



THE MAILBOAT

VOLUME 7 NO. 2 3rd QUARTER 2001

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.

YOU CAN SHAPE MALABAR'S FUTURE!

Malabar is growing and if you live in either District 4 or District 5, you can take an active part in shaping Malabar's future. The Council Member seats for District 4 and 5 are up for election this November, and **candidate qualifying begins on September 7th and ends on September 21st**. Tom Eschenberg has held the District 4 seat for the past six years, and Henry Dekker has been in the District 5 seat for the past six years. Due to Malabar's three-term limit both Mr. Eschenberg and Mr. Dekker are unable to run this November.

To be eligible to qualify you must be at least 18 years of age and able to prove that you have lived within the town limits for the past six months. Qualifying consists of obtaining 15 signatures of registered voters from your district and filling out the necessary paperwork. Confused about what district you live in? Look at the back page of this newsletter to determine your district.

And just a reminder that though you need to live within District 4 or 5 to qualify as a candidate for one of the open seats, in Malabar we vote 'at large' which means that all registered voters in Malabar (regardless of what district you live in) will vote on both seats on November

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS.....

Resolution 07-01 passed June 18, 2001, abandoning certain right-of-ways located within the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary as requested by the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program.

Resolution 10-01 passed July 2, 2001, changing the candidate qualifying period for the 2002 (next year's) general election. Qualifying will begin on August 23, 2002 and end on September 6, 2002.

Resolution 11-01 passed August 6, 2001, submitting a referendum to the voters of Malabar at the next general election to be held November 6, 2001, proposing a millage rate increase to cover expenses for parks and recreation.

Resolution 12-01 passed August 6, 2001, naming Orhangazi, Turkey as our Sister City, providing for a long-term exchange of cultural, professional, educational, and governmental ideas.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Do you have an interest in Parks and Recreation, or Planning and Zoning, or maybe even the Board of Adjustment? We have positions open on all of our boards! Parks and Recreation has three openings, Planning and Zoning has two openings and the Board of Adjustment has one opening. All openings are for alternate

positions. Being an alternate allows you to learn the current issues and how the board works. An alternate votes in the absence of a regular member and due to normal attrition, usually moves into vacated positions. Please call Town Hall if you are interested in serving on a board.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Hats off to our Fire Department and many thanks again! The Malabar Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated has just purchased a used ambulance and donated it to the town. They used funds derived from their popular hayride event and various donations given them by the residents. This is not the first time they have purchased a vehicle and donated it to the town. Two years ago they purchased a Jeep for Fire Department-related activities. They are a dedicated group of volunteers, and we appreciate all they do for us



The tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer field, and baseball field in Malabar Community Park are complete and ready for your use. Team play is on a first-come first-serve basis. If you are interested in league play, please contact Town Hall. We have plans to construct a concession stand, an additional restroom, and parking lot as funding becomes available

Thank you for your patience during the last series of rain storms. Some residents experienced flooding in the lower areas, and we were able to help as soon as we could get to them with our limited manpower. We are continuing to work on our larger drainage construction plans in conjunction with St. Johns Water Management. This project will continue as soon as properties can be purchased to hold some of the stormwater before it flows into Turkey Creek.

Council is working on the budget for next year, and we would appreciate citizen input. One of the items in the proposed budget is the continuation of our 3-year paving plan. In the coming fiscal year LaCourt Lane and the west end of Hall Road are scheduled for paving and construction is planned for October, 2001.

Sincerely



Bill Hall, Town Administrator

REFERENDUM FOR NOVEMBER 6TH BALLOT

The Town Council passed a resolution that will place a referendum on the ballot this November. If it passes the referendum would add .5 mil to your property tax for a period of three years. The revenue generated can only be spent on park improvements at Malabar Community Park.

Last fall Brevard County created the South Brevard Recreational District, and the voters approved a .6 mil tax increase for 20 years. That translates as an additional \$45 a year for residents with a \$100,000 home, with a homestead exemption, for the next 20 years. Over that period the taxpayers of Malabar would have contributed \$810,000 towards the South Brevard Recreational District, and none of the scheduled projects were located within Malabar. For this investment the County offered each municipality \$75,000 for recreational projects chosen by each city or town.

In Malabar the referendum failed by 38 votes. But due to the fact that the referendum passed overall in the South Brevard area, the Council was faced with opting-in or opting-out of the program. Because the referendum failed in Malabar the Council chose to opt-out, meaning that the taxpayers of Malabar would not be burdened over the next 20 years with the Brevard County Recreation Tax.

But Council felt that because the vote was so close, there may be enough interest that a similar, smaller-scale referendum should be put to the voters. So the Council passed a resolution that will put this issue to a vote of the people.

The following will be on the November 6th ballot:

"Referendum No. 1: Increase in Millage for funding the recreational needs within Malabar Community Park:

Shall the Town of Malabar assess an additional ad valorem tax of .5 mil (\$.50 per one thousand dollars of taxable assessed real property value), commencing in fiscal year 2002 and continuing for a period of three years, in order to provide for the park and recreational needs of the community. This money would be spent on capital improvements for Malabar Community Park, for projects such as, but not limited to, the construction of an irrigation system for the ball fields, to purchase maintenance equipment to maintain both the playing fields and the open park land, install dugouts and bleachers, purchase playground equipment, and provide for the lighting of the ball fields and courts.

_____ YES
_____ NO

Town Happenings . . .

WELL WATER/SEPTIC SYSTEM ADVISORY

After the rainfall we experienced this summer residents called Town Hall asking where they could have their well water tested. The Brevard County Environmental Health Department maintains a list of certified labs that can perform this testing. You can contact them at 633-2100.

If you notice any change to the color or taste of your water, or if you are unsure about the impact of flooding on the water quality in your neighborhood, you should boil all water used for drinking, cooking, washing dishes, etc. The recommended method for boiling water is to bring the water to a rolling boil for at least one minute. Bottled water may be substituted for all the same purposes. If your well becomes flooded, it must be disinfected and properly sampled for lab analysis.

MALABAR GAINS A SISTER CITY

On August 6, 2001 the Town Council named Orhangazi, Turkey as our Sister City. As a Sister Cities, Malabar and Orhangazi will exchange cultural, professional, educational, and governmental ideas. Kedret Koksai, the Attaché for Cultural and Educational Affairs in Orhangazi addressed the Council and presented the town with a gift of a beautiful painted tile. The tile is made by one of their local artisans using an ancient method handed down over the centuries.

Orhangazi is located on the shores of Lake Ionic in northwestern Turkey. This region has been an important center of agriculture for hundreds of years, and has recently been undergoing a period of rapid industrial development. This rapid development has caused problems with the loss of green areas, pollution of remaining natural resources, and population sprawl. The State of Florida's rapid population growth has caused similar problems. Orhangazi officials have learned of the success Malabar has had in addressing the problems of unchecked growth, of setting aside green spaces and protecting its environmental resources.

The purpose of contact between the two cities is the exchange of ideas on the control of rapid growth and associated problems and for Malabar and Orhangazi's officials and citizens to learn about each others' culture. We are excited about this connection with another part of the world. Look for more articles on Orhangazi in upcoming newsletters.

NOTES

Malabar T-shirts and car tags are available for sale at the Town Hall. Quantity discounts available.

RICHARD E. CAMERON & VOLUNTEERS WILDERNESS PRESERVE

To show appreciation the Town Council approved the naming of a the 100-acre parcel adjacent to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary the "Richard E. Cameron Sr. & Volunteers Wilderness Preserve." Richard insisted that the naming of the preserve give credit to the volunteers who give their time and share their skills. The 100-acre parcel was purchased through the Florida Communities Trust Preservation 2000 Program, and the signs naming the park will go up in the near future. This area has primitive trails and bridle paths and includes wetlands and scrub as well as pine flatwoods and hardwood hammocks.

This area is open to the public for passive recreation and the enjoyment of nature. Please respect the land by not littering or damaging anything during your visit. The rationale of the Florida Communities Trust Program is to acquire open spaces to reverse the development pattern of encroachment on fragile ecosystems while providing open space for conservative enjoyment. ATV's, 4-wheelers, and dirt bikes are not permitted on these properties. No motorized vehicles are permitted. These areas are patrolled by volunteers and the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. Work parties are still being organized to perform regular trail maintenance. If you have an interest in joining a work party please give Richard a call at 725-9932.

TRASH BASH NEWS

Malabar again placed first in the district competition at the Annual Trash Bash held on April 21, 2001. This annual event brings together neighbors, organizations, youth groups and others to help in cleaning up the litter others leave in Malabar. Once again Carl Beatty acted as Site Captain and provided the volunteers with pizza and soda. The date for next year's event is April 20, 2002.

MALABAR DAY 2002

What would you like to see at Malabar Day next year? The Park and Recreation Board is considering changing the theme of this annual event and is asking for input from residents. Malabar Day is a one-day event usually held between 11 and 5 on Saturday. The farm animals were popular with the young children this year; would you like to see more? Or maybe more entertainment? Please contact Town Hall (727-7764) with your suggestions. If you would like to attend a Park Board meeting, they are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 at Town Hall. Currently there are two openings on the Park Board if you would like to apply.

STORM DRAIN MARKER PROGRAM

In theory, only rainwater is supposed to flow from storm drains to the Indian River Lagoon. In reality, storm water carries lawn clippings, yard waste and a motley assortment of discarded trash to the lagoon and other waterways.

Malabar is among 15 cities to join Brevard County and the St. Johns River Water Management District's Indian River Lagoon program in an effort to heighten the public's awareness about the effects of stormwater pollution on the 156-mile-long waterway. Colorful urethane markers are being installed at thousands of storm water inlets throughout the county to remind folks that everything flowing down the gutters and ditches, be it storm water or garbage, eventually reaches the lagoon. Some cities are relying on legions of volunteers to install the markers; other cities are using Public Works crews to complete the task. Malabar recruited Girl Scout Troop 318 to attach the markers to storm drains. The blue-and-yellow markers feature a snook encircled by dual messages, "Flows to lagoon. Keep curbs clean."

"The majority of Brevard County's storm drains flow into the lagoon," says Marguerita Engel, a District intergovernmental coordinator involved in the project. "A great number of people don't think about where storm water goes. These markers may prompt them to consider how their actions directly affect the lagoon." Half of the \$28,000 project was funded through a grant from the Indian River Lagoon license plate program, Brevard County and each city funded the remainder.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

by Pat Benington

Getting to know our local business people is always interesting. I had the pleasure of meeting Don and Ann Krieger, owners of Krieger Publishing Company and Warrior Books, Inc. and their two cats; Booker and Cleocatra. Their businesses are located just off Malabar and Glatter Roads. The publishing company was started over 30 years ago in New York to fill a need in the scientific and technical fields and they moved to Malabar in 1981. Krieger's library editions are printed on acid-free paper and meant to last 100 years. Whenever possible, they use local goods and services and, as many of you know, have been very involved in the town.

The bookstore opened in 1990 in response to the needs of Krieger's clientele. Ann, who runs the bookstore, specializes in finding out-of-print books. They have books in many categories we don't necessarily think of as scientific or technical. Subjects such as herpetology (snakes), veterinary medicine, business management,

European/American History, travel, dinosaurs, nautical topics and hobbies, as well as books on computers, adult education, space and the sciences are all found on their shelves. Ann carries used and new scientific and technical text and reference books for the academic and professional communities. Many older publications are easier to use for research and teaching. She recently purchased a library of communications books on radar, microwave, and telecommunications and is in the process of putting them on the shelves.

They are the biggest little company in south Brevard and fill a niche for the scientific community. All of the manufacturing for their publications is done elsewhere in the county, this location is strictly for editorial and warehousing of books and pamphlets.

The majority of their sales come over the internet via their web sites: www.warriorbooks.com, and www.krieger-publishing.com. The bookstore hours are Monday through Friday 9:30 to 5:30 and Saturday by appointment only. If you can't find what you are looking for at one of the big chain bookstores, just call Warrior Books they can probably get it for you. If you have a chance stop by and browse through Ann's book shelves, I think you'll be surprised at the wide range of topics she has available.

WHAT ARE PRECAUTIONARY AND MANDATORY BOIL WATER NOTICES?

Malabar has two subdivisions on city water managed by the Town of Malabar and provided by the City of Palm Bay. Last July during a water main break in the Brook Hollow Subdivision there was some confusion about the precautionary boil water notice.

It is important to realize the difference between a precautionary and a mandatory boil water notice. The notice given last July was precautionary in nature which means that though the water system was compromised, water should be boiled only as a precautionary measure. A mandatory boil water notice means that the water system has been compromised, and all water used for drinking, cooking, washing dishes, etc., must be boiled. The recommended method for boiling water is to bring the water to a rolling boil for at least one minute. Bottled water may be substituted for all the same purposes.

The water main break in July happened at the end of the day, and staff felt it was best to notify each homeowner with a flyer about the notice. After the water passed testing for two consecutive days we were allowed to rescind the precautionary boil water notice. We notified the media and the Brook Hollow Community Association regarding the rescinding notice.

Building Official's Report

By Jim Phelps, CBO

Building Permits; the term "building permit" has become a common term for many different types of permits required to do work. Some examples of permit types are building, electrical, plumbing, gas, roofing, solar systems, furnaces, air-conditioning, swimming pools, pool enclosures, ponds, fill, fences, accessory structures, culverts, signs, etc.



Why should I get a permit? My neighbor didn't get one, and he didn't get caught. There are many reasons; let's look at your benefit first, safety, how important is yours and that of your family? If you had a fire, what is your chance of getting out? What will be the property loss? If we have a storm, will your improvements stand and protect your home or come loose and become part of what damages your home or someone else's? Will it be wind-borne debris and maybe take someone's life? These are only a few of the questions that you should ask yourself if you consider doing work without a permit. When you submit an application for a permit, we review the drawings for code compliance. We conduct inspections, and we look for answers to the above questions as part of the process. If you are doing your own work or if you contract with someone, it makes no difference the process is the same. Often when a loss occurs and an insurance claim is filed, the insurance company will check the building department records to verify that a permit was obtained and what inspections were performed. If there is no permit record, full coverage may not be provided.

Remember the property owner is responsible to ensure that a permit is obtained and posted for any work unless it is determined by the building official that no permit is required. There is an automatic penalty if work is started without a permit; it is one hundred percent (100%) of the permit fee, or fifty dollars (\$50.00), whichever is greater. Most of the time the way we find out about work without a permit is by a neighbor, a contractor that didn't get the job or personal observation. **Please, if you are not sure if you need a permit call 727-7764 and ask.** We will be glad to help. Do not rely on the seller for permit information.

Keep in mind hurricane season is here. Now is the time to make preparations. Don't wait until a storm is ap-

proaching to try to get ready; make your plans now. Last year, we were very fortunate. We must be prepared for the worst. Some of the things we should check are as follows: Ensure utility buildings are properly tied down. Straps should go over the top of the building and be secured to ground anchors. Fencing should be sturdy and not move back and forth. Check privacy fences for deteriorated posts, stringers and slats. Remove miscellaneous items from your yard. The most common items are building materials, automobile parts, trailers and boats. They may become missiles propelled by the wind against your building or someone else's. Newer buildings are designed and constructed to withstand winds up to 100 MPH. However, when an object is blown against a structure and ruptures the outside walls, windows, or eaves, it allows the pressures to change on or in the structure so that severe damage is probable. Manufactured home residents should make sure that aluminum additions are tied down to reduce the danger of being lifted. Seek shelter early when a hurricane is approaching. In manufactured home communities, the winds tend to damage the screen room and/or carport first. That damage will often cause siding and/or roof failure which may lead to total destruction of the home.

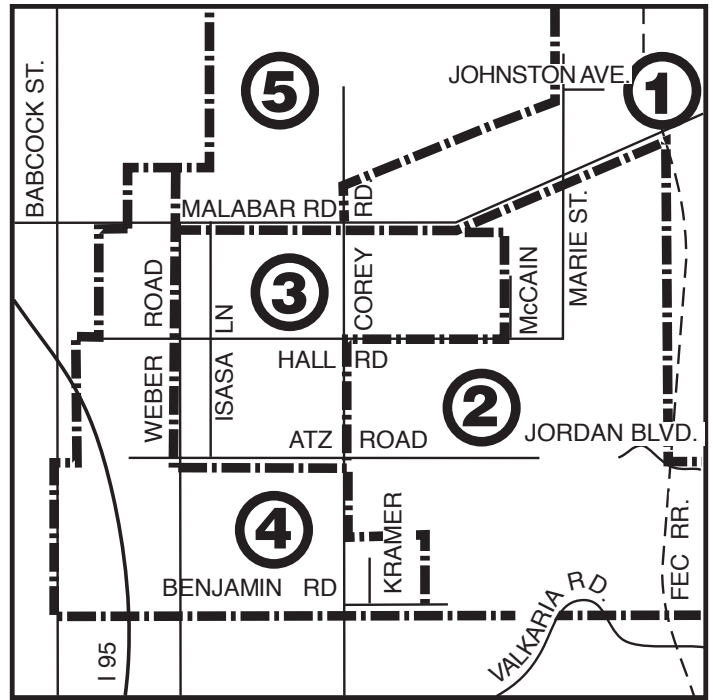
Let's all work together to make this a safe year, and in the event of a storm, keep damage to a minimum. We are continuing to prepare in the event of a severe storm to be able to provide the necessary services to restore damages as quickly as possible.

One last item, many properties do not have properly posted address numbers on the front of the buildings. Address numbers are very important to you for 911 emergency services. I am asking for your cooperation by posting the required numbers. Numbers must be a contrasting color with the surface they are mounted on. Numbers for residences must be four (4) inches high and all other buildings six (6) inches high. All numbers must be on the front of the building close to the entrance, or at the entrance to the property if the building is not visible. All buildings must have the address numbers be visible from the road in front of the property. Please, if your address numbers are not posted, post them now. Many mail box posts have the numbers on them but are not contrasting colors, they must be contrasting colors visible from both directions and at least three (3) inch high numbers.

Know Your Representatives on Council

The following Council members represent these districts:

District 1	Nancy Tinio-Borton 141 Riverview Drive	953-3912
District 2	Charlene Horton 2175 LaCourt Lane	727-2194
District 3	Steve Rivet 2005 Rivet Lane	956-6551
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 Kabana Town Hall	727-7764
Town Fax		722-2234
County Comm.	Nancy Higgs, Dist. 3	952-6300



Editor - Susan Kabana www.malabartown.org

This newsletter was published by Data Management.

