

News Briefs

FCC approves construction of Malibu radio station

The wheels keep turning on plans to give Malibu a radio station, as local activist Hans Laetz received approval on Monday from the FCC to install a radio station transmitter at Zuma Beach.

Officially dubbed KBU 97.5, Laetz said the next steps to get the station up and running will be fundraising to pay for the transmitter and organizing the overwhelming number of pitches for shows and DJs he's received since *The Malibu Times* first reported his radio station endeavor in December. The transmitter is tentatively scheduled to be located at the new Point Dume Fire Station 71, which is still under construction. However, other site options are being explored.

KBU 97.5 should be "a historic call sign for old Malibu people. Falcon Cable had a cable-only radio station called KBU in Malibu decades ago. Some of my [potential] volunteer programmers used to have radio shows on the old KBU," Laetz told *The Malibu Times*.

Laetz is still awaiting construction approval of a second radio station in eastern Malibu, 99.1. If approved, the station's second signal could expand coverage as far as Topanga.

Other local stations such as KCRW Santa Monica, KCLU Thousand Oaks and KPCC Pasadena are all "very supportive" of the new Malibu station, Laetz said.

Important election dates for April 8

The city clerk's office began mailing out ballots to permanent vote-by-mail residents on Tuesday, March 11 for the upcoming Malibu City Council election.

City Clerk Lisa Pope said her office began processing new vote-by-mail requests this week and mailing those out as well. March 24 is the last day to register to vote. Voters have until April 1 to request vote-by-mail ballots. Sample election ballots were mailed out to all registered Malibu voters on Feb. 27 who do not vote by mail. Election day is Tuesday, April 8.

Car plows through 76 gas station sign



Meissa Caskey/TMT

A 76 gas station on the corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Corral Canyon Road got a rude wake-up call Wednesday morning when a driver crashed through the station's corner signage.

The crash occurred around 4:30 a.m. when a male driver either lost control of his vehicle or fell

asleep at the wheel on the west-bound side of PCH, according to Sgt. Slutske of the Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's Station. It is not known whether speed, drugs or alcohol were factors in the crash, Slutske said. The driver suffered head trauma and was airlifted to Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in

Mission Hills.

The signature 76 globe was destroyed in the crash, along with signage that displays gas pricing. One unnamed witness reported hearing thunder-like sounds and seeing some flames emerge from under the vehicle.

Deer killings near Big Rock worry neighbors

Five reported attacks on deer have occurred in the Big Rock and Carbon Mesa areas of Malibu over the last several weeks, sparking neighborhood concern.

Up to this point, it is unclear what type of predator killed the deer, although speculation has led some to theorize it could be the work of one or more coyotes or potentially a mountain lion.

Residents, however, should not be too concerned about the risk of mountain lion attack, according to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

"Human beings are not on their

menu," said Rebecca Barboza, a wildlife biologist for the CDFW, who added that the general rule when face-to-face with a mountain lion is to make oneself appear larger than the animal.

Rich Davis, a Carbon Mesa resident of 50 years, found a partially eaten deer carcass in front of his home two weeks ago, with a leg and hip joint in the front yard of the residence, entrails on the driveway of the home and a ribcage found later in nearby bushes.

"There were signs of a scuffle," Davis said. "There was dirt knocked into the driveway from my garden."

Davis suspected it was a stealth, quiet attack.

"We would've heard coyotes if they were coyotes," he said. "If it was

a coyote or a pack of coyotes because they make a noise if they're feeding... and our dog didn't get upset, meaning the kill must've been very quiet."

According to Barboza, this is not an indication that coyotes were not involved, as they, like many predators, will silently stalk their prey before springing into an attack.

The CDFW has been made aware of the string of killings, although its representatives have not had the opportunity to examine the animal remains.

"Coyotes prey on smaller animals—rodents, reptiles, ground nesting birds, pets—not to say they wouldn't attack a deer," said Barboza, before adding that coyotes often hunt in packs, while mountain lions almost

always hunt alone.

Barboza emphasized the fact that wild animals do not have one uniform predatory method that would definitively indicate whether or not the deer were killed by coyotes or mountain lions. However, there are general techniques that vary between the two species that could give clues as to which one carried out the attacks.

"Most predators start with internal organs," said Barboza.

Big Rock Newsletter editor Jo Drummond collected information on the slayings, coming up with the total of five over the course of January and February.

Although it cannot be proven one way or another if these attacks were caused by mountain lions, Barboza provided advice for Big Rock and Carbon Mesa residents on ways to keep mountain lions at bay.

"The most important thing to recognize is they do live in mountain lion habitat," said Barboza. The best ways to keep mountain lions out of residential areas are to make sure that their primary prey, mule deer, are not attracted to the area, she said, sug-

gesting that removing things deer are attracted to and even changing landscaping to add plants that deer don't like could be options.

There have been no reports of dead deer in the area since Feb. 17.

If you are to see a mountain lion, reports can be sent to the regional headquarters of the CDFW.

City of Malibu publishes water conservation policies

The City of Malibu has released revised water use policies, following the announcement of a drought emergency by California Governor Jerry Brown on Jan. 17.

The guidelines have been set in place to help conserve water and use water more efficiently, as Malibu, according to the city's website, depends on imported water for almost all of its drinking water.

The policies put forth by the City of Malibu are encouraged but not mandatory.

The policies are as follows:

-Irrigation is prohibited during day-

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Obituary

Lawrence Irvin Ivey

Lawrence Irvin Ivey, who has been described as a true Malibu local, was born on May 4, 1930, and passed away on March 11. Lawrence moved to Ramirez Canyon in Malibu in 1955 where he continued to live for almost 60 years.

"He loved living in Malibu and was an active member of the community," a loved one said. He was a proud UCLA alumni and Korean war veteran, where he served in the Air Force.

Lawrence was a retired electrical engineer from Hughes Aircraft where he worked in the aerospace industry.

"Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, he will be dearly missed by many," a family member said.



Funeral services will take place on Tuesday, March 18, at 12:30 p.m. at Los Angeles National Cemetery, 950 S. Sepulveda Blvd. He will be buried with military honors and all are invited to attend.



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