

Chimes Tower Foundation seeks holiday donations

Funds will go to on-going restoration of a local landmark

FOR THE ISLANDER

The Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation would like to thank everyone who has contributed so generously to the ongoing restoration of this unique and wonderful jewel. In 2017, significant progress was made on Phase One, including conducting a thorough cleanup of the area and having an engineer determine that the foundation of the structure was sound. Concrete was also poured for the soon-to-be-created entry patio and the curb around it, as well as the stairs leading to the mechanical room, replacing the worn-out wooden steps.

Next up, and ready for installation, are new hand-hammered wrought iron fences and handrails, along with wrought-iron replicas of the old wood grates protecting the chimes. An exciting new element, currently being fabricated, is a front door, made from the same beautiful and decorative wrought iron, with glass backing, which will allow visitors to see the chimes in action.

Landscape plans, featuring native plants, and revised architectural renderings are on the drawing board, and will be posted on the fencing and the website soon.

If you'd like to help the Foundation keep these efforts going, or are looking for a unique



Pictured above is an artist's rendering of the Catalina Chimes Tower overlooking Avalon Bay. Artwork courtesy of the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation

holiday gift that supports your community, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation at P.O. Box 677, Avalon, CA 90704. Donations

can also be made online at CatalinaChimes.org. To make a donation "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone, please e-mail your special request to info@catalinachimes.org, and you will

receive a beautiful recognition certificate, suitable for framing.

About the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation

The Foundation's mission is to

restore and maintain the Chimes Tower and its Chimes, a beloved landmark in the town of Avalon on Santa Catalina Island, for the community and future generations to enjoy.

Scuba Diving Forecast With Wade McDonald



A male California sheephead makes his rounds within the kelp forest. Photo by Wade McDonald

Fun facts about Sheephead fish

Did you know that Sheephead fish can grow up to 3 feet and can weigh up to 36 pounds? They hunt for food during the day and when night time rolls around they swim into caves and crevices wrapping themselves in a mucus cocoon.

Predators on the hunt can't detect their scent through the mucus covers. They possess powerful jaws that work in their favor: A Sheephead's diet consists of Sea Urchins, Mollusks, Lobsters as well as Crabs. You can find these colorful fish from Monterey Bay California all the way to the Sea of Cortez, however, they are not common north of Point Conception. And now for the marine forecast for Catalina Island: Today mostly clear with a low around 54. West Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming Northeast in the evening, Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. This weekend mostly clear with sunshine with a high around 69. Expect clouds to roll in by Sunday. It's always a fun day or night on the water but please know your limitations, Remember: When In Doubt Please Don't Go Out.

School district news: College Board touts SAT Prep work in LBUSD

FOR THE ISLANDER

The College Board recently issued a case study offering school systems "Tips for Success from Fresno and Long Beach Unified School Districts" when it comes

to helping more students access "free world-class test practice" and personalized study plans. Avalon School is part of the LBUSD.

Long Beach Unified is a winner of the 2017 Official SAT Practice All In Challenge, the first-ever award

from the College Board, the Council of the Great City Schools and Khan Academy. The award recognizes school districts for encouraging and supporting students as they practice for the SAT and college-level courses using the free online SAT prac-

tice platform, Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy.

LBUSD is one of only five school districts to win the inaugural award, receiving the "MVP" prize for the highest overall percentage of students linking their College Board

and Khan Academy accounts to receive free, personalized SAT practice. Since the challenge began in December 2016, 93 percent of Long Beach Unified students who took either the SAT or a PSAT-related assessment linked their accounts.