



THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 11 NO. 2 2nd QUARTER 2005

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 SPRINGFEST 2005

The Malabar Springfest celebration was a huge success. Fun was had by all who attended. An additional bonus for this event was that our brand new playground equipment was installed and we were able to have a ribbon cutting ceremony with Mayor Tom Eschenberg. For those who were not able to come out this year, there's always Malabar Springfest 2006. We have a lot of people and businesses to thank for the support that was given to the Town of Malabar. Without them, this event would not have happened. To all the local businesses and restaurants who donated gifts for the



raffles, our many thanks to you all. The names are so many, that I could not list them all, but please know that we truly appreci-

ated all of your efforts to help make this event as special as it was. We look forward to having your assistance with future events.



A special thank you to our sponsors, **Oakmont Preserve, O'Brien's Tractor Services, Inc. and Atlantic Coast Con-**

struction & Development for coming aboard and supporting Malabar Springfest. We truly appreciate the generosity shown to the Town. The Town of Malabar received many cash donations and in-kind donations as well. Without your support, it would have been very hard to provide such a great day. We had a great show of volunteers to assist throughout the day. Many thanks to you all and we hope that we can count on you for future events. The crafters/business vendors were a great success as well. Several vendors want to come back and participate in next year's event. We would love to have you. If you were not able to be with us this year, please contact Cindi Kelley, at Town Hall, and ask to be added to the list of vendors to be contacted when we get ready to work on the 2006 event.

I don't know if anyone noticed, but we had a professional photographer walking through the park this year. A picture slide show can be viewed by visiting

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Letter from the Town Administrator

By Ed Booth, Town Administrator

MALABAR WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES

With growth, more responsibility comes for the Public Works Department of the Town of Malabar. Because of more stringent State requirements and the findings of the Town of Malabar's auditors, the Town Council was faced with implementing several changes in the way we do business. At a recent workshop, the Town Council was given several alternatives regarding the utility services provided by the Town of Malabar. One alternative is to turn the entire operation over to Palm Bay. The other alternative is to establish our own Utility Department over the next few years. With the prospect of adding 400 more units over the next few years and having the ability to direct our future and being able to take care of our own emergencies, Town Council decided to establish our own Utility Department.

What will this mean to the individual customer? A \$250.00 impact fee, in addition to the \$750.00 impact fee paid to Palm Bay, will be placed on both the water and sewer for new customers with new construction. This will have no impact on existing customers. This money will be used to purchase equipment and a generator for the lift stations during emergencies. During the last hurricane season, the lift stations were close to overflowing. It was

with a great amount of effort by the Public Works Department that this did not happen. A three phase generator, costing approximately \$16,000, is a must. A rate increase of 10% will bring our rates to those of Palm Bay. This will take place in October, if voted on by the Town Council. These additional funds will go toward hiring a part-time individual to work on water and sewer issues.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me at Town Hall.

MALABAR PARK: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Town of Malabar is about to get the ball and soccer fields in operation. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to work to establish Malabar teams. The Town will assist in finding sponsors, providing support and initial equipment. This is a unique opportunity for individuals to be a part of your child's life and a part of our community. When my children were in their teens, I assisted with a soccer team that my daughter played on. I also participated in the Explorer Group that my son was involved with. These memories are the ones my children always talk about. Please contact me at Town Hall if you are interested in volunteering for the Malabar Community Park.

PASSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

These are the Resolutions and Ordinances that passed or failed since the last newsletter.

Ord 2005-01	Accessory use in the OI zoning for the housing of a caretaker or security guard serving a church or educational institution
Res 01-2005	Naming of Samantha Lane
Res 02-2005	Amending the Employee Manual
Res 03-2005	Amending Administrative Fees
Res 04-2005	Vacating a 40 ft by 395 ft right-of-way near Marshall Lane
Res 05-2005	Vacating a portion of Caraway Street and a portion of Dade Street in the Melbourne Heights area
Res 06-2005	Vacating a portion of Coriander Street and a portion of Feaverroot Street in the Melbourne Heights area

Town Happenings . . .

BRUSH FIRES

By Bryan Eriksen

With Malabar ever growing and people wanting to live in the rural settings of nature, the threat of wildfires and the risk of an urban interface brush fire increases every time a new home is built. The Malabar Volunteer Fire Department recognizes and affirms the unique and intrinsic worth of living in such a setting and will strive to train and equip each of the volunteers to the highest standards available to us to protect your home from these wildfires. We will treat all those we serve with compassion and kindness, while maintaining the highest standard of safety and service. However, we can't do it alone. We need your help! A good place to start is by removing any wood piled up along side of your home (firewood), cleaning out the gutters of debris and clearing pine needles off the rooftop, and trimming back any vegetation along the property line. Doing these few things will give us a defensible space to work in if a fire should break out. Also, please keep the pastures and fields well maintained and trimmed. If you see a fire, please call 911 immediately. Your best defense is for an early activation and response time from the Fire Department. If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Malabar Volunteer Fire Department at 725-1030 or Town Hall at 727-7764.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Town of Malabar is looking for interested parties to be a part of a new Board. This Board will be the Trails & Greenway Board, which will be in charge of maintaining the current multi-use trails and looking into acquiring new trails. Please, if you are interested, come to Town Hall and complete the appropriate board application. If you have any questions, please call Town Hall at 727-7764. Also, please be advised that we are always taking applications for all of the other boards as well.

GARBAGE PICK-UP

Based on numerous questions, we will be placing a detailed update on our website. This update will help to clarify what Waste Management does and how they collect household waste. The copy that we put on the website will also be available in the office if you would like to have a copy. This is coming to you via the site in the near future.

THE 2005 GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP - AKA TRASH BASH

By Carl Beatty

Thanks to everyone that made this year's Trash Bash a success. With a force of 96 highly motivated volunteers, 24,814 lbs of litter and debris was collected. This expression of community pride allowed the volunteers to demonstrate good stewardship of the community. The youth, working with positive role models, gained the satisfaction of giving back to the community to make this a better place.

Anne Crane and Susan Palmieri served as Co-Site Captains by greeting volunteers and handing out supplies. Our own Boy Scout Troop 37 and Cub Scout Pack 37 showed up in force along with Girl Scout Troop 1476 and Cub Scout Pack 57. Motorists on Weber Road observed Mayor Tom Eschenberg taking part in the litter patrol. Road guards for busy Malabar Road and a staffed ambulance were the Malabar Volunteer Fire Department's contribution to help make this a safe event.

Space does not allow the listing of everyone that donated their free time to make this event possible. Thanks again to everyone that made this year's Trash Bash one of the best ever.

NEWEST COUNCIL MEMBER

Former Council member Bob Rossman resigned his seat in Malabar's 5th District in March due to illness. The Town presented a plaque to him in thanks for his service as a Council member.

Appointed to replace him was Pat Dezman who was sworn in at the Monday, April 18 Town Council Meeting. Council member Dezman has lived in Malabar for the past nine years in Country Cove. Mrs. Dezman has served on numerous committees for the Town of Malabar and she comes to the Council with great knowledge and experience. These committees consist of: the search and selection of the new Town Administrator, the Charter, the Grievance Process and the Master Plan.

Please join the Town of Malabar in welcoming Pat Dezman as the newest member of Council.

EAGLE CORPS CITIZEN PATROL

By Nancy Conklin

HELLO MALABAR RESIDENTS!
Meet our new Eagle Corps graduates. . .

Paul and Jane Eden

Long time Malabar residents, formerly Michiganders, who enjoy sailing in the Caribbean, vacationing up north in the summer and visiting their triplet grandchildren in Hawaii. Retired and busy, they are happy to volunteer their time as Eagle Corps Members in helping keep Malabar residents safe.

John and Rose Futch

Busy, busy folks who are volunteers at our Fire Department. Rose works full-time at the Town of Malabar Building Department and John has been employed at Waring Bros. Cabinets, here in town, for 17 years. Presently he is a student at Keiser College. Thanks for squeezing the Eagle Corps patrol into your busy schedule.

Bob and Sue Rowan

Both hail from New York, retired early, came to Florida 10 years ago but have been Malabar residents for only one year. Bob, too, is a volunteer at our Malabar Fire Department. They love to travel and in between "get aways", they patrol as Eagle Corps members.

Let US watch your property - YOU enjoy your vacation

When you're ready to get away, remember we can keep an (eagle) eye on your property. Just stop by Town Hall and fill out a "**Citizen Vacation Watch Request**" form. Make sure you give us a "start and finish" date. You sign the request and we'll do the rest.

DID YOU KNOW:

The Town of Malabar Eagle Patrol DOES:

- Act as eyes and ears of the Town of Malabar
- Patrol residential areas - noting any suspicious or unusual activities
- Assist at crime scenes - collect evidence, take fingerprints
- Aids in traffic control
- Assist citizen(s) when applicable
- Attend community functions: i.e., Malabar Spring Fest

The Town of Malabar Eagle Patrol DOES NOT:

- Become involved in a potentially dangerous situation
 - Issue tickets
- Until next time, we'll keep watchin'.

News from the Building Department

From the Desk of Norm Smith, Building Official

After last hurricane season, we learned some very valuable lessons. It is very important to update your homeowner's insurance to cover costs to repair/rebuild. You should take pictures of your home and belongings, catalog and inventory them, and save any and all receipts of improvements. All of this should be done **BEFORE** a hurricane hits.

In the case of hurricane damage, you may request a self-inspection form from the Building Department. This is an inspection check-list of 16 key areas to evaluate after a storm has passed through. Please complete the form and attached the following documentation: at least four pictures, a signed/sealed letter from a Florida licensed and registered architect, engineer or building contractor. This form will also assist you in applying for FEMA assistance, insurance evaluations and any other assistance that may be available to you. In some cases, a follow up inspection may be required by the Building Inspector. Owners of Mobile Home Parks are encouraged to have these forms on hand ahead of time to give to their residents.

Many homeowners pulled permits as the owner/builder of their property to make hurricane repairs after last year's devastation. The Building Department requires owner/builders to sign certain documents that expressly describe their responsibilities. You must either do the repairs yourself or be on the job site supervising the sub-contractors. Sub-contractors must be properly licensed to do the work. If using an unlicensed contractor, you may face a \$5,000.00 fine from the Department of Professional & Business Regulation. The Town of Malabar's codes are available at www.municode.com (link on our web site). The Florida Building Code is available at the public libraries.

Please be advised that **YOU OR YOUR CONTRACTOR**, whoever is pulling the required permits, must provide to the Building Department a copy of your site plan and survey when you apply for permits. We do not keep copies of these documents in the office. Once permits are completed, they are kept here for one year and then get shipped off to our off-site storage facility.

Please be advised that building permits are required to do any construction, remodeling, docks, ponds, fences, tree removal and fill. If in doubt, please call

HURRICANE SEASON IS COMING

By Cindi Kelley

As you all know, hurricane season is just around the corner. There have been predictions of a bad season this year. We all know the damage and devastation that these storms can cause. I would like to give you some basic information regarding hurricane precautions, preparations and safety issues. Also provided are lists for a hurricane shelter and a disaster supply kit.

Before Hurricane Season starts:

1. Check your insurance policy for the proper coverage. If you are not sure of the coverage, call your insurance company and express your concerns. They will be able to provide you with advice on this matter.
2. Know the hurricane risks in your area; determine whether you live in a potential flood zone.
3. Know where the hurricane shelters are in your area.
4. Prepare a personal evacuation plan with your family.
5. Trim your trees and shrubs.
6. Buy plywood or shutters to protect the doors and windows of your home.
7. Make sure that your emergency equipment (flashlights & battery operated radios) are working. Make sure you have enough batteries on hand.
8. Make sure that you have enough non-perishable food and water for a two week period. The electric could be off for some time. Also, make sure that you have a hand-held can opener. This is very important if your electric is not functioning.

Before the Storm:

1. Listen to the radio frequently for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
2. Fuel and service family vehicles.
3. Have extra cash on hand.
4. Inspect and make sure your home is as secure as you can make it.
5. Check your non-perishable food and water supply. If needed, stock up as quickly as you can.
6. Fill all of your sinks and bathtubs with water. This will come in handy for bathing and flushing toilets, especially those of us with well/septic system homes.
7. Cover all windows and doors with shutters or other shielding materials.

8. Check batteries, first aid supplies and medications that you may need during the storm. If you are low on your prescription medications, call your doctor immediately so that you have time to get the prescription medications from the pharmacy. This is a very important issue.
9. Bring all light-weight objects, such as garbage cans, garden tools, toys and lawn furniture inside. This will keep these items from flying if the winds are strong and causing damage to someone else's property.

During the Storm:

1. Listen closely to the radio for official bulletins as to the storms progress.
2. Follow instructions issued by local officials. **LEAVE IMMEDIATELY IF TOLD TO DO SO!**
3. If you are evacuating, leave, if possible, during daylight hours. Stay with friends/relatives, stay at a low-rise inland hotel/motel, or go to a pre-designated public shelter outside a flood zone.
4. Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans.
5. If you are evacuating, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND.** If you can, find a shelter that will allow you to bring your pets, whether it's a shelter or another means of shelter.
6. Move to a safe area before you are cut off by flood waters.
7. Turn off all propane tanks.
8. Unplug all small appliances and shut down any and all computers. Make sure that your computer equipment is placed high up off the floor and you may want to cover it in plastic as extra protection.
9. If you are staying in your home, turn your refrigerator to the coldest setting and leave it closed.

After the Storm:

1. Listen to the radio for official bulletins of the storm.
2. Keep abreast of road conditions through the media. Wait until an area has been declared safe before entering.
3. Do not attempt to drive across flowing water. As little as 6" of water may cause you to lose control of your vehicle - 2 feet of water can carry most cars away.

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Hurricane Season con't

- Stay away from standing water. It may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- Have professionals check gas, water and electrical lines and appliances for damage.
- Use a flashlight for emergency lighting. Never use candles and other open flames indoors.
- Use tap water for drinking and cooking only when officials say it is safe to do so.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

What to Bring to a Shelter:

- First-aid kit
- Flashlight (one per person)
- Prescription medicines
- Extra batteries
- Baby food & diapers
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Cards, games, books
- Identification
- Toiletries
- Credit card or cash
- Battery-powered radio
- Valuable papers (insurance)

A Disaster Supplies Kit Should Include:

- 3-day supply of water (1 gal. per person/day)
- Prescription medicines
- Emergency tools
- One blanket or sleeping bag (per person)
- Flashlight, extra batteries
- Non-perishable food
- Extra set/car keys & credit card or cash
- One change of clothes & shoes per person
- Battery-powered NWR**and portable radio
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members

**NWR=National Weather Radio

I hope that this information will prove to be helpful to you and your families. Please put this portion of the newsletter some place safe and pull it out as a reminder for you. In times of emergencies, when everyone is rushed to get things done and prepared, it is not easy to remember all that we need to take with us or the things that need to be taken care before we have to leave our homes. Use these lists as gentle reminders in times of hurricane emergencies.

Kids Korner

Okay moms and dads, pass this newsletter over to the kids. We're going to let them have some fun with this issue of the newsletter too!

I have a word scramble for you. Do you remember the movie "Holes"? It is also a book. Perhaps you have read it in school or just for fun. Well, I have a word scramble just for you based on this movie/book. Here it is. I hope you have fun with it.

Find these words:

Madame Zeroni	Stanley Yelnats
Zero	Warden
Caveman	Camp Green Lake
Mr Sir	Big Thumb
Peaches	Onions
Rattlesnake	Lizards

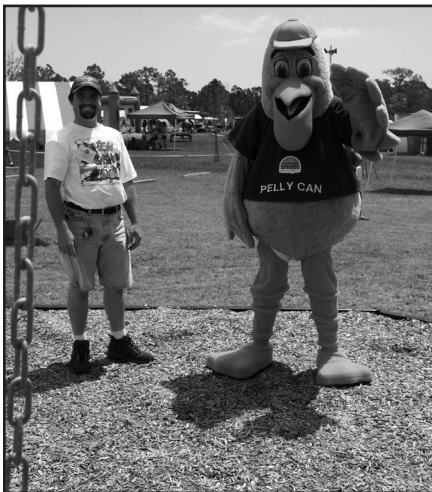
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T R R R T B H I D B H U L O M H G

Springfest con't

our website at www.townofmalabar.org, and clicking on Springfest. There are over 250 pictures to be viewed. Take a look, you just might find yourself having lots of fun!!! A few of the pictures are in this issue for your enjoyment.



If you are interested in participating in the planning of next year's event, we would love to have you on the Citizens Committee. We would also welcome any and all volunteers. We need all the assistance and volunteers that we can get. See you next year!!!



May is National Stroke Awareness Month

It takes the average person 13 hours to recognize the seriousness of stroke symptoms and get to a hospital. During this time, the brain suffers irreparable and otherwise treatable damage. Why does it take so long for someone to seek out medical attention for such a serious illness? Some people wait to report strokes because they believe them to be untreatable, while others simply don't know how to recognize the symptoms. According to the [National Stroke Association](#), the five most common and recognizable stroke symptoms include:

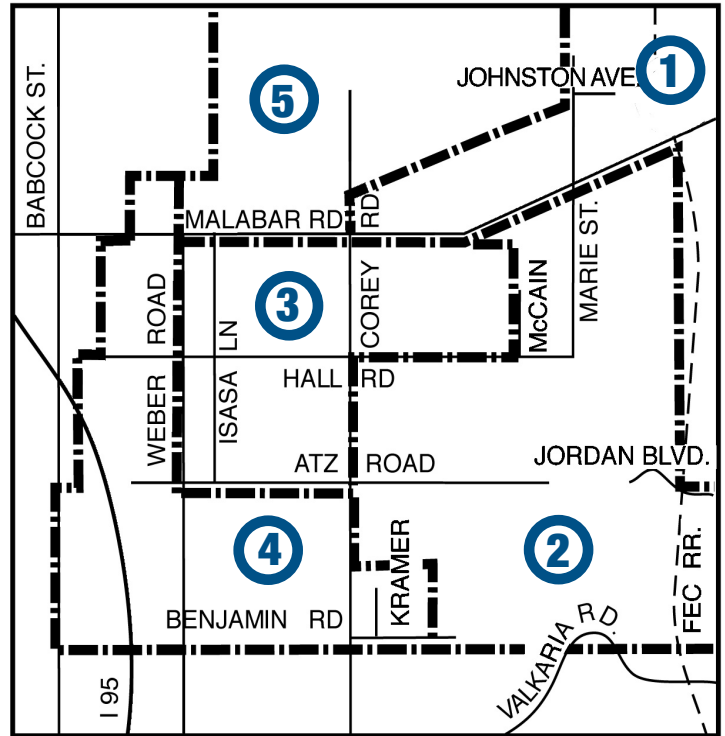
- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or inability to understand others
- Sudden trouble seeing from one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause

Stroke symptoms should not be taken lightly. If you experience or see someone else experiencing one of these symptoms call 911 immediately. Learning to recognize these symptoms may save your life or the life of someone you love. For more information, visit the WEB site of the [National Stroke Association](#).

Know Your Representatives on Council

The following Council members represent these districts:

District 1	Frank Hickson 2490 Nord St.	722-3882
District 2	Brian Vail 2700 Smith Lane	952-9110
District 3	Steve Rivet 2005 Rivet Lane	956-6551
District 4	Bobbi Moccia 3135 Kramer Lane	722-3447
District 5	Pat Dezman 1670 Country Cove	724-5817
Mayor	Tom Eschenberg 2835 Beran Lane	724-1007
Town Administrator	Ed Booth Town Hall	727-7764
Town Clerk/ Treasurer	Susan Kabana Town Hall	727-7764
Town Fax		722-2234
County Comm.	Helen Voltz, Dist. 3	952-6300



Editor - Cindi Kelley www.townofmalabar.org

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