



THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 2 NO. 4 4th QUARTER 1996

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.

Malabar Lights Up for the Holidays !

The first annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Saturday December 14, 1996. The mayor flipped the switch lighting Malabar's official Christmas tree as the First Baptist Church of Malabar sang seasonal tunes. This was the first of what we hope will become an annual event to be held on the first Saturday after Thanksgiving of each year.

The idea for this event came from the Park Board meeting in November and really took off! In very short time, a location was chosen, the tree purchased and planted, lights put on, the choir contacted, flyers printed, Santa was notified and arrangements for his transportation

were provided by our own Malabar Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Suggestions have already been offered regarding accepting sponsorships for this event so that it can be larger in future years. If you have ideas for this event and how to make it even better please call

or stop by Town Hall.



The best thing about the Tree Lighting was the enthusiasm shown by all who participated. Malabar has many things to be proud of but its residents have to rank number one!



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT . . . The Year in Review

Dear Residents,

Another year has gone by and I would like to take advantage of my column this time to review what has happened over the year.



The number of Building Permits this past year greatly increased, but Malabar is maintaining its small growth pattern and maintaining its rural flavor of community. Just five years ago our population was 1700 and it now has reached almost 2400. The developer of Brook Hollow has applied to build an additional 270 homes between Port Malabar Blvd. and Malabar Road.

We have continued to work on our drainage problems, with St. Johns River Water Management paying for the largest portion of the costs. We are very fortunate to have attracted St. John's attention and to be able to procure funds to accomplish some things we normally wouldn't have been able to do. I can remember five years ago when we had some severe flooding problems and while we still have some problem areas they are not nearly like they used to be.

We are also becoming more environmentally conscious having installed sediment basins and a baffle box to monitor the water quality of the stormwater we are returning to the Indian River Lagoon and Turkey Creek.

You will recall, in December of 1995 we were awarded a grant from the State for 1.2 mil to purchase land from Malabar Road north to the Turkey Creek Sanctuary, in Palm Bay, for the purpose of establishing a greenway trail system. In December of this year we were awarded another grant for an additional 1.2 mil to purchase land south of Malabar Road that follows many of the Creeks' tributaries. Planned for this land are hiking, biking, and horse riding trails. All of this intended to preserve our environment while introducing recreational facilities to the citizens of Malabar. The bike and horse trail ad-hoc committee continues to meet, designing trails throughout our park and greenway system under the direction of Barbara Meyer, of the County. There has been a great deal of enthusiasm generated by this committee.

We have made some real progress on our Community Park this past year. We have had a exercise trail installed, a footbridge installed for fishing; we

have had the lake stocked with fish and are planting some native trees. In the near future we will be installing pavilions, one of which we propose to be a gazebo type that can be used for bands and award presentations and ceremonies in general. Recently we held our 3rd annual Malabar Day, October 19, 1996. It was the most successful picnic yet. We hope to expand on that event next year.

Our Public Works Department has completed rebuilding LaCourt Lane, Marie Street, Old Mission, Atz and Hall Roads. We have also constructed a left hand turn lane at the Post Office.

As a result of the November election, we have a new sheriff for Brevard County, Phil Williams. I would like to thank Jake Miller for his dedicated service to the Town of Malabar. The Sheriff's Department is Malabar's law enforcement agency and under the direction of Jake did a fantastic job and we are hoping to see the same performance from our new sheriff. On behalf of the staff here at Town Hall, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and we look forward to working with the citizens of Malabar in the coming year.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Hall', written in a cursive style.

William Hall

MALABAR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Season's Greetings from Malabar Fire Department

As the Holiday Season rapidly approaches, we would like to remind all residents to check all decoration lights for wire wear spots and fuse replacement, use only UL approved lighting material, and do not over load electric outlets. Please remember to completely extinguish all candle and/or fireplace flames before leaving the house or retiring for the evening.

Colder weather is in the forecast and with the many fireplaces in Town, the smell of smoke will also be in the air. Before using your fireplace please check to see if a chimney cleaning is in order and be sure the damper is open. When using kerosene or gas heaters, a window should be left partially open for ventilation purposes, and a purchase of a Carbon Monoxide Detector should be considered.

Above all, have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Town Happenings . . .

VOLUNTEER FOR A BOARD

All Boards are made up of volunteers who are residents of Malabar and are registered voters. Applications are available at Town Hall if you are interested. Terms vary from 1 to 5 years on the Boards and no skills other than a dedication to serve are required.

The **Park Board** deals with park issues, beautification projects, the annual Trash Bash, the annual Malabar Day Celebration, the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and other new projects that are suggested throughout the year. Last year they worked on rehabilitating the old Malabar cemetery.

The **Planning and Zoning Board** acts as the local planning agency as well as formulating elements or portions thereof of the comprehensive planning program for the Town. It makes recommendations to the Council on zoning matters and land use issues.

The **Board of Adjustment** meets on an as needed basis. They meet to hear and decide on requests for variances. They also hear and decide Administrative Appeals if a party believes an error has been made in a decision involving enforcement of any land development code or regulation.



Mayor Durand is presented with a check for \$31,800.00 from Senator Patsy Kurth and Representative Harry Goode to install pavilions in the Malabar Community Park.

Get on that bus and ride

In early January, Malabar Town Council, along with all Board members and Town Hall Staff will be boarding a bus for a tour of Malabar. Improvement projects will be pointed out as well areas of concern. This will give everyone the opportunity to see the area, or concern, or problem that is talked about in meetings. The public is invited. Please call Town Hall to make arrangements.

ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

We would like your opinions and suggestions on what you would like to see in Phase II of our Community Park development. Please mark **Wednesday, January 8, 1997** on your calendar and plan on attending the Park Board meeting at 7:30 pm. Phase II of the Malabar Park development, using grant funds, will be the sole item of discussion. This Park has been developed through grant funds from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). DEP is authorized to establish the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) to provide grants to qualified local governmental entities to acquire or develop land for public outdoor recreation purposes. We were awarded our first FRDAP Grant in 1994 to begin Phase I development which consisted of the fishing footbridge over the stocked lake, fitness trails and horse and bike paths, along with support facilities such as parking, fencing, restrooms and signage. The Brevard County Endangered Lands Program teamed with Malabar to provide the restrooms and parking. Phase I is scheduled to be complete by April, 1997. It is time to finalize Phase II plans which so far include ball-fields, tennis and basketball courts. We want your input. What would you like to have in your park? If you can't make it, call Town Hall, 727-7764, and voice your opinion.

SURVEY QUESTION

Are you satisfied with the service you are getting from Harris Sanitation? Please call, stop by or write to Town Hall and let us know how they are doing.

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 7:30 pm.

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

All meetings take place at Town Hall.

MALABAR PICNIC A BIG SUCCESS !

The recent Malabar Day Celebration was a huge success and we want to thank the many, many people who made it possible. Local businesses donated 67 gifts that were given away throughout the day. Others donated the use of tents, cookers and tables. Still others donated goodies for the bake off. And then there were those that volunteered to

Many have already said they will be back next year! The fishing contest should be a tremendous success in 1997 when all the recently stocked fish grow up. As soon as a date is selected for next Malabar Day Picnic, we'll let you know so you can mark in on your calendar.

A special THANK YOU goes to all who donated: American Fence, Hotel California, Callegy Tire, Sign Pro Trophy, Barnett Bank, Cathy's Florist, Enchanted Lakes Estates, Rick's Nursery, Florida Gardening, Stix Bait and Tackle, Boston Market, Camp Holly, Cobb Theaters, Capt. Hiriams, Fazolis, Hale Groves, The Shack, Jim Rathman Chevrolet, Palm Bay Skateway, Palm Bay Bowling, Harris Sanitation, Winn Dixie, Vero Beach Dodgers, Shells Seafood, Krispy Creme, T.G.I.F. Restaurant, Kelly Ford and The 114th CBCS from Patrick.



help park cars, cook and serve food, and supervise the games. The music was great, the food was great and the people were great. You just can't miss with that combination!

Malabar's own: "Up the Creek" and "Sally and the Band" provided music throughout the day. The Indian River Cloggers performed for everyone's pleasure and then finished off with an audience participation rendition of "the Macarena" that was equally enjoyed by the audience and those participating! The car show, the boat races, the games, the demonstrations, the reptiles. . . it was all great!



RECYCLE INFORMATION

Recycling is a process that involves more than setting the bins at the curb. In our effort to reduce, reuse and recycle sometimes more is put into the recycle bin than *can actually be recycled*. If that material is not discovered, ie. bottle caps or pumps or ceramics, the entire "batch" or load may become contaminated and could ultimately be rejected for use in remanufactured items. Then we gain nothing. It is also a cost problem because of

the additional expense necessary to sort out those items when they are discovered. Ceramics are the number one offender because they do not melt at the same temperature as the glass. The goal in recycling is to reduce the amount of trash in the landfill as well as using everything to its utmost; lets not defeat the purpose by throwing newspapers still in bags into the bins or throwing bottles and jars into the bins with lids on them.

from the desk of . . .



I would like to encourage residents to become involved in Malabar's future. We have three (3) Boards that deal with various aspects of Town management. There is the Park & Recreation, Planning & Zoning, and the Board of Adjustments. All meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend and participate. Come to a few meetings and see if you'd like to join. Applications are kept on file until there is an opening. The current project of the Park Board is the beautification of the Malabar Road corridor from US 1 to Marie Street. We have placed first in the "Keep Brevard Beautiful" competition for the last two (2) years, but more can be done. We want to help those citizens with hardships. We also want to notify the absentee landlords that aren't caring for their properties so that they can become involved in our overall effort to improve the Town's image, its "curb appeal".

Our Planning & Zoning Board is compiling goals to be included in a capital improvement plan that will take us into the next century. Our desire is for Malabar to progress and prosper with managed growth that includes image improvement. It will require community support and participation. We need to pave roads. We need to implement the drainage plans that have been designed and engineered. Some of these projects can be paid for from residential impact fees; some from grants, some from strengthening our Codes; but, some will need to come from us. Are we willing to invest in our Town for the betterment of all? Something as simple as what I witnessed recently, a woman with three small children walking along Weber Road picking up litter, makes a difference. Each one of us can make a difference. We have the privilege of living in a very unique area compared to other areas of Brevard. As we plan for future developments and road improvements we can avoid many problems by learning from the mistakes other cities made in their growth.

Another item I would like to share with you is my desire to start a Malabar Business Association for local businesses to join. I believe this would encourage more people to spend "locally" as well as offer a networking and support system. Please call me at 727-7764 if you are interested.

As a final note I would like to give honorable mention to the Steele family of Hall Road. While Marie Street and Hall Road were being repaired, there were several days of rain which made for very difficult traveling in that area. The Steeles offered assistance to three separate drivers who found themselves "stuck in the muck" during that weekend.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and happy and prosperous New Year.

Jerry R. Durand

Election Results for Malabar

Councilwoman Julane Kikla won reelection in District 2 to serve another term; Councilman John Detwiler was unopposed in his bid for reelection in District 3 and will serve another term.

Cheryl Morey was seated last October to fulfill the term in District 1 when her husband resigned to attend firefighter school. She was unopposed for reelection and will also serve for the next term in Malabar for District 1 which includes the areas north of Glatter and Orange Avenue and east of Blanche Street..

Cheryl moved to Brevard County from Massachusetts in 1989. Employed as a Senior Physical Thera-

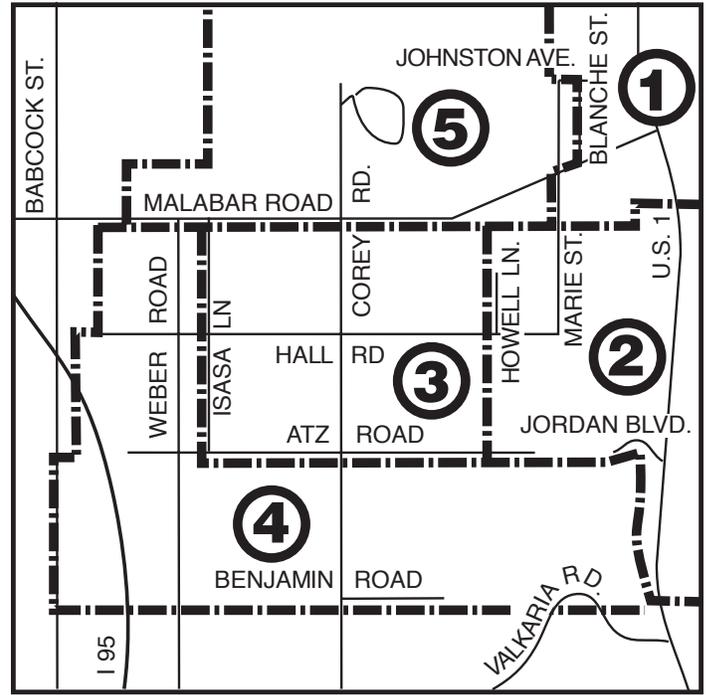


pist at Palm Bay Community Hospital, she serves the needs of patients in the geriatric unit, and is presently working towards certification as a specialist in the field of geriatric physical therapy. She is married and when Cheryl is not working or serving the needs of the Town, she enjoys looking into Malabar's colorful history. Her other hobbies include cooking and crafts.

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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