



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 07-15-16

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Harbor Department- Fourth of July Weekend

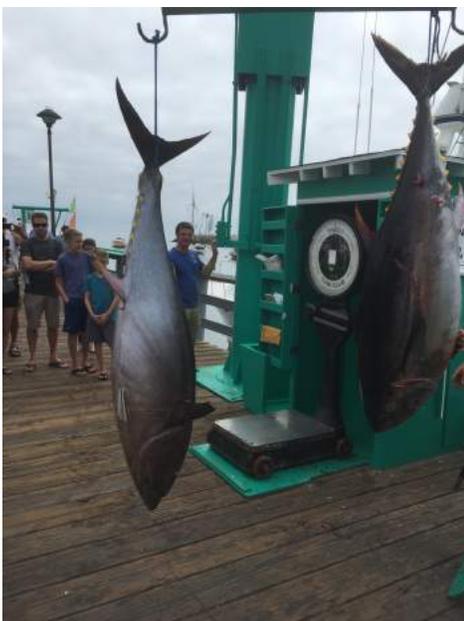
Avalon was the place to be for Fourth of July. With favorable weather and the charm of the town, Avalon Harbor was at 128% Occupancy with 88% of the moorings inside the bay being reserved by the mooring owners and 30% of moorings in Descanso and Hamilton Cove being reserved by the owners.

Harbor Patrol Officers assisted hundreds of visitors over the weekend and fortunately there were no major incidents to report.



Harbor Department – Fishing Is Getting HOT

On Thursday morning July 7th, local anglers aboard the vessel “EPIC” weighed in 2 blue fin tuna on the Pleasure Pier, tipping the scales at 209 and 239 pounds!



Rec. Dept/4th of July Thank You

The Theme from Sea to Shining Sea: A maritime history of Catalina Island sparked a burst of Creativity from the Float Builders. Making this years 4th of July weekend the best ever. From the Monks to the Clydesdales to the USC Band to over 75 floats in this years parade. It was truly an exceptional weekend. There takes many people to make this great traditional event happen.

- First and foremost I would like to thank Public Works Director Dennis Jaich, Jeffery Hernandez and the entire Public Work staff for the set up and break down of the entire event. Helping out with creating a flat clean environment for the Clydesdales. While still taking care of sewer issues and broken pipes. Their hands were full but they carried the weekend.
- Special Shout out to Jenifer Monroe for all the logistics of bringing the USC Band, organizing the details for the Clydesdales and making sure the parade went in an orderly fashion. None of organization happens with out her.
- Thank All our Volunteers, Lisa Lavelle, Christy Alegria, Kensly Alegria, Yasmine Daza, Angel Ramirez, and Jenny Marquez who help Judge the floats, line up the parade and ran to get me information on each float. Also Porshia Denning for showing up being willing to help when asked.
- A huge shout out and THANK YOU to Levent Alkibay, Catalina Beverage and Budweiser for planning, coordinating and bringing the Clydesdale Horses to Avalon for the week. You helped make this a truly memorable 4th of July in a very fun, and very tall (they are so big!) way.
- Jake Vogel, Jessica Belch and the Entire USC Band, songleaders, flag girls and Cheerleaders for keeping such a fun tradition alive. Hard to believe it was the 27th consecutive visit and consecutive great performances.
- Art Jimenez and Miguel Bonilla for controlling traffic and helping where ever needed.
- Jordan Monroe and Luis Rubio for the audio technical aspects of the event, and DJ Dithmar Rualo for the fun spirited music during the day and the Patriotic Music during the Fireworks.
- Interim City Manager Denise Radde for empowering us with what ever we needed to make this event great.
- Council Members and the Mayor for making connections and doing what ever was necessary to help make the event smoother; whether it be Councilmember Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy moving golf carts, making phone calls to proper authorities, or Councilmember Joe Sampson singing the national anthem. All of you made it easy for staff to get work done.
- A special and honored thank you to Supervisor Don Knabe for choosing us to so often spend his 4th of July with us. We hope to keep seeing you on the island for years to come, even if it will have to be all fun and no work...
- CR&R and Eddie Vega for putting in the extra time to make sure Avalon stays clean.
- Jim Lutjohann and the entire Chamber of Commerce Staff for their promotion and work on the event come together.
- Catalina Island Yacht Club for the Dinghy Parade and their generous donation towards the USC band.
- Mark Milan and the Hermosa Hotel for the extra long (electric!) Golf Cart to honor our Nonagenarians.
- Ray Jones of Long Beach Yacht Sales for bringing the Replica of the Miss Catalina Boat for the Grand Marshall Doug Bombard and his wife Audrey to ride in.
- Steve Montague for organizing the T-6 WW2 planes for the fly over
- VFW island outpost 4682 for carrying the colors of our country and serving to keep us safe. The reason we celebrate.
- Pyrospectacular and Avalon Freight Services for the firework show
- Capt. Fetteroll, Chief Krug, Harbor Master Brian Bray and all their respective staff for keeping us safe all weekend.
- SCICO for use of land to put the Clydesdales and for working with us on housing for the USC Band
- Catalina Island Museum for bring Culture and a new experience to the Island with Drepung Loseling Monks from Tibet.
- Thank you to all that participated in the parade, and took the time to decorate their carts - expertly I might add - and thank you to all the families and friends who have come to celebrate with us every summer, and thanks to everyone who came for the very first time.
- Thank you to all who donated to help make this wonderful weekend possible, it is truly appreciated. We can not do it without the support of the community and our extended Island families from all over.
- Last, but not least, I want to thank our year round residents for helping all those who visit, feel like Catalina Island is Family.

Recreation - Ocean Polo

Thanks to help from the Harbor Department the Water Polo nets are in the harbor off South Beach ready for summer play. We've had interest from Over Town teams who want to come and practice in our harbor, and we wouldn't be surprised to one day host a tournament on the island. Aside from open play we are looking to have some (loosely) organized practices and games, but as most things, it depends on the interest and response we get from the community. Anyone looking for more information contact Dave Hart -0220 ex 231.

Administration - Income Survey

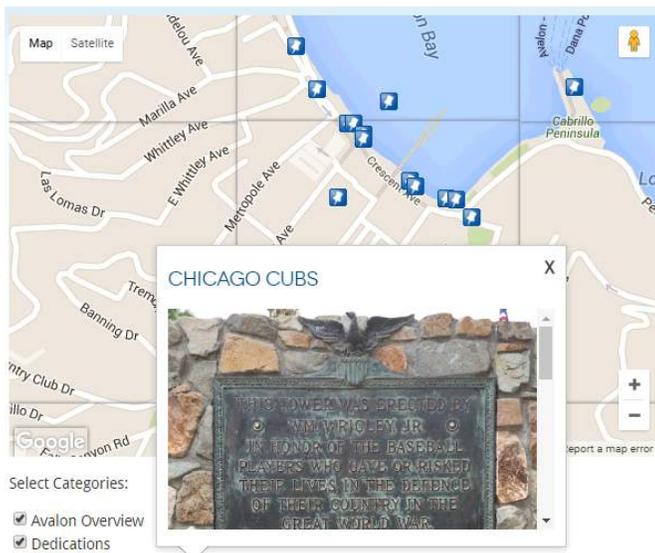
This last week you may have talked to one of the four surveyors from Michael Baker International who were conducting the door-to-door follow up to the income survey mailed out last month. They got to see every nook and cranny of Avalon as we are working to establish an accurate representation of our towns economic demographic, as the perception to agencies off the island is that with our million dollar homes and fancy cruise ships Avalon is an incredibly wealthy community and thus does not need or qualify for certain grants. Anecdotally we know this isn't the case, and the fact that the margin of error for Avalon ranges from +- \$22,613 in 2012 and +-\$9,799 in 2014 gives us great concern over the census data used to assess our community. You can check out the figures at American Fact Finder. Households which still need to respond to the follow up survey have until August 1, 2016 to mail back the survey in the prepaid envelop provided. We ask that everyone please complete their survey, and we remind everyone that it is confidential, we are not sharing your personal information with any agencies. We'd like to thank Patrice and her team for putting in long hours and many walking miles to do a through job canvassing town. You can familiarize your self with the Disadvantaged Community (DAC) by viewing the DWR mapping tool here.

Points of Interest

Throughout the years there have been many reports, studies and projects looking at the many aspect of Avalon life. As we look back over the years there is much we can learn from past efforts, the hard part is accessing this information which is scattered throughout dusty shelves. In an attempt to help organize this institutional and documented knowledge we started to collect these records and organize them on a map - you can find the 'Documents Map' link on the Resources page, or www.cityofavalon.com/reports. We've just started, and I'm sure it may go through many different versions, but for now we will keep adding documents to the map. For example, if you click on the pin at the Cabrillo Mole you will see the recent Revitalization Study and Cruise Ship Birthing Presentation. I hope that we can continue to add to this map, and if you have any information you can add to this map, do not hesitate to send it over.

In addition, to highlight the people who have had a big impact on our community over the years, we've started to collect and map the different dedication plaques tucked around town.

It is a small way we can share some great history with people who didn't have a chance to experience it first hand, and we're looking forward to continuing to expand on this map.



Harbor Department – Temporary Fuel Dock

While the new fuel dock pier is still under construction during the height of the boating season, Avalon Freight Services along with California Fuel and Lubes arranged to loan the City a larger tank truck to assist with making sure the visiting boaters fuel needs are met. A special thank you goes out to Greg Bombard and John Phelps of Avalon Freight Services and Anthony Mardesich of California Fuels and lubes.

Avalon Fire – Significant Items Summary

Another successful July 4th weekend is behind us, emergency services were busy throughout.

- Multiple medical calls.
- Vehicle over the side with injuries.
- Vehicle accident in the interior.
- Additional units staffed for July 4th parade and fireworks.
- Some minor issues with illegal fireworks.
- No injuries or problems reported by barge fireworks display staff.

Sheriff - Bicycle Education and Registration Program (BEAR)

A few months ago, Deputy Ken Yanecko transferred to Avalon Station. He is very well known throughout the County for being the Sheriff's Department's lead patrol bicycle training instructor. Several years ago, Deputy Yanecko created the BEAR program. The program went county-wide, then state-wide and finally became a national program. The program recycles confiscated bicycles and offers them to children who participate and graduate from the program. The children who participate in the program learn about bicycle repair and restoration, as well as advanced bicycle safety skills, all the while reinforcing the importance of respect, good citizenship and other positive attributes. Avalon Station's first class graduated on July 5, 2016. The students who completed the class got the opportunity to ride their new bicycles, which they helped construct, in the Fourth of July Parade alongside of Deputy Yanecko. We were all happy to see this extraordinary program come to Avalon and be able to offer it to the boys and girls in the community. Our second class will begin later in the month. Parents who would like to sign their children up for the program are encouraged to contact Deputy Ken Yanecko at Avalon Station.

Depicted in the photograph are Tony Ramos and Kelvin Rios who are learning life-skills while constructing their new bicycles. Photograph taken by Deputy Ken Yanecko.



Sheriff - Traffic Safety Program

Recently, several citizens have expressed concerns regarding traffic safety, specifically speeding vehicles along Pebbly Beach Road, inattention at crosswalks, golf carts not stopping for stops signs and small children not restrained in car seats. As we did last summer, we will conduct numerous traffic safety operations in the upcoming months, focusing on the indicated concerns. Our goal is to enhance public safety for motorists and pedestrians alike, through education, warnings and the issuance of citations when appropriate. One of the tools, we will utilize to help achieve our goal is radar enforcement along Pebbly Beach Road. As a reminder, the posted speed limit on Pebbly Beach Road, and on all streets in the City's jurisdiction, is 20 miles per hour (AMC Sec. 4-4.806).

Public Works - Cleaning

With all the summer enjoyment around town, especially of the Harbor front along Crescent Ave., the sidewalks, benches and other public areas tend to get a little dirty. Between dripping ice cream, overflowing lattes and just the general increased foot traffic and use Public Works will be conducting a salt water washing down every other Thursday.

Public Works - No Smoking

Additional 'No Smoking' signs have been installed on the beaches.

Public Works - One Place You Don't Want to Dive at the Dive Park

The old porta potties at the Casino Dive park have been shipped off the island and replaced with new porta potties. With the high use of the Dive Park and our desire to try and provide the best service in a ... situation, the 'facilities' will be cleaned twice a week, every Monday and Thursday by Public Works.

Public Works - Take a Load Off and Enjoy the View

Public Works has installed new benches around town replacing the old damaged concrete benches.



Public Works - Storm Drain

Public Works is building storm drain boxes that will be installed on Front Street. These will replace the old damaged storm drain boxes and will help prevent pollution of our beaches. The top grate is a plastic/fiberglass ADA approved material and design and can handle a more significant load than the previous grates. In total there are 15 storm drain grates which need to be replaced, and to ensure the water which enters these drains, that lead to the low flow diverter, does not leak custom boxes were created. A big thanks to Matt McBride and Phil Hernandez for designing and building the box. 5 additional storm drain boxes will be on hand in case of the need for replacement or in additional storm drains need to be established.



Public Works - F250

The new F-250 work truck for is in town and already hard at work. Here you can see the truck 'accessorizing' for its role in helping our crew meet the demands of the job.



Public Works - Getting to the Root of the Problem

In the world of Public Works sometimes the root of the problem is literally roots. On lower Sumner crews leveled out some pavers that had been lifted by palm tree roots. If you walk by the area and don't notice any change in the sidewalk you'll know we did a good job.



The Garibaldi - Fine-Tuning

The new "Garibaldi" bus service has been operating for one month. City Staff is continuing to work closely with Transportation Concepts to fine-tune the service. For the first 25 days of service, "The Garibaldi" carried 5,756 passengers and the "Dial-a-Ride" carried 191 passengers. New additions to the buses include new decals on the back advising "This Bus Makes Frequent Stops", and fare information as you enter the bus.

Re-Solicitation of the Beacon Hill Apartments Elevator Project

The City's Request for Proposals for the design of the CDBG funded Beacon Hill Apartments Elevator Project has been re-solicited, with a new proposal due date of August 31, 2016. For more information on the Request for Proposals please go to www.cityofavalon.com/rfp.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Avalon City Staff