS 39571; 228-255-2555, jacobswellms@aol.com Worship times on Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m. Sunday School, and 11 a.m. Worship

ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH 5370 Kiln-DeLisle Rd. Kiln, MS 39556



Due to the tremendous growth of our customer base, we are happy to announce that we will now have the preparation services of a Certified Public Accountant available on a part time basis.

We are open for income tax preparation from January 6th - April 18th, 2025 - Open Monday through Thursday for drop off appointments between 10am-2pm. (Other arrangements for evenings or weekends can be arranged). Our remaining hours will be spent preparing and arranging pick up for your returns.

We will now be offering bookkeeping services for individuals, families and small businesses. Call for more information. Rates determined by difficulty of services needed.

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(228)255-1800 www.annunciationkiln.

Masses: Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Weekday 8:00 a.m. (Chapel) Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; Sunday 9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. and other times by appointment.

10:15 a.m. and other times by appointment. Adoration: Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE PINES

309 Highway 90 Waveland, MS 39576 228-467-6771 Pastor Brock Cain Services every Sunday morning are at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for children and adults at 9:00 a.m. Every Wed., we offer Bible study at 1 p.m.

OLD TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCUSA

114 Ulman Ave. Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 Pastor: Rev. Richard T. Gillespie, Th.D. (256) 443-4100 Worship, 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 9 a.m.

THE CHURCH AT 112

Romans 1:12 -- "When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours." (NLT) 17077 Kapalama Dr., Suite B

Pass Christian, MS 39571 Pastor: James Reardon

Email: james@c112.org.

Our mission is to help encourage the people of Diamondhead and the surrounding areas towards faith in Christ. Our desire is to minister to both the unchurched (those with little or no church experience) and those we call the de-churched (individuals who have been hurt in the past or disillusioned by the actions of some within a church setting). Join us in worship -- Sunday at 10 a.m.

We also extend an invitation for you to attend one or more of C 112's monthly activities and events. We offer men's, women's and mixed small groups/Bible studies; children, youth, and family activities. Please check out C 112's regularly updated Facebook page and our website to find out the time, place and description of the events in which you are most interested. Facebook: C112 Website: c112.org.



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DIAMONDHEAD NEWS

FEBRUARY 2025 • 11











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CLUBS

THURSDAY MORNING LINE DANCING BY MOLLY KOONEY

Lessons and dancing, led by Molly, will be held from 10:00 -11:00 am on THURSDAYS at the DIAMOND-HEAD COMMUNITY CENTER. New solid flooring and a huge space. Plenty of room for social distancing. Everyone is welcome. Great exercise, great fun, \$1 room

FOR DETAILS OR CANCELLA-TIONS see our web site:

https://sites.google.com/site/getmoving12345678/

DIAMONDHEAD GARDEN CLUB BY BRIERLEY ACKER

For anyone who missed the December meeting you missed a great program by Jim DelPrince on making Christmas decorations from greenery and plants growing in your garden.

The garden club Christmas tree at the Hancock library won first place for our tree at our library and third place between all the county libraries. Congratulations to all the ladies who worked so hard.

Our next meeting will be on February 19th and the program will be Exploring the Crosby Arboretum by the arboretum director Pat Drackett. If you have not been to the arboretum, make time to visit. Not now though, wait for better weather and the arboretum is in all it's glory with native plants. They may even be having a sale on the plants if you choose the "right" weekend.

The garden club meets on the third Wednesday of the month September - May 10 am at the Diamondhead Community Church. Everyone is welcome. We have several community projects in the works that may interest you or something you might like to suggest.

DIAMONDHEAD GEAUX HIKING BY SHIRLEY EDWARDS

Ahhh... February... the month for lovers... And the DH Geaux Hiking Club LOVES getting out there along the trails. If you're also a lover of hiking and the outdoors, join us on one of our up-coming hikes.

Saturday, February 1-- Fountaineb-

leau Trail, Ocean Springs. This hike is sponsored by the Jackson County Recreation Department, Mississippi Sandhill Crane Wildlife Refuge, and the Audubon Society and is led by an expert naturalist. Explore our constantly-changing coastal environment as we hike through the marsh, followed by lunch somewhere nearby. Meet at Twin Lakes a bit before 8:00am. Leave at 8:00am. Hike starts in Ocean Springs at 9:00am. Leader from Diamondhead to Ocean Springs: Sheila Edwards

Thursday, February 13—We'll travel to the Global Wildlife Center in Folsom, LA, to explore one of the largest free-roaming wildlife preserves of its kind in the country. It is home to over 2,000 exotic, endangered, and threatened animals from all over the world. After our arrival, we'll take a wagon tour for an up-close visit with some of these creatures; cost \$22.76. Later we'll have lunch somewhere nearby. Meet 9:00am at the front of the DH Country Club to form car pools. Leader: Joanne Homer

Thursday, February 20—We're gonna stay closer to home and take advantage of some of our coastal trails, including the Pass Christian beach, PC War Memorial Park and the beach walk in Long Beach. We'll drive to each location, then hike the trail in that area. We'll end with lunch somewhere good (natch!). Meet at the front of the DH Country Club





Diamnodhead Geaux Hiking Club

at 9:00am to form car pools. Leader: Betty Whittington

Friday, February 28—Drive to Lacombe, LA, to take in the beauty of the camelias in Bayou Gardens, the garden planted by Governor Leche. These gardens are magnificent and situated along Bayou Lacombe, once part of a Choctaw village. You'll get some exercise as well as eye-popping views of a multitude of colorful camelias. We'll nosh at a local eatery before returning to Diamondhead later in the afternoon. Meet at the front of

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227 MOLOKAI VILLAGE-This 2 beat/2 both condo is being sold



214 DOGWOOD STREET-Beautiful completely updated home AS IS and is priced to sell. MLS 4100580 with excellent curb appeal. MLS 4056715



134 LAKESIDE VILLA-Ground floor condo with one bedroom and one full bathroom. MLS 4096756



2183 MOLE DRIVE-Completely renovated! On the casal with a short distance to the Gulf, MLS. 4100953



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1003 CORR CIRCLE-This 3 bedroom 2 both home may be exactly what you are looking for! MLS 4294369



DR. NORTH-This gargeous Diamondhead home offers 3 bedreens plus a flexible 4th room perfect for a bedroom, survey, of office, MLS-4095824



4350 LEISURE TIME DR.-Totally remodeled and renovated commercial building, MLS 4062949.



134 KALO COURT-WATERPRONTS Diamonchead lot 90' on the water. MLS 4092195



314 PUUNANI PLACE-Two consolidated lots totaling over half an acre at the end of a cut-de-sac. with panorarely views of marshes, Bay of St. Louis, and Catoff Bayou. MLS-4089296

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CLUBS

the DH Country Club parking lot at 9:00am to form car pools. Leaders: Betty Whittington and Sheila Edwards

Our next planning meeting will be Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 6:00pm in the Kanaka room at the DH Country Club. We'll be planning our March hikes... yes! If you have a hike location you'd like to suggest, come to our first-Tuesday-of-themonth meeting. Spring will be here before you know it!

MAH JONGG BY SANDY PRICE

Our Mah Jongg group would like to ask anyone to join us for our play days. We play on Tuesday mornings. We have lunch in Latitude 30 restaurant at 11:30 then play from 12:30 to 4:00 PM. We have a card room reserved for us and it's a fun time. Then we go to Latitude 30 lounge for a drink (or two) until we adjourn for the following week. Please join us!! Thanks, Sandy Price home 255-5457 or cell 342-5217

LADIES BRIDGE PARTY BY GAY YOUNG

The date for our February Bridge Party is Friday 25,2025 at the Country Club. Our arrival time is 9:15 and we shall begin playing bridge at 9:30. If you have any questions regarding Ladies Bridge Party, please contact Terre Settle at 255-9892 or Gay Young at 255-1528.

The winners of the December Party were Lisa Wisniewski First Place and Pat Burgoyne Second Place. Our Special Prize went to Dolores Louvier.

DIAMONDHEAD NEWCOMERS BY ALISON MCCRAW

The Diamondhead Newcomers Club celebrated the New Year in style as we reigned as "Belles of the Ball" during a luncheon in late January. Be sure to mark your calendars to join us for our February meeting on Thursday, February 12th at 11:30. We will recognize Gal-entine's Day and encourage everyone to dress in pink, red, or purple. Lunch is \$25 and dues are \$20 for the year. RSVP to newcomersdiamondhead@gmail. com by February 7th to secure your reservation.

The Newcomers Club calendar of

events for the remainder of the year is as follows: Wednesday, March 19th, Spring Fling! Come Runway Ready and enjoy the Exit 16 Fashion Show. The April luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 9th and is bound to be Egg-cellent fun! Wednesday, May 14th will be the club's final meeting of the year, as we say Bon Voyage until next year.

Whether you are new to Diamondhead or have lived here forever, we hope you will join us for some fun and a delicious lunch at The Club at Diamondhead. Call Marilyn Lott for more information 601-528-3336.

DIAMONDHEAD DEMOCRAT PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENT ALLIANCE

BY GERRY GILBERT

The Diamondhead Democrat, Progressive. Independent Alliance (DDPIA) will meet on February 20th at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 5303 Diamondhead Circle. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. with registration and social time followed by the business meeting and a guest speaker. Each monthly guest speaker is always interesting and engaging. Some of the past speakers include the Diamondhead City Clerk, the Hancock County Schools Superintendent, and the Diamondhead POA President. Please join us for what is always an informative and enjoyable time.

WINE CLUB BY MARSHALL KYGER

Join us at our upcoming tastings: Thursday, February 20, 2025 - Valentine's Wines - 7:00 at the Club Come check out our ideas of what wines, or at least some of them, are appropriate for Valentine's Day.

Certainly Sparkling Wines have long been associated with romance as is Valentine's Day. You should expect to see some of these at this tasting. Another color associated with Valentine's Day is red - red for the heart and perhaps the roses often gifted on the day. So perhaps there will be some rich reds to warm the heart. And, who knows what else we may be able to come up with! Join us and find out.

Cost is \$45 for DWC members and \$50 for guests. Please make your reservations by mailing you check payable to DWC to: P.O. Box 6523 or by emailing Lou at louertel@aol.com or Marshall at mekygs@mail.com. Thursday, March 20, 2025 - EU vs. USA - 7:00 at the Club

We return with an old favorite - 3 wines from the European Union versus 3 wines from the USA. Historically, the European wines have come from France, Italy or Spain but we have had other countries represented as well. American wines have usually been from California or other West Coast states but, again, we have had wines from other states as well. We haven't picked the wines as yet so if you have any suggestions for us let us know!

Cost is \$45 for DWC members and \$50 for guests. Please make your reservations by mailing you check payable to DWC to: P.O. Box 6523 or by emailing Lou at louertel@aol.com or Marshall at mekygs@mail.com.

NOTE: The Diamondhead Wine Club is dedicated to the exploration and enjoyment of wine. At each monthly tasting, we sample at least 6 different wines and learn a little about their history and origins. The Club is open to any who are interested in enjoying and learning about wine. If you have questions, call Lou at 630-750-8135 or Marshall at 228-363-2488.

DIAMONDHEAD WOMEN'S CLUB

BY ROBIN B. GAINES

On December 4th, the Diamondhead Women's Club invited the Newcomer's Club to celebrate our FA LA LA Luncheon, which was held in the Emerald Ballroom of the Club at Diamondhead. Everyone had a great time. DWC's very talented Marilyn Lott, joined by Mike Lacey, entertained us with a beautiful rendition of "Silver Bells". Just the song to put us in the Christmas mood.

On January 8th, POA President, Nancy Sislow, gave us an update on its current status, and addressed



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FEBRUARY 2025 CLUB NEWS

MIKAYLA CAPPS, EVENTS MANAGER

WE HOPE 2025 IS OFF TO AN INCREDIBLE START FOR YOU!

As we embrace the new year, we're thrilled to share all the fun and exciting events we've planned for February, March, and April. With activities for everyone, we can't wait to see you at these special gatherings!

Weekly Fun in Latitude 30 Patio and Grill

• Tuesday: Bingo – First & third Tuesdays (February 4th and 18th), 6-7:30 $\rm PM$

- Wednesday: Trivia Starting at 6:30 PM
- Thursday: Karaoke 6-9 PM

• Friday: Live Bands – 7-10 PM o February 7th: Southern Voice

- o February 14th: Missy and Ray
- o February 21st: Crow the Culprit
- o February 28th: Quarter Notes

DINNER SPECIALS

• Trivia Wednesday Special: 5-8 PM, \$15 Trivia Plate Chicken Cracklings, Pork Skins, and Fried Green Beans with Ranch and Blackberry Pepper Jelly (limited availability, no substitutions).

• Thursday Night Mardi Gras Mania Special: 6-9 PM o February 6th: Red Beans and Rice with Alligator Sausage

o February 13th: Half Muffaletta with Fried Okra o February 20th: Chicken and Sausage Jambalaya with Fried Catfish

o February 27th: Boudin Stuffed Cajun Beignets with Crawfish Cream Sauce \$18 Non-Members / \$15.30 Members (tax & gratuity not included)

• Saturday Night Seafood: \$30 Non-Members / \$25.50 Members Half-dozen Charbroiled Oysters and half-dozen New Orleans BBQ Shrimp served with bread, drawn butter, and lemon.

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

• February 9th: Super Bowl Sunday Wings & Nacho Buffet: \$23 Non-Members / \$19.55 Members, 5-8 PM.

• February 14th: Valentine's Day Prix Fixe Dinner Celebrate love with a delightful Prix Fixe Dinner designed for you and your favorite date this Valentine's Day! Treat your special someone to an unforgettable evening of delicious cuisine and romantic ambiance. Call us at 228-255-2918 ext. 3 to secure your table for this memorable night of fine dining and romance. We look forward to celebrating with you!







7:00 - 10:00

- February 7
 Southern Voice
- February 14 Missy & Ray
- February 21
- Crow the Culprit • February 28

LATITUDE 30

Quarter Notes

MARCH 2025 HIGHLIGHTS SPECIAL EVENTS

• March 1st: Krewe of Diamondhead After Parade Party Celebrate Mardi Gras at the Emerald Ballroom! The party is open to the public, and a cash bar and buffet are available for purchase. DJ Ronnie Hammons will keep the party alive beginning at 2 PM.

· March 1st: Live Music on the Patio The Blue Magnolia Band will be playing from 2:00 – 5:00 on the Patio (weather permitting)

• March 16th: Family Day on the Event Lawn Bring the whole family for a fun-filled day! Activities run from 12:30-3:30 PM.

· March 17th: St. Patrick's Day Plate \$20 Non-Members / \$17 Members Savor sliced corned beef, cabbage, Irish carrots, and potatoes.

· March 22nd: Great Gatsby Themed Dinner Dress to impress and step into the Roaring Twenties for an evening of elegance and culinary delights.

APRIL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

April 20th: Easter Buffet Celebrate Easter with a grand buffet featuring delicious options to suit every palate. Three seatings are available: 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, and 1:30 PM. Call 228-255-2918 ext. 3 to make your reservation.

Menu Highlights: Omelet Station

Carving Station: BBQ Ribs, Pesto-Crusted Salmon, Herb-Crusted Tenderloin

· Main Line: Fried Chicken. Honey-Glazed Ham. Southern-Style Pot Roast, and more

Seafood Station: Fried Catfish, Gumbo YaYa, Stuffed Crabs, Shrimp (Fried & Boiled)

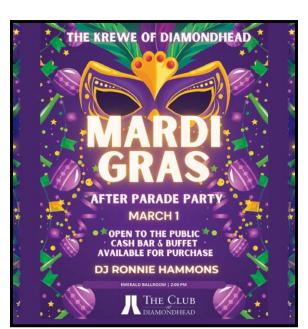
Salads: Strawberry Goat Cheese Salad, Deviled Eggs, Garden Pasta Salad

 Desserts: Lemon Blueberry Bread Pudding, Assorted Pies & Cakes

• Price: \$40 Non-Members / \$34 Members (tax & gratuity not included).

We're looking forward to sharing these experiences with you and your friends and family. Mark your calendars, and don't miss out on the fun, food, and festivities ahead!







SPORTS

DIAMONDHEAD GOLF SHOP BY CHRIS ALTESE, PGA

We are looking forward to some nice weather in February as January started with not our usual weather. Nice to see everyone so excited to be out on the golf course and enjoying the game. Many new annual golf members are joining as well as long time annual golf members returning. By now, most regular golf members should have completed their annual golf membership process. Annual members, please be sure to have your 2025 annual golf membership bag tag and cart decal visible when you play. Bag tags and cart decals for any annual golf members paying monthly will be available by the middle of this month. Our annual golf membership is open for new members to join at any time.

Did vou know? DPOA Members in good standing pay an additional ~\$3,000 per year or more to join the annual golf membership at The Club at Diamondhead and receive unlimited golf on both of our championship

golf courses. A wonderful program for those that indulge in the sport! Even without an annual golf membership, DPOA Members in good standing also receive 20% off any non-sale apparel items in the Golf Shop, discounted daily golf rates, discounted golf rates for guests, 30 days advanced golf reservations, special pricing on golf instruction/lesson programs, 15% off Food and Beverage in Latitude 30 Patio & Grill, priority entry on golf events, and more. It pays to be a member!

Meet Colin Lockey our newest addition to our golf professional staff! Colin is a native to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and made his way back. Most recently he was working as a golf professional at Gaylord Springs Golf Links in Nashville. As a PGA Associate Golf Professional, Colin is well equipped to help you with your

 See SPORTS Page 18

CLUBS





POA President Nancy Sislow

Hancock Humane Society Advocate, Betty Maxwell



FA LA LA Luncheon

members' questions and concerns. Our own Betty Maxwell also spoke about the Hancock Animal Shelter, and what they need in terms of supplies: toys, cleaning supplies (including laundry detergent, bleach), towels. Please check with the Shelter regarding types of food needed.

On February 5th, we will have our annual Bon Temps Roule' Fashion Show. Looking forward to seeing all of the latest trends. And collecting food or cash for the food pantry.

April 5th Glitz plans are already in full swing. Members can purchase Glitz tickets on February 5th at 10:30am prior to the fashion show. Prize will be awarded for best group costume with a Glitz/Pink Hearts theme. This is one event you do not want to miss!!

April 2nd is the deadline for Glitz donations. PLEASE NOTE: No donations will be accepted for this year's event after this deadline.

We strive, through diligence, hard work, creativity and friendship, to continue our efforts to 'Support and Celebrate Women'.

The theme for our DHWC is Supporting & Celebrating Women. The objective of this club shall be to promote an informed and active interest in the civic, social and moral welfare of the community: to serve the community through the dedication of time and energy for worthy purposes; and to undertake and complete one or more charitable, humanitarian or social welfare projects each year.

Our meetings (we do not meet in June, July, or August), are held the first Wednesday of each month from September to May, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Diamondhead Country Club, Emerald Ballroom. Membership is \$20.00 and is open to all women.

Dates and times for upcoming meeting, events and fundraisers to be announced in upcoming issues of this publication and you can follow us on Facebook.

For more information about the Diamondhead Women's Club or any of our events, please contact the DHWC President, Rachel Huskins @ (504) 400-3013.

PEO CHAPTER U BY KATHRYN LEWIS



Diamondhead PEO(Philanthropic Education Organization)... Chapter U celebrates New Year's Day 2025 with PEO Sisters, family and friends with an open house at Kim Koppman's home. PEO hostesses for the event:(I-r) Teresa Manning, Kim Koppman, Eileen O'Brien, Marilyn Lott, Kathryn Lewis, Diana Mannocchio, and Donna McKinley.



Diamondhead PEO Chapter U member Brenda Geier was awarded the Award of Excellence by the Ocean Springs Art Association in their 53rd Annual Art Show. Brenda is also the current Chair for Hancock County Arts Alive 2025. (for further information regarding this event check: Hancockarts.org). Arts Alive is a public event featuring Art, art making, food, music..etc. Chapter U is very proud of Brenda!

• SPORTS

golf game. If you haven't already, please stop by the Golf Shop and welcome Colin to Diamondhead!

February means the start of golf season for our golf guests and snowbird golfers too! Guest of members and our snowbird golfers many times become future annual golf members and Diamondhead residents. It's amazing to see how many of them fall in love with what Diamondhead has to offer and then make Diamondhead their new home. As members, we are all ambassadors for our club. Treat others golfers the way you would like to be treated at their golf course. Please show our guests and new members the hospitality Diamondhead is known for. With the beginning of golf season, we need to expect an increase in golfers on the golf course. Some of these golfers may be here for the first time. During the months of February through May, annual golf members should expect a round of golf to take approximately 4 hours and 15 minutes. Golf guests typically do not play in under 4 hours for the following reasons...1) not as familiar with vardages and club selection, 2) not as familiar with course layout in general, 3) not as familiar with greens, 4) use a slightly slower rental fleet golf cart, 5) taking in the new scenery, 6) enjoying the camaraderie and social side of the game, and 7) may stop at the turn briefly for a beverage or snack. Thirteen to fifteen minutes per hole leads to 4 hours and 15 minutes for an 18hole round of golf. If you encounter a serious pace of play issue, please contact the golf shop at (228) 255-3910 and our staff will do their very best to keep pace moving. When you have a full golf course everyone is going to feel a lost ball search from the groups ahead of you. Three and a half hour rounds may still happen but most likely will not be able to be maintained throughout peak season. Thanks in advance for your understanding and cooperation!

We are now issuing handicap cart decals for 2025 for those individuals that qualify. Please contact the Golf Shop for more information. There is an application and verification process that must be performed prior to annual golf members with private cart trail fees before a handicap cart decal will be issued.

Remember to post your scores to

WHS/GHIN if you are interested in playing in the many great golf events that are available for you at The Club. Golfers must have a current WHS/GHIN handicap index and a minimum of six (6) 18-hole scores, or equivalent, posted within 90 days of the event start date at the time of turning in your registration form and payment. As part of the efforts to maintain and properly utilize the World Handicap System/ GHIN at The Club at Diamondhead for our members, we have implemented this eligibility requirement to play in club events based on net scores or pre-flighted based on handicap/handicap index. Also, to give the tournament and handicap committees sufficient time to administer the new eligibility requirement and other event details, all club events that involve net scores or pre-flighted based on handicap/handicap index will have an entry deadline no less than five days before the event date. The entry deadlines posted for each event will be strictly adhered to, and no flexibility will be given. Fully completed entry forms, along with full payment, must be received before the entry deadline to participate in such club events.

We hosted our annual Candy Cane Classic on December 14th. This adult-junior par 3 challenge is always a blast and for a good cause. As part of the entry fee, players donate canned goods for the Hancock County Food Pantry and an unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots! We love to see everyone supporting the event and make memories. Congratulations to all of our Overall Champions...Aiden McCann & Patrick McCann and our First Flight Champions Brody Brdecka & John Brdecka.

The 5th Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Championship was scheduled for January 25-26. We anticipate a strong field of junior golfers to compete in this event from all across the region. At this time, we have juniors registered from Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi. If you get a chance to watch some of these talented golfers you will not be disappointed.

Lastly, it's time for our junior golf

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DIAMONDHEAD MARDI GRAS

BOATERS ASSOCIATION WELCOMES TOM AND SUE WARREN AS 2025 ROYALTY



PHOTO BY EILEEN O'BRIEN King Tom and Queen Sue Warren are Boaters' royalty for 2025-26.

BY JIM MILLER

The Boaters Association of Diamondhead welcomed King Akua Kai the 49th Tom Warren and his lovely queen Sue Warren and their royal court at its annual Coronation Ball on January 4, 2025 at the Club at Diamondhead. The Coronation Ball Theme of "Carolina in the Morning" honored the state of North Carolina where the king and queen were high school classmates who went on one date before their lives took different directions that led to their marriage in 2019. The ballroom atmosphere was enhanced by Carolina blue décor with table centerpieces of a miniature lighthouse. An exquisite meal followed with music, dancing and celebration.

Commodore Jim Miller opened the festivities with a moment of silence to commemorate the recent passing of King Akua Kai the 37th Don Perkins and to honor the victims of the horrific New Year's Eve attack in New Orleans. Commodore Miller then introduced the mistress of ceremonies for the evening, Marilyn Lott, who introduced special guests and attending past royalty of the Krewe of Kamehameha.

Music director Ron Tallent played a "Blue Moon" instrumental as members of the outgoing court were introduced: Duke David Riso and Maid Renee Riso, Equerry John Hutchings



PHOTO BY TOM KOGER

King Tom and Queen Sue Warren are flanked by their Royal Court, from left of Queen Sue, Maid Brenda Hays, Maid Teresa Manning and Lady-in-Waiting Sandy Hatem. To the right of King Tom are Equerry Mickey Hatem, Duke Harold Manning and Duke Ralph Hayes.

and Lady-in-Waiting Gail Hutchings. Tallent then played a Herald Call to introduce King Akua Kai the 48th Jerry Gillen and Queen Phil Gillen who made their promenade around the dance floor before they were seated on their thrones.

All that was prelude to the welcome of the new royalty to the Coronation March as the spotlight followed them from their entrance to their promenade around the dance floor. King-elect Akua Kai the 49th was attired in a black tuxedo, accented with a white tie and vest while the Queen-elect wore a stunning example of timeless elegance and intricate craftsmanship. Featuring a halter neckline with a pearl-encrusted collar, the gown was beautifully adorned with a lace overlay, delicate beadwork, and pearl embellishments. Pearl beaded straps framed the open back, completing a graceful silhouette that combined sophistication with regal charm.

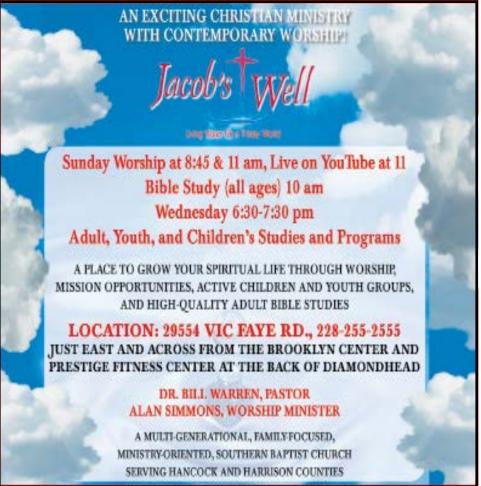
After the royalty-elect took their places on stage, King Jerry removed his crown and crowned King-elect Tom, pronouncing him "King Akua Kai 49." Accordingly, Queen Phil removed her crown and crowned Queen Sue, pronouncing her "Queen of the Krewe of Kamehameha." King Jerry then proposed a champagne toast to King Tom and Queen Sue on behalf of the former monarchs of the Krewe of Kamehameha. King Tom proceeded to toast Queen Sue and then another to his "Loyal Subjects" in attendance who then raised their glasses to the new royal couple.

Next to be introduced was the Royal Court: Duke Ralph Hays and Maid Brenda Hays, Duke Harold Manning and Maid Teresa Manning and Equerry Mickey Hatem and Lady-in-Waiting Sandy Hatem. Ron Tallent accompanied the introductions with a medley of Carolina-themed songs including "Carolina Calling," "Carolina on My Mind," and "Nothing Could be Finer than to be in Carolina in the Morning."

Carolina in the Morning." Guests of the King and Queen were introduced followed by dinner prepared by the staff at the Club of Diamondhead. MC Lott introduced and thanked Johnny Fung and his band for the lively dance music and Hank Fried for managing the spotlights. Ball chairman Eileen Lindquist was introduced and thanked members of her committee for all their work at creating the festive atmosphere.

King Tom and Queen Sue thanked those in attendance for making their coronation a night to remember before they led the guests onto the dance floor waving their napkins in the traditional "Second Line."





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programs to get started. PGA Associate Head Golf Professional Richard Schorr and PGA Associate Professional Colin Lockey are starting our 2025 Spring Junior Golf Program during the first week of February. They are looking forward to starting another wave of junior golf at Diamondhead. If you have a boy or girl age 5-17 that may have an interest in golf please get in touch with us at (228) 255-3910. Watch for more information on www.facebook.com/ DiamondheadJuniorGolfAssociation. This is a weekly program with 8 sessions (Thursdays from 4pm-5pm). It's the real deal! This is a great way to introduce your junior to golf in a fun atmosphere with many other juniors doing the same.

Proposed Schedule of 2025 Golf Events (subject to change)...

1/25-1/26 Jack Ö'Ńeill Junior Championship

2/9 Super Bowl Scramble

2/16 Sweetheart Scramble

4/4-4/6 Big Kahuna Golf Challenge

4/23-4/24 Ladies' Malahini Member-Guest

5/16-5/18 Malahini Member-Guest 6/6-6/8 Hawaiian Mixed Couples Invitational

7/5-7/6 Magnolia Classic

9/12-9/14 Member-Member

10/3-10/5 Diamondhead CP Four Ball

10/11Wheel of Misfortune

10/18 Fall Festival Scramble

10/25-10/26 The Shaka Club Championship

11/29 The Gobbler

As I always say, it is critical that we all fix two ball marks and fill two divots every hole...any two will do! We look forward to seeing you "PLAY MORE GOLF" in 2025. Let's all get out and enjoy our beautiful golf courses and practice facilities. Let us know how we can help.

DWGAN GOLFING NEWS FROM DECEMBER 2024/JANUARY 2025 ARTICLE

BY SHIRLEY HALTERMAN

Mother Nature has both brought some rain and also turned down the temperatures here in Diamondhead playing havoc with some of our golf plans.

Since we were unable to play our Annual Christmas Scramble on December 10, we went forward with our Christmas Luncheon and rescheduled this Scramble for the following Tuesday.

Thirty-five of our gals turned out to play the Christmas Scramble on the 17th. Our First Place Team was composed of Nancy Barker, Brigitte Becker and Lis Pretzello.

Coming in Second Place (in a scorecard playoff) was team of Sharon Gerchow, Janice Murray and Kathie Pierson. This left Third Place to be awarded to Pattie Blackwood, Kathy Jones and Georgeann Luxion. Fourth Place honors went to the team of Carole Griffin, Toni Rossol and Nancy Sislow while our Fifth Place group (again in a scorecard playoff) was made up of Marilyn Galus, Beryl Laird and Cheryl Saak. Congrats also to Beryl for Chip-In on #5, Robin for two Chip-Ins (one on #5 and another on #7, and MaryAnn for one one #7 also.

All of us being on Santa's Nice List, celebrated at a Christmas Party hosted by Sylvia and Al Corban on Wednesday, December 18th.

The following Tuesday being Christmas Eve we did not play, however, seven of our gals showed up on Thursday, December 26th, to play a Scramble with our sister league the DWGA. Twelve gals braved the iffy weather and cart path only conditions to play in this event. First Place went to the team of Edith B., Nancy B., and Jill W. Not to be left behind Second Place (in a scorecard playoff) was taken by Brigitte B., Nancy B., and Trish W. Four players came closest to the pin: Trish W. on #4, Jill W. on #7, Joanne F. on #13 and Threasa M. on #17. In addition, Nancy B. Scored a Birdie while Jill W. had a Chip-in.

On our final playday of 2024 we invited our 18-hole gals to join us in yet another Scramble on the back Nine of the Cardinal Couse. This time 25 gals ventured out to play.



Nines Christmas Party at Sylvia and Al Corbin's.

And, our First Place Team (in yet another Scorecard Playoff) consisted of: Mary Craig Murray, Kathie Pierson and Trish Wright. Followed by our Second Place Team of Liz Bell, Tracey Garriga and Anne Payne. Third Place was garnered by Karen Dougherty, Sharon Gerchow and Dinah Knobloch. Birdies were scored by both Nancy Sislow (hole #10) and Mary Ann Stromeyer (hole #17). Extremely (for down South) cold temperatures caused us to cancel play on Tuesday, January 7th, but keep a

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State Farm Florida Insutance Company, Winter Haven, FL

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watch out for our 2025 Golf Adventures.

DWGA BY COLLEN JONES

December 5th we had a rain out.

December 12th we played a Step Back Scramble game on the Cardinal. The winning team was Liz Bell, Patty Blackwood, Tiffany Webb and Joanne Fried. We then had a Christmas party where we played other games and had lunch. Some special awards were given out with the most in important being the Most Improved Player for the year 2024 which is Tiffany Webb. Congratulations Tiffany.

December 19th we played Black Marks on the Pine Course. The First Flight winner was Marta Wald and Second Place was Amy Swint. The Second Flight winner was Georgeann Luxion and there was a three-way tie for Second Place between Colleen Jones, Patty Hourn and



Christmas Scramble winners Liz Bell, Patty Blackwood, Tiffany Webb, Joanne Fried



Most Improved Player Tiffany Webb with Terri Woolbright presenting trophy

winners were Marta Wald on hole #2, Cassandra Godbold on hole #6, Mary W. on hole #13 and Joyce Teerling on hole #15. Cassandra Godbold had a birdie. Chip Ins were had by Joanne Fried and Terrie Garrett.

Bet Bowen. Closest to the Pin

December 26th we played a combined scramble with DWGA/DWGAN on the Cardinal Course. The winning team was Jill Wiles, Nancy Barker and Edie Baerson. The second-place team was Trish Wright, Nancy Sislow and Brigitte Becker. Closest to the Pin winners were Trish Wright on hole #4. Jill Wiles on hole #17, Joanne Fried on hole #13 and Tee Mauterer on hole #17. Nancy Barker had a birdie. Jill Wiles had a chip-in.

Our new 2025 Officers are Colleen Jones-President, Liz Bell-Vice President, Karen Doughtery-Secretary, Kim Knight-Treasurer and Tiffany Webb-Tournament Chair.

DMGA

BY JAN VEST DMGA 2024 Recap and 2025

Announcements Another fantastic golf year

with DMGA in 2024! Congratulations to Val Miller (Money Leader) and George Thibodeaux (Closest to the Pin Leader) for their outstanding performance throughout the year. A heartfelt thank you to the volunteer board for their dedication and hard work in making this an enjoyable season.



Black Mark winners Colleen Jones, Georgeann Luxion, Marta Wald, Amy Swint

2025 DMGA Officers • President: Lenny Alphonso • Vice President: Joe Murray • Secretary-Treasurer: Art Burgoyne

- Communications: Jan Vest Board of Directors:
- •Dennis Tauzin
- •Dennis Laumann
- •Tommy Murphy

•Bill Merna

A motion was made to approve the above slate of officers, seconded, and passed. Next Playday: January 8, 2025

December Game Results 12/18/24 Results •1st Place: David Barbato, Marshall Miller, Daryl Vaught, Ronnie Austin •Tie 2nd & 3rd Place: Dave Wright, John McLaughlin, Val Miller, Steve Garcia, Renny Pangan, Tom Woolbright, Arthur Burgoyne •Tie 4th Place: Norman Bowley, John Benus, Tommy Murphy, Bill Merna, Michael Galvin, Sam Lee, John Legner, Erwin Dilley

Closest to the Pin (C.T.P.):

- Hole #4: Lenny Alphonso • Hole #7: Daryl Vaught
- •Hole #13: AJ Dilley
- •Hole #17: Sam Lee

12/14/24 Results

Ist Place: Norman Bowley, Marshall Miller, Daryl Vaught, Bill Merna (-11)
2nd Place: Steve Garcia, Jack Brenden, Marc Beddoe, AJ Dilley (-9)
3rd Place: David Barbato, Sam Lee, Byron Gandy, Dennis Tauzin (-8)
4th Place: Jon Bryant, Renny Pangan, Dennis Laumann, Gary Hava (-7) Closest to the Pin (C.T.P.):
Hole #2: Marshall Miller
Hole #13: Marshall Miller

- •Hole #15: Brian Brown
- 12/11/24 Results

1st Place: Leonard Alphonso, Dennis Tauzin, Arthur Burgoyne, Joe Murray
2nd Place: Val Miller, Byron Gandy, Brian Brown, Tommy Murphy
Closest to the Pin (C.T.P.):
Hole #2: Dave Barbato

•Hole #6: Dave Barbato

Hole #13: Art Burgoyne
Hole #15: Val Miller
11/27/24 Results
Format: ABCD - Stableford
1st Place: George Thibodeaux, Renny Pangan, Dennis Laumann
2nd Place: Joe Wilks (Low Individual Score), Marc Pat-

rick, Brian Brown, Gary Hava • 3rd Place: Billy Stroud, Cat Aguda, Val Miller, Art Burgoyne • 4th Place: Jan Vest, Erie Hebert, Donald Crosby, AJ Dilley

Closest to the Pin (C.T.P.):





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• Hole #2: Mike Cavataio

•Hole #6: Cat Aguda

• Hole #13: Jake Legner

•Hole #15: Cat Aguda

Here's to another successful and enjoyable season ahead with DMGA in 2025!

JACK O'NEILL MEMORIAL CHARITY (JONMC) ANNOUNCES THE 2025 JACK O'NEILL MEMORIAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

On March 29, 2025, the annual Jack O'Neill Memorial Charity fund raiser golf tournament will be held on the Cardinal Course in Diamondhead with lunch and awards following the play.

The JACK O'NEILL MEMORIAL Charity (JONMC) was established in June 2018 to honor Jack's fervent wish to give every young golfer an opportunity to enjoy the game of golf.

JONMC will soon be accepting sponsorships for the tournament, offering businesses and individuals an opportunity to contribute to a cause that supports junior golf in our community.

Sponsorship and Player/Team application forms will be available in the Diamondhead Golf Shop.

The following activities of the JON-MC that have taken place to date, illustrate how the mission of this non-profit charity is being accomplished:

Scholarships

All JONMC scholarship awardees are selected by the BC Cup Foundation and are presented at the Annual Kelly Gibson Foundation Juniors Golfers Awards Event.

 \cdot 2019: The first JONMC scholarships were awarded to Kelsey Dill, who was entering her senior year at Pearl River Central High School and to Callee Breland who was entering her second year at Loyola University of New Orleans.

· 2020: Scholarship went to a Katelynn Altese of Diamondhead who would be attending Troy University.

 \cdot 2021: Scholarship was awarded to a Mateo Jiménez of Diamondhead who was a Senior at Hancock High School.

· 2022: Two scholarships were awarded — the JONMC scholarships to Preston Giroir and the JON-MC scholarship sponsored by Silver Slipper to Drew Silman.

• 2023: Two scholarships were awarded — the JONMC annual scholarship to Andrew Payne and to Claire Chauvin who was awarded the JONMC scholarship sponsored by Silver Slipper.

2024: Scholarships were awarded to Nikki Chase who was the 2024 winner of JONMC annual scholarship, and to Jacques Holloway who was awarded the JONMC scholarship sponsored by Silver Slipper. 2024: Last year JONMC entered

 \cdot 2024: Last year JONMC entered into a partnership with Pearl River Community College in which we committed to fund two of the annual scholarships given to students beginning their first year of school and joining the boys and girls intercollegiate golf teams.

Junior Tournaments

November 16, 2019: INAUGURAL GOVERNOR'S CUP – JOHMC and Diamondhead Country Club hosted a Governor's Cup Team Match Play competition between Mississippi and Louisiana junior golfers.

January 2021: JONMC sponsored the first Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Golf Tournament., which was played on the Diamondhead Pine Course.

January 2022: the Second Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Golf Tournament sponsored by JONMC was played on the Diamondhead Pine Course.

January 2023: The Third Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Tournament was played on the Diamondhead Pine Course on January 28-29, 2023. Again, this year, the event was a great success with nearly sixty players competing and playing very well in spite of challenging weather. January 2024: Fourth Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Tournament was scheduled for January 27 & 28, 2024. Heavy rain during the week and Saturday morning left the course unplayable on Saturday. Sunday was a better day and the juniors played well.

January 2025: The fifth Jack O'Neill Memorial Junior Tournament is scheduled for January 25 & 26, 2025. We are hoping for better weather this year, and we expect another good turnout of junior girls and boys to enjoy and compete in this event. Special Events

Chief Warrant Officer O4 Jack

O'Neill, U S Marine Corps, served as the National Coordinator for Toys for Tots for many of his 38 years of service. To honor this aspect of Jack's contributions, the JONMC worked with the local Marine Reserve Unit and the Diamondhead Golf Shop in conjunction with the Gobbler Golf Tournaments on Saturday, November 25, 2023 and November 30, 2024 with a "Teddies for Tots" event.







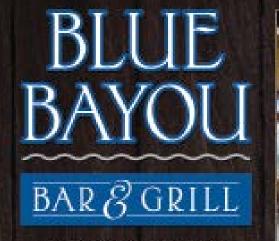


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