



Historic Calabasas pet memorial holds special place in heart of pet owners.  
Malibu Life: B1



New program, founded by local parents, helps adults with disabilities.  
Malibu Life: B1

# The Malibu Times

March 13, 2014 | [www.MalibuTimes.com](http://www.MalibuTimes.com)

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## New store in town



Market Director Eric Fuchser and Assistant General Manager Sandra Gilmer, along with family members, cut the ribbon at the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of Vintage Grocers. See more photos on page A11 and for video, visit [malibutimes.com](http://malibutimes.com).

Julie Ellerton / TMT

## Netanyahu closures infuriate Malibu residents, officials

City says it didn't know of lane blockages in advance. Motorists report spending hours in traffic traveling eastbound across town.

By Melissa Caskey  
Staff Writer

While Hollywood royalty rubbed elbows with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Malibu's "Billionaire's Beach" last Wednesday night, traffic outside of the beachfront home along Pacific Coast Highway was an unforeseen fiasco.

The highway mess left city officials and residents outraged at federal authorities for blocking eastbound two lanes of PCH more



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

than nine hours. All cars headed eastbound in the 22400 block of PCH on Carbon Beach were diverted to a single median lane.

"This was just unconscionable. See Netanyahu, page A10

## Candidates tout backgrounds, differ on chain store initiative

Rotary Club debate covers chain store controversy, candidate experience.

By Melissa Caskey  
Staff Writer

The Malibu Rotary Club hosted a City Council Candidates Forum last Wednesday where the five candidates were pressed on their stances regarding commercial development, sporting field shortages and past civic experience.

Malibu Times Managing Editor Knowles Adkisson moderated the forum, which was attended by about 25 people at Pepperdine's Graziadio School of Business.

### Candidates react to Rob Reiner group's chain store initiative

The hottest topic seemed to be a new draft ballot initiative from the group Save Malibu, backed by Rob and Michele Reiner. The "Your Malibu, Your Decision Act" seeks to limit the size and number of chain stores allowed in Malibu and require voter approval on the construction of shopping centers over 20,000 square feet in size. The Reiners hope to get the initiative on a November ballot.

When asked if the recently submitted ballot initiative to regulate chain stores in Malibu was a referendum on the current City Council's leadership, councilmembers La Monte and Rosenthal refuted the question. Both touted current plans by the city to implement a one-year cap on chain stores in the Malibu Civic Center and concurrently draft a specific plan for the civic center.

"I think [the referendum] is a See Debate, page A12

## Justice Alito speaks at Pepperdine event

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito offers advice to young lawyers and says State of the Union addresses are increasingly difficult for justices to attend.

By Karina Saranovic  
Special to The Malibu Times

More than 700 people gathered at the Pepperdine University School of Law's annual Dinner in downtown Los Angeles on Saturday to hear Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito speak on the challenges of serving on the bench, as well as his life leading up to the Supreme Court.

Attorney and Pepperdine alumnus Mark Hiepler moderated the discussion.

President George W. Bush nominated Alito to the Supreme Court in 2005 and the Senate confirmed Alito with a vote of See Alito, page A9

## Council approves five-year Bluffs/Charmlee park lease swap

Also votes to nix cell antenna, questions weight capacity of power poles.

By Melissa Caskey  
Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council on Monday unanimously approved a finalized agreement to swap its lease on 532-acre Charmlee Wilderness Park for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's lease on 83 acres of Bluffs Park.

The council also rejected a telecommunication company's application to install a tenth T-Mobile cell phone antenna node on a utility pole in Point Dume, citing concerns about pole-overloading and the need for a citywide study of power poles' ability to handle extra weight.

The controversial park exchange gives both the city and the conservancy up to five years to explore possible uses and development at each site. No actual development or construction can take place while the lease swap is in effect, but the city is expected to extensively research the possibility of building a sports and recreational area at Bluffs Park.

The SMMC is expected to push for the installation of campsites at Charmlee, something nearby See Council, page A10

## School board inks environmental consultant contract

Boardmembers question why hourly rates for consultant not included in deal, and extent of board's future input into testing.

By David Mark Simpson  
Special to The Malibu Times

Despite not being given cost estimates, a contract with

the new firm set to oversee the Malibu High School clean-up was approved at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday night last week.

The costs for the next steps in a process on which the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has already spent at least \$400,000 are still unknown and See BOE, page A9

## City Council candidate profile: Hamish Patterson

The Malibu Times will run one candidate bio and profile each week leading up to the April 8 election. The order of the candidate profiles was selected at random. For full transcripts of each interview, visit [malibutimes.com](http://malibutimes.com).



By Knowles Adkisson  
Managing Editor

Hamish Patterson is a carpenter, artist and self-described YouTube personality who is running in his second race for Malibu City Council. Patterson, 44, was born in Boston, Mass., but grew See Patterson, page A12

## Opening Day



Photo courtesy of Robert La Bonge

The 2014 Malibu Little League season kicked off March 8 at Bluffs Park with hundreds of Malibu parents and children in attendance. See page B12 for complete story.

### INSIDE

Malibleu Gallery hosts an exhibition of William Laga's work. Photos, B4



Malibu Times publisher Arnold York endorses Laura Rosenthal and Lou La Monte in upcoming 2014 election. Opinion, A4

FCC approves construction of Malibu radio station. News Briefs, A3

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