



THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 21 NO. 2 4th QUARTER 2015

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.

An Open Letter to Residents, Businesses, Visitors & Community Neighbors

The Town has experienced turmoil and distrust over the last year. Town Council has been described as “dysfunctional” by both residents attending meetings and some council members themselves.

The problem has been exasperated by a handful of disgruntled residents that want to look at anything the town does as wrong and put misinformation and negative spins on their blogs and other social media.

Just because something negative is said does not make it a fact. And the more it is repeated on social media & throughout the community, the more likely it is to be believed by the good people of Malabar.

The Town Council and staff would love to see residents attend the Council & Board meetings and provide input. We have openings on most of the Boards but even just attending meetings would be welcomed. Please attend your Council and Board meetings and hear firsthand how the Town business is carried out. Offer your input because many times solutions to community problems have been suggested by residents.

This is your town – all 2,795 of you. Plus business owners that also have a stake in how Malabar government is carried out. Plus seasonal visitors that spend a good part of the year here.

HOMETOWN HEROES

Recently a car theft from Palm Bay ended within Malabar's jurisdiction, with Malabar residents being the heroes in the subsequent carjacking attempt (with a child in car foiled by mom) and the fleeing on foot of 2nd suspect being apprehended by another Malabar resident and held until law enforcement arrived.

Names and locations are not being included for the heroes' safety but the BAD GUYS should know that Malabar residents will help protect the lives of each other's families and property.

This is just a WARNING to the BAD GUYS: don't mess with Malabarians!

Meet the New Town Administrator, Doug Hoyt



The newest member of the Town's staff is Doug Hoyt who came aboard as the Town Administrator as of October 12, 2015. His employment began on November 2, 2015. Mr. Hoyt has been a resident of Malabar since 2003 after moving here from the Atlanta, GA area where he lived for 27 years. Originally from Seattle, WA, he started a manufacturing business from the ground up. It became a multi-million dollar company which designed, manufactured and installed systems and components for the fossil fuel industries as well as contractual jobs for various government entities. He is also a FDEP Stormwater Management Inspector.

Mr. Hoyt has an open door policy and he welcomes all to stop by and share your thoughts and opinions on the Town and what is happening in your community. Please stop in and say hello and introduce yourself to Mr. Hoyt. Let's all make him feel welcome.

Dear Residents,

We are open to suggestions for more good content in the newsletter. So please call the Clerk's Office at 727-7764 if you have any ideas, opinions or news items for the next issue. We are going to try to get back on a regular schedule and have them out to you four times a year.

Dec: to go over the election results and wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Mar: to invite you to participate in SpringFest.

July: to tell you what District Council & Mayor seats are up for election and the qualifying period.

October: to give you information on the upcoming elections; candidate bios, referendum questions, etc.

In addition, the **Mailboat** will briefly report on what each Board & Committee is working on, when meeting dates are scheduled, what ordinances and resolutions have passed, what some of the current issues are (SR514 widening) and status of the roads and drainage projects. We'll also try to include a tidbit from the history of Malabar.

News From the T&G Committee

Why Don't You Go Take a Hike?

If you live in Malabar, the next time someone poses that question, consider first that it could actually be a pleasant suggestion that might just make your day. Much of our town is home to some of the nicest trails in all of Brevard County, if not all of Florida. The trails offer a variety of topographic terrain with a biodiversity of plant and animal life that is so much nicer when explored beyond someone else's previously recorded digital experience. Thanks to great local corroboration and/or cooperation among trail users and sponsors, our trails are well marked, available in a variety of difficulty levels to challenge all levels of users and are sure to be interesting.

Whether you are hiker, mountain biker, or an equestrian, there are several trails for you. Soon the Yellow trail in Malabar's Cameron & Volunteers Preserve will be marked and oriented for single direction travel by hikers and mountain bikers. This will minimize the chance of "head-on" collisions and will connect users to segments of the EEL Program Yellow Trail on the West and East Malabar Scrub Sanctuary parcels. Horses will be going the other way – they do not like surprises from behind.

The Town of Malabar Trails & Greenways Committee (T&GC) continues to work hard to improve our local trail system and can always use another helping hand on our field projects. To be added to the T&GC email distribution list, please contact Cindi Kelley, at ckelley@townofmalabar.org. Also, a new ADA restroom and ADA parking, from the successful T&GC grant through FL DEP, will soon be added to the Sand Hill Trailhead #1 at 1400 Marie Street.

It is now autumn and a great time to get some fresh air and burn some calories to prepare for the "feast"ive holiday season. So, seriously, why don't you go take a hike?



News Around Town . . .

No Malabar Election; New Council Member

The Town of Malabar will not have an election this year; incumbent Council Member Dick Korn, District #4, was unopposed. We do have a new Council Member for District #5, Richard Kohler. Mr. Kohler was unopposed when qualifying for the position of Council Member for District #5, therefore, he automatically became the newest Council Member for the Town of Malabar. Mr. Kohler resides in Brook Hollow but will serve the community of Malabar at large.



Installation of the Council Members was held on Thursday evening, November 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. and was an auspicious occasion! Please stop by Town Hall for any Council Meeting and welcome its newest member. It will be a great way to meet Mr. Kohler and put a face with his name.

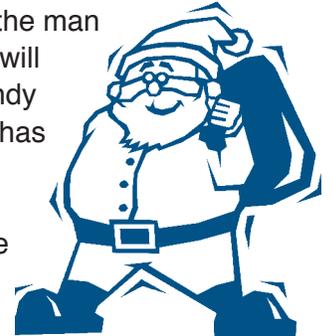
Septic Systems – What to do after the flood

The Town of Malabar does not do any of the required permitting or inspections for septic systems. Brevard County is the issuing agency for septic system permits and inspections. If you need information regarding your septic system, you should contact Brevard County at 321-633-2000 (this is the main number) to make your inquiries. You can also make contact with the National Environmental Services Center at 800-624-8301 or visit their website at www.nesc.wvu.edu. You may also visit www.epa.gov/safewater and look for brochure EPA 816-F (September 2005). This brochure has very important information for septic systems if a flood should occur in Malabar. In this brochure, you will find helpful information of what and what not to do should there be a flood. Please take a few minutes to visit these sites and familiarize yourself with the information so you are safe in the aftermath of a flood disaster situation.

Christmas Tree Lighting December 5th @ 6:00 PM

Coining the phrase from one of the most played Christmas songs in our history, “It’s the most wonderful time of the year”. This is, truly, our favorite time of the year. It’s a time when everyone comes together to lend a helping hand to neighbors and friends, and quite possibly, some people we don’t know.

We, once again, invite all of you to this year’s annual Malabar Christmas Tree Lighting. The date for the lighting will be December 5, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Beatty will throw the switch and light the tree. Grab your family and friends and come and join us in the festivities. If you’ve never attended before then treat yourself this year to some old fashion country fun. Everyone is welcome! We’ll have hay bales for seating and the choir from the Malabar First Baptist Church will lead us in seasonal singing. Cookies and warm cider will be served. And let’s not forget the man in the red suit! Santa Claus will arrive on a fire truck with candy canes for the children. This has turned into a fun community event over the years. Look for the signs around town the week before announcing the event.



Holiday Schedule

Town Hall will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. We will return to the office for regular business on Monday, November 30th. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EVERYONE!!!

Town Hall will be closing at noon on Thursday, December 24th for Christmas Eve and will be closed for the day on Friday, December 25th for Christmas. We will return to the office for regular business on Monday, December 28th. MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE TOWN OF MALABAR.

Town Hall will be closing at noon on Thursday, December 31st for New Year’s Eve and will be closed for the day on Friday, January 1st for New Year’s Day. We will return to the office on Monday, January 4th. MAY YOU ALL HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Volunteers Needed

The Town of Malabar is looking for volunteers to serve on our three boards. We have the Parks & Recreational Advisory Board, Planning & Zoning Advisory Board and the Board of Adjustment. Each board meets at specific times during the month with the exception of the Board of Adjustment. They meet on an as needed basis.

All board meetings are held at Town Hall in the Council Chambers; meetings start at 7:30 pm. The Park Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month, the P & Z Board (Planning & Zoning) meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month and the Board of Adjustment meets when needed and the meeting is coordinated by staff with the assistance of the Board Chair. Positions are available on each board and we welcome all applications. If the board you apply for is full at the time, we will hold the application and when a position becomes available, the applications will be presented to Council for appointment.

As a qualified volunteer, you must live in Malabar for a least a year and be a registered voter. If this is something that interests you and you would like to be a part of the Town of Malabar's history, please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office here at Town Hall at 321-727-7764 or via email to the Town Clerk Debby Franklin at townclerk@townofmalabar.org or the Deputy Town Clerk Cindi Kelley at ckelley@townofmalabar.org. You can also download an application by visiting the website at www.townofmalabar.org.

Upon receipt of your application, it will be presented at the next RTCM (Regular Town Council Meeting) for Council to review and make the appointment by Resolution to the corresponding board that was applied for. Along with your application, Council has requested a brief description of your qualifications. You are also welcome to attend the Council meeting at which the appointment to the board is scheduled and address Council with your qualifications.

News From the P&Z Advisory Board

The Planning and Zoning Advisory Board has been pretty busy the last few months making recommendations to the Town Council. Here are some of the major topics that have been discussed and forwarded onto Council:

1. Updating the Land Development Code Article IX for Off-Street Parking.
2. Vacating Malabar owned Right-of-Way along Johnston Ave. to a resident.

The following topics are presently being discussed at our meetings:

1. Future Land Use map recommendations to Council for Residential/Limited Commercial (R/LC) land uses along Babcock St., Malabar Rd. and US1. We are recommending changing land uses from Rural Residential (RR) to R/LC for some property along the major arterial roads.
2. An updated definition for R/LC, and what this Land Use allows in its Land Use district.
3. Updating the 500 ft. radius notice given to residence. Presently, the code only requires this for variances that are heard by the Board of Adjustments. We believe the residence should be given notice for land use changes, conditional uses, and for all Public Hearing actions.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday's of the month at 7:30pm in the Town Hall if you are interested in seeing what's being discussed by the Board pertaining to the future development of the Town. We also discuss the Code of Ordinances, Comprehensive Plan, Zoning and Land Use direction of the Town, and are part of the Site Plan Reviews process.

Patrick T. Reilly,
Planning and Zoning Board Chairman



Ordinances Adopted/Failed for 2014 & 2015:

Ord. No.	Abbreviated Title	Adopted/Failed
2014-01	ALF Regulations	Adopted
2014-02	Flood Maps Approved	Adopted
2014-03	Burn Permit Process	Adopted
2014-04	Fertilizer Regulations	Adopted
2014-05	Land Use & Zoning Change – 3 Acres on Babcock	Failed
2014-06	2013/2014 Budget Amendment	Adopted
2014-07	Mayoral Veto Process	Adopted
2014-08	Board Regulations to Chapter 2	Adopted
2014-09	MSTU Wording for Referendum Questions	Adopted
2014-10	Referendum Questions for 2014 Ballot	Adopted
2014-11	Referendum Questions	Failed
2014-12	WM Franchise Agreement – 7 Years @ 11%	Adopted
2014-13	Amends Fertilizer Ordinance	Adopted
2014-14	Land Use & Zoning Change – RLC to CG on Highway 1 & Malabar (NW Corner)	Vetoed
2014-15	Millage for 2014/2015 Fiscal Year @ 1.8%	Adopted
2014-16	Budget for 2014/2015 Fiscal Year \$1,690,204	Adopted
2014-17	Budget Amendment	Failed
2015-01	Land Use & Zoning Change RLC to CG	Adopted

Resolutions Adopted/Failed for 2015:

Reso. No.	Abbreviated Title	Adopted/Failed
9-2015	Supporting Palm Bay; efforts to preserve the Grapefruit Trails as an amenity, improvement to trail users in community	Adopted
12-2015	Appointment of Annelie Harvey to Trails & Greenways Committee	Adopted
14-2015	Adopting annual budget of anticipated storm water revenues at \$70,998.70	Adopted
15-2015	Request to vacate 172' of Johnston from Jennie Street east. P&Z recommended denial; applicant withdrew request	Withdrawn by Applicant
16-2015	Appointment of Tom Taylor to Park Board	Adopted
17-2015	Adopting updated local Hazard Mitigation Strategy for 2015	Adopted
18-2015	Adopting updated ILA with Brevard County to coordinate address assignment for E-911 purposes	Adopted
19-2015	Approve 1 year extension to ILA with County Natural Resources for Stormwater Program Administration	Adopted
21-2015	Supporting placement of referendum questions on 2016 ballot to allow voters to approve/reject a ½ ¢ Local Gov't Infrastructure Sales Tax to assist in funding necessary for road maintenance and improvements	Adopted

Dear Neighbors and Staff of the Town of Malabar,

In early November I will be termed out of my position of Town of Malabar Council District 5. It has truly been my pleasure to serve my community for the past six years. I decided to run when my youngest daughter, (we have three girls) left for college. I grew up in a town smaller than Malabar, just outside Pittsburgh, PA. I was raised to be a good neighbor, to be involved in my community, to try and make a difference. My husband and I went to college together and his family owned a small business for 35 years, so it was our dream for our young family to live and work in a wonderful small community. God brought us to the Palm Bay area in 1988. We knew when we first visited Malabar in 1994... this is where we would put roots and raise our family. I always like to call Malabar "a slice of pie". We love the rural nature, the small hometown feel and we wanted our daughters to be a part of and grow up in Malabar. In 2009, I started my journey on Council because I felt that I could help the Town with my education, my life experiences, being a leader in my school and church, and knowing the hard work of owning a true family business. I share this with you as I feel unfortunately we don't really get to know the people who are elected, the staff and our neighbors. Someone famous once said "**The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion**". I am blessed to have gotten to know many wonderful people on Council and feel that I have helped and at the very least listened to concerns and worked diligently on all the items put forth before me. I am proud of my voting record and feel that I treated everyone with dignity and respect. My votes were sacred to me that I was representing all of Malabar after reading everything, researching resolutions to problems, listening to the residents and my colleagues on Council. It is important to care about each other even when you may not agree on all things. We have to make hard decisions on Council and we may not make everyone happy, but you have to do what you think is best for the whole Town. There is a lot of work to be done at Town Hall and roads & drainage projects that are approved that have not been executed and the projects yet to be determined. I do feel confident that there are wonderful people who live here who work hard and want to keep our Town someplace special and do the best for Malabar's future. My favorite memory is in May of 2012 when my neighbor Wendy, and I grabbed shovels and a rototiller and started to clean up the eyesore that was the front of Town Hall. Neighbors stopped to help, businesses donated sod, trees, etc., and made the front of Town Hall something to be proud of. Neighbors working together, no meetings, just making it happen. It was wonderful. A great line from a song I love is "We are how we treat each other when the day is done." Thank You for the Privilege of Serving the Town of Malabar, Where People Care.

Council Member Marisa Acquaviva

Mowing the Rights-of-way in Front of Your Improved Property

Please help the Town help you. Each owner of improved property is supposed to be maintaining the area between the edge of the road and their property line. In many cases that means the area on the outside of your fence (in most cases it is a minimal area relative to your property size). We know you can't get down into deep ditch areas and don't expect you to, but by mowing the flat areas you will help keep the Town looking nice while relieving the mowing currently being done by Public Works so they can focus more on the stormwater projects approved for this year.

We are asking for you to do your part as a good neighbor. The Town will continue to mow the

slopes and deep ditch areas and those properties that are vacant and unimproved. I'm sure that you will see many improvements on other projects and maintenance issues throughout the Town by each resident doing their part by mowing these rights of way. This is a learning process and we will continue to put information about this in future issues of the ***MailBoat*** as well as on the Town's website www.townofmalabar.org.

The Town appreciates your contributions in this matter. Again, help us to help you!

Thank you,
Brian Vail, Council Member, District 2,
along with the rest of Council

HEAR THE BEEP WHERE YOU SLEEP

Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep?

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

When it comes to smoke alarms, it's about "location, location, location".

The key message of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 4-10, is to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

Smoke alarms provide a critical early warning of fire, allowing additional time to escape. National estimates of reported fires derived from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA's) fire department survey show that in 2009-2013, fires in homes with no smoke alarms caused an average of 940 deaths per year (38% of home fire deaths). An additional 510 people per year (21% of home fire deaths) were fatally injured in fires in which smoke alarms were present but failed to operate. Power source problems were the leading cause of smoke alarm failures.

Almost all households indicate having smoke alarms, yet smoke alarms were present in slightly less than three-quarters (73%) of reported home fires and operated in roughly half (53%). When present in reported fires large enough to activate them, they operated 87% of the time. Hardwired smoke alarms were more likely to operate than those powered solely by batteries.

The death rate per 100 reported fires was more than twice as high in homes with no or no working smoke alarms (1.18 deaths per 100 fires) as it was in fires with working smoke alarms (0.53 deaths per 100 fires). The lowest fire death rates were seen in homes with hardwired smoke alarms and sprinklers. Victims in homes with working smoke alarms were more likely to have been in the area of origin. They were also more likely to be 65 or older, to have a physical disability or to have tried to fight the fire themselves.

Chief Robinson

Sad News

Roger Cloutier, Building Official for the Town, passed away on October 9, 2015. Roger was a great asset to the Town of Malabar, by his many years of experience and knowledge as a Building Official for various municipalities. He was the Building Official with the Town of Malabar since August 2007. Roger was a Korean War Veteran and a life member of the Disabled American Veterans Association.



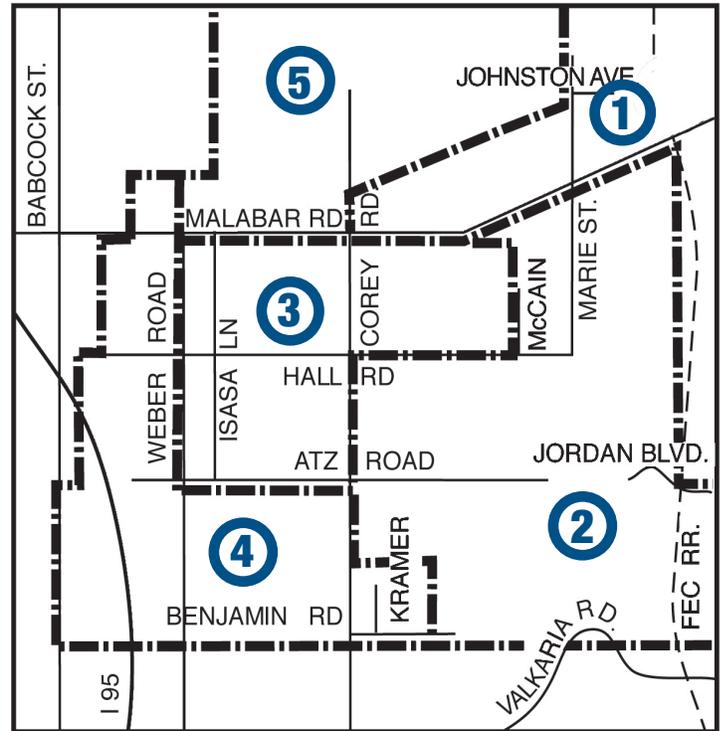
Those of you that knew Roger also knew he was a real jokester. He always had a good joke in his back pocket and would always say, "Stay out of the Trees"!

Roger never met a stranger, everyone seemed to know and respect him. He will be deeply missed by all his co-workers at the Town of Malabar, residents of Malabar, building contractors, and all those that had the pleasure to have met him. Our Prayers and Thoughts are with the Cloutier Family.

Know Your Representatives on Council

The Council members to the left represent these districts:

District 1: 727-1500	Grant Ball • 1190 Highway 1 CMDist1@townofmalabar.org
District 2: 543-3821	Brian Vail • 2700 Smith Lane CMDist2@townofmalabar.org
District 3: 724-2143	Don Krieger • 2345 Lineberry Lane CMDist3@townofmalabar.org
District 4: 288-9402	Dick Korn • 3115 Weber Rd. CMDist4@townofmalabar.org
District 5: 431-3846	Richard Kohler • 995 Falls Trail CMDist5@townofmalabar.org
Mayor 514-8623	Carl Beatty • 2944 Century Oaks Circle Mayor@townofmalabar.org
Town Admin/ Code Enforc.	Doug Hoyt dhoyt@townofmalabar.org Town Hall 727-7764 x13
Town Clerk/ Treasurer	Debby Franklin Town Hall 727-7764 x12 townclerk@townofmalabar.org
Dep. Clerk	Cindi Kelley 727-7764 ckelley@townofmalabar.org
County Comm.	Trudie Infantini, Dist. 3 952-6300 d3.commissioner@brevardcounty.us



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Paid
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