



# THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 3 NO. 2 2nd QUARTER 1997

The Town of Malabar got its 1st official Post Office and name on December 24, 1883 when R.A. Ward was named Postmaster by President Chester A. Arthur. Two times a week, the boat that travelled down the intracoastal waterway from Jacksonville, would deliver the mail to the palmetto shack post office along the river bank at Malabar. The mail was dumped on the counter for the population of 25 to shuffle through. With the coming of the railroad, in 1893, the mail boat was no longer needed.

## TRASH BASH '97 RESULTS

**Trash Bash '97** was a tremendous success thanks to the many volunteers and the generous donations from area businesses. First off, we want to say a big THANK YOU to Ron Shirley, General Manager of the Pizza Hut in the Goodings Plaza, 4850 Babcock Street. Our event offered him the opportunity to showcase their new, tastier toppings. If anyone wasn't convinced after the ten pizzas his store donated...you couldn't tell it by the empty boxes! Also a big thank you to Pepsi Cola for donating Pepsi products for the event. As the event was winding down another donation arrived: ten cheese pizzas from Papa John's on Babcock Street in Palm Bay, compliments of Carl Green. There was some confusion about the delivery time and most of the volunteers had left by the time the delicious pizzas arrived. Fear not! They did not go to waste.

The Take Pride in America campaign encourages volunteer community involvement in programs like Trash Bash and the St. John's clean up. Keep Florida Beautiful's slogan "Florida, Love It Or Lose It" refers to the need to clean up or face a magnitude of environmental problems. After the analysis, Malabar's contribution to the effort reflected: an estimated 5 miles of Indian River Lagoon was cleaned as well as 22 miles of roadside ROW within the Town limits; 165 bags of litter were turned in; 40 phone books were brought in. Harris Sanitation collected 12,500 pounds of rubbish from our pick up sites! On the up side: the Mayor signed 68 Certificates of Appreciation for this years participants; a record number! Included in the participants were Council-

man Tom Eschenberg and his wife Sheila, Councilwoman Julane Kikla and Councilman Henry Dekker. All three of Malabar's Boards were represented by a total of 7 members; 5 from the Park Board! Out of 68 volunteers, 49 were Malabar residents: 11 from District 1; 8 from District 2; 7 each from District 3 and 4; and a whopping 16 from District 5 which includes both the Brook Hollow and Country Cove Community/Civic Associations.

The Brevard County Sheriff's Office was represented by Mike Wallace and Bill Cabrera who did a great job cleaning up areas the rest of us couldn't get to. The Malabar Volunteer Fire Department was quite visible, with 14 members cleaning the roadside along SR514. The Malabar Mariner's Association, Inc., participated again this year cleaning up the shoreline, the river bank and along US1. Kids Land Learning Center, 2605 Malabar Road, volunteered three members of its staff. Hotel California's owner Charlie Hart, along with his brother Jeff helped haul collected trash to the pick up site. Town Administrator Bill Hall acted as Captain of the event (we noticed his shoes didn't get very dirty) and 4 members of staff helped out by taking pictures, collecting debris, setting out the tables, sodas and pizza and cleaning up afterwards. Bob Wilbur, Chairman of the P&Z Board moved mountains of illegally dumped material, while Yovone Razor and Charlene Horton of the Park Board beautified the roadsides. It was good to see so many young people take an active role in caring for our community. See related story "Illegal Dumping".

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Planning and Zoning Board has applied for a grant with the State of Florida to purchase property for use as a hiking, biking and horse riding trail. If approved, this will provide a trail from Turkey Creek Sanctuary through our Community Park to Marie Street and then south on Marie to Valkaria. Normally an application such as this is done by a hired professional because of its complexity and hours of data gathering. The members of our Board volunteered many hours working on this and ended with a very nice project. Our thanks to them for all their community spirit.



Staff is currently working on a budget proposal for the 1997-98 year. Our budget year is from October 1 to September 31st. Council will be meeting in July and August for the purpose of considering anticipated needs. We enjoy resident participation because it is your money. If you are not able to attend the advertised budget meetings, please call Town Hall with your ideas and we will provide your comments to Council. The final vote on the budget will be at a public hearing in September.

Atz Road paving is on schedule. The utility companies will start moving poles July 7, 1997. Actual paving construction will be performed by Brevard County Roads and Bridges Department on about August 4, 1997, with completion around mid September.

The tractor mower used for mowing road right of ways had a serious mechanical problem which got us off to a late start this summer. I am pleased to report the mower is back on the grass and we hope to catch up soon. Thank you for your patience. As always, I am available to answer your questions.

Thanks for your time.

  
William Hall

## HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE

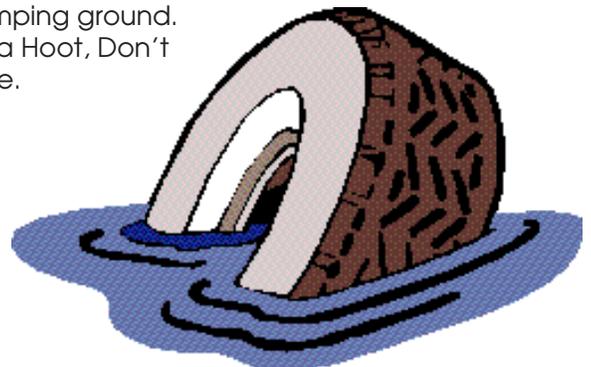
Check out the Hurricane Preparedness Guide on pages 24, 25, and 26 of the customer guide in the 1997-98 BellSouth telephone directory.

## ILLEGAL DUMPING

The Town of Malabar has a nuisance ordinance that addresses littering and dumping. The State also has laws forbidding this activity. Large fines can be assessed to the offending party. And yet, for the last three years, we have placed first in the County-wide annual Trash Bash Competition. Is it because we are generating more trash or is someone taking a short cut? By the time a person has driven to a remote location in Malabar, he could have been to the landfill on Sarno Road! Residents are not charged to dump at the landfill so why are so many couches and appliances found in the woods of Malabar? Contractors know they will be charged at the landfill so why don't they factor that cost into their estimate? Why "dump" them in Malabar? How do so many tires wind up so far from the nearest road? It is time to act.

These illegal dumpers; these lazy contractors; these uncaring litterers must be called to answer for their crimes. They must get the message that we will not continue to clean up their messes once a year and ignore them the rest of the year. The natural beauty of Malabar's ruralness that makes it so attractive to residents also makes it attractive to the unscrupulous illegal dumper. The laws are in place, the citation process is in place; let's get busy.

If you see a suspicious vehicle loaded down and heading off into the woods, try and get its tag No. and a description of the vehicle and what it is carrying. Call Town Hall and report what you have seen. Many times the vehicle will not leave the same way it came in. That is why it is important for you to call in. All we have to do is get a couple of the culprits and prosecute them to the full extent the law will allow and the problem will diminish. The message needs to get out that Malabar will enforce the No Littering/No Illegal Dumping laws and that we mean it. Then next year we may not come in first place for the most trash collected but we will probably be just as happy knowing that Malabar is no longer being used as a dumping ground. Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute.



# Town Happenings . . .

## Malabar's Own Cub Scout Pack

On Monday May 19th, the Town Council of Malabar voted unanimously to charter Cub Scout pack #37 to serve the needs of the boys in the Malabar/Valkaria area entering grades 1 through 4. Areas of interest will include hiking, camping, bicycling and other outdoor activities, emphasizing themes of conservation, nature and wildlife management. The elements of service to God, country and community are keystones of the new pack charter. The pack will meet the third Tuesday of every month and looks forward to many summer activities in our new Community Park. For further information call 724-9353 or 725-3593.

## Who's Who in Business

Keeping with Mayor Durand's idea of a network system for Malabar businesses, we offer the following. In an upcoming issue of this newsletter, we are considering listing the holders of occupational and home occupational licenses in Malabar. It would be a great opportunity to get the word out to your neighbors; let them know who owns the business, what products or services they offer and why they chose Malabar. Would you like to see your business listed here? If enough interest is shown we may print a separate pamphlet and hand it out to new residents moving to Malabar.

## Building Permits Are Required For....

The Town of Malabar has put together a comprehensive set of codes to address present and future land development within the Town. These rules, regulations and restrictions are designed to enhance the quality of life for those who reside in Malabar and those who will reside here in the future. It has become clear that most of the residential building code violations are due to a lack of knowledge as to what can and cannot be done without a permit. Listed below are commonly undertaken home improvement projects that require permits: **barns, sheds, out buildings, fences, reroofing, shingling, screened rooms, culverts, electrical/plumbing work, lot signs and gas installation.** The following require both a permit and a site plan review: **home additions, swimming pools, concrete surfaces, tree removal and relocation, road improvements, land clearing, tree removal, land filling, pond construction, division of land (subdivision).** These are only a sampling of the most common; if you have a doubt about a project, please contact the building department at 727-7764.

## Council Actions

Resolution 8-97 passed May 19, 1997. It requested the St. Johns River Water Management District to preserve the Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area in total and objected to the proposed land swap with the Kempfer family. Resolution 5-97 regarding Council procedures for regular and special meetings passed on May 5, 1997. It provides for the meeting time and day and time of adjournment; provides for extension of adjournment; provides a method to cancel meetings; provides a format for regular meeting agendas; provides a method to place items on the agenda; provides for changes to the agenda; provides for the creation and adoption of the consent agenda and provides for regulations governing persons seeking an opportunity to speak at regular and special meetings. All these issues had been addressed over the years by a total of seven (7) separate resolutions passed between 1964 and 1992. Ordinance 97-2 was adopted on April 21, 1997. It amends the mandatory trash subscription ordinance by addressing the handbill section and the recycling criteria. Any handbill received by you within the Town of Malabar must have the names and addresses of the persons who printed, wrote, distributed, compiled or manufactured it. If you notify them, in writing, that you do not wish to receive the handbills or newspapers, they must stop delivery. Violations are punishable by up to \$250.00 per day fine, or up to \$500.00 a day for repeat violators. In the section on exceptions to the ordinance, the amendment adds that in order to claim an exception due to recycling, the applicant must demonstrate that their recycling activity is in strict compliance with all state, federal and local requirements for recycling of all types. All of the Town's Resolutions and Ordinances are available at Town Hall during business hours for your review.

### STANDARD MEETINGS SCHEDULE

The Town Council meets the first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.

The Planning & Zoning Board meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 8:00 pm.

The Park Board meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

All meetings take place at Town Hall. All meeting notices and cancellations are posted on the sign in front of the Fire Department.

## Town Hall Expands

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We are undergoing an expansion project in the Building Department. The expansion will provide the Building Inspector, Carl Boyer, with his own office. It will also provide a much needed conference room. In all, by converting the garage area, an additional 332 square feet of office space will now be available.

The job was advertised for bid, but all of the bids came in too high. We knew what we wanted and what we had to spend. Public Works could provide the majority of the work. Mike Brown in our Public Works told us of Bill Howard. Bill is the Executive Director of Brevard Air Conditioning Contractors Association (BACCA) as well as Director of Academy of Construction Apprenticeship (ACA) at Brevard Community College, Palm Bay campus. His class is one of five offered by ACA. It consists of a four year apprenticeship program where high school students participate in the Dual Enrollment program where the students attend 1/2 day at their high school and 1/2 day at classes held on the BCC campuses. In the last two years of apprenticeship the students earn while they learn. The courses offered are air conditioning, plumbing, sheet metal, electrical and carpentry.

When students graduate from high school, they attend night classes on Tuesday and Thursday while working in the field as a full time employee. We utilized the students from three of the trades and what a great job they did! This is definitely a worthwhile program. Over a dozen area contractors have hired students and they will continue to hire them because the students entering the field have received the most up to date training. One of the instructors is also General Contractor of South Brevard Habitat For Humanity organization. Many of the students from this program have helped in the construction.

All in all, this was a wonderful opportunity to get what we needed, while providing the students a small but worthy project. Many thanks to the tireless efforts of Bill Howard, BACCA, and Brevard County Schools. If you would like any information on the Academy of Construction program, contact Bill at 632-1111, ext. 23212.

### **A NOTE FROM THE POST OFFICE**

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Please keep your mailboxes in good repair and remember, the house number should be a minimum of 1" high and should be on the same side of the box as the flag so that both are visible as the carrier approaches.

## Clerk's Corner

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As soon as the expansion is completed in the Building Department, we will be purchasing a computer network for Town Hall. We are all very excited about the ability to share information and the upcoming GIS (Geographic Information System) that the system will permit.

We have also discussed having a home page on the Internet. The agendas for all Council and Board meetings, as well as community and general information would be posted. Information from our building department to information regarding our new Malabar Cub Scout Pack No. 37 might be found on the WEB page. But we need to know if you are interested. So please call Town Hall and let us know what you think about putting Malabar on the Internet.

## What's Your Opinion?

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### **SURVEY QUESTION - HOME PAGE?**

What do you think of Malabar Town Hall staff creating a "Home Page" on the Internet to include upcoming meetings, agendas, etc.

### **SURVEY RESULTS**

In the last newsletter we asked what you thought about a skateboard facility within the Malabar Community Park. Many people responded. We received letters and phone calls at Town Hall, mostly in support of one. Yovone Rasor, of the Park and Recreation Board and mother of an avid skateboard enthusiast, also received many letters and calls. A survey that was circulated to measure interest in such a facility came back with hundreds of signatures. A revised survey to measure the interest of Malabar voters has not filled one page yet. A group of skateboarders came to a recent Park Board meeting and made a presentation. Apparently Malabar is not the only municipality to be approached. The speakers reported that they had approached Satellite Beach, Cape Canaveral, Indian Harbor Beach and Titusville as well as preparing to approach the County Commission. They have a valid request: somewhere safe and legal to enjoy their skateboards. Malabar recently hosted a Park Safety and Liability Workshop put on by the Florida League of Cities Risk Management Division, and many municipalities were represented. They confirmed what the skateboarders had said: they are also being approached. Even the League representatives admitted they have been getting inquiries from public agencies regarding liability insurance riders for such facilities. The Park Board is working with the skateboarders to put together an informational package to present to Council.

## **Neighborhood Watch Comes To Another Malabar Neighborhood**

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A few months ago, residents of Blanche, Florence Johnston and north Marie Streets filled Town Hall to capacity. The goal, spearheaded by resident Vicki Easterling, was to set up a neighborhood watch program. Brevard County Sheriff Crime Prevention Officer Amy Bogner and two other Sheriff Deputies outlined how to set up an effective crime prevention watch.

According to Bogner, the first step is to talk to neighbors and determine an interest. That is exactly what Easterling did by calling or visiting residents. Interest was definitely present and Easterling's persistence has earned her the position of the neighborhood's first watch coordinator.

The coordinator acts as liaison between law enforcement and the community, disseminates information to block captains, keeps a master list of all participants, schedules meetings and obtains speakers if desired. Easterling enlisted volunteers Carly Martin and Jane Brunson to act as block captains, who in turn pass along information to people on their street.

All watch members act as eyes and ears for neighbors and report any suspicious activities to the Sheriff's Office. Watch members also inform one another through a neighborhood telephone communication system. If you see a crime in progress and determine it is an emergency situation, call 911 first, then call your block captain who will inform the others on your street. The block captain will also call the coordinator, who will call the other block captains. Within a matter of minutes residents will all be alerted and aware of the situation. "Communication is the most important key", said Bogner. Being a watch member does not mean you have to be a nosy neighbor. It merely requires you to be alert. Most people are somewhat aware of the

type of cars their neighbors drive and have a general idea of neighbor's schedules. Through watch meetings, which can be held monthly, quarterly or annually, neighbors have the opportunity to reveal other facts about themselves if they choose. Participation is strictly voluntary. If you are interested in forming a watch group in your neighborhood, call Officer Bogner or Officer Jane Lytel at 633-2000, ext. 5272 or 7730.

## **Beware of Strangers**

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When a stranger knocks on your door, ask who it is and what they want, then verify their response before unlocking the door. Impostors can pose as cable repair folks or meter readers and in many other clever costumes. Remember, if they are not there at your request, verify who they say they are by calling the appropriate business. While making the call, jot down a description of the individual and note the vehicle as to color, type and markings. If you fail to get a phone confirmation, then immediately report the incident to the sheriff's department. The same thing goes if they ask to use your phone. Keep the door locked and offer to make the call for them. Remember, legitimate businesses don't mind you verifying the identity of their employees.

With summer here it is important for everyone to watch out for our youth. If you must leave children alone, teach them what to say (and not to say) to callers. Never let it be known that they are alone. Always have emergency and non emergency numbers (like a neighbors) near the phone and teach your children when to use each. Children need to be taught and then reminded of "Stranger Danger". Frequent reinforcements may be necessary. In a recent "Stranger Danger" class, young children were shown pictures of two people, one 'scruffy looking' and one 'nice looking' and asked to pick out the stranger. They chose the scruffy looking one. We need to teach them that both are strangers.

## **Ideas to Deter Criminals From Your Neighborhood**

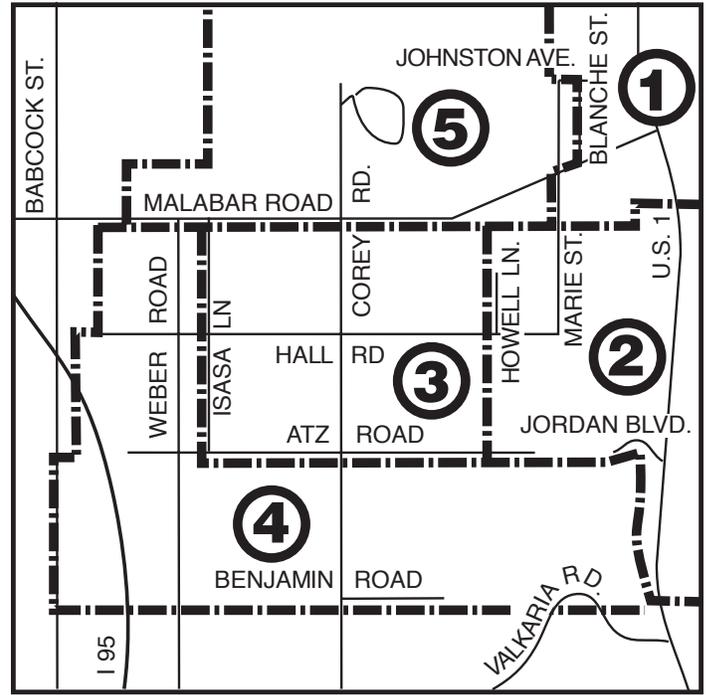
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- Display stickers which read "Warning! Member Neighborhood Watch Program" in a prominent place on your property.
- Be sure to make eye contact and lift your hand to acknowledge anyone driving on your street - criminals are less likely to strike a neighborhood where someone has seen them and is now able to give a more accurate description of them and their vehicle.
- Keep your doors and windows locked to your home and your vehicles. Make your doors and windows more secure with electronic alarm systems.
- Mark your valuable property (bicycles, lawn equipment, outboard motors, golf clubs, appliances, stereos, televisions, cameras) with your FLORIDA DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER. Don't use your social security number and don't mark on removable parts.
- Take color pictures of items that can't be marked and provide a complete description on the back of the picture. Communicate with your neighbors.

## Know Your Representatives on Council

The following Council members represent these districts:

District 1	Cheryl Morey 2475 Malabar Road	729-6505
District 2	Julane Kikla 2730 Rocky Point Road	676-3698
District 3	John Detwiler 1780 Eva Lane	725-7759
District 4	Tom Eschenberg 2835 Beran Lane	724-1007
District 5	Henry Dekker 1260 Hollow Brook Lane	722-9717
Mayor	Jerry Durand 1460 Hall Road	724-0123
Town Administrator	Bill Hall Town Hall	723-3261
Town Clerk/ Treasurer	Susan Kilian Town Hall	727-7764
County Comm.	Nancy Higgs, Dist. 3	952-6300
State Senator	Patsy Kurth, Dist. 15	984-4951



Town Administrator - WILLIAM HALL 723-3261 FAX 722-2234 Editor - John Detwiler, Council Vice-Chairman

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