



## Dolphin Award nominations sought

Nominations are being sought for the annual Malibu Times Citizens of the Year Dolphin Awards.

The purpose of the Dolphin Awards program is to recognize outstanding efforts of individual Malibu citizens and, by acknowledging and publicizing their contributions, inspire others.

Readers are invited to submit nominees worthy of being considered for a Dolphin Award, individuals who have made outstanding contributions to improving one or more aspects of Malibu's community life.

Dolphins are a very diverse group. Some Dolphins may have many years of achievement; others have only recently found an important way to serve. Some have been involved in multiple activities; others have focused on one or two. Some are business professionals, politicians or educators, while still others are retirees, retailers, restaurateurs, homemakers or students. Their interests are as diverse as they are and range from environmental protection to wildlife rescue to education, literacy, the arts, health and safety, teen programs... the list goes on and on.

To submit a nominee, write at least one page describing your nominee's contribution and why you think that person should be considered.

Please include enough information (several paragraphs at least) for the editorial/publishers board to be able to make an informed decision.

**The deadline is Jan. 31.**

Be sure to include his/her contact information. Mail or e-mail to [agork@malibutimes.com](mailto:agork@malibutimes.com) and to [Knowles@malibutimes.com](mailto:Knowles@malibutimes.com); 3864 Las Flores Canyon Rd., Malibu, CA 90265.



From the Publisher  
**Arnold G. York**

## Around the town

This week we've begun the first of a series of stories about the Planning Department's intention to implement a requirement created 20 years ago by the first city council that 50 named businesses in Malibu must apply for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) if they want to keep operating. The planning department seems to be struggling with the issue about how they should notify these 50 businesses rather than the real question: is this something we really want to do? Are we prepared to follow, robot-like, a 20-year-old directive, or are we going to bring this back to the council for a complete, frank and open discussion about the future of these 50 named businesses? I'm beginning to suspect that some on the council are clueless about what's going on.

The Congress, on the other hand, seems to be coming out of its state of cluelessness with the understanding that Americans want them to act and actually start governing. Not only that, but they're actually beginning to see that it's also good politics to stop posturing and actually govern. This time there was no government shutdown, and it looks like the silly, and very nonproductive, debt ceiling games are finally coming to a halt. Immigration and the Farm bill are back on the agenda. Even all the wild shouting about Obamacare seems to be quieting down somewhat, as more people get signed up for the program. Of course, this could all change suddenly if the Tea Partiers who are challenging the incumbent Republicans start winning in the primaries. But it looks to me that many traditional Republicans are digging in their heels and saying "enough." The primaries will tell the story.

I've embarked on a new adventure. I've joined Weight Watchers to finally lose the 20 pounds I've been trying to lose for the last 20 years. Actually, it started out as 15 pounds, but I got so anxious about it that I gained another

five pounds just from worrying. For any of you considering taking the plunge, there is a meeting every Monday night at 6 p.m. at the Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue and we need more people, so come join. Losing umpteenth pounds is one of those perennial resolutions that many of us make over the New Year's holiday, but it really boils down to the fact that we all eat a lot of junk. One of the values of a program is that you have to write everything, which today means keeping score of your points on your smart phone. That tempting piece of pizza looks horrible when you look it up and find out it's going to cost you 11 points, so it makes it much easier to say no.

The Sage Room, a wonderful restaurant formerly at the corner of PCH and Kanan Dume Road has closed its doors, although there is another Sage Room in Agoura run by the same people. It's sad to see some of the old regulars fold their tents. I guess it's balanced out with the opening of the old Casa Escobar reopening at the Malibu Inn after a major renovation and cleanup.

If any of you have any nominations for Dolphin awards, please send us a letter or email with details. Sometimes people nominate someone, but don't give us enough information to help make a decision. Remember, we get many more nominations every year than we have winners, so don't be hesitant to resubmit a nomination. We're looking for people who have made a contribution to our community, who have helped to make Malibu what it is. There is no hard and fast set of criteria, although we do try to recognize people from different walks of life, different ages and for different accomplishments. Email the nominations to us at [agork@malibutimes.com](mailto:agork@malibutimes.com) or [knowles@malibutimes.com](mailto:knowles@malibutimes.com). We've also reprinted the names of previous winners in this paper.

## Letters to the Editor

The Malibu Times requests that letters to the editor be sent by U.S. mail or hand-delivered to The Malibu Times, 3864 Las Flores Canyon Rd., Malibu, CA 90265; e-mailed to [malibunews@malibutimes.com](mailto:malibunews@malibutimes.com) or by fax to 310.456.8986. **Name, address and phone number must be included with all letters for verification purposes.**

Typed letters must use sentence case (please avoid submitting correspondence typed entirely in capital letters or in cursive). **Letters should be brief, 350 words maximum, and may be edited for clarity or length. Deadlines are Tuesdays at noon.**

### Road CATastrophe

On Monday morning there was a dead mountain lion on Kanan Road. The cat was a juvenile with no collar. Immediately after my sighting, I was fortunate that I found a State Park ranger who took care of removing the remains.

I somehow find it odd that you equate living in Malibu as "discomforting" or as privileged when regarding an animal's sex life. This juvenile cat was just trying to cross the road, and I doubt it was up to any hanky-panky.

**Lisa Niles-Gutierrez**

### Hands-on learning

Craig Foster recently responded to the Malibu High School parents mailing list, regarding water testing in our public schools. Thank you, Craig, for your important thoughts.

I would like to echo those thoughts and call upon our schools to use this unfortunate event as an opportunity to learn.

Our children are our future leaders. They need to understand the issues we face, become bold question askers and creative thinkers so that they may solve critical problems.

Our schools should be study-

ing these environmental issues in science classes, writing about them in English, expressing our feelings about them in art. Field trips should be taken to our precious ocean. Schoolwide green projects should be initiated.

Our children's education must expand beyond the solitude of their desks and the boundaries of the classroom. Learning should be real and vibrant. Their education should focus on real life issues.

Our children should be encouraged to ask questions, to wonder, to ponder, to create. Every hand that is raised should be called on. Our children's voices must be heard.

The world needs them. Together, can we make a difference.

**Dana Friedman**  
*Juan Cabrillo parent*

### Salaries out of line

City of Malibu salaries published Jan. 23 should not be compared to what city employees earn in surrounding communities like Agoura Hills, Westlake Village and Calabasas. It's comparing apples to oranges. Jim Thorson, our city manager, earns \$273,606 plus

annual benefits, which is \$50,000 more than city managers in those other cities.

Agoura Hills has a population of 20,657 and is 7,822 square miles in size. Malibu has a population of 12,000 and is a very small city - only 27 miles long and a few miles wide.

The other cities Malibu is being compared to are much larger cities. They handle their own business licenses and maintain all of their streets and public amenities.

Malibu's property taxes, business licenses, public health issues, animal services and a host of other community services are maintained by Los Angeles County.

PCH, our main street, and other main roads, like Malibu Canyon and Kanan, are maintained and funded by Cal Trans and the State of California, leaving our City Manager Jim Thorsen, Public Works Director Bob Brager and Assistant City Manager Reva Feldman twiddling their thumbs.

Christi Hogin, our city attorney, is another story. Hogin became a millionaire during her tenure with the city of Malibu.

A comparison city for the city of Malibu should be the city of Bell.

**James Scott**

## Dolphin Winners 1990-2012

<b>1990</b> Caggiano, Mike Keller, Walt Merrick, Judge John Sheridan, Monsignor John Van Horn, Carolyn Wan, Larry & Sara Zeitsoff, Missy Mauro, Capt. Don Cairns, Pat Edmiston, Joe Harris, Dr. Jeff Reynolds, Dr. Susan Vogler, Maggie	<b>1991</b> Bloomfield, Ron Fulton, Ann Hope, Bob Jennings, Jeff Pepperdine Volunteers Radefield, Paul Russell, Sandy Templeman, Reeves & Reta	<b>1992</b> Banducci, Sandi Baskin, Harvey Bateman, Dr. Scott Benatar, Pat Blackwood, Mary Lou Chesterfield, Richard Crummer, Roy Demby, Beryl Frampton, Mary Keller, Lucile L.A. Co. Lifeguards L.A. Co. Fire L.A. Co. Sheriff's Weisman, Fred R. Wolpert, Russ	<b>1993</b> Barrett, Diane Brosnan, Pierce Cooper, Marty Goldman, Ron Kouba, Matt Lemond, Rob Schlossberg, Carl Shapiro, Renny Taki, Beverly Worth, Rev. David York, Arnold & Karen	<b>1994</b> Cameron, Barbara	<b>1995</b> Willson, Shirley Pierson, Lt. Jim Spanier, Howard O'Brien, Doug Kennedy, Ben Drobnick, Lou Hays, Gretchen Herson, Rabbi Benjamin Kilday, Ruth Taylor Loo, Mona	<b>1996</b> Fakehany, Tom Foster, David Jarvis, JoAnna Kramer, Jeff Matthews, Mike Payne, Anne Stevens, Agnes Konheim, Lyn & Perenchio, John	<b>1997</b> Cott, Phil Glass, Betty Grisanti, Sara Yarnell, Kathryn O'Connor, Terry Soloway, Natalie Dmytryk, Rebecca Marowitz, Charles Coatsworth, Honey Ford, Lee Hayes, Ronn Peacock, Rev. Larry	<b>1998</b> Baldwin, Diane Ball, Mark Harlow, John Maginnis, Jeanette Stotsenberg, Ed & Dorothy Sunderland, Maud-Ann	<b>1999</b> Barsocchini, Barbara Curtis, Lisa & Bill Hammond, Beverly Himmelfarb, Doug Ravaglioli, Steven & Lockrem, Bonnie Reynolds, Kristin Schultz, Jack Winger, Nidra Zakian, Michael	<b>2000</b> Barovsky, Harry Brown, Leland, Fire Capt. Estill, Wayne & Beverly Fogg, Jo Hoffman, Ann Roney, Deirdre Sills, Lauren Malibu Association of Contractors	<b>2001</b> Armstrong, Bill & Virginia Cornucopia Farms Cox, Shelley Hart, Robert (Bob) Hasse, Tom Meckler, Zane Zahn Rosenthal, Laura Stoker, Dermot Yorkin, Peg	<b>2002</b> Emerson, Allen, Arson Watch Baylin, Sherman Ferguson, Ann Katz, David, Malibu Film Festival Legaspi III, David Matlow, Marlene Silna, Ozzie Volunteers/Docents—Adamson House / Lagoon Museum	<b>2003</b> Dillon, Carol Eisenberg, Helene Greenwood, Pat Lawrence, Lilly	<b>2004</b> Bridgeman, Jacqueline Davis, Rich House, Joan Johnson, Lea and Leon Leoni, Tea Randall, Carol Walraven, Wes Malecha-Bricklin Family	<b>2005</b> DeJoria, John Paul and Eloise Gabbard, Kay Giese, Jo Latta, Shari Lyons, David and Tallal, Scott Malibu Legacy Park Project Solis, Dede Soboroff, Steve, Richard Green and Michael Koss	<b>2006</b> Anthony, Peter and Elizabeth, & La Gorce Kramer, Deborah Bowen, Candace Brosnan Shaye, Keely Kim, Chi Kmicc, Carol & Duke Mitze, Marnie Klein, Bob Linke, Cindy Reiss, Bonnie Shraibati, Tarek	<b>2007</b> Devin, Judi Duff, Susie Greene, Francine Haines, Matt Kearsley, Ken KNX 1070 Radio News Team Landworth, Aaron Optimist Club of Malibu Ravaglioli, Raquel First Responders	<b>2008</b> Deutch-Adler, Alexis Caraway, Debrah Cortazzo, Chris Drescher, Fran Friedman, Jonathan Gray, Rebecca Newman, Maria and Scott Hosfeld Kagan, David	<b>2009</b> Barovsky, Sharon Buxie, Ann Cooper, Leon Posey, Erica Ludwig, Cindy Merriman, Ron Stern, Andy Zambetti, John	<b>2010</b> Bass, Shelby Baghdasarian, Zare and Seda Bergen, Rod Cole, Steve and Debra Van Dyke, Dick Miehle, Violet Petretti, Justine Ross, Robyn Singer, Ray	<b>2011</b> Cook, Kathy Dermenjian, Ani King, Georgia Krasner, Benjamin Lampson, Kurt Sutton, Bob and Jackie Conley Ulich, Pamela and Wagner, Jefferson "Zuma Jay"	<b>2012</b> Espinoza, Michael Forge, Daniel and Luciana Cantor Gindlin, Marcelo Johannessen, John Karatz, Bruce Miller, Michael and Evans, Joseph Mondragon, Oscar Templeton, Martha Villemort, Daniel Farrer, Karen; Foster, Craig, and Jacobson, Seth
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