



# THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 5 NO. 1 3rd QUARTER 1999

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.

## CANDIDATE QUALIFYING: SEPTEMBER 3 – 17

Candidate qualifying begins on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and ends September 17<sup>th</sup>. There are two seats up for election: Council Member for District 4 (currently held by Tom Eschenberg) and Council Member for District 5 (currently held by Henry Dekker.) To qualify for Council Member you must be a registered voter and have been a resident of the Town for at least six months prior to the date you qualify. You must also collect the signatures of 15 registered voters from your district on a petition provided by the Clerk's office.

The Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month with additional workshops a few times during the year. Each term is for two years and a limit of three terms. The town charter states that, "all powers of the town shall be vested in the elected council." For more information on the qualifications and duties of Council Member please call the Town Clerk's office.

## Our Own International Soccer Star

Yes, it's true !! Brandon Wilson, 11, of Malabar was selected last year to represent the United States in the Gothia and Dana Cups in Sweden and Denmark. He plays the critical positions of goalie and striker forward. Brandon says "I always thank God for giving me the ability to play". And play he did against teams from Denmark, Sweden, Germany and another US team after only 1 week of training in Germany. Brandon's team reached the quarter finals before being defeated by the Rumanian team in Denmark.



## MALABAR MARINER'S ASSOCIATION

The MMA is a non profit organization whose primary aim is to stimulate the art of sailing. It's origin goes back over 15 years when a traveler in a home-built 26 foot sloop arrived in Malabar, having sailed from California via the Panama Canal.

In as much as the very seal of Malabar is a sailboat, the idea quickly took hold to form an association that would promote sailing as an environmentally friendly form of recreation and a way to enjoy the Indian River Lagoon.

Over the years, The Malabar Mariner's Association developed strategies to safely navigate this unique area of our waterway. In addition to the social aspects of the organization, they have always taken part in the annual trash bash cleanups that the Town of Malabar participates in. They offer classes in various aspects of navigation, promote safe seamanship, work toward the elimination of harmful exotic plant species along the river's edge and have administered summer youth sailing programs. As a member of the American Sailing Association, they have certified members in basic sailing techniques and bare boat charter.

It is noteworthy that a large percentage of members have achieved Captains' licenses from the Coast Guard and many members earn their living from the sea.

Perhaps the high point of the year is the Memorial Day weekend rendezvous and roast. Quarterly meetings take place at 4 P.M. on Saturdays at Malabar Town Hall and are open to the public. The next 2 meeting dates are: July 17<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup> 1999. They are located at 1555 US Highway 1 in Malabar. For more information contact Malabar Mariner's Association at PO Box 500028, Malabar, FL 32950.

# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

## Great News!

Public works has completed another phase of our extensive drainage program. The summer rains should give us a good test of the completed work, however we still have some areas that need maintenance and cleaning. We are continuing to work on those issues as we wait for the engineering to be completed early this summer on the F.E.M.A. funding to upgrade the Atz and Corey Road drainage systems. Once the engineering has been completed the town will issue a bid to find an appropriate contractor to complete the project work.



## Bring your fishing poles!

The Malabar Community Park opened May 19<sup>th</sup>. We currently have a lake stocked with Bass, Brim and Blue Talapia with a great bridge over the lake for fishing. Our picnic pavilions are just waiting for families and picnic baskets. The five foot wide exercise and fitness trail for walking or jogging has health stations at several locations as you move around the landscaped lake. Phase II which covers the front half of the park, should start in October 1999 and includes the baseball and soccer fields as well as the new tennis court.

## BOARDS

All boards are made up of volunteers who are residents of Malabar and are registered voters who have lived in Malabar a minimum of six months. Applications are available at Town Hall if you are interested. Terms vary from one to five years on the boards. Background or a working knowledge of what the boards do is helpful.

**Park Board:** Deals with park issues, beautification, annual trash bash, annual Malabar Day celebration, annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony and other new projects throughout the year.

**Planning and Zoning Board:** Acts as the local planning agency and formulates the comprehensive planning program for the Town. It makes recommendations to the Council on zoning matters and land use issues.

**Board of Adjustment:** Meets on an as needed basis. It meets to hear and decide on requests for variances and administrative appeals if a party believes an error has been made in a decision involving enforcement of any land development code or regulation.

The Town of Malabar has had a representative on the Valkaria Airport Board since part of the airport falls inside town boundaries. The person currently on the Board has elected not to serve in that position beyond January 1, 2000. This Board normally meets once each month on a Thursday evening. If you have an interest in Valkaria Airport and would like to serve on the Board, please apply at Malabar Town Hall.

Hurricane season is here again. We maintain a list of folks that have special needs so we can get them appropriate assistance in the event a storm approaches. Please call Malabar Town Hall at 727-7764 if you or anyone in your home needs special assistance in the event of a storm.

I believe that the overall progress made by the Town of Malabar during 1998 was a reflection of the needs of a vibrant and diverse community. Our employees will continue to provide affordable services of the highest quality and we look forward to a an even better second half of 1999.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Bill Hall

Town Administrator

## POSTAL NOTES

On garbage days, please place your trash containers on the opposite side of the driveway, away from the location of the mailbox.

Stop by Malabar's Post Office and purchase the latest stamp of the century.

## HURRICANE INFORMATION

Some things that don't occur to us as we start into Hurricane season:

As a storm approaches, fill any prescriptions that are getting low. Keep medications in a safe, dry place. Keep clorox handy to purify water or sanitize things. Have a manual can opener available. Make sure outside debris, concrete blocks, hoses, garbage cans, etc are removed or moved inside. With high winds these types of materials become deadly and destructive. Please note that pages 27, 28 and 29 in your local telephone book have additional Hurricane information including evacuation routes.

# Town Happenings . . .

## Did You Know

Malabar teens are welcome to join the Palm Bay Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) organization? For more information contact Mr. Dave Beaudry at 952-3530.

The Brevard County Sheriff's Office Sports Trailer will be available every Wednesday this summer from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M., so that kids from Malabar between the ages of 7 and 21 can play basketball, soccer or toss a flying disc at the Grant Community Center. Parents or guardians must accompany juveniles for registration.

There is a Civil Air Patrol unit at Valkaria Airport. This group is open to kids in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or 11 years of age. C.A.P. has a variety of activities from First Aid and CPR to public speaking and astronomy plus many others. For information contact Lt. Tim Morgan 752-5381 (Squadron Executive Officer) or Lt. Joe Catania 956-6010 (Squadron Commander) or visit <http://www.cap.af.mil/> on the internet.

The Voices of Story, our local storytelling guild meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Malabar Town Hall at 7:30 P.M. The guild's mission is three fold:

The promotion and preservation of the art of storytelling though out the community.

Education and encouragement of existing and new storytellers.

Encourage individuals and groups within the community to become aware of the value of storytelling.

This is a very diverse group of people, some are musicians, writers, storytellers and all are listeners. Their meetings are open to the public and they welcome everyone to come and participate or just listen. Anyone interested can get further information from the internet at: <http://members.aol.com/Mythvox1/welcome.htm>

### **STANDARD MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

The Town Council normally meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30 pm.  
The Planning & Zoning Board meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 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 and at the Post Office and Town Hall.

## Highest Award

Boy Scout Pack 37, sponsored by the Town of Malabar, held it's 1999 Cross-Over Award at Camp Oklawaha on February 27, 1999. At a special campfire ceremony, Scorpion Patrol members Jordan Anderson, Peter Keenan, Justin Moon and Dain Quiring were awarded the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award. Justin Moon also received a special recognition for completing all 20 WEBELOS scout activity pins. With their Arrow of Light in hand, they "crossed over" into Boy Scouting, joining Troop 37 of the Town of Malabar. They were received by Andy Beard, Scoutmaster for Troop 37 and Zachary Beard, Senior Patrol Leader for the Troop. A campfire celebration concluded the evening and full weekend of camping.

### Malabar Community Park Eagle Scout Projects

Andy Young of Boy Scout Troop 323 has completed improvements to the 12 regular exercise stations on the exercise and fitness trail around the lake. Andy supervised a group of volunteers in laying landscape timbers, ground cloth and filling with mulch. He is awaiting the final approval from the BSA Central Florida Council.

Craig McKinnon II of Boy Scout Troop 732 laid sod around the rest rooms, handicapped walkway area and pavilions as his Eagle Scout Project.

Vince Young constructed and installed 5 handicapped stations on the exercise and fitness trail around the lake.

We applaud Andy, Craig and Vince's concern and contribution to their community as well as their outstanding accomplishment on reaching Eagle Scout achievement.

### Potential Eagle Projects

There are many excellent projects available to boys looking for Eagle Scout projects. Anyone interested should contact Debby Franklin at Malabar Town Hall, 727-7764.

### **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE RENEWAL**

Home Occupational Licenses and Occupational Licenses for business owners must be renewed on or before September 30th. Any payment received after September 30 will be assessed a penalty.

# Building Official's Report

By Jim Phelps, CBO

## Building and Zoning – Helpful Hints

We are beginning to experience problems with unlicensed contractors and owner/builder permit applications. As a reminder, Town codes regulate construction: alterations, some repairs, equipment, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, removal and demolition of any building or structure or appurtenances connected or attached to such building or structure including driveways, sidewalks and patio slabs. Most of the items identified above require permits. If you have any questions about permits or if one is needed for work you plan to do, please call and ask before you start work.



Property owners are responsible for insuring that all required permits are obtained before any work is started. Failure to obtain a permit before work starts may result in paying a double fee for the permit and a citation. When a permit is issued, the inspection card is required to be posted at the job site, visible from the street.

### Contractor Hints

When looking for someone to do a job for you, make sure that you have a properly licensed contractor.

If you are approached by someone, ask for identification and a business card. Compare the name and contractor license number with the name on the vehicle. Contractors are **required** to have their license number on all business vehicles and advertisements (phone book, business cards, classified ads, proposals, etc.). Sometimes business cards and other ads will say Licensed, Insured and bonded. However, the license indicated may only be an occupational license, not a contractors license. All construction contractors must be state certified or registered and their number will start with letters to identify their specialty.

Call the Better Business Council of the Chamber of Commerce. They maintain a history of more than 10,000 South Brevard businesses including complaints and if it was resolved. You may call 984-8454 to inquire or to register a complaint.

As a general rule, properly licensed contractors Do Not solicit door to door or by telephone. If you are contacted in this manner, please verify their license before entering into a contract.

“Handyman” is a type of business service or classification requiring only an occupational license. Anyone advertising themselves as such may be very limited as

to what they can do. Many of their ads specify electrical, plumbing, etc. so please be very careful when allowing work in those areas. Electrical, plumbing, etc., are regulated professions that allow only very minor maintenance or repair by a handyman.

When you are satisfied the contractor you have selected is properly licensed and will provide you with quality work and warranty, be sure the contractor obtains all permits and explains the Construction Lien Law to you. If the contract amount is in excess of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), he should assist you with filing a Notice of Commencement.

Section 713, Florida Statute is the construction lien law and is for the protection of the consumer. It requires the owner to file a Notice of Commencement with the Clerk of the Circuit Court before work starts. Before the first (1<sup>st</sup>) inspection is performed, a copy of the recorded notice or an affidavit stating it is being filed, must be provided to the building official. Before the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) inspection can be performed, a copy of the recorded Notice of Commencement must be provided to the building official.

The code revision committee has completed their work, and I think they all deserve a big “Thank You”. They spent many hours reviewing and making suggestions to improve the Town codes. The Planning and Zoning Board is beginning to review ordinances for recommendation to the Town Council to implement their suggestions. First for review was the fence ordinance. The new ordinance was adopted earlier this year with significant changes in permits required for fence replacement and height restrictions. If you have any questions, please contact the Building Department at Town Hall.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT VISITS KIDS



Last month, members of the Malabar Volunteer Fire Department visited Kids Land Learning center to show the children they don't have to be afraid of firefighter when they are dressed in their fire fighting gear. It was a great success.

## Meet Charlene Horton

Sworn into office as representative for District 2 in November of 1998, Ms. Horton has lived in Malabar nearly seven years. Originally from Alexandria, Virginia, Ms. Horton is married and the mother of three. Charlene has worked for the United States Postal Service (USPS) for 24 years, the last six here in Malabar. Charlene can be reached at 727-2194 or e-mail at char2175@aol.com.



As a past member of the Park and Recreation Board I am pleased with the progress of Malabar Community Park and look forward to meeting all of you at the many events we will soon be enjoying there.

The diverse nature of our community includes both rural acreage and deed restricted sub-divisions. This diversity requires us to look beyond next year for long term solutions to many challenges we face, such as infrastructure improvements, tax base expansion and transportation needs. I envision Malabar moving forward while retaining the quality of a small rural town. In doing so, we can play an important role in the direction of Brevard County as we move into the next century. Good storm water management is a challenge I intend to keep as a top priority during my tenure. We have a vital need to keep our roads safe and navigable for all who travel them.

Working and residing in Malabar, I am proud and honored to be a part of the future decision making process. We are fortunate to have the Malabar Volunteer Fire Department and the Brevard County Sheriffs Office maintaining stations in Town and maintaining a level of quality service that provides for the health and safety of our citizens.

I encourage all of you to get involved: join a board, attend meetings, pursue the historical aspect of the town, ask how you can help. Let me know what is important to you or you may call Town Hall at 727-7764.

## Babcock Street Transportation Study

The area covered by the study that started earlier this year, runs from Hibiscus Blvd (north of downtown Melbourne) south to Foundation Park Blvd (the traffic light just north of ACE Hardware). The study is trying to help define the transportation improvements that may be needed now and over the next 20 years to accommodate existing and future travel demands. The report on existing conditions is available at the libraries on Port Malabar Road and Fee Avenue.

The next step is to look at alternate improvements. These alternatives may include:

## Malabar Business Spotlight

This month we would like to help you get to know one of our long time businesses. One with a country store atmosphere where people come with questions. One where Gus, an 11 week old deaf puppy comes to visit with three kids and Mom in tow.

In case you haven't figured it out, we're talking about Kempfer's Feed and Seed at 2728 Malabar Road. Paul, Lyda and Kristy Marpil have been working with people here for the last 13 years, however Kempfer's has been around since 1946 when Lyda's father opened the store in Melbourne. The store followed acreage and the rural life and moved to Palm Bay where it remained for 14 years before moving to Malabar. According to Paul the store is not moving again, they're here to stay.

Kempfer's handles hay, feed, fertilizer, vegetable plants, bulk vegetable garden seed, pesticides, friendly traps for pesky critters, food for domesticated parrots and birds, dog biscuits and lots more. The store carries all shots for dogs and cats except for the rabies shots. They also handle special orders for fish food, Koi, birds, ostriches, pigs and, yes, even a zebra. In the spring you can order chickens, geese, ducks, turkey, pheasant and quail. These are NOT for Easter, no blue chicks here !

The store specializes in free soil analysis and free delivery (no minimum) from north Melbourne south to the county line including West Melbourne. Kempfer's hope is that Malabar doesn't change like cities tend to, that we aren't forced onto asphalt and sidewalks, that we will continue to enjoy the peaceful environment that the Town of Malabar provides.

Stop by for a chat or if you have agricultural questions and meet some of our town's nicest people.

### 1999 Calendar

Spring 2000	Malabar Day Celebration Malabar Community Park
November 27 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

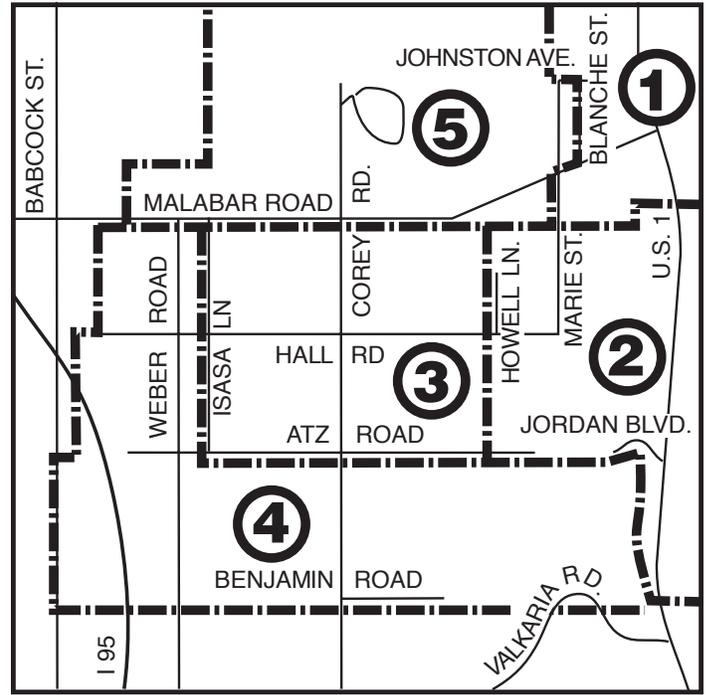
- No build/no change
- Make intersection or other operational improvements
- Widen Babcock entirely or in specified areas
- Make improvements to other roads to reduce the need to improve Babcock Street.

You can help define alternatives by attending the public workshop September 8<sup>th</sup> 1999 in Melbourne at 7:00 P.M. and the next meeting at Malabar Town Hall Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M.. Pick up a survey at the Palm Bay or Melbourne Libraries or visit the internet website: [www.sr507.com](http://www.sr507.com). If you have any questions or comments, please call the project hotline at 722-2136.

## Know Your Representatives on Council

The following Council members represent these districts:

District 1	Elizabeth Ritter 350 Camelot Circle	723-5845
District 2	Charlene Horton 2730 Rocky Point Road	727-2194
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	Phillip Crews 2480 Johnston Ave.	951-0422
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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