

# Diamondhead News

JANUARY 2026

[www.diamondheadms.org](http://www.diamondheadms.org)

VOL. 44, NO. 1

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

► BY **NANCY SISLOW**  
BOARD PRESIDENT

After the November meeting, the board sadly received the resignation of Bill Blackwood as Treasurer. Bill served on the Board for almost 6 years, first as a Director, and recently as the Treasurer. He related that he found the demands of the role and recent changes in the financial situation to be so draining as to threaten his retirement and health. Bill served on the Board with integrity and intensity, constantly working to always give the POA his best. The Board recognizes the effort he gave to us all. Please be sure to thank Bill when you see him.

Because the remaining term of Treasurer is only 6 months, the Bylaws allowed the board to interview several excellent candidates for appointment to the vacant position. We selected Brice Howard and his appointment will be formally approved at the December Board meeting. Please welcome Brice and offer your support as we tackle the tough decisions of the coming year.

Since the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the transfer of the athletic fields at Noma Drive, playgrounds and ballfields at East Rec, the Twin Lakes recreation area, stormwater drainage lots, the Community Center and its adjacent parking, the public works maintenance yard and the Airstrip with all related facilities and land, was signed, work has

progressed on the final documents needed to complete the transfer. It is anticipated all conditions (parking at the amenities, properties remaining available to the public, maintaining the use for the same or similar purpose at the same standard as currently operated, leasing portions of the public works yard for a nominal fee, and assisting with legal fees) will be finalized in writing by the end of the year.

At the November Board meeting, the 2026 budget was approved. It is a lean and challenging budget that we will have to monitor and manage carefully in 2026. In past years boards were able to rest on the knowledge of mandated dues income. With the expiration of mandatory covenants, that has not been possible. We are having to look at our finances in a different way. Because income is of critical importance and payment of dues has been running behind projections, a Special Meeting of the Board was held on December 11, 2025. Rick Goldstein, General Manager, wanted the Board to be fully aware of the situation. No formal action was taken, but the Board will be watching to see what changes may need to be made to maintain the remaining amenities while we work to find the best plan for the future. A motion at the December meeting is intended to allow the GM to explore valuation of amenities should the need arise to offer them for sale. Tough decisions may soon have to be made.

In a past session the Board approved legal counsel to develop and propose a plan for the organization's future by the end of the year. We expect to review that

plan in early 2026.

Your support and understanding will help us prevail so our goal of a wonderful Diamondhead can be achieved.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Diamondhead Property Owners Association and its great amenities.



— 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL —

# NEW YEAR'S DAY PLUNGE

## Wash Away 2025 - Take the Plunge into 2026

This year, we're inviting everyone to join the 1st Annual New Year's Day Plunge at no cost! That's right - we're waiving all participation and spectator fees so the whole community can jump into 2026 together. Donations to the upcoming recreation programs are welcome.

**JANUARY 1,  
2026  
AT MAIN POOL  
1:00-4:00**

  
**THE CLUB**  
at  
**DIAMONDHEAD**  
— & DIAMONDHEAD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION —

**Questions?  
Call 228-255-2929**

## 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.

**EMAIL: DHNEWS@DHPOA.ORG**

**TELEPHONE: 228-255-1900**

**EDITOR: CANDICE SEITZ**

Subscription info: DHPOA Membership 255-1900

The Sea Coast Echo will be responsible for production, printing, advertising and distribution (by mail) of The Diamondhead News. For advertising, call 228-467-5473.

### POA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Nancy Stalwa</b> (President)   847-271-7474 nstalwa@dhpoa.org	<b>Ernest Lee</b> (Director)   832-485-9872 eleee@dhpoa.org
<b>Trey Gierusa</b> (Vice President)   504-460-1717 tgierusa@dhpoa.org	<b>Bob Finnan</b> (Director)   754-587-2887 bfinnan@dhpoa.org
<b>Eric Howard</b> (Treasurer) ehoward@dhpoa.org	<b>Patricia Burgoyne</b> (Secretary)   504-669-2541 pburgoyne@dhpoa.org
<b>Dr. Arlen "Kee" Griffey</b> (Director)   228-216-4447 kggriffey@dhpoa.org	<b>Michael Tubbs</b> (Director)   757-817-5817 mtubbs@dhpoa.org
<b>Stuart Mulling</b> (Director)   228-585-2548	<b>Gary Becker</b> (ex officio)   815-218-2761 gbecker@dhpoa.org
<b>Ronnie LaFontaine</b> (Director)   228-671-9169 rlafontaine@dhpoa.org	

### ASSOCIATION STAFF

<b>Rick Goldstein</b> .....	General Manager
<b>Danion Melnis</b> .....	Controller
<b>Candice Seitz</b> .....	Managing Editor
<b>Chris Altese</b> .....	Director of Golf
<b>Hoppy Smith</b> .....	Director of Player Development
<b>Don Hamman</b> .....	Golf Superintendent
<b>Adam Humphrey</b> .....	Facilities Superintendent
<b>Dianne Simonsen</b> .....	Harbor Master
<b>Nancy Perkins</b> .....	Sales & Marketing
<b>Andrea Jones</b> .....	Legal/HR Administrator

### EXTENSION DIRECTORY

<b>POA Office</b> .....	255-1900 or 1-800-321-3840
<b>Fax</b> .....	255-4296
<b>Airport</b> .....	255-0502
<b>Facilities Maintenance</b> .....	255-3141
<b>Country Club</b> .....	255-2818
<b>19th Hole</b> .....	255-5005
<b>Fire District/Emergency 911/Business</b> .....	255-1314
<b>Golf Pro Shop</b> .....	255-3910
<b>Golf Tee Times</b> .....	255-5317 or 1-800-346-8741
<b>Marina</b> .....	228-216-9059
<b>Personnel</b> .....	255-1900 ex-123
<b>Diamondhead Water &amp; Sewer District</b> .....	255-5813
<b>Tennis World</b> .....	255-5050
<b>Waste Collection</b> .....	832-3144

### Diamondhead Country Club & Property Owners Association, Inc.

November 30, 2025

	Revenue	Expense	Net Gain/Loss	Depreciation	Net Income
Club	226,443.47	225,556.16	887.31	4,164.71	(3,277.40)
Camphouse	6,500.00	3,763.92	2,736.08	3,709.82	(973.74)
Golf	217,875.97	66,681.38	151,194.59	7,214.75	143,979.84
Golf Academy	1,301.00	7,694.86	(6,393.86)	-	(6,393.86)
GCM		125,803.10	(125,803.10)	18,138.57	(143,941.67)
Grounds		22,226.34	(22,226.34)		(22,226.34)
Recreation	275.00	14,147.66	(13,872.66)	5,946.38	(19,819.04)
Community/Twin Lakes		1,151.27	(1,151.27)	-	(1,151.27)
Tennis	5,000.00	1,528.05	3,471.95	3,883.16	(411.21)
Marina	11,927.84	9,628.23	2,299.61	5,491.21	(3,191.60)
Facilities		23,337.98	(23,337.98)	771.68	(24,109.66)
Marketing	5.95	8,663.72	(8,657.77)	-	(8,657.77)
Admin	8,918.02	115,233.64	(106,315.62)	12,908.45	(119,224.07)
Membership	227,841.87	-	227,841.87	-	227,841.87
Airport	1,200.00	395.31	804.69	911.86	(107.17)
	707,289.12	625,811.62	81,477.50		18,336.91

January 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025

	Revenue	Expense	Net Gain/Loss	Depreciation	Net Income
Club	2,581,745.15	2,906,592.12	(324,846.97)	45,811.81	(370,658.78)
Camphouse	59,325.00	66,408.15	(7,083.15)	40,808.02	(47,891.17)
Golf	2,515,267.74	680,858.64	1,834,409.10	79,362.25	1,755,046.85
Golf Academy	29,921.97	105,235.70	(75,313.73)	-	(75,313.73)
GCM	2,728.72	1,584,985.42	(1,582,256.70)	199,524.27	(1,781,780.97)
Grounds		315,482.22	(315,482.22)		(315,482.22)
Recreation	12,385.01	177,000.70	(164,615.69)	65,410.18	(230,025.87)
Community/Twin Lakes	4,197.60	53,048.52	(48,850.92)	-	(48,850.92)
Tennis	32,472.95	57,640.87	(25,167.92)	42,714.76	(67,882.68)
Marina	109,816.23	115,641.43	(5,825.20)	60,403.31	(66,228.51)
Facilities		298,020.34	(298,020.34)	8,488.48	(306,508.82)
Marketing	830.95	177,509.82	(176,678.87)	-	(176,678.87)
Admin	148,238.92	1,385,937.02	(1,237,698.10)	141,992.95	(1,379,691.05)
Membership	2,641,336.64	15,800.33	2,625,536.31	-	2,625,536.31
Airport	10,800.00	10,135.17	664.83	10,030.46	(9,365.63)
	8,149,066.88	7,950,296.45	198,770.43		(495,776.06)

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

YouTube



## • COMMUNITY

# Diamondhead Aviation: Precision on the Road and in the Air

BY PAUL GILBERT

As students begin their aviation journey, ground operations focus heavily on maintaining taxiway and runway centerline. With a single engine Cessna, you may get away with sloppy tracking of centerline because the wingspan is not large enough to risk hitting objects near the taxiway or runway. But when you're hauling around one or two hundred feet of wing in larger aircraft, that centerline provides a guarantee that your wings will clear nearby obstacles. Even with the relatively large wingspans of singles like the Cirrus and Piper Malibu at 38'4" and 42'10" respectively, poor centerline discipline could create lots of insurance claim paperwork.

During my years slinging two-wheel machines around racetracks, the focus was on finding and following a precise line and accurately repeating that line each time around. The best performance drivers can keep the perfect line within a foot or less. Leaned over, body just inches from the pavement, knee puck skimming along the road, a mistake in location could mean a crash or at least a poor setup for the next turn.

My life has been driven by the rigors of performance and precision. Lack of precision could result in a crash either in a plane or on the track. Maybe that is why I tend to be slightly critical of drivers on our public roads (okay, maybe more than

SLIGHTLY critical). When our new roundabouts were being built, social media posts were filled with comments saying how unnecessary they are and how confusing they can be. A good pilot is always learning. A good racer is always building the skills to shave seconds off lap times. So why do users of public roads never face the requirement to refresh their skills and knowledge of the rules of the road?

A quick stroll through local parking lots will show the cars that were apparently parked by Stevie Wonder when he was late for a meeting. Crossed lines, vehicles filling two and three spots. You may just assume those drivers were unable to color in the lines as kids and that may be true, but the lack of precision is not just in the parking world. Any time spent on America's roads will show people have forgotten some of the more basic rules of the road, such as no crossing a solid line or even that the left lane is for passing only. You'd think since their heads are already buried in their cell phones, they might as well Google some driving tips.

I've been known to bend the rules regarding speed limit on curvy roads. Motorcycle riding would be pretty boring without some aggressive riding around corners. An inattentive or sloppy driver allowing their three-ton vehicle to wander into the oncoming traffic in a blind curve makes for a dangerous situation. Pick a lane

and stick to it. One dangerous situation I see with our roundabouts is how people don't respect the TWO lanes and their purpose. This is especially true in the southern circle. I often see people in the left lane cut across the right lane to exit for the eastbound I-10 onramp. I'm dreading the day when someone plows into a car in the right lane.

Will my rants improve driving conditions?? I seriously doubt it. But while I may tend to wander and ramble on the page, I strive for precision on the roads just as in aircraft.

A Chill in the Air

Walking outside the other morning showed me in clear and frosty terms that winter is approaching. Don't forget to take extra care with some winter specific considerations.

Our air-cooled engines are going to have a difficult time waking up and oil temperatures will slowly increase to the normal operating range. Many southern based aircraft are not equipped with sump heaters, so an investment in a system to pump heated air into the engine compartment might prolong engine life, especially for aircraft that must live outside.

FAR 91.527 guides us on winter operations and says no pilot may take off with frost, ice or snow adhering to aircraft surfaces. Many of us remember that regulation saying we may polish frost on wings rather than completely removing it. In 2010, they changed the rule to strongly

discourage the practice, citing lack of data and manufacturer guidelines on what level of polish was required. It's best to make sure there is nothing adhering to wings and control surfaces as even small areas of contamination may reduce lift by thirty percent or more.

Winter's air mass cloud formations tend to blanket areas in overcast clouds, grounding VFR traffic for days. This is a great time to work on your instrument rating but be cautious flying in clouds on winter days. Moisture combined with freezing temperatures aloft is the perfect recipe for airframe icing and most GA aircraft are not approved for flight in these conditions. Inadvertent icing

encounters do happen. The key is to have an exit plan if ice does start to form.

Carburetor Ice is more likely in these conditions. If you're flying a carbureted aircraft, pay attention to RPM's or manifold pressure. A gradual reduction in engine power may be difficult to notice. If you have any doubts, run carb heat for a minute or two. If it starts sputtering and then RPM's increase, you likely cleared carb ice.

Enjoy those cloudless days after cold front passage and keep warm (But remember to use carbon monoxide indicators when the cabin heat is running).

Blue skies, aviatorand-writer@gmail.com



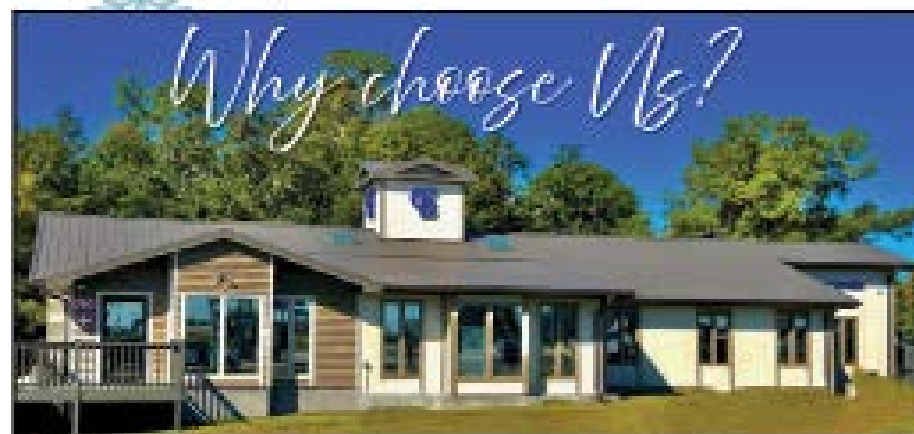
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## Looking to BUY or SELL in Diamondhead?

We live, work & invest right here in our community...bringing local expertise, national resources & a personal touch to every transaction!



Residential



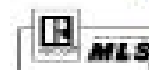
Commercial



Property Management



alfonso.com



6837 Hill St.  
2 Bed | 2 Bath  
1,800 sqft | \$249,000  
Wonderful home for entertaining. Unique Hawaiian style with wooden bar & kitchen counter. Large loft upstairs with sky-light - great for 2nd bedroom or office, has studio above carport & a sun room. Wood-burning fireplace in den, leading to small side-deck.



38120 Golf Club Drive  
Lot #21, Diamondhead  
5601 x 1500 ft  
\$449,000  
Beautiful cleared lot ready to build your forever home. Did not flood for Katrina.



2000 Miller St., Bay St. Louis  
1.96 Acres \$64,000  
Located in the heart of Bay St. Louis. Lot has over 500 feet of waterfront located on Lucare Keyway this waterway flows to the Jordan River. Property previously had house on it and still has a well.

Paradise Ln Lot #15  
Pace Christian  
0.14 Acres \$39,000  
Exclusive area of gorgeous homes at the end of Paradise Lane. Near golf course and beaches. Pace Christian Isle Subdivision. 600 x 1200

Carmen Ferro, REALTOR®

D: (228) 342-1184 | carmenferro614@gmail.com



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2. 1188 US-90, Bay St Louis | (228) 467-0244
3. 9153 Lorraine Rd, Gulfport | (228) 287-1000
4. 2003 Bienville Blvd, Ocean Springs | (228) 875-1272
5. 934 Jackson Ave, Pascagoula | (228) 769-7777

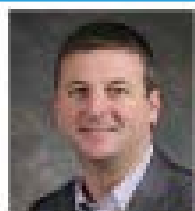


## NEW YEAR NEW POSSIBILITIES

A new year brings fresh opportunities - and real estate is no exception! Whether you're dreaming of a new place to call home, planning a move, or just curious about your home's value, our agents are here to guide you every step of the way.

Here's to a year  
of  
new keys.  
new memories  
&  
new beginnings

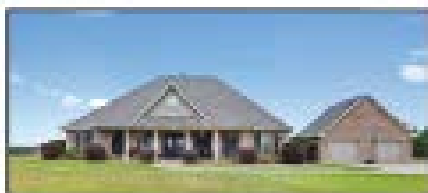
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**Brent Allison**  
D: 228-216-1269  
O: 228-255-3550



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**ALFONSO REALTY**



74 The Hills Drive | Carrboro  
4 bed | 3.5 bath  
3340 sqft | \$929,000

Pearl River County on 5 Acres Custom 3,340 sq ft home with 4BR/3.5BA, chef's kitchen, bonus room, covered porch, pool, and new roof. Privacy, charm, and luxury—no HOA.



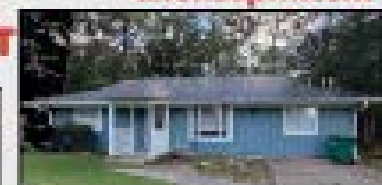
17267 Camellia St | Kiln  
5 bed | 4 bath | 3128 sqft | \$299,900

Kiln - Four-plex on 2 Acres Great investment! 3 one-bed units + 1 two-bed unit, all with bath, living room, kitchen, & laundry space. Private setting, building in good shape. Call for appointment

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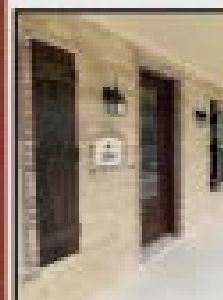
3 Quail Creek Dr. | Diamondhead  
2 Bed/2 Bath Rent: \$1600.00/mo

This is an updated home located in the Oaks of Diamondhead. The grass cuttings are included in the price of the rent. This is a 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with a large bonus area for game or media room, open kitchen, dining area and living room, stainless appliances, covered screened back porch. No carpet, tile and vinyl throughout, 2 living areas Updated baths with granite and tile flooring. Call for your appointment

200 Fairway Villas Circle  
Diamondhead  
2 Bed/2 Bath  
Rent: \$1700.00/mo

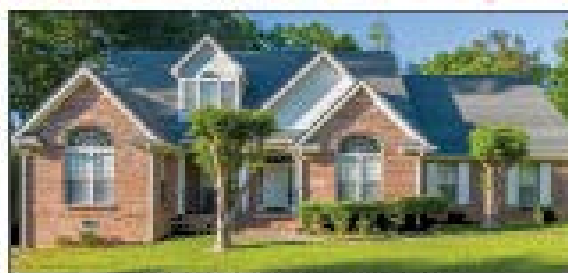
Occupied - Appointment required. Newer Construction, built in 2020.

2 bedroom 2 bath Upper level unit within walking distance to the country club in Fairway Villas of Diamondhead. This home offers coffered ceilings, granite countertops, high ceilings, golf cart garage, balcony, beautiful colors & an awesome floor plan. **ABSOLUTELY NO PETS!!**

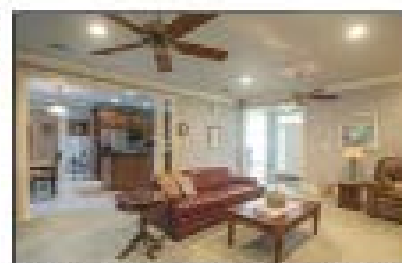


**Nell Frisbie**  
D: 228-493-2024  
O: 228-255-3550

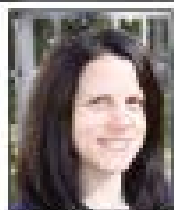
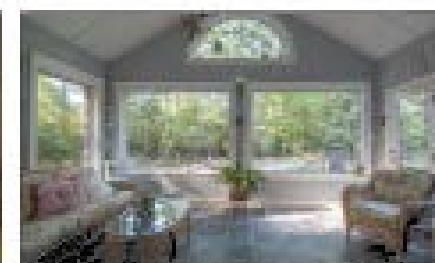
**REDUCED TO \$398,900**



856 Kale St | Diamondhead  
3 bed | 2 bath | 2489 sqft | \$398,900

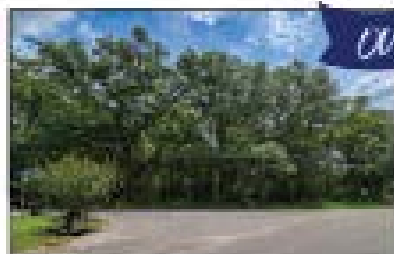


Outstanding single family home. Custom built in 2001. High and dry location on 3 lots - Approx 0.69 Acres. Crown molding, granite counters, split floor plan. 2 car garage and private patio. Must see to appreciate all the extras! Call me for a tour



**Gina Bradley**  
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O: 228-255-3550

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OR  
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**OVER 2 ACRES**

Frank Griffin Road  
Moss Point  
Approx. 2.1 Acres

Offered at \$49,000

**Commercial**



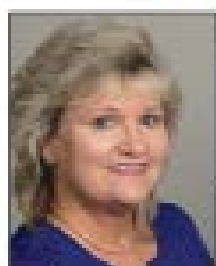
Live Oak Avenue  
Lot #76  
Pascagoula

Offered at \$39,000



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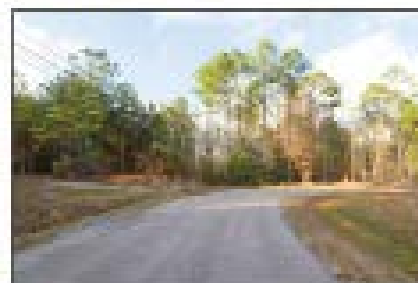


**Lynn Grego**  
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**Zoned CO-1**  
**Coleman**  
**Limited**  
**District -**  
**Commercial**  
or  
**Residential**



Terrace Avenue Lot #13 | Waveland  
0.23 Acres | \$60,000



Choctaw Place | Kiln  
0.25 Acres | \$17,500



6414 Kiko St. | Diamondhead  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1634 sqft | \$320,000



**Lindsey Lind**

CBX, REALTOR®

D: 228-216-8512 | O: 228-467-0244  
lindseylindrichard@gmail.com



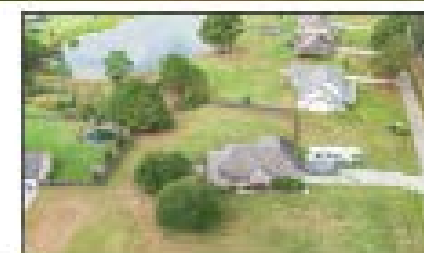
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4300 Fairview Road | Kila  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,825 sqft | \$339,000

Come on by and see this Beautiful Brand New Construction home in Kila, MS! Brick Home features split bedroom floorplan with spacious master suite & soaking tub that everyone will love. Vinyl Flooring, Granite Countertops, Stainless Appliances, ample storage, & Great closets are just a few features in this home. The builder thought of every detail! Easy 12 Minute Drive to the Beach & 30 minute Drive to the best shopping spots. Sits on just under one acre so the perfect amount of space for the dogs & Privacy!



12009 Circle-S Ranch Road | Pigeon  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,989 sqft | \$349,900

Come Experience the perks of Country Living in this Updated home that is truly one of a kind. Split Bedroom floorplan, Great Master Suite, Formal Dining room, Laundry Room, Granite throughout & natural Wood Floors are just a few things this home includes. Home offers enough land to give you the feel of privacy & is only 12 minutes from town with a ton of parking space! You can enjoy the beautiful sunsets over the lake and fish in your own backyard.

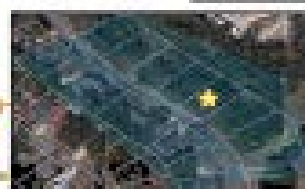


8428 Lake Drive | Diamondhead  
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 1,822 sqft | \$282,000  
Updated home with a spacious yard. New Flooring and New AC's, quartz countertops, Hard Board Siding, fenced yard and is move-in ready! The master suite is on the first level, as well as a spacious laundry and kitchen. This home has the rustic farmhouse meets city vibes and is located in the Heart of Diamondhead. Take the Golf cart to dinner, the grocery store, local restaurants and so much more. Come see this Beauty today!

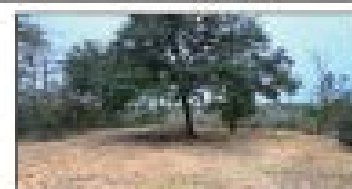


0520 Kalkinoka Place | Diamondhead  
4 Bed | 5 Bath | 3,096 sqft | \$399,000

**HAPPY  
New  
Year**



0 Golf Club Drive | Diamondhead  
0.27 Acres | \$18,000



7223 Akikui Drive | Diamondhead  
0.88 Acres | \$48,999



**COLDWELL BANKER**

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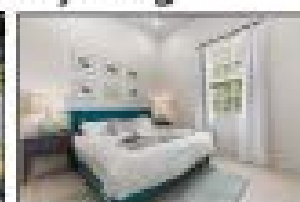
**Betsy Montjoy**

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O: 228-467-0244

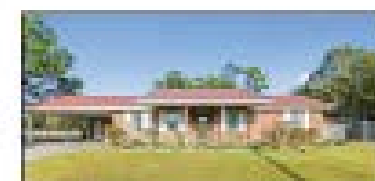
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Bay St. Louis**

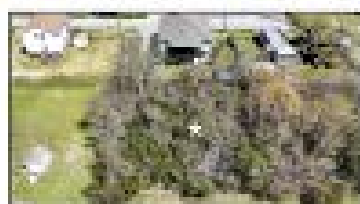


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3 Bed | 3 Bath | 1,367 sqft |  
\$217,000

Charming Ranch Home with spacious layout and on a corner lot. Features: living room, eat-in kitchen, full-sized laundry room, master suite with on suite bathroom, neutral colors throughout, large, fenced-in backyard with shed. Home is move-in ready and is a perfect blend of comfort & convenience! Schedule a viewing today!



306 Perron St | Waveland  
0.27 Acres | \$69,000  
Oversized Lot for Sale - Steps from the Beach & Downtown Waveland! Sits at a 19' elevation. Discover the perfect opportunity to build your dream home or vacation getaway

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**Happy  
New Year**



## • COMMUNITY

# Diamondhead Senior Village

BY MARY GOBERT

Happy 2026 to all! It seems impossible to think of 2026 but here we are and we're ready to have a productive, happy, and informative trip around the sun. Starting with January this is what that looks like at Senior Village.

January 6--Kiln library will be in the house! The branch manager, Andrea

Moreau will give an overview of activities there and will demonstrate Diamond Dots. Diamond Dots is a fun and relaxing craft that anyone can do. At 11:00, we'll play Bingo with prizes. At noon, we have a "lagniappe" activity on the first Tuesday of the month. This is when the optional Lunch Bunch happens. We all go Dutch treat to a local restaurant to continue the fun and conversa-

tions that couldn't fit into the 10-12:00 time slot!

January 13--Come play Bunco at 10:00! This popular table game is now at Senior Village. We'll have prizes and lots of fun with this new activity. At 11:00, our rep from SMPDD, Ms Gloria, will talk

to us about Medicare fraud and interpreting those pesky Explanation of Benefits (EOBs). She is always a welcome guest.

We have two bits of lagniappe for the second Tuesdays of the month. First, The Walking Club meets

at 9 at the walking trail on Noma Dr. Walk as little or as much as you choose, at your own pace. Second, the line dancers dance at Woodland

• See **SENIOR**  
Page 8

## Hancock County Tax Assessor / Collector Homestead Exemption Applications Accepted

Homestead exemption applications will be accepted from **January 5, 2026 through April 1, 2026**, office located at 854 Highway 90 Suite C., Applications must be filed in the Bay St. Louis office of Hancock County Tax Assessor between the hours of 8:00a.m. and 5:00p.m. You must be living in your home on or before **January 1, 2026** to qualify for homestead exemption. The property must be your primary residence in order to qualify.

The following information is needed to file your application.

- A)** Warranty deed
  - B)** Cost of property
  - C)** Down payment amount
  - D)** License plate numbers for vehicles registered in Hancock County.  
(All vehicles owned must be registered in Hancock County.)
  - E)** If you are age 65 or older, proof of age is required
  - F)** If you are receiving 100% disability benefits, proof of your disability is required
  - G)** Is any part of the property rented
  - H)** Must have MS Driver's License and Social Security Number
- You must refile your homestead exemption application if, on or before January 1, 2026 any of the following occurred**
- A)** You became over 65 on or before January 1, 2026
  - B)** You became 100% disabled service Connected veteran on or before January 1, 2026
  - C)** You acquired a new residence
  - D)** You acquired additional property that adjoins your homestead
  - E)** Your marital status changed (divorced, widowed, separated, etc.)

If you have any questions please call  
**228-467-5727**  
**Jimmie Ladner, Jr.**  
**Tax Assessor/Collector Hancock County**



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## • COMMUNITY

# Local Hancock County Students Honored in VFW 2026 Donald F. Crosby Memorial Scholarship Competitions

BY MICHAEL BURKE

Patriotism, creativity, and civic pride were on full display as area students were recognized for their outstanding achievements in the 2026 Donald F. Crosby Memorial Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen competitions, sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2880 in Diamondhead.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of local educators and organizers, an impressive number of Hancock High School student entries were submitted for the Voice of Democracy (VOD) program. Judges praised the depth of thought, clarity of expression, and passion for American ideals demonstrated across the submissions, mak-

ing final selections especially challenging.

The top Voice of Democracy winners for VFW Post 2880 are:

1st Place: Chase R. Martin

2nd Place: James A. Johnson

son

3rd Place: Lillian Bice

In addition, Hancock County middle school teachers played a vital role in coordinating outstanding entries for the Patriot's Pen (PP) essay contest. Once again, the high quality of writing and thoughtful perspectives from the students stood out.

The Patriot's Pen winners for VFW Post 2880 are:

1st Place: Samuel Sage

Houston

2nd Place: Lillian Hancock

3rd Place: Madison M. Elliott

VFW Post 2880 extends sincere gratitude to the teachers who encouraged and guided their students, as well as the volunteers who organized and supported both programs. Most importantly, congratulations go to all participating students for their hard work and willingness to reflect on what patriotism and democracy mean today.

Our Diamondhead VFW

will continue these annual contests to honor the legacy and memory of VFW Post 2880 Comrade and United States Marine Corps veteran Donald F. Crosby, who dedicated significant effort to supporting the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs in our community and inspired the next generation to find and use their voices in service to our nation.



**VFW Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen winners 2026**

## • SENIOR

Continued from Page 8  
Village Nursing Home at 9:30. You can participate or just enjoy the music. We finish at 10 in time for the Senior Village activities across the street.

Jan 20--Tech Talk at 10:00. Topics vary, but good info is always given! Come ask your questions and learn something new. At 11:00 we'll switch

gears and do some gentle exercising with a virtual AARP led session. Come on the 20th and flex your mind and your body!

Jan 27--Water color painting at 10. All materials and instructions are provided for these simple projects. At 11, we have Christi Kolb, a lawyer from Louisiana, to discuss her experiences with criminal justice. She will answer general questions.

It should be a very interesting hour.

Activities are on Tuesdays at 10 and they are free. No registration is required. Turn into the Woodland Village campus near the front entrance to Diamondhead and we're across the street from the nursing home. There's a sign next to our door. All are welcome.

Remember, it takes a (senior) village!



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## • COMMUNITY

# VFW Post 2880 Teacher of the Year

BY DON BALL

Frances S. Vandercook of Hancock County High School was presented the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award for 2025-2026 at the annual VFW Post 2880 Christmas banquet on 3 December 2025. Her selection will now advance to VFW District One, which covers all VFW Posts in Hancock,

Harrison, Jackson and George counties. District winners advance to the State level and from there to the National level.

Mrs. Vandercook is a phenomenal teacher who has devoted her life working with students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities. Her passion for teaching special needs students is evident in everything she does, and it



VFW Teacher of the year  
Frances S. Vandercook

inspires her colleagues to raise their own standards of practice. At 80 years old she is a role model for what it means to be an Educator. What is most remarkable is that even after decades of service, Mrs. Vandercook still approaches each day with enthusiasm and creativity. In addition to her professional accomplishments, Frances is deeply involved


in the community. For the past 3 years her and her husband have volunteered to be Santa and Mrs Santa for the Shuckers in Biloxi. She also plays the piano at her church and works with special needs children in Bible Study classes.

She and her husband Paul reside in Gulfport, MS.

## Happy 99th Birthday



Bill Roofner, a WWII vet and 20+ year resident in Diamondhead, celebrated HIS 99TH BIRTHDAY in Latitude 30 on December 7, 2025, with his friends.



**THE TAX Ladies**

Find us on  [facebook](#)



*The Tax Ladies*

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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 **Diamondhead News**

## • CHURCHES

### ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5303 Diamondhead Circle  
Diamondhead, MS 39525-3203  
(228) 255-9213  
mail@stthomasdiamondhead.org

#### WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday 9:00 am Holy Eucharist followed by Hospitality Hour  
Wednesday prayer service and potluck dinner 5:30pm weekly  
St. Thomas is partnering with Hancock Excel by 5 to offer "Baby & Me 1, 2, 3!" This free and engaging program is for children aged from newborn to 2 years old and their mom, dad, grandparents, and caregiver. The activities include information on milestones, playtime, and family chat time.

The program is from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month from October-May. It is open to all!

St Thomas Episcopal Church in Diamondhead is host to Diamondhead Marathon Bridge once a month and the Blessing Box, providing free food to those in need.



At a recent Marathon Bridge event, Linda Naron and bridge partner Jan Murphy are adding food to the Blessing Box (located at the front entrance of St Thomas Church). All are invited to donate or receive food from the box.

### DIAMONDHEAD COMMUNITY CHURCH

5301 Diamondhead Circle  
(288) 255-5556  
dhcommunitychurch.org  
Worship Service  
Please join us on Sundays at 10 am for worship services with Pastor Stan Van Den Berg.  
Christian Education  
We have Sunday school classes at 9 am for adults as well as children (by age group). In addition,

Children's Church is held during a portion of the worship hour.  
Nursery Care  
Nursery care is provided between 9 and 11 am.  
Fellowship  
All are welcome to join us for snacks and Christian fellowship at 11 am following the worship service.  
Children's Choir  
Parents, we offer exciting opportunities for your children ages 5-12 and 13-17 to participate in our youth choirs.  
Pre-School  
Little School is still taking 2025-2026 registration. Little School hours are 8 am-12pm  
Mon - Fri. We still have a few sports open.

### DIAMONDHEAD METHODIST CHURCH A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

5305 Noma Drive  
Diamondhead, MS 39525  
Office: 228-255-6888  
Sunday Worship Service: 10: a.m.  
Meet and Greet Sunday: 9:30 to 9:55 a.m.

"Greetings! In the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ! We welcome all who are new or looking for a dynamic worship experience.

Our new pastor, Reverend Shelley Hill is here and we are delighted with the wonderful things happening through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We welcome and encourage everyone regardless of current or former denominational involvement, hazed or inflicted upon by Past "Christian" association or even socially shunned. We are a growing home of God to be shared by all who attend. We currently meet for 2 women's, 2 men's, 1 co-ed and multiple opportunities for gathering activities in His name throughout the week!

All meetings are here at the church.  
email: office@diamondhead-methodistchurch.org, Facebook: Diamondhead Methodist Church  
Website: www.diamondhead-methodistchurch.org (under construction)

### JACOB'S WELL BAPTIST CHURCH

29554 Vic Faye Road, Pass Christian, MS 39571;

228-255-2555,  
jwbcadmin@icloud.com  
Sundays:  
Worship = 8:45 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Bible study = 10 a.m.  
Wednesdays:  
Fellowship meal, 5:45-6:20 p.m.  
Adult & Youth Bible study, 6:30-7:30 pm..  
Children's Awana Program, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Nursery care at all services  
"Called to magnify God, make disciples, and minister to people"

### ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

5370 Kiln-DeLisle Rd. Kiln, MS 39556  
(228)255-1800 www.annunciationkiln.com  
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.  
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.

### CENTRAL BIBLE CHURCH

You're Invited to Join Us for Worship!  
Central Bible Church in Bay St. Louis (across the highway from the BSL Post Office)...the home of The King's Kitchen soup kitchen. Sundays at 9:30 AM for Sunday School and 11:00 AM for

morning worship. Wednesdays at 6 PM for Youth services.  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Mike Ramsey, Th.D.  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Kyle Craig  
Outreach Pastor: Rev. Connie Lyons  
Church Office: (228) 493-4796  
"Where the Ministry of the Holy Spirit takes place under the Lordship of Jesus Christ to the glory of God the Father!"

### 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.  
Download C112 app: C112

### 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.



Through the ministry of extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, hospital rooms become places of grace and quiet encounter with Jesus.

Catholic Eucharistic Ministers are lay parishioners who bring Jesus to Catholic patients and their families who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or confinement.

Father Paddy Mockler, Pastor of Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, supports volunteers from his and other local Catholic communities. He recognizes that it takes a special person for this mission as patients and families are often going through some of the most traumatic experiences of their lives. He has us praying that the Holy Spirit guides us with caring words and prayers. Seven days a week, our teams serve the Eucharistic to over 100 patients, families and medical staff in the hospital, and nursing homes. Team Member Brian D. Perry Sr. says, "Father Paddy reflects the Holy Trinity to us. We pray that the action of offering the Eucharist to others who resemble Christ so uniquely brings satisfaction to them and to God."

"Their eyes well up. Their chins quiver. That is our reward for doing this ministry, to bring Christ to the patients in the hospital."



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**84135 LOLA DR**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 1,754 SF, \$289,000



**1324 ENOS ST**  
3 BD, 2.5 BA, 2,180 SF | \$725,000



**7730 MANINI WAY**  
3 BD, 2 1/2 BA, 3,267 SF, \$389,000



**87129 GOLF CLUB DR**  
3 BD, 2.5 BA, 3,080 SF



## • CLUBS

### DIAMONDHEAD GARDEN CLUB BY GRETCHEN KLINEFELTER

Happy New Year from Diamondhead Garden Club! The vibrant display of camellias, pansies and violas around our community continue to put on a show for us this time of year. We are fortunate to have these 'bloomers' during a time when most of our garden is sheltered under a blanket of winter chill. For gardeners, January is a time of anticipation and dreams. The gardening season is very much alive in our minds with the arrival of a new year and new possibilities. As we kick-off 2026, we look forward to having the opportunity to educate and inspire our reader's with horticulture information. We also look forward to sharing a bit more, about who we are as an organization and how we fit into the larger picture of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Diamondhead Garden Club's objective is to gain and share gardening knowledge, protect and preserve our natural surroundings, and ensure Diamondhead remains a sanctuary for birds and Southern Live Oaks. This serves as the core document that guides us and provides focus for our meetings, educational programs, committee work and activities.

A committee within Diamondhead Garden Club created the therapy garden at Woodland Village Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Diamondhead. Our club member, Sheryl Wagers, established and to this day, presides over this committee. Sheryl described garden therapy as, "the use of plants and outdoor gardening activities to promote physical and mental wellbeing, promoting social interaction as well as communication skills." Garden therapy has been utilized at rehab facilities since the 19th century. They became more prevalent in the United States after WWI and WWII, as soldiers returned home with physical and mental trauma. It seemed natural that Sheryl's



**Diamondhead Garden Club**

background in social work & garden therapy combined with her passion for gardening would merge into this passion project and committee. Our local therapy garden began with a grant through The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. given to Diamondhead Garden Club. Residents utilize the garden regularly through Therapy Group as they discuss seasonal planting, enjoy meditational music, journal and attend to plants (plant, water, trim, repot).

Our December guest speaker inspired us. We had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Tracy Bryant, from Beatline Nursery. Mr. Bryant discussed his creative vision while he assembled Christmas floral centerpieces and holiday plant arrangements. We watched him complete several visually stunning displays. We are appreciative of the time Mr. Bryant spent with us and for the education he provided.

Diamondhead Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of each month at Diamondhead Community Church in the Activities Room. We hope you will be able to join us Wednesday,

January 21 for our next meeting, as we welcome Mrs. Connie Harper. Mrs. Harper will be instructing us on the wonderful world of daylilies, sharing her expert knowledge on these beautiful and resilient flowers. Prepare to learn how to make your garden bloom with vibrant colors and gain invaluable insights into growing your own spectacular specimens. Club social time begins at 9:30 a.m. with our meeting to follow at 10:00 a.m. All Diamondhead residents are welcome.

In January, gardeners should focus on recording any plans on paper that note changes or improvements in the garden. This will help you avoid mistakes and save time, effort and money. Order seeds for early planting as

companies run out of popular varieties quickly. Plant onions, poppies and larkspur. Check the condition of your gardening tools and repair or replace as needed. Now is the time of year to keep your bird feeders stocked and add water to your birdbaths. Our backyard birds give us so much joy! Let's give them this extra attention so they may thrive. For the indoor gardener, January is a good time to inspect houseplants for insects and/or diseases. Treat as needed with a safe indoor insecticide or fungicide.

Don't forget to check out our 'Live Oak Tree' ad following this article.

January's quote:

Anyone who thinks gardening begins in spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole

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# REMAX

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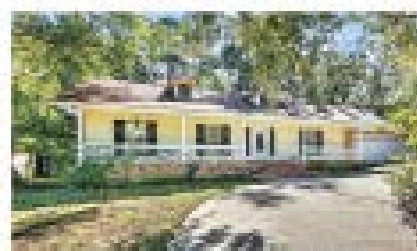
### 94145 RAYOU DRIVE-

Booms with a view of glorious gardens all around this home. Fenced back yard, backed up to the woods. Sewer/water/sewer with plumbing and electricity plus extra-long carpet with a workshop. ML54 4134700



### 225 MOLOKAI-

Absolutely one of a kind top of the line condo priced less than owner paid for it 2 years ago. Kitchens with quartz counters has state-of-the-art appliances including washer and dryer. ML54 4131480



### 88154 GOLF CLUB DRIVE-

A unique find in a high, dry location in Diamondhead. This 3-bedroom 2-bath home offers approx 1775 square feet PLUS a detached 180-sq ft 1 bedroom 1 bath apartment with full kitchen and laundry area attached by a fence-way to the main home. 88.54 4130550



### 7315 AHI DRIVE-

Adorable & immaculate Home on a Quiet Street — Feels Like New Construction, Without the Price Tag! Discover this pristine, move-in-ready home tucked away on a peaceful street and within walking distance to the community pool. ML54 4132330



### 259 HIGHPOINT DRIVE-

The Opportunity You've Been Waiting For! One-bedroom units like this are rarely available — and this one stands out from the rest. Overlooking the community pool, this move-in ready home offers thoughtful extras throughout. ML54 4128710



### 85010 DIAMONDHEAD LAKES BOULEVARD-

Enjoy morning coffee on the back deck and watch the deer begin their day — amazing location. Only two years young, this customized home at Diamondhead Lakes is a showstopper. 88.54 4123430

**DARYL MAY** With 31 years of real estate experience and 29 years as a home builder, Daryl May brings a rare combination of expertise in real estate, construction, and development. Over the years, he has developed several subdivisions in Assumption Parish and Baton Rouge, giving him a deep understanding of local markets, land use, and home design.

A homegrown professional, Daryl is a proud Catholic High and LSU alumnus. He now calls St. Francisville home, where he also raises cattle and enjoys the rural lifestyle that Louisiana is known for.

Daryl takes pride in using his broad experience to help clients make informed decisions — whether they're buying their first home, selling property, or investing in land or development opportunities. Known for being diligent, honest, and experienced, Daryl's clients appreciate his straightforward guidance and genuine care in every transaction.





## • CLUBS

year; for gardening begins in January with the dream. Josephine Nuese



### DID YOU EVER CONSIDER YOU MAY HAVE HISTORY GROWING IN YOUR YARD?

Diamondhead Garden Club is looking for Live Oak Trees in our community that are 100 years in age or older. Not sure of your tree's age? A registered tree must have a circumference of 9 ½ feet or greater measured at 4 ½ feet from the ground up. A Garden Club volunteer would be happy to assist you in determining that information. We can also help you get your tree registered with Hancock County Historical Society and provide you with a certificate and a plaque for the tree that denotes the registered name you choose as well it's age.

Some historic Live Oaks fall just a bit short of these required measurements. We can still honor the significance of your tree. Your Live Oak would be 'recognized.' The owner of a recognized Live Oak would receive a certificate and a tree plaque. This also provides that your tree is on track for certification.

Diamondhead is fortunate to have an abundance of these beautiful trees throughout our community. Please help us honor these historic Live Oaks!

Contact: jmfavaloro@yahoo.com ; g.klinefelter@yahoo.com

### PARTY BRIDGE CLUB BY ELISE BREEN

The date for our next monthly gathering to play Party Bridge will be Friday, January 23, in the Kana-ka Room at the Diamondhead Coun-

try Club. Our arrival time is 9:15 and we will begin playing at 9:30. If you have any questions regarding the Party Bridge Club, please contact Barbara Gibbons at (228) 760-1112 or Elise Breen at (228) 342-1529. The winners in November were Sam Lee in First Place, Barbara Gibbons in Second Place, and Diane Gustafson in Third Place. Our Special Prize went to Liz Leonard.

### THURSDAY MORNING LINE DANCERS BY MOLLY KOONEY

Lessons and dancing, led by Molly, will be held from 10:00 - 11:00 am on THURSDAYS at the DIAMOND-HEAD METHODIST CHURCH, 5305 Noma Drive. Across the street from City Hall.

Please wear comfortable soft soled shoes.

Great exercise, great fun, \$1 room rental per person.

FOR DETAILS OR CANCELLATIONS see our web site:

<https://sites.google.com/site/get-moving12345678/>

### P.E.O. CHAPTER T BY DINAH KNOBLOCH

The P.E.O. sisters of Chapter T welcomed Dr. Mary Maner, the Assistant Director of Career Services at the Gulf Park Campus of USM and Deana Middleton, Assistant Director in the Office of Financial Aid at the Gulf Park Campus of USM at a recent meeting. Dr. Maner shared with the sisters her passion for creating spaces where women, particularly graduate students, can thrive academically and professionally. Her goal is to bring educational access and opportunity through scholarship collaborations, mentorship, and community partnership initiatives that empower the next generations of female leaders. Deana Middleton works with students to assist them in financing their education. The sis-



From left, Mary Craig Murray, Chapter T President, Deana Middleton, Linda Jordan, Chapter T Recording Secretary, and Dr. Mary Maner, Ed.D.

ters of Chapter T shared with them the scholarships, grants, awards, and loans available through P.E.O. which empower women to reach for the stars. All agreed that this collaboration between P.E.O. and USM will be of great benefit to the women students pursuing their educational goals.



P.E.O. Chapter T welcomes another new sister to our chapter. Carol McPheron was initiated into the sisterhood and joins our chapter in our continuing fundraising efforts to support women's education through the Philanthropic Educational Organization projects. Pictured are Carol and Chapter T officers.

### DIAMONDHEAD NEWCOMERS BY ALISON MCCRAW

The Diamondhead Newcomers Club had a wonderful time at the joint December Fa La La Luncheon with the Diamondhead Women's Club. Everyone was decked out in

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# January 2026 Club News

## DANIELLE BIGLER, OFFICE MANAGER

Happy New Year! We're excited to kick off 2026 with a full month of fun, dining, and entertainment at The Club at Diamondhead. Here's what's happening throughout January!

### New Year's Day

Open 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM New Year's Special: Cornbread-stuffed pork loin, smothered cabbage, and black-eyed peas – \$18 Full menu available 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Start the year with classic good-luck flavors and a delicious holiday meal!

### Weekly Events & Entertainment

#### Tuesdays

- Bingo Shannon Style – January 20 in Latitude 30, beginning at 6:00 pm
- Sips and Giggles Ladies Night – every Tuesday from 5:00 - Closing

#### Wednesdays

- Half-Priced Bone-In Wings – 5:00–8:00 PM
- ½ Off All Draft Beer Special (Available as listed; no substitutions)
- Trivia Night on Select Nights – New Host – Ronnie Hammons approved! Welcome Todd Kelly, on January 21 & 28

#### Thursdays

- Dinner Special: Mississippi Pot Roast with carrots, potatoes, served over rice with cornbread — \$21
- Karaoke with Ray Walters – January 15, 6:00 – 10:00
- Burger, Fries, and Draft Nights – January 8, 22, and 29, 5:00 – 9:00

### Fridays

- Friday Night Bands. 7:00 – 10:00 in Latitude 30 Patio and Grill:

- o Jan 2 – Wolf River
- o Jan 9 – Silver City
- o Jan 16 – Southern Voice
- o Jan 23 – Missy and Ray (Sock Hop Night!)
- o Jan 30 – Dangerous Curve

### Saturdays

- Prime Rib Night, 5:00 – 9:00 Served with roasted fingerling potatoes and balsamic-glazed Brussels sprouts. \$52

### January Special Events

- January 1 – New Year's Day Menu
- January 10 – Caymus Wine Pairing Dinner
- January 23 – Sock Hop with Missy and Ray
- January 24 – Our 1st Bourbon and Cigar Night of 2026

### Club Updates

- Employee of the Month: We're thrilled to begin a new tradition in 2026! Our January Employee of the Month is Robert. He has been with us for over 10 years and is an asset to all who work with him and our customers. Please congratulate him when you see him!

- Steak Night: There will be no Steak Night in January due to weather and event scheduling.

- 1st Annual New Year's Day Plunge at Main Pool. 1:00 – 4:00. Questions? Call 228-255-2929



**JANUARY 24**  
5:00 - 7:00

## BOURBON AND CIGARS!

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Includes: 2 bourbon tickets, 1 cigar ticket, and light appetizers. Additional pours and cigars are available for purchase, along with a full menu and cash bar. \$45.00 per person\*, plus tax & gratuity. Call 228-255-2918 ext. 3 to RSVP.

\*Discount available for POA members in good standing

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THE CLUB at DIAMONDHEAD

Questions? Call 228-255-2918 ext. 120



**LATITUDE 30**  
patio and grill

**JANUARY 8, 22, 29**

## BURGER, FRIES, AND DRAFT BEER

**\$12\***

5:00 - 9:00. NO SUBSTITUTIONS



## LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY NIGHTS

7:00 - 10:00

JANUARY 2 - WOLF RIVER  
JANUARY 9 - SILVER CITY BAND  
JANUARY 16 - SOUTHERN VOICE  
JANUARY 23 - MISSY AND RAY (COME TO THE SOCK HOP)  
JANUARY 30 - DANGEROUS CURVE

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**THE CLUB**  
at DIAMONDHEAD

## SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER SPECIAL

14-ounce Herb-Crusted Prime Rib. Served with fingerling potatoes, balsamic-glazed brussels sprouts, and salad. \$47

No substitutions. Limited availability. Dine-in only.

Available in Latitude 30 Patio and Grill and The Oak Room. Reservations are suggested for The Oak Room. Call 228-255-2918 ext. 120 @clubatdiamondhead



## • CLUBS



### Diamondhead Newcomers Club

festive, holiday attire, for an afternoon of holiday cheer, delicious food, and lively conversation.

During the luncheon, members and guests were treated to wonderful entertainment by David Delk and James Taylor. Members even joined in the fun by singing the almost famous song, "The 12 Days of Christmas in Diamondhead," which was written by members of the Diamondhead Art Group. The Fa La La Luncheon supported many local causes, with a 50/50 raffle benefiting the Magdalen House, angel ornaments for CASA, and donation collection for veterans in need. Fantastic door prizes were also awarded to some lucky members. As the luncheon wrapped up, guests left with full hearts, new friendships, and a sense of belonging, making it a perfect start to the holiday season.

The Newcomers Club looks forward to celebrating 2026 with you! Please mark your calendars and join us on Wednesday, January 14th for our "Let's Get Wild" luncheon. Wear an animal print outfit and show off your animal spirit! Lunch is \$25 and dues are \$20 for the year. RSVP to newcomersdiamondhead@gmail.com

to secure your reservation. Whether you are new to Diamondhead or have lived here forever, we hope you will join us for some fun! Call Marilyn Lott for more information 601-528-3336.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The February luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 11th. Mardi Gras is the theme!

### P.E.O. CHAPTER U BY KATHRYN LEWIS

The Diamondhead PEO (Philanthropic Education Organization) Chapter U Cookbook Fundraiser visits St Thomas Episcopal Church Gourmet to Go. The sale of the Cookbooks supports scholarships for Women pursuing Higher Education, Continuing Education, etc.



Members: Eileen O'Brien, Dianne Jimenez, and Kelly Kennedy.

### DIAMONDHEAD LIONS CLUB BY DR. DWAIN SIMPSON

In November, the Diamondhead Lions Club continued to support the Hancock County Animal Shelter by adding \$500 to the previous donation to the Animal Shelter after the Annual Lions Club Dog Show in May.

Are you looking for a way to contribute time and effort to serve the local community and help serve mankind around the world, without leaving home or quitting your job? Become an Affiliate member of the Diamondhead Lions Club. Join with 1.5 million others of Lions Clubs International and the Diamondhead Lions Club!

Our slogan is "We Serve".

The Diamondhead Lions Club is now meeting twice monthly on the 1st Friday and 3rd Friday. Both



Lion Dr. Dwain Simpson is shown with the latest donation of \$500 to Greg Long of the Hancock County Animal Shelter.

meetings are scheduled to meet from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Diamondhead Country Club. The next meetings will occur on the 2nd and the 16th of January 2026. We will emphasize information or program presentations on the 1st Friday and general business meetings on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Learn more about the Lions Club – come to a meeting to hear about our plans for the next year. Be our guest

at one of our next Club meetings on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. Contact Lion Dwain Simpson at 228-363-2557 or dwainsimpson@aol.com for more information.

### DH GEAUX HIKING CLUB NEWS BY SHEILA EDWARDS

Crack open your brand-new 2026 calendar and start marking down the hikes we've planned and join us to make your New-Year's resolutions to get more exercise come true!

Saturday, January 3--Regularly-scheduled first of the month hike on Fountainebleau Trail, in 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. The hike meanders through the marsh and is ever-changing.



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## • CLUBS



### Geaux Hiking Club

Those who work and are not able to join some of our week-day hikes, will find this hike quite interesting and worth getting out of bed early on a Saturday AM. <grin> It will be followed by lunch somewhere in or near Ocean Springs. Meet at the front of DH Golf Club parking lot 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



Friday, January 9—Note this is an afternoon event. We're gonna hike around the mini-golf course in Biloxi. Cost around \$8. Meet at 2:00pm in the front of the parking lot at the DH Country Club to form car pool. We'll have dinner somewhere nearby after golf. Leader: Joanne Homer

Thursday, January 22--Fontainebleau State Park, Covington, LA. This historic park offers 2,800

acres with beautiful views of Lake Pontchartrain. Established in 1942, and added the

National Register of Historic Places in 1999, the most-visited park in Louisiana has nature trails, a sandy beach, a new, all-inclusive playground, a splash pad, and the ruins of

an 1829 sugar mill situated among towering oaks. Meet at DH Country Club at 9:30am to form car pool. Leader: Betty Whittington

Our next planning meeting will be Tuesday, January 6, at 6:00pm in the Kana-ka room at the DH Country Club. We will be planning our February, 2026, hikes. Come with suggestions for

your favorite "cold-weather" hikes.

### DIAMONDHEAD WOMEN'S CLUB BY ROBIN B. GAINES

Our December 3rd annual FaLaLa Luncheon was a great success. Once again, the Diamondhead Newcomer's Club joined us in the emerald Ballroom of the Club at Diamondhead. The food, camaraderie and entertainment were wonderful. The donations we collected for our Veterans in Need (Coats, hats, socks, etc.) were very generous indeed. Thank you to all who donated to this very worthy cause.

Thanks to all who purchased our CASA Angel

Tree ornaments. Through your generosity, we were once again able to reach our goal for the CASA children's Christmas Party.

On January 7, 2026, our New Year, New Look Fashion Show featuring Exit 16 and Sugar Magnolia.

Our next Member Orientation will be held on January 14, 2026.

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



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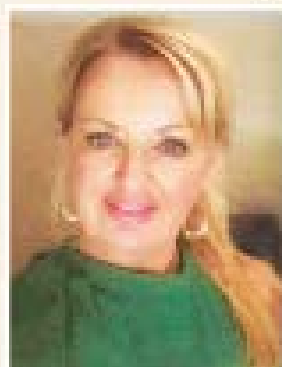


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## • DH MARDI GRAS

# The Krewe of Olympus Announces the Fourth of its Four Debutantes for the Upcoming Mardi Gras Season

Robin Gaines, Publicity Director

Krewe of Olympus is proud to uphold its longstanding tradition of presenting debutantes. These young women embody grace, leadership, and community spirit. It is customary to present one or two debutantes each year. This Mardi Gras season, we are especially honored to introduce four outstanding young ladies who will represent the Krewe throughout the festivi-

ties.

The Krewe of Olympus proudly presents Kallie Olivia Whittet as a 2026 Debutante. Kallie is the daughter of Becky and Joey Whittet from Gulfport, MS. A 2023 honors graduate of Gulfport High School, she distinguished herself as a member of the National Honor Society, and was an integral part of the acclaimed Gulfport Admiral Band and GPT program. Under her leadership and participation, the en-

semble was recognized as the best in the state and earned Semi-Finalist status at the WGI National Competition in Dayton, Ohio, two years in a row. Kallie also demonstrated a passion for education through her involvement in the Teacher Academy, where she placed in the Top 10 in the State Competition and went on to compete at the National Level in Orlando, Florida.

Now a dedicated student at Mississippi

State University, Kallie is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration, with a Minor in Accounting and concentrations in Marketing and Business Law. Her academic excellence has earned her a place on the President's List for two consecutive years, an honor awarded to students maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Kallie is

being escorted by Owen Marshall Schafer.

The 2026 Olympus Debutantes will make their official debut on January 24th during the Grand Ball, held in The Emerald Ballroom at The Club at Diamondhead. The Krewe is thrilled to welcome these remarkable young women and looks forward to an unforgettable season. Laissez

les bon temps rouler!



**Olympus Debutante  
Kallie Olivia Whittet**

## • CLUBS



**Diamondhead Women's Club**

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.

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## • DH MARDI GRAS

# Selene Coronation Ball Welcomes New Royalty in 2025 Celebration

BY KIM KOPPMAN

The Emerald Ballroom at the Club in Diamondhead shimmered with light and anticipation on Saturday, Nov. 15, as the Krewe of Selene gathered for one of its most treasured annual traditions—the Coronation Ball. Guests filtered into a room dressed in classic black and gold décor, with golden crown centerpieces casting soft glints of light across the tables, creating an atmosphere of refined celebration.

The Tableau opened with a heartfelt farewell to outgoing monarchs Queen Sara Koger and King Tom Koger, who made their final walk across the stage accompanied by warm applause and lively music. Their court followed behind them, each step a symbolic close to a year marked by dedication and festivity.

Emcee Mary Mizel guided the evening's program with grace, her voice carrying both the joy of celebration and the weight of remembrance. In one solemn moment, she announced the passing of Marge Edwards, one of Selene's founding members. A gentle hush moved through the ballroom as attendees paused to honor her memory, a reminder of the deep roots and cherished history within the Krewe.

After the coronation ceremony commenced, guests were treated to an elegant dinner. The meal began with a velvety tomato bisque, followed by a beautifully prepared entrée of hanger steak topped with shrimp, paired with green beans and seasoned potatoes. As the night progressed, a dessert buffet offered a tempting variety of sweets that drew visitors back for second helpings.

Throughout the evening, floor lieutenants Roger Worak and Steve Burkhardt guided members of the Royal Court with care, ensuring safe



**Selene King and Queen with their court and Coronation Bal**

and smooth transitions on and off the stage—a quiet but essential contribution to the night's polished flow.

The room brightened with excitement as the newly crowned queen, Melanie James, made her entrance. She wore a stunning white MacDougal gown whose glitter-dotted tulle base glimmered beneath the ballroom lights. Intricate embroidery and a feather-accented single sleeve added to the gown's graceful, ethereal effect. At her side stood Mark Couvas, honored both as her King and as King Endemius for the 2026 Mardi Gras season. Together, they accepted champagne toasts, Royal pins, and custom flutes, marking the official beginning of their reign.

Event chairperson Angie Burkhardt, herself a former queen, crafted a setting that blended tradition with elegance. The Royal Court, dressed in coordinating attire—goddesses in sleek black satin gowns with matching pillbox fascinators and dukes in classic black tuxedos—performed a choreographed waltz that drew admiring murmurs from the crowd.

The band “Tease Me” brought the ballroom to life as the formalities gave way to celebration. Music, laughter, and the rhythm of dancing feet quickly filled the space, transforming the regal setting into a lively

gathering of friends, neighbors, and Krewe members enjoying the night together.

The 2025 Selene Coronation Ball concluded as a memorable blend of

pageantry, tradition, and heartfelt community spirit—an evening that honored the past, celebrated the present, and illuminated the promise of the season ahead.

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## • DH MARDI GRAS

# The Krewe of Diamondhead hosts 2025 Coronation Ball

**BY MEG DAMIENS, PUBLICITY DIRECTOR**

The Krewe Of Diamondhead held its Coronation Ball December 6th, for the Mardi Gras year 2026 with the theme of On Broadway. Master of ceremonies Jeff Hardesty opened the celebration with the history of the Krewe of Diamondhead.

Visiting royalty was acknowledged; from The Krewe of Boaters, King and Queen Elect Rich, and Eileen Linquist.

Board members from the Krewe of Diamondhead were recognized and thanked for their unwavering service and invaluable contributions to the Krewe of Diamondhead.

The Master of ceremonies and all attendees welcomed the Captain of the Krewe of Diamondhead, Hoppy Smith.

This past Mardi Gras season the Krewe Of Diamondhead celebrated it's 50th anniversary with the theme "the Golden era". It was a fun and unforgettable way to honor five decades of tradition- a night where flapper flare, jazz-age elegance, and Mardi Gras magic came together in a true golden-anniversary style.

The 2025 court entered the ballroom to their Gatsby theme. The court included Duke James Embry and Maid Melissa Embry; Duke Dennis Holmes and Maid Patty Holmes; Duke Health Harwood and Maid Jessie Harwood; Duke Alijah Lee and Maid Kennedy Kingston. The exiting King, Jamie Kingston and his Queen, Alison Kingston entered the ballroom and paid one last tribute o their subjects. Then the 2025 court was thanks for their outstanding Mardi Gras season before they



**Photo by Tom and Sara Koger**  
**51st King Harold Manning and his Queen Teresa Manning.**

adjourned to their seats.

The royal scepters were retired by the royal guard of past kings, 2013 HRH Mickey Hatem, 2019 HRH Ron Rhoades and 2024 HRH Jeremy Damiens.

The fanfare signaled and the new court was then presented. As the royal court for 2026 were formally announced, they entered the ballroom and took their place on stage where they awaited the arrival of the new King and Queen elect. The Royal Court for 2026 are Duke Jimmy Brown and Maid Jeannie Carapetian; Duke Ralph Hayes and Maid Brenda Hayes; Duke David Sykes and Maid Debbie Sykes; Duke Tim Kennedy and Maid Kelly Kennedy.

Once again, the fanfare alerted the audience to the pending presentation of royalty. Queen elect, Teresa Manning entered the ballroom in a full length luxurious fabric ball gown, with a cream based color and an intricate gold metallic floral design woven throughout the skirt, creating a

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## • DH MARDI GRAS

rich and glamorous look the featured a dramatic off the shoulder neckline. The most striking element is the oversized bow, which gave the top structure and a highly theatrical romantic feel. The neckline and bow are complemented by short, cap sleeves, and long white opera gloves, which added to the formal elegance. She then took her place on the stage, and once again the fanfare played.

King elect, Harold Manning entered the ballroom in a traditional black tux. Once seated on stage, 2013 HRH Mickey Hatem and 2019 HRH Ron Rhoades presented the scepters.

AL'I HO NUA the 50th Jamie Kingston and Queen Alison Kingston crowned AL'I HO NUA the 51st, Harold Manning; and his Queen, Teresa Manning. And presented them with their royal scepters.

Captain Hoppy Smith presented the traditional toast to the newly crowned royalty and presented them to the Krewe of Diamondhead. The Royal pins were presented by President, Jeremy Damiens and the royal flag was presented by Captain, Hoppy Smith.

As "Grand March of Aida" played, AL'I HO NUA, his Queen and their royal court

then proceeded to pay tribute to the Krewe as they joined the membership for dinner and dancing.

The Krewe then enjoyed a royal meal prepared by the Diamondhead country club. Dancing and merriment continued through the evening as Tease Me Band entertained all who attended.

The Krewe of Diamondhead will hold their annual Mardi Gras ball on February 7, 2026 to celebrate this year's theme, "On Broadway". This will be followed by the annual parade that will take place, Saturday, February 14, 2026. For information or application on the parade



**Photo by Tom and Sara Koger**  
Maid Jeannie Carapetian, Maid Brenda Hayes, Maid Debbie Sykes and Maid Kelly Kennedy, Queen Teresa Manning, AL'I HO NUA Harold Manning, Duke Tim Kennedy, Duke David Sykes, Duke Ralph Hayes and Duke Jimmy Brown

please contract parade Director, Carmen Waring at [kdh-parade@gmail.com](mailto:kdh-parade@gmail.com).

If you would like to join the Krewe Of Diamondhead,

please contact our membership director, Dana Wair at [sedonadana@gmail.com](mailto:sedonadana@gmail.com)

## • SPORTS

### THE CLUB AT DIAMONDHEAD GOLF BY CHRIS ALTESE, PGA DIRECTOR OF GOLF

A new year of great golf is here! We are looking forward to another fun year of golf at The Club at Diamondhead! Happy New Year from all of us in Golf Operations! Let's all support OUR club and make this year one of the best! We hope that all residents and annual golf members will participate in some of the many golf activities planned this year. Even if you don't play golf, you might know someone who does...please tell them all to come play our Diamondhead golf courses.

Reminder...As part of the efforts to maintain and properly utilize the World Handicap System/GHIN at The Club at Diamondhead for our members, we implemented eligibility requirements to play in club events that

are based on net scores or pre-flighted based on handicap/handicap index. The eligibility requirements to play will continue for 2026.

The 14th annual Gobbler Golf Classic was held on November 29th (Saturday after Thanksgiving.) Thank you to all golfers that supported this event as well as all of our golf events this past year. More importantly, this group donated over 260 lbs of canned goods to the Hancock County Food Pantry and hundreds of toys to the Toys for Tots program as part of their entry fee. Congratulations to our winners...

Gobbler Results...

Butterball Flight Champions – Chris Morrison/Jay Sanders/Kevin Rea

Boar's Head Flight Champions – (7-way tie) Ronnie Artigues/James Luffy/Michael Quinn; Tommy Guidroz/Albert Ragas/Al Gutierrez; Tracy Albritton/



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## • SPORTS

William Feigel/Tim Albritton; Jerry Shamp/Billy Meighen/Dale Waltman; Wayne Fuselier/Fran Smith/Trish Wright; Ron Yager/Peter Yager/Paul Yarbrough; Dave Czaplicki/Mark Singer/Jerry Jones

Jennie-O Flight Champions – Chase Lizana/Nick Parker/Scott Parker

Swanson Flight Champions – (3-way tie) Courtney Nutting/Chris Hamilton/Mitchell Nutting; Mark Butler/David Evans/Brad Fairly; Jill Wiles/Fred Wiles/Tiffany Webb

Join our annual golf membership and play more golf! When you consider the benefits, our annual golf memberships are second to none in our region. Full-service, award-winning golf shop. State-of-the-art Golf Academy at Diamondhead. World class practice facilities. Full-service grill and bar. Friendly and helpful golf professionals and staff. And the list goes on. Play at The Club at Diamondhead and be treated like a member for the day or join and be a member for the year.

Proposed Schedule of 2026 Golf Events (subject to change)...

- 1/17 Double Black Diamond
- 1/24-1/25 Jack O'Neill Junior Championship
- 2/8 Super Bowl Scramble
- 2/15 Sweetheart Scramble
- 4/10-4/12 Big Kahuna Golf Challenge
- 4/22-4/23 Ladies' Malahini Member-Guest
- 5/15-5/17 Malahini Member-Guest
- 6/5-6/7 Hawaiian Mixed Couples Invitational
- 7/4-7/5 Magnolia Classic
- 9/11-9/13 Member-Member
- 10/2-10/4 Diamondhead CP Four Ball
- 10/10 Wheel of Misfortune
- 10/17 Fall Festival Scramble
- 10/24-10/25 The Shaka Club Championship
- 11/28 The Gobbler



**Turkey Shoot Out winners - Amy Swint, Mary Lou Czaplicki, Colleen Jones, Tiffany Webb, Kim Knight, Mary Wright**

During this time of year, it is critical that we all fix two ball marks and fill two divots every hole...any two will do...they don't have to be yours! We look forward to seeing you "PLAY MORE GOLF." The 2026 Golf Guides will be available soon if not already. Please take the time to refresh yourself on our golf policies and procedures. As always, let us know how we can help.

### DWGA BY COLLEEN JONES

Cooler weather made golf more enjoyable for us. November 6th we had our Trophy Day on the Pine Course. The First Flight Low Gross winner was Liz Bell and the Low Net had a tie between Mary Lou Czaplicki and Bet Bowen. The Second Flight Low Gross winner was Colleen Jones and the Low Net winner was Terry Wilks. Closest to the pin winners were Colleen Jones on hole #2, Mary Lou Czaplicki on hole #6, Liz Bell on hole #13 and Joyce Teerling on hole #15. Birdies were made by Liz Bell, Margie James and Jill Wiles. Chip-Ins were had by Liz Bell and Jill Wiles.

November 13th we played Odd Holes Front/Even Holes Back on the Cardinal Course. First Flight Winner was Amy Swint, Second place was Jeanne Hudgins and Third place was Bet Bowen. Second Flight winner was Terry Wilks, Second place was Dianne Ackerman and Third place had a tie between Kim Knight and Ruth Holmes. Closest to the Pin winners were Colleen Jones on hole



**Odd/Even winners - Amy Swint, Jeanne Hudgins, Dianne Ackerman, Kim Knight**

#4, Kim Knight on hole #13 and Liz Bell on hole #17. Birdies were had by Joyce Teerling, Colleen Jones, Terry Wilks and Bet Bowen. Chip-Ins were had by Joyce Teerling, Judith Sonntag and Kim Knight.

November 20th we had our Turkey Shoot Out on the Pine Course. First Flight winner was Amy Swint and Second place was Mary Lou Czaplicki. Second Flight winner was Colleen



**Trophy Day winners - Bet Bowen, Colleen Jones, Liz Bell**

Jones and Second place was Tiffany Webb. Third Flight winner was Kim Knight and Second place was Mary Wright. Closest to the Pin winners were Judith Sonntag on hole #2, Bet Bowen on hole #6. Amy Swint on hole #13 and Kim Knight on hole #15. Birdies were had by Colleen Jones and Amy Swint. Chip-Ins were had by Colleen Jones, Judith Sonntag and Amy Swint.

November 27th we did not play.



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## • SPORTS

We gave thanks for living in Diamondhead Mississippi.

### DMGA BY JAN VEST

“The Month the Putts Dropped, the Chips Chipped, and the Excuses... Improved Dramatically”

They say November is the month of gratitude—well, we’re grateful for mulligans, lip-outs that should have gone in, and partners who magically “found” four extra Stableford points on the card. As always, DMGA golf delivered the perfect blend of great shots, bad bounces, questionable decisions, and excellent lies—both kinds.

Let’s dive into a month where the scores were low, the trash-talk was high, and the turkeys weren’t just on the Thanksgiving table.

#### WEEK 1 – November 1

##### ABCD – Mixed Bag

You know it’s a Mixed Bag when half the group brings their A-game and the other half brings... snacks.

The big winners at –12 were a full crew of steady assassins: Neil Ricker, Gary Blackwell, Alan Cason, and AJ Dilley, sweeping the top slot and the cash. Meanwhile, the –10 group was so crowded it looked like the check-out line at Sam’s Club.

Closest-to-the-Pin masters included Marshall Miller dropping one to 8’-3”, Brian Brignac cozy at 10’-2”, and Joe Murray sticking one to 7’-4”. Bill Merna’s 15’-2” on #17 was described by witnesses as “closer than any of his tee shots the rest of the day.”

#### Golf Humor of the Week:

One golfer said his swing felt great all day—unfortunately, he wasn’t the golfer swinging.

#### WEEK 2 – November 5

##### ABCD – 2BB

This week’s 2-best-ball format led to many guys saying, “Well at least ONE of us can play.” Luckily the winning team didn’t need a pep talk.

Berni Breen, Norman Bowley, Tommy Murphy, and Larry Popovich lit it up with a spectacular –16, pocketing the top prize money like seasoned pros.

The –15 tier looked like half the DMGA roster squeezed onto the podium—seriously, we may need a bigger podium next year.

#### C.T.P Honors:

Val Miller nearly dunked one from 1 inch, prompting calls for a drug test.

Marshall Miller hit it to 10 inches, proving he refuses to be out-Millered.

Todd Cobena’s 8’-3” and Joe Wilks’ 3’-11” finished the sweep.

#### Golf Humor of the Week:

One guy said his putting was perfect—every miss went the exact distance to set up another miss.

#### WEEK 3 – November 12

PEERS – Stableford (3 Best Scores)

Stableford: where aggressive golfers thrive, and cautious golfers say, “How many points do I lose if this goes badly?”

John Black, Lee Kormandy, Larry Osburn, and Joe Doyle tied at the top with an impressive 118 points. Rumor has it their golf balls are filing for workers comp.

Just behind at 116–115 sat a hungry pack of Joe Wilks, Randy Dake, Joe Murray, Arthur Burgoyne, and others who were one good bounce away from glory.

#### C.T.P Standouts:

Dave Wright dropped it to 2’-6”, Tom Amedee to 1’-8”, Bill Merna to 4’-2”, and John McLaughlin to 4’-7”.

#### Golf Humor of the Week:

Someone asked how Stableford works. The answer: “Simple—hit the ball, add the points, blame the course.”

#### WEEK 4 – November 19

ABCD – Stableford (3 Best Scores)

This one turned into a fireworks show.

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## • SPORTS

Joe Wilks, Lee Kormandy, Kevin Huskins, and Gary Hava exploded with 127 points, earning bragging rights that will last at least until next Wednesday .

124–123 pointers included a crowd of heavy hitters: George Thibodeaux, John Black, Brian Brignac, Arthur Burgoyne, Thomas Amedee, Norman Bowley, and others. Solid golf all around.

C.T.P Greatness:

John Legner (5'-3")

Kevin Huskins (7'-7")

Brian Brignac (2 feet!)

Dennis Tauzin (7'-7")

Golf Humor of the Week:

One golfer said his ball was magnetized... unfortunately, it was attracted only to trees.

WEEK 5 – November 26

Peers – Mixed Bag

The finale was nothing short of spectacular—or bizarre, depending on how you interpret the scoring.

Kevin Huskins, Tom Woolbright, Alan Cason, and John Legner all finished at a scorching –20, dominating the field like a turkey leg dominates Thanksgiving dinner .

A strong –10 group followed, while the –8 cluster included pretty much the rest of the field—along with our very own Jan Vest, who swears the –8 would've been –20 if not for "the dew, the shadows, the humidity, the alignment of Mars, and a ball that refuses to listen."

C.T.P Results:

Berni Breen (4'-8")

John Benus (5'-5")

Neal Ricker (3'-2")

Marc Patrick (1'-9")—closest of the month!

Golf Humor of the Week:

One player said he was thankful for his family, his health, and the one fairway he hit all month.

FINAL PUTT OF THE MONTH

Just like a 3-footer for par, don't leave this short:

SIGN UP NOW FOR YOUR 2026

DMGA MEMBERSHIP!

Let's make next year even better—with more laughs, more birdies, and fewer "I swear I hit that well" moments.

If you'd like this turned into a PDF newsletter, email flyer, Word document, or poster-style layout, just let me know!

**DWGAN**

**BY SHIRLEY HALTERMAN**

By the time you get to read this we will have all celebrated a most Blessed and Merry Christmas and hopefully a prosperous and Happy New Year! It seems that temperatures along our Gulf Coast can keep us guessing. One day it is 70 degrees and beautiful and the next we are shivering with frosty breezes.

On Tuesday, November 18th, it was a beautiful day and 37 of our players turned out to play in our Turkey Day competition on the Front of the Pine Course which was followed by a General Meeting and luncheon. During this event we each are provided with our average score for the year and challenged to meet or beat that score. With such a good turnout of gals, we were able to give awards in Four Flights. In Flight #1 - 1st Place went to Ann Nutting, 2nd Place to Toni Rossol and 3rd Place to Judith Sonntag. For Flight #2 - 1st Place was taken by Beryl Laird, 2nd Place went to Mary Ann Stromeyer and 3rd Place to Kathie Pierson. When it came to Flight #3 - 1st Place was awarded to Kathy Jones, 2nd Place to Pattie Blackwood (in a scorecard playoff) with Cheryl Saak who took 3rd Place. And, finally, Flight #4 (with another scorecard playoff) 1st Place went to Judy Wright, 2nd Place to Carole Griffin and 3rd Place was awarded to Sue Hebert. During this event we also awarded cash for Closest-to-the-Pin and Lowest Putts. For Closest-to-the-Pin on Hole #2 Anne Payne took the honors in Flight #1, Ruth Holmes in Flight #2, Monica



**All the members of the NINES wish you a most PROSPEROUS, HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**



**Our ladies showing some of toys collected for CASA**

Jordan in Flight #3 and Sue Hebert in Flight #4. For this same competition on Hole #6, Brigitte Becker came in first in Flight 1, MaryAnn Stromeyer in Flight 2, Monica Jordan in Flight 3 (good job Monica scoring closest to the pin on both Par Three Holes), and Judy Wright in Flight #4. When it came to Lowest Putts, Toni Rossol won in Flight 1, MaryAnn Stromeyer in Flight 2, Monica

Jordan in Flight 3 and Carole Griffin in Flight 4. MaryAnn Stromeyer was on a role and also scored a Birdie on #6. Both Monica Jordan and Carole Griffin were also on their top games with Chip-ins on Hole #7. Great job ladies! At our General Meeting we also elected a new Board of Officers for 2026. Cathy Gesell will serve as President, Judith Brannan as Vice President, Nancy Barker as Treasur-





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## • SPORTS



**Anne Payne receives Most Improved Player from Pres. Brigitte Becker.**

er, Susie Fontenot as Secretary while Monica Jordan and MaryAnn Stromeyer will share the position of Handicap Tournament Chairs

A Shamble was the game for November 25th. We had 18 ladies come out to play providing us with six three-person teams. Our First Place Team with a score of 94 was composed of Sue Hebert, Kim Knight and Kathie Pierson. In Second Place with a score of 99 were Kathy

Jones, MaryAnn Stromeyer and Judy Tauzin. Not to be left out, in Third Place with a score of 101 were Pattie Blackwood, Monica Jordan and Mary Wright. On this Tuesday we also presented Kathie Pierson and Terry Wilks with Hole-in-One Pins.

Weather was not very cooperative on Tuesday, December 2nd, and officially our game was cancelled as the Cardinal Course was cart path only and only six brave gals came out to play. But, to their credit, Nancy Barker, Brigitte Becker, Kathie Escher, Cathy Gesell and MaryAnn Stromeyer played with permission of the ProShop and had a good time.

We celebrated the coming Christmas Holidays on Tuesday, December 9th, with a game of three person teams (Santa, Rudolph, and a Snowman). After playing a hole you proceed to the next hole to see which team member's



**From left, Sandy Price, Marine Sgt Geovany Mendez, Leslie O'Neill, Marine Sgt Corey Sawert and LaDonna Brown.**

score will be recorded. The morning started quite chilly but gradually warmed up. With only 15 gals playing we awarded three places. First Place Team: Kim Knight, Kathy Pierson and Pauline Singer with a net score of 69. Second Place Team: Cathy Gesell, Judy Tauzin and Judy Wright with a net score of 77. And the Third Place Team: Judy Brannan, Theresa Mauterer and Lisa



DWGA -- As the year closed, we were only able to play one playday on Thursday. With the holiday and weather, we did get to play our Christmas Scramble on the Pine Course and have our Christmas party and lunch. The Winning team was Teresa Ertel, Dianne Ackerman, Judy Tauzin and Patty Hourin. The Second Place team was Mary Lou Czaplicki, Anne Payne, Pat Ellis and Brigitte Becker. The Closest to The Pin was dominated by Teresa Ertel, she got hole #2, #6 and #13. Pauline Singer stole hole #15 away from her. At our Christmas Luncheon the Most Improved Player was announced as Amy Swint. The player who attended the most Playdays was Joanne Fried. Happy New Year. Pictured: Christmas Scramble Winners - Teresa Ertel, Judy Tauzin, Dianne Ackerman, Patty Hourin, Anne Payne, Pat Ellis, Brigitte Becker, Mary Lou Czaplicki.

Pretzello. We all warmed up at our Christmas Luncheon where we were joined by several other members and as we have done in the past collected several toys for CASA. In addition, we awarded our Most Improved Player of the year trophy to Anne Payne. Congratulations Anne!

### **TEERING OFF WITH TEDDY PROGRAM BY BRIGITTE BECKER**

The Jack O'Neill Memorial Charity Fund once again

sponsored the Teeing Off with Teddy event in conjunction with the Diamondhead The Gobbler Tournament that was held Saturday November 29. Each participating golfer was encouraged to donate stuffed animals, toys, games, books, etc. for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Last year we filled 6 boxes and this year the golfers' generosity once again managed to overload a similar number of boxes with gift items for the children.

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